Work by county staff results in lower flood insurance rates

As of May 1, residents of Georgetown County required to have flood insurance now qualify for a new 5 percent discount on their annual rates. The decrease is the result of measures taken by staff in the county’s planning and building departments, which resulted in an improvement in the county’s rating under the National Flood Insurance Community Rating System.

The county was previously rated at a Class 8, which already qualified county residents for a 10 percent discount on flood insurance rates. With the county’s new Class 7 rating, that discount increases to a total of 15 percent.

Property owners don’t need to take any action to receive the new discount, said Tony Jordan, owner of Allstate — Tony Jordan Insurance Agency in Georgetown. The new discount rates were transmitted to insurance agencies effective May 1 and should be automatically applied to all qualifying policies as they are renewed or opened.

The Community Rating System is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum national requirements. It plays an important role in the underwriting process at all insurance companies.

“There were a lot of changes to county regulations that went into achieving the improved rating,” said Planning Department Director Boyd Johnson. One of the most significant, he added, was a new regulation that added an additional foot to the federal minimum elevation requirements for new structures in flood zones. Jordan noted that base flood rates are determined based on home elevations above minimum requirements in the home’s flood zone. The new height regulation for new construction will also result in an additional premium savings based on the particular flood zone, Jordan said.

Although the extra foot may also increase construction costs, somewhat, Jordan noted it was “certainly needed to obtain the additional 5 percent countywide discount.”

The Community Rating System classes run from a Class 10 down to a Class 1, with discounts given in 5 percent increments for each class improvement. The maximum discount available is 45 percent.

Flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from community actions meeting the three goals of the rating system:

• To reduce flood damage to insurable property;
• To strengthen and support insurance aspects of the National Flood Insurance Program; and
• To encourage a comprehensive approach to floodplain management.

Johnson said his staff has already identified some areas where further improvements may be made to lower the county’s rating even more.

County, S.C. DNR team up to host kids fishing rodeo

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation, in partnership with the S.C. Department of Natural Resources, will host a Kids Freshwater Fishing Rodeo this month. County Administrator Sel Hemingway said he hopes it will be the first of many such events around the county if there is sufficient public interest.

The event is free and is set for 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 6, at the Choptee Recreation Complex, 8189 Choptee Road, Georgetown.

Participants are encouraged to bring their own fishing pole, live bait and tackle if possible, but DNR will have a limited supply available for use if needed.

No adult fishing and no pets will be allowed. Participants must be accompanied by an adult.

Pre-registration is preferred and may be completed online at www.dnr.sc.gov/aquaticed/rodeos or via phone at (803) 737-8483. Onsite registration will also be available. For more information, call (843) 953-9307.

Kids of all ages are invited to participate in this free event.
Farmers market returns May 6

The Georgetown County Farmers Market will return for another season on May 6. Local growers, bakers and craftsmen will again set up shop from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday through October in the public parking lot at 122 Screven St. in Georgetown, across from the historic county courthouse.

The Farmers Market will once again be managed by the nonprofit Waccamaw Market Cooperative, which also manages seven farmers markets in Horry County. The Cooperative has been working to get more local growers and artisans involved to sell at the Georgetown market. So far, about a dozen vendors are signed up, including a strawberry farm, a pie maker, a baker specializing in Irish scones, a shaved ice stand and a variety of produce growers.

For more information, visit waccamawmarkets.org or come see what we have to offer on May 6.

Council to address town’s drainage issues, continues budget work

After heavy rains on April 24 that left streets and yards flooded throughout the Andrews area, residents came to Georgetown County Council that week to seek help in addressing drainage issues. Though much of the flooding is located on roadways not maintained by the county, council agreed it wanted the county to be part of finding a solution.

The issues are largely related to aging infrastructure in the town, but problems were also attributed to piled up debris that was washed into storm drains, clogging the system. Council directed county staff to meet with the Andrews Mayor to come up with an action plan for identifying and remediing problems with the Town’s drainage system. A status report is to be given in 30 days, Council Chairman Johnny Morant directed.

Council additionally continues work on its 2017-18 budget process, receiving a report from staff at its April 25 meeting. A budget workshop is scheduled for May 9 and will provide a more comprehensive look at what council can expect the budget to look like. At the last meeting, the budget was out of balance, but staff has been working hard to cut expenses and balance the budget prior to the workshop.

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.
Life Jacket Loaner Board program begins at Murrells Inlet Landing

The S.C. Department of Natural Resources, in conjunction with Georgetown County Parks and Recreation, will launch a program this summer to provide life jackets for the public to use for free while boating in the Murrells Inlet area.

The program’s goal is to increase the use of life jackets and educate the public on the importance of wearing a properly fitting life jacket.

Life jackets will be available at a kiosk at the county’s Murrells Inlet Boat Landing by mid-June. DNR will provide Coast Guard-approved life jackets in a variety of types and sizes, and there will be weekly inspections to check and replenish life jackets. The kiosk will also contain informational signage featuring DNR’s Zippit mascot. Signage will advise users to select a life jacket, inspect it, zip it, wear it and return it when they return to shore. The kiosk will also contain a recycling tube where anglers can deposit broken fishing line in order to protect marine life as part of DNR’s UP2U anti-littering program.

Instructions for the program and how to properly fit a life jacket, as well as SC requirements for wearing life jackets, will be available at the kiosk in multiple languages.

There will also be an area where announcements, shellfish bed closings, upcoming safety classes, etc., can be posted.

DNR is still preparing the signage, but hopes to have it installed by Memorial Day. Georgetown County was excited to partner with DNR to put a kiosk at one of our landings. This program provides an excellent opportunity to help keep boaters safe and to keep area waters clean.

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.

Preparing for every situation

Georgetown County Sheriff’s deputies never know what a day on the job might bring, so when they aren’t responding to calls, they’re usually training. Recently, members of the SWAT team trained with K-9 officer Diesel, a bloodhound (above), and with tear gas (pictured at top). Officers took Diesel out to 8 Oaks Park in Georgetown for an exercise in tracking. They used smoke bombs to simulate tear gas during an exercise at the Sheriff’s Office gun range. Part of the practice included covering team members to allow time for gas masks to be put on in the field.

Bee Informed

Georgetown County beekeepers, please call (843) 545-3619.

In an effort to protect the local bee population, Georgetown County’s Mosquito Control Division maintains a list of contact information for local beekeepers, so they may receive advance notice of aerial sprays in their areas and cover their hives.
Waste collection event sets new record

A household hazardous waste collection and paper shredding event in Litchfield last month collected 13 tons of waste material and nearly six tons of paper to be shredded in less than six hours. The numbers were a record, said Terri Davis, an employee of the Stormwater Division who organized the semi-annual event, with assistance from Midway Fire Rescue. The amount of household hazardous waste collected was more than double what was taken in at the last event in October. The amount of paper was quadruple. A total of 370 vehicles were counted dropping off materials, with some arriving up to an hour before the event started. Though it was set to end at noon, employees were still collecting items at 1:15 p.m. Before the county started hosting these collection events several years ago, residents 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 more people are practicing proper disposal habits, keeping dangerous chemicals from leeching into the ground and ending up in the water supply. Davis said the event may have outgrown the venue at Midway’s headquarters. Staff will discuss how to proceed with the event given the growing response.

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 is available at 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.

Georgetown County Parks & Rec. announces

Adult Co-ed League

Kickball

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

2017 Summer Program Guides are now available!

Learn about all the exciting recreational activities we have to offer. Pick up your summer guide at a Georgetown County Parks and Recreation facility, or download one online at www.gtcparks.org.
Video premier to highlight local African American history

The Friends of the Georgetown Library are pleased to present the premiere of author Steve Williams’ new video, “The Content of their Character.” The free showing will be at the Georgetown Library Auditorium, 405 Cleland Street, on Tuesday, May 16, at 6:30 pm.

Based on his popular book, “Ebony Effects: 150 Unknown Facts about Blacks in Georgetown, SC,” Williams has chosen 15 of the most interesting stories to create the video featuring mini-documentaries introduced by well-known residents of Georgetown — many of whom had connections with the individuals and events featured. For the premiere, Williams will be selecting several of the stories for the audience to view. In addition, he will provide an introduction, followed by a question and answer session for those in attendance.

Williams has enjoyed writing about local history, but felt that bringing the written word into video would bring preservation of the past to a new level.

“I decided to write these stories years ago, but I realized that a visual representation would be important too,” Williams said. “It helps to conceptualize what life was like under segregation or slavery.

And, although a lot of these heroes lived within my lifetime, and I can picture their plights, we have plenty of young people who can’t imagine via reading alone what life was like in the 1960s and 1970s.”

Copies of the video will be available for sale at the premier event. For more information, call (843) 545-3327.

Ipock to speak at library

The hilarious Ann Ipock will present her newest book, “Life is Short, Pack Your Bags Now!” at the Waccamaw Library on May 19 at 10 a.m.

Ipock’s newest book is part of her side-splitting “Life is Short” series, which features hilarious short stories about everyday life. As Kathleen McCleary, author of “Leaving Heaven,” “A Simple Thing” and “House & Home,” explains, “Ann Ipock’s sharp but gentle humor is a delight. Reading her latest collection of columns feels like setting in for a terrific afternoon of conversation with an old friend, filled with laughter and surprises, and the warm recognition of shared experience.”

Ipock writes about the ordinary joys and frustrations of everything from long-term marriages to YouTube videos to homeowners associations in a way that’s both insightful and hilarious. Her stories will make you nod, shake your head, and laugh for a long time.

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**ADULT VOLLEYBALL**

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

**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

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**Junior Tennis Camps**

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

9:00am-1:00pm

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
Parents looking for fun, educational activities to keep children engaged this summer will find just what they need at Georgetown County Parks and Recreation’s annual summer camp.

Open to kids ages 5-11, the camp will take place June 5 to July 28 in Georgetown and Pawleys Island. Camp runs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays. Each week of camp will feature a different theme for activities.

Registration is open now at www.gtcparks.org or by calling (843) 545-3202. Cost is $65 per child per week, plus a $15 registration fee.

The Murrells Inlet Community Center has been hopping lately, with a bevy of new classes, programs and activities introduced.

Coming up this month and into the summer, the center has a variety of arts and crafts classes for all age ranges, beginning with a two-part pinch pottery class led by local potter Mike Mahon. The class will take place on May 5 and 12. Cost to participate is $35 (covers all materials and both days of class). Also on May 5, the Community Center will host a kids pottery painting class from 4-5 p.m. It will be a perfect opportunity for kids of any age to create a special gift for Mother’s Day, said event organizers. A similar event on June 9 from 5-6 p.m. will take place just in time for Father’s Day. Cost for kids pottery classes is $20.

On May 11, area residents and visitors will have an opportunity to learn to weave pine needles into baskets in a course offered by Zada Mae of Zada Mae Baskets. Classes will be May 11 and May 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is $30 for one session or $55 for both.

For more information or to register for classes, call (843) 545-3651. To fill out a survey on programs you’d like to see at the Murrells Inlet Community Center, visit the center’s page on Facebook.com.

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

Register online for this and other programs at www.gtcparks.org

New classes offered at Inlet Community Center

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

Register online for this and other programs at www.gtcparks.org

Summer Camp registration is open!

Campers enjoy outdoor activities during a previous summer camp at Beck Recreation Center.

The Murrells Inlet Community Center has been hopping lately, with a bevy of new classes, programs and activities introduced.

Coming up this month and into the summer, the center has a variety of arts and crafts classes for all age ranges, beginning with a two-part pinch pottery class led by local potter Mike Mahon. The class will take place on May 5 and 12. Cost to participate is $35 (covers all materials and both days of class). Also on May 5, the Community Center will host a kids pottery painting class from 4-5 p.m. It will be a perfect opportunity for kids of any age to create a special gift for Mother’s Day, said event organizers. A similar event on June 9 from 5-6 p.m. will take place just in time for Father’s Day. Cost for kids pottery classes is $20.

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For more information or to register for classes, call (843) 545-3651. To fill out a survey on programs you’d like to see at the Murrells Inlet Community Center, visit the center’s page on Facebook.com.

New classes offered at Inlet Community Center
The Waccamaw Library delves into a new level of comparative religion with its series “Common Threads in Diverse Spiritualities.” The first lectures will explore spiritual practices that have enjoyed worldwide popularity from pre-Christian times until today.

On Saturday, May 13, at 4 p.m., Abhay Rinpoche will present “Cultivating a Peaceful Mind.”

“I will discuss the difficulties we have in finding inner peace in a troubled world, and the ways we can overcome difficulties to eliminate the negative mind of hatred and anger,” Rinpoche said.

Rinpoche is a teacher who has been recognized by the Dalai Lama as a reincarnation of the hermit monk Lobsang Tenzin. As a boy of 7, he began to study in the Gaden Jangtse Monastery in South India, and at the age of 9, he was initiated as a monk. At the age of 17, he began higher studies of Buddhist philosophy and, on completion, was ordained by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. He has taught widely in the US, Europe and India.

On Tuesday, May 16, at 10 a.m., Holli Emore will present “A World of Beauty: Pagan Path for the Modern Culture.”

“It’s an often-misunderstood blend of post-Christian process theology, complementary healing modalities, song, dance and personal growth,” said Emore. “Paganism encompasses countless personal paths, from the personal transformation of alchemy to the herbal spells of the hedge witch.”

Emore, executive director of Cherry Hill Seminary, will delve into the diversity of modern and historic Paganism, exploring some of the beliefs pagans hold, as well as misconceptions held by the uninitiated.

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation celebrated the unofficial Star Wars Day in intergalactic style with a Business After Hours event at Howard Recreation Center. The event, co-sponsored by the Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce, featured Star Wars themed food and games, a photo booth and showings of movies from the series. Pictured from left are County Council Members Austin Beard, Lillie Jean Johnson and Ron Charlton.

Library continues series on religion

Find fresh produce, baked goods and more!

Saturdays beginning May 6
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

at 122 Screven St.
in historic Georgetown
In Georgetown County, public works employees learn quickly that National Public Works Week is an occasion to look forward to year after year. That’s because the county’s leadership makes it a priority to turn the event into something special, said Ray Funnye, director of the Georgetown County Public Services Department, which includes the Public Works Division.

The event occurs in late May – specifically May 21-27 this year – but Funnye and his support staff normally start planning activities in January.

“National Public Works Week offers those of us in this field some important opportunities, and here in Georgetown County, we believe in taking full advantage of those opportunities,” he said. “Not only does this occasion give us an excellent platform to reach out to the public and educate them about what we do and just how extensive public works is, but it’s a chance to highlight how important this work is to the quality of citizens’ everyday lives. That makes it a prime time to highlight our employees who are dedicated to doing this work and to say thank you to them.”

Funnye said he considers himself lucky to have a County Administrator as well as a County Council who share that view and who are supportive of Public Works Week activities. Georgetown County Council annually passes a resolution in support of Public Works Week and presents that resolution during an annual luncheon for Public Works staff. The picnic-style meal is always a lead-in to a day-long celebration featuring activities and awards for Public Works staff, and culminating in one of the highlights of Public Works Week in Georgetown County: an annual Regional Backhoe Rodeo.

“We’ve been lucky enough to host this event here in Georgetown County for the last 23 years, and that really is something we’re proud of,” Funnye said.

The event takes place each year in a grassy, pond-front area on the same campus where the county landfill is located. The event is a collaborative of Georgetown and several neighboring counties. This year those counties will include Charleston, Beaufort, Hampton, Jasper, Colleton, Dorchester and Berkeley. Public Works staff from throughout participating counties and their municipalities come together to show off their skills, enjoy a little friendly competition and try to nab a spot in the state Backhoe Rodeo. The Backhoe Rodeo allows backhoe operators to showcase their skills by performing precision maneuvers in a series of challenges, which change from year to year.

“It’s a fun day, but it also serves the purpose of allowing us to come together to network and talk about different challenges we face in our jobs,” Funnye said. “We can meet other people in our profession and talk shop, and that’s good in our industry because the issues we face in our home counties are very similar. Someone else in the competition may have already experienced an issue in their home county that we’re facing now, and they may be able to give us some input to help us solve the problem.”

The county also hosts a truck rodeo for its employees and has previously had safety rodeos as well.

Along with honoring and rewarding existing employees, the county creates opportunities during Public Works Week to recruit future staff by reaching out to the next generation. Funnye and his staff annually extend their celebrations to local elementary schools, where they participate in career talks and bring some of their equipment along for hugely popular Touch a Truck events. They usually bring a dump truck or backhoe along and let the kids get an up-close look. It’s usually a big thrill for most of the students.

“The kids really have a field day being able to climb up on these machines and sit in the driver’s seat,” Funnye said. “It’s always a hit. And once we have their attention, we can talk about the kinds...
News from our Georgetown County Veterans Affairs Officer

By David Murphy

Greetings to everyone! This is an exciting month, with a number of special things going on. May 14 is Mother’s Day, of course. I would like to wish all our mothers a Happy Mother’s Day. We also this month celebrate Memorial Day. Let us all paused to reflect on all those who sacrificed to defend our great nation.

Coming up this month, in honor of Memorial Day, our area will also celebrate Military Appreciation Days. Held in Myrtle Beach, this celebration brings a full schedule of activities this month. National Guardsman Alek Skaraitos is the 2017 Grand Marshal for the Military Appreciation Days parade, starting at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 27, at Market Common. Please come out and help honor the men, women and families of our Armed Forces during that exciting event. For more information about Military Appreciation Days and events scheduled throughout the month of May, visit militaryappreciationdays.com.

A Memorial Day Ceremony in the City of Georgetown will take place on Monday, May 29, at 10 a.m. at the Memorial Wall located between the American Legion Post and VFW Post, at 711 Church St. The event is open to the public.

Members of both these posts will place American flags on the graves of veterans in Pennroyal and Elmwood cemeteries on Thursday, May 25, beginning at 8 a.m. Volunteers are welcome.

I’m getting increasingly excited about our upcoming Veterans Fair, planned for July 14 at the Beck Recreation Center from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Everyone that I have spoken with is excited as well. Please share this information with all veterans you know. The goal of this event will be to inform and educate veterans about all the programs and benefits that are available to them. I believe that knowledge is power and knowledge is no good unless it’s shared.

American Legion Post 197 of Pawleys Island has completed its selection of candidates from Waccamaw High School and Lowcountry Preparatory School to attend the Palmetto American Legion Boys State week, is held Anderson University in June. Boys State is conducted by 49 of our 50 states. It teaches boys, using experiential learning, how government works at the local, county and state levels. Other opportunities during the week include sports, band, law school and journalism. At the end of the week, both Boys and Girls State gather in Columbia to meet state lawmakers.

Glenn Hero, Post 197 Commander, is to be recognized for 50 continuous years as a member of the American Legion. We thank him for his faithfulness to God and Country! Post 197 meets at the Litchfield Beach Fish House on the fourth Thursday of each month (except July and August). Dinner is at 5 p.m. followed by the regular meeting at 6 p.m. We encourage Pawleys Island area veterans to attend and take advantage of opportunities to serve fellow veterans and our area youth.

For more information and to find out about the great services we offer for veterans, stop by our office at 537 Lafayette Circle, Georgetown.

As always have a great month!!

Prood to Serve!

David Murphy,
Manager, Georgetown County Office of Veterans Affairs

Public Works
Continued from Page 8

of work we do and offer some education on topics such as recycling. We can talk about some of the science and engineering involved in our field, and teach them that Public Works is an expansive industry.”

Ways to further year-round outreach and education initiatives for adults are also sought. It’s a constant challenge keep residents convinced of the importance of recycling and why it’s worth a little extra effort. The county also seeks creative ways to expand its recycling efforts. Most recently it turned wood debris resulting from a hurricane into mulch and made that product available to residents at no cost. The county also has a paint recycling program and continues to promote ongoing campaigns on home composting and proper disposal of household hazardous waste.

“Some people still think Public Works is just roads and bridges, but it goes so far beyond that and we’re always looking for ways to highlight that,” Funnye said. “Public Works Week and the resources from the APWA help us do that. The theme this year for Public Works Week is ‘Public Works Connects Us,’ and it really does. It connects us in so many ways.”

Streets, highways and bridges are certainly a major component, but the field also includes railways, airports and waterways. Stormwater, fleet maintenance, engineering and the landfill are all functions of public works that people often don’t associate with the field, Funnye said. When he promotes recent work done by his staff during Public Works Week this year, an inlet dredging project, construction of new airport hangars, and countywide road improvements will all be on the list. The field needs men and women with all types of skills including heavy equipment operators, scientists and engineers, surveyors and administrators.

“The men and women in Public Works really have such a huge impact on our communities,” Funnye said.

“There isn’t a person out there who doesn’t benefit in some way from the work our Public Works employees do. That’s why I really do think it’s very important for us to take some time at least once a year to recognize and thank the men and women involved in providing these kinds of services in our counties and municipalities.”

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.
A family bike ride followed the ribbon cutting. About 50 people participated.

Young artists could win cash prizes and a great place to store their pennies in an upcoming art contest sponsored by the Georgetown County Library system.

“We want you to design your dream piggy bank,” said Dwight McInvaill, library director. “It can be sculpted, painted, drawn, you name it,” he added, offering instructions to young artists. “The most creative banks in three different age groups will win a cash prize.”

The Great Piggy Bank Art Contest is part of the library’s ongoing Financial Fitness grant program from the Bunnelle Foundation. The prizes are generously provided by the Friends of the Georgetown Library, and Georgetown Kraft Credit Union.

The eye-catching piggy banks will be featured at the Spring Festival of Financial Fitness on May 20 from noon-2 p.m. at the Georgetown Library, 405 Cleland Street.

“Even if you don’t make a bank, you won’t want to miss the festival,” McInvaill said. “There will be pizza, a jumpy castle, face painting, ice cream, games, balloons and more, and it’s all free!”

The party also features booths with experts who have great information for adults on protecting finances.

The Piggy Bank Art Contest is open to children ages 5-15 who reside in Georgetown County. The piggy banks can be two- or three-dimensional and kids can use any media they like. The piggy banks must be dropped off at any Georgetown County Library branch by May 18 and should include a piece of paper with the artist’s name, age and phone number.

For more information about the contest or fall festival, call Heather Pelham at the library, (843) 545-3327.