



The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

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Calendar

May 22 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse.

May 28 – Georgetown County offices and facilities are closed for Memorial Day.

June 5 – Distribution of senior citizen produce vouchers. See page 4.

June 11 – First day of Parks and Recreation summer camp. See page 9.

June 12 – Primary Election Day. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

June 20-22 – Bassmaster B.A.S.S. Nation Regional Championship in Georgetown.

June 21 – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse.

June 26 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse.

Volume 6, Issue 9

May/June 2018

County to host kids fishing and camping event at 8 Oaks

On June 8 and 9, Georgetown County Parks and Recreation will offer a terrific learning and bonding opportunity for children and their parents or guardians. For that weekend, the department will turn 8 Oaks baseball park into a camping ground.

Families will be invited to bring tents and sleeping bags that Friday, June 8, and enjoy a fun night under the stars. The event will include activities such as glow-in-the-dark kickball, hiking, scavenger hunts, a S'mores station and more. A hot dog dinner will be provided. There is no cost to attend, but pre-registration is required and children must be accompanied by an adult.

The following morning, the department will host a Take a Kid Fishing day from 9 a.m. to noon. Parents and guardians are invited to bring children of all ages for a day of fishing for catfish. The pond at the park will be stocked, making it a great opportunity for kids who love to fish or even those who have never fished before but want to



Above and at right, kids show off their catch during the fishing rodeo in April. More than 30 children, from toddlers on up to teens, attended the event with their families.

learn. Families do not have to participate in the camping trip to attend the fishing program.

Again, there is no fee to participate, but children must bring their own fishing poles and bait, and must be accompanied by an adult.

As an added treat, professional angler Tony Gaskin of Hinesville, Ga., will be on hand for the event to work with kids and help them improve their skills. The Southern Anglers Radio Show will also broadcast live from the event.



The fishing program is a follow-up to a youth fishing rodeo the department co-hosted at 8 Oaks with the S.C. Department of Natural Resources on April 28. The event was a huge success, attracting more than 30 children, all of whom had a great time fishing and enjoying free ice cream.

"What we heard from those who attended was that they really en-

See "Fishing," Page 9

Midway to host week of free public safety forums May 21-26

The week of May 20 is National EMS Week. Across the U.S., it's a time to say thank you to Emergency Medical Services personnel who work many hours providing care to the sick and injured. In Georgetown County, EMS personnel will also use the week as an opportunity for public safety education.

May 21-24, Midway Fire Rescue will host daily lectures at its headquarters station on a variety of health and safety topics. The week will culminate in an Infant and Child Car Seat Blitz on Saturday, May 26, from 1-4 p.m. Midway's headquarters station is located at 67 Saint Paul Place in Pawleys Island, beside the Waccamaw Library.



"EMS week is all about thanking first responders for their daily duties and heroic efforts," said Brianna Knox, a firefighter and EMT with Midway who was among the staff tasked with planning EMS Week activities. "There is a lot of hard work and dedication that is performed day in and day out by these professionals that the community often doesn't get a chance to see. The end-

less hours of training, learning new and improved ways to better not only ourselves, but the communities around us are just a few things we do each shift.

"EMS week gives the community a chance to not only thank, but show their appreciation for their local first

See "Public Safety," Page 9

Sheriff's Office offers public free training for active shooter situations



Sgt. Gary Todd of the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office talks to county employees about the best ways to stay safe in an active shooter situation. This training is offered to businesses, churches and other groups for free as a public service. To take advantage, call the GCSO.

Lately, it seems that nearly every day another mass shooting is reported somewhere in the nation. They've happened in schools, offices, restaurants, churches — places where people expect to be safe.

Sgt. Gary Todd of the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office recently conducted a class for Georgetown County employees in the historic courthouse on Screven Street on the proper response to an active shooter situation. The hour-long class taught employees how best to respond in such a situation to give them the best chance.

Todd said Georgetown County Sheriff's Office deputies are trained to enter the building and confront a shooter immediately. "Stop the killing," is the first priority, he said. Officers are also being trained to administer emergency medical assistance once the shooter has been neutralized.

Active shooter training for businesses, churches and other organizations is available for free through the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office. For information, contact Todd at (843) 436-6040 or by email at gtodd@gtcounty.org.

Georgetown County FARMERS MARKET



Find fresh produce and more!

Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

*at 122 Screven St., Georgetown
across from the historic courthouse*

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 in 2012. 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

County announces spring adult league champions, new registration dates



Pictured above and at right are winners of Georgetown County Parks and Recreation's spring adult league sports. Prestige Worldwide won its second consecutive soccer league championship on May 5. The East Bay Ballers, right, won the spring kickball championship. The county is currently registering for summer soccer and softball leagues. There will also be free play nights in July for adult flag football and glow-in-the-dark kickball. Parks and Recreation also offers a wide range of youth sports and activities. Visit gtcparks.org for information.

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation's spring adult soccer and kickball leagues wrapped up their seasons in early May.

In the soccer league, four teams battled it out every Saturday morning at Stables Park from March 3 through May 5. When all was said and done, it was Prestige Worldwide who claimed their second consecutive league championship with a 10-3 win over the PIT. In addition to their championship, the team boasts an impressive undefeated streak which stretches back to August of 2017.

In the brand new kickball league, five teams came together once per week from March 21 through May 7, and competition was fierce. So fierce, in fact, that the league championship game was decided on a walk-off in the bottom of the seventh inning. The East Bay Ballers claimed the 4-3 victory.

Randy Akers, the Community Specialist in charge of adult sports for Parks and Recreation, said the county's adult sports leagues are always competitive but are also a lot of fun.

"The adults in our leagues do take the games seriously, but they're also there to have a good time," Akers said. "Anyone who loves to play sports should definitely try to get involved with one of our leagues."

Registration is currently open for the county's summer adult soccer and co-ed softball leagues. Soccer is open to players aged 16 and up (with parental consent for 16- and 17-year-olds), with a fee of \$260 per team. Softball is open to players ages 18 and up, with a fee of \$370 per team. Soccer will begin on June 2, and play on Saturdays through Aug. 11; softball will begin on June 5 and play on Tuesdays and Thursdays through Aug. 9. The county will also host free play glow-in-the dark kickball on Mondays at East Bay Park from 9-10 p.m. July 9-30 and flag football at Beck Recreation Center from 6-8 p.m. July 11, 18 and 25. Football and kickball programs will be free and open to those 16 and up. For more information regarding adult sports leagues and programs, contact Randy Akers at (843) 359-6419 or via email at bakers@gtcounty.org.

Summer 2018

Co-Ed Adult Softball

Tuesdays/Thursdays @ Retreat Park

June 5 through August 9

Registration Fee: \$370 per team

\$100 deposit due by May 31

Captain's Meeting on May 31

To Register, Call (843) 359-6419

Or Email bakers@gtcounty.org

Pick Up Players/Free Agents Needed!

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



County breaks ground at Rocky Point



Georgetown County broke ground on a new boat landing and kayak launch at Rocky Point Community Forest on May 17. Construction is expected to be complete in mid-September. "This is a very small part of a much larger project," said County Administrator Sel Hemingway. In the future, plans are to add a number of uses to the 662-acre property, which is being developed into coastal South Carolina's first public-use community forest. Plans include the eventual addition of hiking, biking and equine trails, in addition to camping grounds. The end product will be the result of a partnership between several different agencies, including The Winyah Rivers Foundation, which acquired the deed to the property in 2016. The prior owner had closed the property to the public for a number of years before that. The purchase by the Winyah Rivers Foundation and bringing the property back to the supervision of the county and public use was made possible by the Nature Conservancy. The Open Space Institute and a water resources grant it received from Duke Energy have also been integral to the process. The grant provides \$55,000 for the kayak launch. The county will put forth \$150,000 for the cost of the new boat landing.

Food vouchers for senior citizens available June 5

The Georgetown County Bureau of Aging Services will distribute Farmers Market vouchers from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on June 5 at the Beck Recreation Center. The center is located at 2030 Church St. in Georgetown.

The distribution is part of the state Seniors Nutrition Program. Vouchers will be available to all eligible seniors age 60 and above. Please bring proof of identity, age and household income. Vouchers may be used at the Georgetown Farmers Market, which is open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Saturday through October on Screven Street, across from the historic courthouse.

For more information, call (843) 545-3275.

Seniors groups to have Fiesta

The Georgetown County Bureau of Aging Services will have a special event — a fiesta — at Howard Recreation Center from 10 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, May 22. The Bureau provides daily services and activities for senior citizens throughout the county. Participation is free.

For more information, call Coretha at (843) 545-3196.

Georgetown County Library Summer Reading Program!
June 11—July 26, 2017

Libraries
Rock!

Visit our website to find a complete schedule of summer reading program activities for each library branch!

ANDREWS	CARVERS BAY	GEORGETOWN	WACCAMAW
LIBRARY	LIBRARY	LIBRARY	LIBRARY

Register and join us—it's all FREE!
georgetownlibsc.readsquared.com
 For more information, call (843) 545-3300

The Friends of the Waccamaw Library present
**Movers in the Sky:
Comets, Meteors & Asteroids**
 Thursday, June 28 at 7 pm

With astronomer and former NASA consultant Kevin Manning

A FREE hands-on program for ages 8—100.

Ever seen a meteor streak across the sky, or better yet a meteor shower?
 What about the danger of asteroids or comets colliding with the earth?
 Are comets really remnants of the solar system's creation?
 Explore the mystery with outstanding photos from space!

Fun for the whole family!

Waccamaw Neck Branch Library
41 St. Paul Place Pawleys Island, SC

Public Services team prepares for upcoming hurricane season



Public Services staff members attend training in the county's Emergency Operations Center on May 3.

Georgetown County's Department of Public Services is participating in a series of several training sessions this month to get ready for whatever the upcoming hurricane season may bring.

Hurricane season begins on June 1, and the last several years have shown anything is possible.

"We wanted to take an opportunity to introduce questions and problems that could come up, but at a time when we can solve them without the pressure and time constraints of an ongoing emergency and the need to clean up the damage," said Ray Funnye, Public Services Department director. "We wanted a chance to look at what challenges might arise and how we could better address them, so we can act more quickly if these issues do occur during a disaster."

The department invited the county's debris removal contractor, D & J Enterprises, and debris monitoring contractor, True North Emergency Management, to review emergency action plans for debris as part of the exercise, as well. The contractors could be activated if the county determines that there is too much debris to be handled internally, as has been the case several times over the last six years — resulting from not only hurricanes, but also ice storms.

The contractors and county employees reviewed the county's debris Management plan, debris collection locations, equipment, monitoring, and especially safety.

Both contractors were impressed with the county's debris management plan and noted that going through several storms in the past had the Public Services Department well-seasoned in debris management, Funnye said.

The next planned training exercise for the public services department will be a table top exercise with the emergency management division, in which each group can practice their roles pre-storm, during a storm and post-storm.

"This is all designed to make sure we can do our jobs more effectively and more quickly when it counts," Funnye said. "After a disaster, we are tasked with figuring out how much debris there is and where it is, which means assessing the entire county. We have to get the major roads open as quickly as possible and coordinate places to stage equipment, how soon we can safely get crews out to start working again, and determine qualifiers for when to open which debris sites and what types of debris to accept at those sites. There are a lot of moving parts, so the more we can practice and troubleshoot, the better prepared we all will be."

Flags being accepted for retirement ceremony

The Georgetown County Office of Veterans Affairs is currently accepting worn out and tattered flags to be destroyed in an appropriate fashion during an upcoming flag retirement ceremony. Flags may be dropped off at the Veterans Affairs office at 537 Lafayette



Circle in Georgetown. The office has been notified of two upcoming flag retirement ceremonies in Georgetown County.

American Legion Post 178 in Murrells Inlet will have a Flag Day service at the Post Memorial at 11 a.m. on June 14. The local Boy Scout troop will be in charge of the flag retirement service.

The Lowcountry Veterans Group will have its flag retirement ceremony at 10 a.m. on June 14 at the Meeting Place, located on Highmarket Street in Georgetown.

For more information about local veterans services and programs, call (843) 545-3330.

JUNE 20-22
GEOGETOWN COUNTY, SC

Academy
BASSMASTER
B.A.S.S. NATION
REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

FISHGEORGETOWN.COM

Teen
Video Production
CLASSES

Georgetown Library
June 25—28
1—2:30 pm

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.

Sample ballots available for June 12 primary elections

Residents planning to vote in the June 12 primary election can get prepared now by viewing their sample ballot online. Sample ballots are available at www.scvotes.org by clicking the link in the "My scVOTES" box on the right-hand side of the screen.

By filling out the required information, voters will be able to pull up a copy of the ballot exactly as it will appear when they go to the polls to vote. Voters can also access information on all candidates running in the primary election at <https://www.scvotes.org/candidate-lists>.

Residents can also check their voter registration information to make sure it is up to date before going to the polls at scvotes.org.

When residents arrive at the polls to vote, they **must** notify the poll manager which primary they want to vote in, as the Democratic and Republican parties both have primaries.

For those who are eligible to vote absentee, in-house voting began on May 14 at 303 N. Hazard St. Mail-out absentee ballots can be requested now by calling the Elections office at (843) 545-3339. Poll workers are also still needed. Call the number above for details. Information on who can vote absentee is available at scvotes.org.

Street Scenes Georgetown County Photo Contest



Whether it's a scenic, quiet country road or a bustling area of town, we want to see some of your favorite street scenes.

The only requirement is they be located within Georgetown County. Please also include a phone number where we can reach you in case you are selected as a winner.

Deadline for entries is June 15, 2018.

Send entries to jbroach@gtcounty.org.

Details and contest rules at www.gtcounty.org.

County opens new Mosquito Control Building



The Georgetown County Public Services Department had a grand opening and ribbon cutting celebration on April 25 for its new Mosquito Control Division building, located on the Georgetown Airport property. The building will be used for storage of chemicals and other materials used by the division. The total cost was kept to \$35,000 by having the project built entirely by staff in the county's Facility Services Division. A new Mosquito Control building has been long needed and was in the works for several years. Work had to be delayed repeatedly as staff was diverted several times for storm recovery efforts and other capital projects. Completion came just in time for the start of Mosquito Control's busy season this year. For more information about Mosquito Control or to request spraying in your area, call (843) 545-3615 and leave a message with a return phone number.

FREE

Body-Friendly Golf Class

FEATURING



Tom Saguto, PGA
Owner, Saguto Golf

Learn about a simpler, more efficient, and body-friendly way to swing the golf club. Swing effortlessly and start making the most out of the game you love.

When: Tuesday, June 12th - 4PM
Thursdays, June 21st - 10AM | July 12th - 10AM

Where: Waccamaw Public Library
41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island, SC

SIGN UP Call: 717.476.0538 or Email sagutogolf@gmail.com
Space is limited. Reserve your spot today!




County working to balance budget

Georgetown County staff is conducting a line by line review of its draft 2018-19 budget in an effort to close a gap of over \$1 million spread over three funds. The majority of the deficit is in the law enforcement fund and results from a request by the Sheriff's Office to increase salaries by 10 percent for entry-level and mid-level employees.

The salary increases are needed to help prevent the department from losing deputies to agencies in neighboring counties that can offer higher pay. Losing deputies after the department has invested time and money into training entry-level officers is a costly problem, making salary increases a good investment, said Assistant Sheriff Carter Weaver.

In addition to the line by line review, the county is looking at options to increase revenue, including the possibility of using a portion of accommodations tax funds to help close the gap in the law enforcement budget, and millage increases.

With the line by line budget review, staff are hopeful the county can shave off between \$50,000 and \$75,000 from the \$433,000 general fund budget deficit. The Midway Fire Department fund also currently has a deficit (\$131,000).

The budget already calls for a 2.5 percent property tax increase, which would amount to roughly \$6 on a \$100,000 primary residence. The county is also considering a \$15-\$20 increase to its \$30 annual road user fee.

County Council is scheduled to review and vote on an updated budget during a special meeting in June.

Council committee recommends for rezoning of Pennyroyal Road property

Georgetown County Council Members are scheduled to vote at their May 22 meeting on whether to rezone a piece of property located on Pennyroyal Road. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. in the historic county courthouse on Screven Street.

Council's Land Use and Tourism Committee agreed 3-1 at a meeting on May 10 to recommend that the full council vote to proceed with the rezoning. The property in question is a 950-acre tract between Pennyroyal Road and the Sampit River, which the Economic Development Department said could be a game changer for the county in attracting new industry. But first, it has to be rezoned. The department has asked that the property be changed from "Forest and Agriculture" and "Coastal Preservation" to "Heavy Industrial" and "Coastal Preservation." There are already several heavy industrial companies located in the surrounding area. A number of residents in the immediate area have protested the rezoning, while those in other areas are calling for job creation.

The parcel is unique in that it offers access to rail, water, sewer, natural gas, fiber connections and would allow barge access. These attributes are something that Economic Development Director Brian Tucker said he believes would give the county a leg up in recruiting prospects, as other counties in the state won't have a similar spec site.

After hearing resident concerns, Tucker said preliminary plans were altered to include larger buffers. It was also determined the site would not be made available for certain types of industrial uses including oil and gas refineries, steel mills and paper mills. Additional funds were also secured for due diligence studies that would take place after rezoning if rezoning occurs, and a plan was made to move the main entrance for the property off of Pennyroyal Road.

"I continue to be convinced this site is still our best chance at winning significant projects that could generate significant jobs," Tucker told the committee.

Music IN THE Park
georgetownseaport.com

First Fridays 6 - 9
Francis Marion Park
Downtown Georgetown
VIP seating available
Bring a chair, no coolers

Shaggin on the Sampit First Fridays

May 4 **THE EMBERS**

June 1 **Band of Oz**

July 6 **THE TAMBS**
www.thetams.com

Aug 3 **JIM QUICK AND COASTLINE**

Sep 7 **the SHAKERS**

Come early to Shop, Dine & Tour

Music IN THE Park
georgetownseaport.com

Shaggin on the Sampit
Free Concert featuring
Jason Michael Carroll
with Josh Brannon Band opening
Downtown Georgetown
Thursday, June 21st 6 - 9 pm
Francis Marion Park
Welcome Bassmaster June 20 - 22

JASON MICHAEL CARROLL
JMC

Josh Brannon Band

Academy of Music
BASSMASTER
B.A.S. NATION
REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

GEORGETOWN
COUNTY, SC

City of Georgetown

News from our Georgetown County Veterans Affairs Officer

By David Murphy

Hello, veterans of Georgetown County! May 28 is Memorial Day. Please take time to pause and remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice to defend this great nation. Also please thank any veteran you see for their service. Below are several events taking place in our area in honor of Memorial Day.

- **Georgetown Memorial Day Ceremony:**

Georgetown's annual Memorial Day observance ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. on May 28 at the Georgetown County Veterans Memorial, located at 715 Church Street. Retired Marine Colonel Myron Harrington will be the guest speaker at the event. He is the recipient of the nation's second and third highest awards for valor in combat: the Navy Cross and Silver Star. Refreshments will be served afterward. The event is sponsored by American Legion Post 114 and VFW Post 644. For more information, call (843) 546-3745.

- **Town of Andrews Memorial Day Observation:** American Legion Post 69 is proud to announce that a Memorial Day Observance will take place in Andrews at 10 a.m. on May 28 at the Town of Andrews Memorial Cemetery, located on Business Hwy. 521. Guest speaker will be Commander Rich Schafer, who retired after a distinguished career in the Navy. Schafer is the Senior Naval Science Instructor at Andrews High School. Among the veteran's groups expected to attend the ceremony are the Andrews Veterans Association and the Low Country Veterans Group. All veterans and the public are invited to attend.

- **Myrtle Beach Military Appreciation Day:** The City of Myrtle Beach will recognize Memorial Day with a Military Appreciation Parade and other events. The parade is set for 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 26, at the Market Common. This year's grand marshal will be Deshauna Barber, an Army Reserve Captain and 2016 Miss USA. The parade travels Howard Avenue and Farrow Parkway. Following the parade will be a family picnic, live music, exhibits and more from noon to 2 p.m. at Valor Memorial Garden in the Market Common. The event is free and attendees will have a chance to meet Barber. For more information, visit militaryappreciationdays.com.

- **Myrtle Beach Veterans March and Remembrance Ceremony:** The City of Myrtle Beach will have a Veterans March at 9 a.m. on Memorial Day. The event, held in partnership with the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, will take place on Ocean Boulevard. Following at 11 a.m. will be a Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. For more information, visit militaryappreciationdays.com.

In other news this month, **American Legion Post 197 in Pawleys Island** is seeking new members. The ideal member is someone who wants to make a difference for others and make sense of life out of uniform. By growing its ranks, the post can continue to support the local community through programs which help local veterans and their families, and local high school youth. For more information, visit: <https://www.legion.org/membership/99511/why-you-should-belong>. This website gives insight into the many benefits, both tangible and intangible, of joining with fellow Veterans. It also dispels the notion that the Legion is just for "older Vets". We welcome ideas from and active participation by the newest genera-



Murphy

tion of Veterans.

Post 197 is also looking for veterans to join the Post who have an interest in and can help with creating a podcast for veterans, and also would welcome those who would like to create videos for veterans. For, more information, contact Post Commander Glenn Hero via email at pahero@msn.com.

Many of our veterans who have filed appeals based on the decision of their claim for service connected benefits have been receiving letters about Opting into the Rapid Appeals Modernization Program (RAMP). Below is some information about this program. If you have any questions or concerns about the RAMP process, please contact me at (843) 545-3335.

What is RAMP?

- In November 2017, RAMP was launched with the goal of providing eligible appellants with the earliest possible resolution of their disagreement with VA's decision on their claim.

- RAMP is voluntary and will provide you with the opportunity to enter the new, more efficient review process outlined in the historic Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017 (Appeals Modernization Act), which the President signed into law on August 23, 2017.

- Under RAMP, you can expect to receive a review of the decision on your claim much faster than if you remain in the legacy appeals process. The program will allow participants the option to have their decisions reviewed in the Higher-Level Review or Supplemental Claim lane outlined in the new law.

- The legacy appeal process, which was set in law, split jurisdiction over appeals in compensation claims between Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and the Veterans' Appeals Board, adding more complexity to the appeal process.

Lastly, I would like to give you some good news from our friends at **Coast RTA**. They have recently notified us that veterans qualify for half-price fare when they ride with Coast RTA. Veterans pay 75 cents each way, plus transfer if applicable. Visit RideCoastRTA.com.

Proud to Serve!

David Murphy,

Manager, Georgetown County Office of Veterans Affairs

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.



Fishing

Continued from Front Page

joyed that program and the chance to spend a day outside with their child or grandchild,” said Beth Goodale, director of Georgetown County Parks and Recreation. “In many cases, they were using this as an opportunity to teach their child a skill they had learned during their own childhood from a parent or a grandparent, and they were continuing that tradition.”

Attendees said they wanted to see more fishing programs in the future, so Goodale decided to expand the program, adding a camping component, in honor of National Get Outdoors day, which is June 9.

“National Get Outdoors Day is all about encouraging Americans, especially our youth, to seek out healthy, active outdoor activities and embrace our parks, forests, refuges and other public lands and waters,” Goodale said. “That aligns perfectly with our mission, so this event was a natural fit with our programming.”

The department hopes for another well-attended event and looks forward to helping youth and their families develop a passion for the outdoors. For more information about the program or to register, contact Loren Wallace at (843) 545-3333 or cwallace@gtcounty.org.



Tony Gaskin

Public Safety

Continued from Front Page

responders. In *our* appreciation for *their* support, we offer a large variety of classes during this week and throughout the year.”

All EMS Week activities are free and open to all. The schedule for the week is as follows.

May 21, 6-8 p.m. – How to help 911 operators help you. Members of the public can talk with local responders to find out what to expect when they dial 911 and how to better prepare yourself to give 911 operators the information they need to get you the help you need.

May 22, 6-8 p.m. – Preventing falls. For the elderly, a fall can be a serious issue, causing significant injury and possibly leaving the victim stranded and unable to seek help. Rescue personnel will offer home safety tips to help prevent falls and ensure your home is as safe as possible.

May 23, 6-8 p.m. – Summer Safety. Learn how to treat jellyfish stings, prevent burns from sun and hot sand, boating safety, simple and safe swim techniques to prevent water emergencies, and other essentials for enjoying the summer safely.

May 24, 6-8 p.m. – How to save a life with CPR. Members of the public will learn five basic steps to recognizing cardiac arrest and taking quick action, as well as how to locate an AED and render assistance until emergency responders arrive.

May 26, 1-4 p.m. – Infant and child car seat blitz. Certified local first responders and a representative from the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control will be on hand to check and install infant and child car safety seats.



It's Almost Time for Summer Camp!

Registration for Georgetown County Parks & Recreation's 2018 Youth Summer Camp will be opening soon! We have some great themes planned this year:

- Week 1: Artful Adventures
- Week 2: Time Travelers
- Week 3: Amazing Race
- Week 4: Stars and Stripes Week
- Week 5: Construction Week
- Week 6: Raiders of the Lost Artifact
- Week 7: Outback!
- Week 8: Fiesta!

The Summer of 2018 is shaping up to be a “Summer of Fun!” We hope we’ll see your child at either the Beck Recreation Center or the Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center in June!

Camps are June 11 - Aug. 3. Cost is \$65 per week, plus a one-time \$15 registration fee. Call (843) 545-3275 to register or for details.

Georgetown County Parks & Recreation
3070 Church St. Georgetown, SC 29440
(843) 545-3275
www.gtcparks.org



Georgetown County Parks & Rec. is signing up teams for its **Adult Summer Soccer League** at Stables Park in Pawleys Island. **Registration open through May 23**

League Fee is \$260 per team due at Captain's meeting May 23. League runs June 2 - Aug. 11. Games on Saturday mornings

Pick-up players and free agents also needed!

For more information, contact Randy Akers, (843) 359-6419 or bakers@gtcounty.org. Register online at www.gtcparks.org

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
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'Monster' fish reeled in at IFA Redfish Tour

Steve Fennell and Bobby Marks will probably be telling stories for years to come about a redfish they reeled in Saturday during the Inshore Fishing Association Redfish Tour in Georgetown.

The 22-inch redfish weighed in at a whopping 7 pounds, 4 ounces, and helped win them a \$31,125 prize including a \$26,000 boat package. It was easily the biggest fish weighed in that day.

"None of us have ever seen anything like that," said Georgetown County Administrator Sel Hemingway, who was on hand for the weigh-in, which took place at the County's Carroll Ashmore Campbell Marine Complex. "For the length of that thing, the weight may be a record."

Keith Green, IFA director, called the fish "a freak of nature."

"It's probably the biggest one I've seen or weighed at that length," Green said. "If you weigh one that big, it's usually 26 or 27 inches long. A fish that length at that weight is unheard of really."

Fennell, of North Myrtle Beach, and Marks, of Conway, said they were already having some luck before they caught their big fish. They reeled in a fish with their first cast that morning and continued to catch them throughout the day.

"We were beating the bushes," Fennell said. "The wind was real light this morning and that helped. Everything we caught was in shallow water. We were measuring and probably had three or four that were around 27 inches."

Each team in the tournament weighs in two fish. Their second was a healthy 4.53 pounds. They probably would have done well in the tournament regardless, but their big fish pushed



Above: Fennell and Marks with their winning catch. At right: 2nd place winners Goude and Taylor of Georgetown.



them ahead to the lead and made their total weight hard to beat.

"We were blind casting, fishing around some wood structure," Fennell recounted. "When we hooked him, we were sure that fish was going to be way too big, just by the way he was pulling on the line. We were very fortunate today."

They participate in the Redfish Tour every time it comes to Georgetown – usually every spring and fall – but have never won the tournament before.

Placing second in the tournament was a duo from Georgetown, Brian Goude and Derek Taylor. They were leading the tournament and looked likely to have the big fish of the day until Fennell and Marks docked.

Goude and Taylor had a total weight of 10.16 pounds, winning them \$2,131. They too had a good day, catching their first fish around dawn.

"By 10:20 in the morning, we were back here. We had 10 pounds, so we thought, 'we don't need to fish no more.' We just babied the fish the whole day. We thought we had it," Goude said.

Placing third were Marvin Benford of Summerville and Rob Cowan of Johns Island. They won \$1,160 with a total weight of 8.8 pounds. They said they ran out 20-25 miles and also started catching early before returning to the marine complex around noon.

"We really had an hour or two -hour window where we caught all our fish," Cowan said.

There were a total of 55 teams entered in the tournament, with the top 11 bringing in cash prizes of at least \$500. The tour will return to Georgetown County on Sept. 22. There are no qualifications to enter the tournament and registration is just \$250 per team.

"Even if you only catch five pounds, you can get your money back," Hemingway said. "This tournament is a great opportunity. That giant (fish) today could have been caught by anybody. We're hoping to see more boats entered in the fall, and hopefully some more local teams entered."

Register for the September tournament at ifatours.com