

# The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

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- Parks and Recreation Dept. initiates rebranding effort, Page 4
- Free financial workshops to be offered throughout month of April, Page 5
- Administrator talks fishing tournaments, Page 10

## Calendar

**April 1** – Household Hazardous Waste collection and paper shredding event at Midway Fire Rescue HQ, 9 a.m. to noon

**April 5** – County-sponsored blood drive in Georgetown, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. See Page 3

**April 10-13** – Regional Easter egg hunts for kids. See page 4 for schedule and details

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

**April 14** – Georgetown County offices and facilities are closed for Good Friday.

**April 20** – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse

**April 25** – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse

Volume 5, Issue 8

April 2017

## Restaurant, student outreach included in new airport plan

The important role the Georgetown County Airport plays in the area's tourism and economic development is too often overlooked and uncredited, say members of the County's Airport Commission.

That group, along with other leaders in the field and county staff, are working on a master plan to correct that. A series of work sessions over the last several months — including a flight to tour the Greenville Downtown Airport and Donaldson Field — have been dedicated to determining what the future of the airport in Georgetown should look like and laying a path to achieve that vision.

What they have come up with is a wish list that includes making people (locals as well as potential visitors) more aware of the airport,



An airplane passes on the ground outside the terminal building at the Georgetown Airport during a strategic planning committee meeting.

introducing youth to career possibilities in aviation, and growing the business community around the airport. This includes taking steps to make it easier for economic development staff to attract appropriate businesses to property near the airport and opening a restaurant on the airport campus to cater to pi-

lots as well as attract local residents to visit the airport.

"We're at the part now where we're wrestling down the specifics of all the tasks that need to be done and setting time frames," said Doug Decker, a pilot and tenant at the airport who was recruited to

**See "Airport," Page 8**

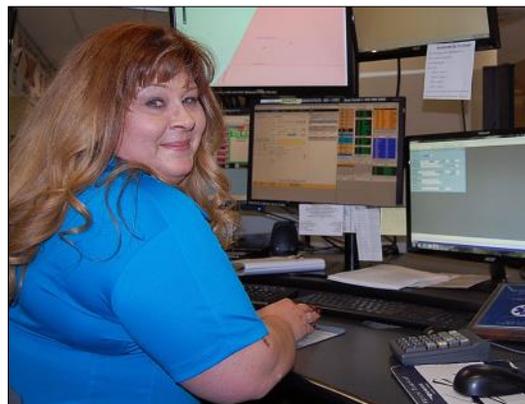
## Horton named state's Telecommunicator of the Year

There are no routine calls at the Georgetown County 911 Emergency Communications Center, said dispatcher Leslie Horton.

"People don't call us on a good day," she said. "It's the worst moment in their lives."

Managed by the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office, the center on Highmarket Street in Georgetown receives requests for police, fire or emergency medical services and dispatches help from nine organizations: the sheriff's office; police in Georgetown, Andrews and Pawleys Island; and fire and EMS units countywide.

"It's a high stress job," Horton said, "not for the faint



Leslie Horton at her work station in the 911 Center.

of heart."

For her dedication, Horton was recently named the South Carolina Emergency Medical Service Telecommunicator of the Year. The award was presented at the South Carolina EMS awards program in Myrtle Beach March 11.

"Leslie is the voice you want to hear on the radio when a bad call comes in," said Georgetown County Fire/EMS battalion chief Ryan Allen, who along with Capt.

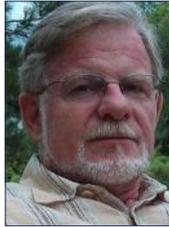
Jerry Howerton of Murrells Inlet-Garden City Fire and Rescue, nominated Horton for the honor. "She does not sound rattled and gives good, clear, concise information when she receives it, and is an asset on every

**See "Horton," Page 3**

## Series on religious cultures to begin at Waccamaw Library this month

The Friends of the Waccamaw Library will sponsor "Exploring Religious Cultures," a new lecture series designed to explore the diverse array of religion and cultures that can be found in our area. The series will begin on April 1 and each session will take place in the Waccamaw Library Auditorium at 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island.

Each lecture in the series will feature a different religion or practice, presented by an expert in the field, organizers said. The first lecture on April 1 at 1 p.m. is titled "Baha'i: It's Journey," and will be led by Dr. Francis Jordan. The lecture will focus on the spirituality and history of the Baha'i Faith.



Jordan

Jordan was born in Germany and was naturalized at the age of 16. He is a retired social studies teacher, having spent his teaching career almost entirely in rural South Carolina schools. He served in the Marine Corps as a Hawk missile technician. He has authored a book, "Child of the Half-Light: Stories from the Life of a Baha'i," which is available for Kindle, and is currently writing a novel.

"I hope to engage the audience in a conversation about what it is that the religions have in common and why it is useful for us to learn about the different religious systems and to keep an open mind about them," Jordan said.

Other topics to be featured in coming months include Hinduism, the principles of Islam, Socrates and religion, Buddhism, Christianity and more. To reserve a seat or for more information, email [sbremner@gtcounty.org](mailto:sbremner@gtcounty.org).

## Free symposium to focus on college admission, financial aid

High school students in Georgetown County with plans to attend college are invited to learn more about the college admission and financial aid process this month.

This information will be available at the free Lowcountry Symposium on College Admission and Financial Aid, taking place Wednesday, April 5, from 6-9 p.m. at the Lowcountry Preparatory School Gymnasium. The school is located at 300 Blue Stem Drive, Pawleys Island.



The event will include a panel discussion led by admission personnel from Wofford College, the College of Charleston, Clemson University and Sewanee. A question and answer session will follow the discussion.

The evening will wrap up with a chance to talk with admissions personnel and obtain materials from featured schools.

The event is open to all members of the public at no charge. Register at [www.LowcountryPrep.org/collegebound](http://www.LowcountryPrep.org/collegebound). For more information, call (843) 237-4147.

Georgetown County Parks and Rec.  
Announces

## Spring Break Camp 2017



Spring Break Week — April 17-21

at Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily

Fee is \$65 per child. Ages 5-11 only.

\* Must register by April 5 \*

Call (843) 545-3202 for information  
or visit [www.gtcparks.org](http://www.gtcparks.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](http://www.gtcounty.org) or through our Facebook page. If you'd rather have it delivered to your inbox, e-mail [jbroach@gtcounty.org](mailto: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](http://www.gtcounty.org)

## Astronomer to discuss upcoming solar eclipse at Waccamaw Library

Astronomer Kevin Manning will present a program titled "An All-American Total Solar Eclipse," at the Waccamaw Library on Friday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m. The free program is sponsored by the Friends of the Waccamaw Library and will discuss the science and phenomena of solar eclipses, as well as the total eclipse coming our way on Aug. 21.

A gifted astronomer, Manning has worked as a consultant with NASA, the Chandra X-Ray Observatory launched on the space shuttle with the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, and other ground-based observatories. Manning has won national and international awards in his field. Additionally, he was both a Wright Fellow and an Einstein Fellow, and did work with Brookhaven National Laboratory. Besides the numerous workshops he's presented over the years at libraries, observatories and science centers, he has also wowed audiences at Tufts University, State University of New York at Stony Brook, the National Science Teachers Association's National Convention, American Association for the Advancement of Science Breakfast with Scientists, and the National Parks Service.

This program will take place in the DeBordieu Auditorium located at the Waccamaw Library, 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island. For more information or to reserve a seat, email [sbremner@gtcounty.org](mailto:sbremner@gtcounty.org).



**Astronomer Kevin Manning.**

## Horton

*Continued from Front Page*

call. While she may not be one of the people providing aid in the field, it is the aid she is able to give from the radio that can make a good call into a great one."

Howerton said Horton is very attentive to problems at Murrells Inlet-Garden City Fire and Rescue. "She's proven time and again to be a great asset and a great liaison," he said.

Horton's husband, Bryan, is a firefighter in Horry County and was formerly with Georgetown County and Garden City-Murrells Inlet fire departments. She would stop by the station and cook for the crew. As she formed relationships with firefighters, Horton began riding with sheriff's deputies to understand their needs from a dispatcher's point of view. "I feel like it's better if you know both sides," she said. Georgetown County Sheriff's Office Director of Communications T.L. Staub said Horton and her co-workers are dedicated to providing communications services to the public and public safety providers. "On a daily basis they handle hundreds of calls for service for fire, medical and law enforcement response," he said. "The award is well deserved and reflects on Horton's dedication and professionalism in her job performance. It is always a good feeling when agencies initiate recognition for the service you are providing."

Dispatchers work 12-hour shifts, alternating days and nights every two weeks. Nights can be exciting on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Horton said, but days are non-stop. One call she'll never forget was the day last April

when the county's central communications director, Robbie Owens, died of a heart attack at age 48. "It was earth-shattering to us," she said. "There are other tough calls. Any time you take a suicide they hit close to home. You couldn't do it without the people in the room with you. There are certain calls that hit each one of us differently. My husband was in a motorcycle wreck Sept. 27. Now motorcycle wrecks make my heart skip a beat."

Horton, a mother of three and resident of Horry County, said dispatchers are a team, able to anticipate emotional peaks and valleys. "They know when to love on the other person," she said. "We don't get closure a lot. We hear some of the things where EMS sees it – and that's got to be awful – but hearing it is just as bad as seeing it, people taking their last breaths. Many times you never know what happened."

There are instances where a dispatcher plays a part in saving lives. Three people were rescued from a burning house in Georgetown last week. "That was a good save," Horton said of her co-workers. "One thing about working here, I appreciate the award and I'm very humbled by it but this room doesn't work with one dispatcher. It works with everybody. I couldn't do the job I do without the other dispatchers in the room and the people on the other side of the radio."

"There's no other job I can imagine wanting to do. I enjoy going home and knowing – even on days when you don't get that save – that you helped someone. The feeling is tremendous."



**BLOOD DRIVE**

Share your power.

**Wednesday, April 5**  
**8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
**at the Beck Recreation Center,**  
**2030 Church St., Georgetown**

Donors are encouraged to schedule  
an appointment online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).  
Use the sponsor lookup code **GeoCounty**.




## Parks and Recreation Dept. initiates rebranding effort

Georgetown County's Parks and Recreation Department is making it easier than ever to get involved and find out more about their programs.

In the past, the department has gone by many names – "Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services," "Parks and Recreation" and "GCPR" to name a few. Now, there's only one name you need to remember: GTC Parks.

"In today's world, convenience is key. It's more important than ever to make it as easy as possible for people to connect with us," said Beth Goodale, director of the Parks and Recreation department. "That's why we're so excited about this change to our online presence. Having a consistent name for people to use to find us online should help people get involved and stay connected."

The department can now be found on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Just look for GTC Parks on all three websites. The department's Web address has also been simplified. Visit [GTC Parks.org](http://GTC Parks.org) to check it out. Send general email inquiries to [gtparks@gtcounty.org](mailto:gtparks@gtcounty.org). Also, people are encouraged to share their photos and experiences at county recreation facilities using the hashtag #GTC Parks.

In addition to the name rebranding, GTC Parks will release its Summer 2017 program guide in mid-April. Look for it online and in county facilities. Goodale said that the print guides are the department's way of maintaining a connection with areas of the county that may not have easy access to the internet.

"While ease-of-access for finding us online is great, we realize that many may not have internet access at all, let alone own a smartphone or computer," Goodale said. "It's important to us to make sure we are reaching as many people as possible, and continuing our printed program guides is a great way to do that."

GTC Parks will continue to release seasonal program guides throughout the remainder of 2017 and will move to an annual format for 2018.

For more information, contact @GTC Parks on social media, visit [GTC Parks.org](http://GTC Parks.org), email [gtparks@gtcounty.org](mailto:gtparks@gtcounty.org), or call (843) 545-3275.

## Paddle Fest set for May 13

Tara Hall Home for Boys will host its sixth annual Paddle Fest on May 13 in Georgetown County. Online registration opens April 14 at [www.tarahall.org](http://www.tarahall.org).

The fundraiser sees hundreds take to the water every year, venturing out on Black Mingo Creek in kayaks, canoes and even on paddleboards.

They navigate a scenic two-mile route to the shores of Tara Hall Home for Boys, where they and others enjoy outdoor activities, live music from local bands, food and more. Activities for children will include waterslides, face painting and afternoon races — kayaks for the older kids and barrel races for the younger.

All proceeds from Paddle Fest benefit Tara Hall, a nationally accredited long-term residential home and school that accepts neglected, troubled and abused boys.

Cost for the event is \$40 for paddlers (\$25 for youth 8-16 and free for those 7 and under with an adult); or \$10 for non-paddlers (\$5 for youth 8-16 and free for kids 7 and under).

For more information, contact Patsy Morris, Tara Hall assistant director, (843) 546-3000. Sponsorships are also available.



## Join us for Eggs in the Park

Four free Easter egg hunts for kids ages 5-12

Presented by Georgetown County  
Parks and Recreation

April 10 – Andrews Recreation Center, 5:30 p.m.

April 11 – Choppee Recreation Center, 5:30 p.m.

April 12 – Beck Recreation Center, 5:30 p.m.

April 13 – Murrells Inlet Community Center, 5:30 p.m.

*Easter eggs will be filled with toys and candy.  
The Easter Bunny will be present to meet and take photos with kids.*

For information, call 545-3275



## Georgetown County Parks & Rec. announces Adult Co-ed League



Monday nights starting June 5  
at Retreat Park in Pawleys Island

Last day to register is June 1  
Cost is \$75 per team

For information, call Matt Jordan  
at (843) 520-9621

Register for this and other programs online  
at [www.gtcparks.org](http://www.gtcparks.org)

## Libraries to offer financial workshops throughout month of April

As April is National Financial Literacy Month, the Georgetown County Library system will offer a dozen workshops to help residents learn to stretch their dollars, save for college or retirement, and stay out of debt. The workshops are 45 minutes long, feature plenty of time for questions and answers, and even have giveaways and refreshments.

“Our presenters are from unbiased non-profit organizations, and they have the latest tips to make your money work for you,” said Heather Pelham, public services librarian. “They can help you create an easy-to-update budget, get started with saving and investing, understand your rights when it comes to bill collectors and loan companies, and so much more. This is the most fun you’ll ever have talking about finances.”

The workshops are made possible through a grant from the Bunnelle Foundation. Workshop dates, locations and times are as follows. For more information, call Pelham at (843) 545-3327.



### SNAP, Tax Help, and Other Assistance Services

Monday, April 3, at noon  
Georgetown Library, 405 Cleland Street

### What Money Really Is

Tuesday, April 4, at noon  
Georgetown Library, 405 Cleland Street

### Business Basics

Wednesday, April 5, at noon  
Andrews Library, 105 North Morgan Street

### Get Rid of Debt!

Friday, April 7, at noon  
Georgetown Library, 405 Cleland Street

### Buying and Financing a Car

Monday, April 10, at noon  
Georgetown Library, 405 Cleland Street

### Bad Debt, Need Help?

Tuesday, April 11, at noon  
Georgetown Library, 405 Cleland Street

### How Credit Works

Wednesday, April 12, at noon  
Andrews Library, 105 North Morgan Street

### Money Management

Wednesday, April 19, at noon  
Carvers Bay Library, 13048 Choppee Road

### How to Avoid Identity Theft

Friday, April 21, at noon  
Georgetown Library, 405 Cleland Street

### Understanding Your Credit Report

Wednesday, April 26, at noon  
Andrews Library, 105 North Morgan Street

### Avoiding Scams

Thursday, April 27, at noon  
Georgetown Library, 405 Cleland Street

### Get Financially Fit

Friday, April 28, at noon  
Georgetown Library, 405 Cleland Street

## ADULT

# VOLLEY BALL

at Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center

Monday nights,  
5:30-7 p.m.

\$4 for 4 weeks

For more information, contact Matt Jordan at (843) 520-9621 or mjordan@gtcounty.org

Register online for this and other programs at [www.gtcparks.org](http://www.gtcparks.org)

## junior summer Tennis CAMPS

June 19-22 • July 10-13 • July 31-Aug. 1

9:00am-1:00 pm

Ages 7+

**MATCH PLAY, INSTRUCTION, AND FUN GAMES!**

We will have clinic Monday-Thursday and will use Fridays as a possible make-up day in the case of inclement weather. Snack will be provided daily and we will have a pizza party on Thursday!



- \$150 for the whole week (t-shirt included) •
- \$55 drop-in per day •

Please reserve your spot by calling Stables Tennis Center at (843)545-3450.

302 Gilman Road, Pawleys Island • [dbromberg@gtcounty.org](mailto:dbromberg@gtcounty.org)

## ADULT SOCCER LEAGUE

Georgetown County Parks & Rec. is signing up teams for its Adult Summer Soccer League, based at Stables Park in Pawleys Island

**Registration open through May 19 – Ages 16+**

*League Fee is \$260 per team due at Captain's meeting, May 19. League begins May 27. Games on Saturdays.*

For more information, contact Matt Jordan, (843) 520-9621 or mjordan@gtcounty.org. Register online at [www.gtcparks.org](http://www.gtcparks.org)

## Girls basketball clinic continues

Girls ages 8-12 are invited to participate in a free multi-week instructional program throughout April and May with Georgetown County Parks and Recreation staff.

The clinic will take place on Thursdays through May 25 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Beck Recreation Center in Georgetown.

The clinic will teach girls the basic fundamentals of basketball, including shooting, dribbling, passing, offense and defense. For more information, call the Recreation Center, (843) 545-3275.

## Animal center schedules low-cost clinics

Saint Frances Animal Center in Georgetown has several low-cost clinics scheduled for April to assist residents.

The center will host rabies clinics on April 4 and April 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Attendees can get their cats and dogs vaccinated for \$10. Additionally, a free heartworm testing is set for April 11.

The center regularly schedules low-cost spay and neuter clinics throughout the year. Follow Saint Frances Animal Center on Facebook to stay up to date with special events and clinics. For more information, contact Saint Frances Animal Center at (843) 546-0780 or visit their website, [www.sfanimals.org](http://www.sfanimals.org). The center is located at 125 N. Ridge St., Georgetown.

## Broach completes advanced training course



Georgetown County Public Information Officer Jackie Broach was among a group of PIOs from across South Carolina who recently completed the Advanced Public Information Course offered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The week-long course is normally available only at the FEMA training facility in Emmitsburg, Md., but was brought to the S.C. Emergency Management Division's headquarters in Columbia this winter to make it more accessible. The training provides participants with the opportunity to apply advanced public information skills during a multi-day functional exercise designed to test ability to analyze, coordinate, process and create information in a fast-paced, realistic emergency response environment.

**Registration open through May 23**

Georgetown County Parks & Recreation is signing up teams for its adult summer softball league. Cost is \$370 per team.

**Games will take place at Retreat Park in Pawleys Island**

For more information, contact Matt Jordan at (843) 520-9621 or [mjordan@gtcounty.org](mailto:mjordan@gtcounty.org)

Register online for this and other programs at [www.gtcparks.org](http://www.gtcparks.org)

May 5th & 6th at Francis Marion Park Broad and Front Downtown Georgetown 6:00pm - 9:00pm

**Friday - May 5th**

Opening acts starting at 6pm with The Holdouts and featuring Jason Michael Carroll

**Saturday - May 6th**

The show starts at 6pm opening with The Sand Sharks followed by The Embers, featuring Craig Woolard



## Georgetown County Employee Spotlight:

*Speight tackles every task efficiently and with a smile*

Gina Speight, an administrative assistant in the Environmental Services division of the Department of Public Services, has been with Georgetown County only since September. However, she has proven herself a great asset in that short time, according to her supervisors.

Not only does she bring terrific experience and knowledge to her job, Speight's timeliness, calm demeanor and professionalism when dealing with the public on a daily basis is "truly an example to be followed," said Ray Funnye, director of the Public Services Department. "In addition to handling day-to-day operations of the Environmental Services division, she is always ready with a smile to lend a hand to other offices when necessary."



**Gina Speight**

Speight helped lead the planning committee for this year's annual Public Services holiday luncheon and ensured its success. She has impeccable organizational skills and her attention to detail is unmatched. Additionally, it shows by her work and actions that she truly cares about not only Environmental Services, but about Georgetown County.

Before coming to work for Georgetown County, Speight worked for the University of North Carolina at Wilmington for 10 years, and won its Behind the Scenes Award twice. She now resides in Georgetown and is involved in her church's ladies ministry and children's church. In her off time, she said she enjoys cooking and gardening.

Speight is a perfect representative for Georgetown County and we are proud to have her on our team, Funnye said.

## Sheriff's Office celebrates Law Enforcement Appreciation Day



The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office celebrated Law Enforcement Appreciation Day on March 13 with a luncheon hosted by the office of 15th Circuit Solicitor Jimmy Richardson. Pictured, Richardson, left, talks with Lt. Denise King during the luncheon. "It's wonderful to get to spend time with these officers over a good meal, fellowship and learn more about what they are doing on the streets to help citizens," Richardson said. "We are honored to be able to provide this small token of appreciation to them and tell them thank you for their service in protecting all of us."

## Georgetown County Parks and Rec. Presents



Games will take place at Howard Gym and Waccamaw Regional Rec. Center

Last day to register is May 24

Ages 18 and up only  
League Fee: \$360 Per Team,  
\$100 deposit required to reserve a spot

For more information, contact Matt Jordan at (843) 520-9621 or [mjordan@gtcounty.org](mailto:mjordan@gtcounty.org)

Register online for this and other programs at [www.gtcparks.org](http://www.gtcparks.org)

## 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 [www.gtcparks.org](http://www.gtcparks.org)

# Airport

Continued from Front Page

help lead the charge. "The process we're going through gets down to a fairly finite level of detail." To help with that aspect of planning, Decker and the County called on John McDonald. "He's not an aviation guy," Decker said. But with a background as deputy undersecretary for the Army and working in the business world, he's a master at strategy and planning, and knows how to take ideas from paper to reality.

Decker said his biggest concern was that a plan would be created and left to gather dust on a shelf somewhere. McDonald's role is to ensure that doesn't happen.

It is expected to take about 10 years for all aspects of the plan to be executed. But some components may start to be carried out as early as this summer. Among the first goals to be tackled will be community outreach. Airport Commission members will reach out to the Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Alliance and local schools to form partnerships and find ways they can help each other.

Committee members said they see a great need to reach out to local schools, expanding and creating programs that allow students to visit the airport and, in some cases, even take their first flight. There is a huge number of students in the county who have never been on an airplane or even to a regional airport, committee members said during their most recent meeting March 23. That, they said, certainly contributes to the lack of interest locally in pursuing careers in aviation.

"We have a lack of demand here for flight training and also for mechanical engineering programs up at PIA [Pittsburgh Institute for Aeronautics] in Myrtle Beach," Decker said. "We just haven't built that demand from the bottom up. We have to reach out to schools at the high school and college level with robust programs and let them know what kinds of opportunities there are for people with those skills. There is good pay and a demand for people in those jobs."

PIA has a facility use agreement with Horry-Georgetown Technical College and thus could host satellite courses on its property in Georgetown.

James Stephens, executive director of the S.C. Aeronautics Commission, is part of the planning group and said he applauds the county's vision.

"The development of a business plan will enhance the airport and ultimately the economic viability of the community," he said. "I look forward to the completion of the project and I believe that the end product will be something that can be replicated across South Carolina at many of our other airports."

Planning meetings will continue and, once completed, the resulting master plan will be presented to the public by the end of this year.

"We're excited about the plans being made here and the potential of our airport," said Ray Funnye, director of the county's Public Services Department, which is in charge of the airport. "We already have a wonderful facility here, and we're thrilled to be able to put things in motion to really highlight that."



The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office invites members of the public to join deputies for **Coffee with a Cop** Thursday, April 6 from 8-10 a.m. at the Andrews McDonald's on Hwy. 521

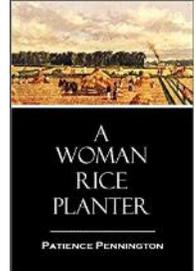


No agenda or speeches. Just a chance to ask questions, voice concerns and get to know your local law enforcement.



# Book club announces April/ May selection; meets May 25

The newly-formed Georgetown Library Book Club will read "A Woman Rice Planter" by Patience Pennington during the months of April and May. The club will discuss the book on May 25 at 5:30 p.m. at the library, located on Cleland Street.



"A Woman Rice Planter" offers insights into a broad spectrum of Southern life after the Civil War. As an account of a woman's struggle for survival and dignity in a distinctly male-dominated society, it contributes significantly to women's history. For observers of the black experience, it affords opinionated, but nonetheless revealing, views about African American folk life.

The book presents a rich portrait of a distinctive place — the South Carolina Lowcountry — in a troubled and generally undocumented time; a portrait made all the more vivid by the fine pen-and-ink sketches of Charleston Artist Alice R. Huger Smith.

For a copy of the book, see Patti Burns at the library.

**HOOPS FOR HOPE**  
Basketball Tournament

Teens Team Up to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

START The Conversation and Put Teenage Pregnancy on PAUSE

**SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2017**  
Registration 9:45-10:00  
First Game Begins at 10:30

**BECK RECREATION CENTER**  
2030 Church Street,  
Georgetown, SC 29440

**SPECIAL GUEST**  
Faith Force

In partnership with Georgetown County Parks & Recreation  
Mr. Randy Walker  
Youth Sports Specialist

**CAROLINA HUMAN REINVESTMENT**  
For Additional Information Contact  
Alyson Banta & Ciassy Guedjo  
843-461-4305

# News from our Georgetown County Veterans Affairs Officer

By David Murphy

It's Spring time again, so happy Easter, everyone! Again, thank you for all you do.

S.C. Thrive has produced a magazine entitled "SCVETS." This magazine has great information. I have sent copies to some of the local veterans organizations, but if you need a copy, you're welcome to pick one up at our office.



**Murphy**

Many veterans have asked questions about the water contamination at Camp Lejeune, NC. Here is the latest: On March 14, the final rule providing presumptive service connection for certain diseases associated with contaminants in the water supply at Camp Lejeune took effect. This rule establishes presumptive service connection for former service members, to include veterans, reservists and National Guard members, who served at

least 30 days (cumulative) at Camp Lejeune between Aug. 1, 1953, and Dec. 31, 1987, and who later developed one of the following eight diseases.

- Adult leukemia
- Aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes
- Cancer of the bladder, kidney or liver
- Multiple myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Parkinson's disease

If you have any questions about filing a claim, please come by our office or give me a call at (843) 545-3330.

To all our veterans who are 100 percent permanent and total service connected compensated, you are eligible for exemption for taxes on property and up to two vehicles. The following documents are needed to apply for exemptions on your house, land and vehicle:

**For Property**

- Copy of your land deed
- Proof of legal residence
- Application from the Georgetown County Assessor's Office
- Copy of your mobile home title

or bill of sale if your primary residence is a manufactured home

**For Vehicles**

- Copy of your vehicle registration, bill of sale or title. This must include the name of the veteran.
  - Copy of your letter from the Veterans Affairs Regional Office stating that you are 100 percent permanently and totally disabled due to a service-connected injury with the effective date you became disabled.
- When you have all the necessary information, please call our office at (843) 545-3330 to schedule an appointment to have your paperwork filled out.

**American Legion Post 197** of Pawleys Island is proud to announce that Jake Homan, a senior at Waccamaw High School, won a \$500 scholarship by placing in the top four in the Department of S.C. American Legion Oratorical (Constitutional) Contest, held at the department headquarters in Columbia on March 11. Post 197 is also beginning the selection process for Boys State for this summer.

Waccamaw High School will take place in April. Donations are needed to help defray costs. Post 197 meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. for dinner and 6 p.m. for the Legion meeting.

After leading the Military Appreciation Days parade on May 27, Grand Marshal Alek Skarlatos will greet fans at the family picnic in Valor Memorial Garden at the Market Common. Everyone is invited to enjoy the activities, which include military exhibits and live music. The picnic lunch, prepared by the Omar Chefs Shriners, is free for active-duty military, veterans and their families, including National Guard and Reserve.

The Military Appreciation Days parade and picnic are just two of the highlights of a month-long "thank you" to our dedicated service men and women — past and present — for all that they do on our behalf. For more information, visit [militaryappreciationdays.com](http://militaryappreciationdays.com).

Proud to Serve!

David Murphy,  
Manager,  
Georgetown County  
Office of Veterans Affairs

Interviews at  
Low Country  
Preparatory  
School and

**Finding Your Family Tree**

Genealogist Patti Burns can help you begin researching and creating your family tree using online and print resources.

**Saturday, April 8th**  
Noon—1:30 pm  
Carvers Bay Library  
13048 Choppee Road  
Hemingway, SC

Family History Month

**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](http://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



## Business support helps tip the scales in fishing tournaments

By Sel Hemingway  
County Administrator



Hemingway

With a B.A.S.S. Nation, Bassmaster Elite, and most recently a Bassmaster College tournament on the books, Georgetown County has cemented its reputation as a prime host community for fishing events.

The County and its staff roll out the red carpet for tournament organizations and anglers when they come to our facilities. But the truth is, it's the community that has really allowed the county to build this reputation — and that will ensure groups such as Bassmaster and the Inshore Fishing Association keep coming back.

We've repeatedly shown fishing organizations that county residents are excited about welcoming these events, and we consistently turn out a crowd for weigh-ins. At the Bassmaster College Southern Conference Regional Tournament's final weigh-in on March 4, Bassmaster said we had the biggest crowd for that level event in the tournament's history. We heard similar comments last spring when we were host to the Bassmaster Elite Series. It's estimated we attracted 27,500 people for that event over three days.

Having spoken with representatives at many levels within Bassmaster, I can tell you this kind of enthusiasm from the community makes a big difference when officials are deciding what stops to put on their schedules next time around. I want to thank every single person who has come to a weigh-in or boat launch for these events, and who has played a part in making these anglers feel welcome when they come to our county. You have had an important role in our effort to become an established tournament destination, and in the associated economic impacts our county and its business community sees from these tournaments.

After this most recent tournament, we have some others to thank. As the Bassmaster College Southern Regional Conference got under way at the beginning of this month, we had over 150 college-age anglers in town. Many of them were from out of state and completely unfamiliar with our area. They had traveled a long way and in some cases gone to great lengths to be able to afford the trip here. So, it was especially disheartening for those who experienced mechanical and other difficulties during

the tournament that could have eliminated them from the competition before they really had a chance to get started.

It was thanks to several local businesses that went out of their way to accommodate these young anglers that they were able to finish the tournament. I can assure you that those actions, too, went a long way in leaving anglers, their families and Bassmaster with a good opinion of Georgetown County and a strong desire to come back.

For example, Napa Auto Parts opened its store early on the first day of the tournament to allow an angler to purchase a battery after he experienced difficulties with his during boat launch. This allowed him to get on the water early enough to have nearly a full day of fishing and stay in the competition.

Another team took their boat to Marshall's Marine when they had mechanical difficulties. The Marshall's Marine staff diagnosed and repaired the problem in less than 30 minutes to get that team back on the water.

Likewise, the Boat Shed accommodated another team experiencing an ignition problem. The business was able to expedite service and allow the team to stay in the competition.

And finally, one of the biggest jobs was done by Ballard Iron Works on March 3. Despite having a full workload that day, the company was able to work in a welding repair on the Bassmaster release boat, getting it back up and running in time for that day's weigh-in. Bassmaster was so pleased, they gave the company a shout-out on their website, but I'd like to thank them here as well.

I've said again and again, it's the people in Georgetown County that make it such a special place, and all this is proof.

I also, as always, want to thank our restaurants, hotels and other businesses that work again and again to make sure people visiting for these and other tournaments feel welcome during their stay and leave already wanting to come back.



The Bassmaster release boat is pictured in front of Ballard Iron. The photo was taken by Bassmaster staff and shared on the Bassmaster website with a thank you message to the company.