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## Calendar

**June 1** – Start of the Atlantic hurricane season. See Page 4.

**June 4** – Ribbon cutting and family bike ride at newest section of Waccamaw Bikeway. See page 2.

**June 18** – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse

**June 23** – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse. Third reading of budget is scheduled. (Council only meets once this month.)

**July 3** – Georgetown County offices and facilities are closed for Independence Day holiday.

**July 5** – Community clean-up. See page 8 for signup and more information.

# The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

Volume 3, Issue 10

June 2015

## *It's beach season! Know the rules for county beaches*



**Above left: People walk on Litchfield Beach on Memorial Day weekend. Above right: Georgetown County Council member John Thomas tries out one of the new QR codes posted at a beach access in North Litchfield.**

About this time every year, Georgetown County staff starts to get calls from people looking to learn the dos and don'ts of local beaches.

Are dogs allowed? How about fireworks or tents? Is a permit required to get married on the beach?

Visitors want to follow local rules, but only so much can fit on a beach access sign and they often don't know where else to look to get their questions answered. The recent addition of QR codes to signs at accesses on county beaches will change that, making answers easy to find 24/7. With a QR code reader (available as a free download on any smartphone),

beachgoers can scan the code and instantly be directed to a web page offering detailed information about rules and regulations for county beaches, including a list of frequently asked questions.

"These days, just about everybody carries a smartphone and this is an easy way to give the public quick, anytime access to the information they're looking for," said Beth Goodale, Georgetown County Parks and Recreation Department director.

The page the code directs visitors to is located at [http://www.gtcounty.org/parks\\_recreation/beachinformation.html](http://www.gtcounty.org/parks_recreation/beachinformation.html).

## New road name will be lasting tribute to county employee

In appreciation for 40 years of service to Georgetown County and numerous contributions to the Georgetown County Department of Parks and Recreation, the entrance road at 8 Oaks Park will be renamed as Ricky Rowe Way.

The announcement was made at the park on May 26 and came as a surprise to Rowe, the county's park maintenance supervisor, who was told he was needed there to assist with a project.



**Ricky Rowe holds up the sign bearing his name, which will be placed at 8 Oaks Park.**

County Administrator Sel Hemingway described Rowe as "the

face of recreation throughout Georgetown County." Rowe is responsible not only for parks, but also boat landings, beach accesses and more. He's "an individual who never says no," even when requests require him to report to work on nights and weekends, Hemingway said.

Among his many contributions, Rowe encouraged the county to build parks like 8 Oaks and other recently-constructed facilities that allow the county to attract

**See "Ricky Rowe," Page 10**

## Sheriff's Office now houses drop-off box for safe disposal of medications

The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office has regularly hosted prescription drug take-back events over the years to help residents safely dispose of unwanted and expired medications. Now the Sheriff's Office will serve as a permanent drop-off location for these types of drugs.

Through a Partnership with CVS pharmacy and Drugfree.org, the Sheriff's Office recently installed a drug drop box at its headquarters, located at 430 N. Fraser St. in Georgetown. The box was installed through an innovative community program that allows law enforcement agencies across the nation to apply to receive a drug collection unit and help their communities safely dispose of potentially dangerous, expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs.

Properly disposing of unwanted medications is a vital public safety and public health issue, said Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Carrie Cuthbertson. Medicines

that languish in home cabinets stand a good chance of being misused and abused. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs.

Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that past methods for disposing of unused medicines — flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash — pose potential safety and health hazards.

Medications including pills and patches will be accepted for disposal at the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Items **not** accepted include liquids, needles (sharps), thermometers and inhalers.

For more information, call (843) 546-5102.



Lt. Denise King of the Sheriff's Office is pictured with the new drop box.

### Please join us for a **Ribbon Cutting & Family Bike Ride**

celebrating completion of the newest segment of  
**the Waccamaw Neck Bikeway**

**Thursday, June 4**

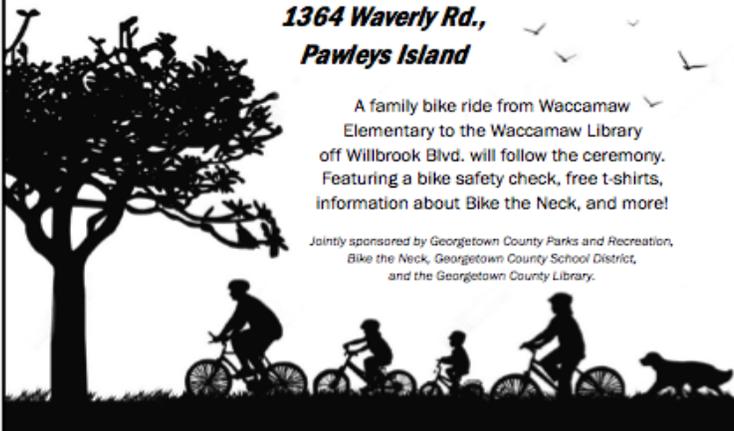
**1:30 p.m.**

**at Waccamaw Elementary School**

**1364 Waverly Rd.,  
Pawleys Island**

A family bike ride from Waccamaw Elementary to the Waccamaw Library off Willbrook Blvd. will follow the ceremony. Featuring a bike safety check, free t-shirts, information about Bike the Neck, and more!

Jointly sponsored by Georgetown County Parks and Recreation, Bike the Neck, Georgetown County School District, and the Georgetown County Library.



## 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)

## Final reading of budget set for June 23

Georgetown County Council gave second reading in May to a \$71 million Fiscal Year 2016 budget that calls for utilization of reserve funds to balance an average in costs of about \$700,000. The move would still leave the county with more than \$8 million in the reserve fund for emergencies, such as storm recovery.

The shortfall is the result of continuing recovery from the economic recession. The county has continued to be conservative in its budget throughout the economic recovery and made additional cuts to get the deficit to its current projection. The projected deficit was about twice that number in April.

County Administrator Sel Hemingway and Council Members were supportive of utilizing reserve funds to balance the budget only because projections for future years demonstrate sustainability and continuing recovery for the reserve fund.

County Council is scheduled to give final reading of the budget at its next meeting on June 23. The meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse on Screven St. The full budget can be viewed online at [www.gtcounty.org/finance/budget.html](http://www.gtcounty.org/finance/budget.html). Hard copies are also available in all county library branches.

## New playground at Stables Park



A new playground for preschool-age kids opens at Stables Park this month, thanks to the generosity of the Kiwanis Club of Pawleys Island. Including slides, swings and more, construction of the playground was taken on by the club as a community service project. The county welcomes future community partnerships.

## Georgetown County FARMERS MARKETS



Find fresh, local produce,  
baked goods and more  
at the farmers markets  
in Georgetown and Pawleys Island.

- Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
at 122 Screven St. (in Downtown Georgetown)
- Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
at 10593 Ocean Hwy. in Pawleys Island  
(beside the Island Shops)

## Registration is now open for Fall League Sports



**Tackle Football**  
(ages 8-12, 3 divisions)

**Flag Football**  
(ages 5-7)



**Cheerleading**  
(ages 7-12)

**Soccer**  
(ages 5-12)



**Registration ends July 31**

Call (843) 545-3275  
for information  
or visit [www.gtcounty.org](http://www.gtcounty.org).

## Announcing summer operating hours for the Georgetown County Landfill

The Georgetown County Landfill, located on Highway 51, will operate on the following schedule through Sept. 12:

- Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, noon until 2 p.m.



## Is your family prepared for what this year could bring?

By the time the 2015 hurricane season got its official start on June 1, Georgetown County had already dealt with a brush by one storm — Tropical Storm Ana — weeks before. The storm brought rain and wind to the area, but thankfully did no damage. However, it did serve as a good reminder that hurricane season is anything but predictable.

Though forecasters expect a below-normal hurricane season this year with 3-6 hurricanes and 6-11 named storms, “it really just takes one,” said Sam Hodge, Georgetown County’s emergency manager.

“We can have just one storm all season, but if it’s strong enough and the trajectory is right, that could still be a devastating hurricane season,” Hodge said.

With nearly 26 years having lapsed since the last time Georgetown County suffered a major hit, he worries about complacency. If residents don’t take the threat of hurricanes seriously and heed warnings and evacuation orders when issued, that could easily be fatal.

Many people who live in Georgetown County today have never been through a hurricane and may not fully grasp how powerful these storms can be. A storm doesn’t have to be a Category 4 or 5, or even a 3, to be deadly. Although storm surge and wind are what people most often fear in a hurricane, tropical systems can also bring heavy rains that can be seen well inland from a storm’s landfall. During landfall, it’s not uncommon to get 5-10 inches of rain. If a storm is large and slow-moving, an area could receive even more rainfall.

Intense flooding can also occur from tropical depressions and storms that do not reach hurricane strength. In a county that boasts five rivers, that’s a concern for every resident.

Every home and business in Georgetown County should have an emergency plan that includes hurricanes, Hodge said. He encourages those who don’t have one to make one now and review it with family members and employees to make sure everyone is familiar with what to do.

“The time to do that is really now and not when a storm is already out there and on the way,” Hodge said. “It’s never too early, but it can be too late.”

Residents should start by making sure they know what evacuation zone they’re in. Thanks to an Eagle Scout project completed this year by Bobby Walters of Pawleys Island, residents can easily identify their zone by looking for a color-coded band on the nearest street sign. Families should also consider where they’ll go if evacuation orders are issued, how they’ll get there, what to do with pets and what they’ll need to bring with them (necessary medications, important documents, etc.)

Now is also a good time to review home insurance policies and make sure you have the coverage you need before a storm hits.

There’s a lot more to consider than most people think and now is the time to get started.

### Don’t forget to plan for your pets!

When making an emergency plan for the family, it’s not just two-legged family members who need to be taken into consideration. But often people don’t think about what they’ll do with their pets until it’s too late.

Pet owners need to be aware that animals are not allowed in regular public emergency shelters. Plan in advance for shelter alternatives that will work for you and your pets.

Just as people have emergency supply kits for themselves and other family members, they should also have one ready for pets, whether they decide to evacuate to a safer location in an emergency or stay put. If you must evacuate, take your pets with you if possible.

Make a back-up emergency plan in case you can’t care for your animals yourself. This may include developing a buddy system with neighbors, friends and relatives to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so.

An emergency supply kit for pets should include:

- At least three days of food in an airtight, waterproof container.
- Water for at least three days (in addition to that needed for yourself and family).
- Medicines and medical records in a waterproof container.
- A pet first aid kit.
- A collar with ID tag and harness or leash, along with registration and vaccination information. Microchipping pets is also advised.
- Crate or other pet carrier.
- Sanitation supplies, such as cat litter and litter box, newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags and chlorine bleach.
- A photo of your pet in case you are separated.
- Your pet’s favorite toys, treats, bedding, etc.

For more information, visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) or [www.scemd.org/planandprepare/preparedness/preparefor](http://www.scemd.org/planandprepare/preparedness/preparefor), or call (843) 545-3213.

### Where to find information and updates

In the event of a hurricane or other emergency, any safety information will be posted to the homepage of the county’s website at [www.gtcounty.org](http://www.gtcounty.org). Updates will also be made available on the county’s Facebook and Twitter accounts. On Twitter, we’re @gtcountysc and our Facebook page is at [www.facebook.com/gtcountysc](http://www.facebook.com/gtcountysc). Planning and preparedness information is on the Emergency Management page, [gtcounty.org/emergency\\_management](http://gtcounty.org/emergency_management)

A wealth of information is also available from the S.C. Emergency Management Division, [www.scemd.org](http://www.scemd.org). The agency just released its 2015 S.C. Hurricane Guide, which can be downloaded from the site.

## Family Court customers to have online payment option starting this month

In an effort to better and more efficiently serve the residents of Georgetown County, the Clerk of Court's office will begin offering Family Court customers the option to make online credit/debit card support payments.

As of Monday, June 1, non-custodial parents and individuals making alimony payments have the option and convenience of submitting payments online. The Clerk of Court's office has partnered with GovPayNet to offer the service to Family Court customers. GovPayNet will offer the financial service to customers for a nominal fee. The payment can be made online by connecting to GovPayNow.com, or via telephone by dialing 1-888-604-7888.

Georgetown County Clerk of Court Alma White said this is a step in the right direction to assist Family Court customers by making it easier for them to transact Family Court business.

"Last year, direct deposit was offered to custodial parents — child support recipients — and to individuals receiving alimony payments. And this year, beginning Monday, we're offering a convenient service to non-custodial parents and to individuals making alimony payments," White said.

The online payment service is very similar to other online payment programs, including the one used by the Georgetown County Treasurer's office, which receives payment for taxes online, and other agencies that offer these kinds of financial conveniences.

"This will allow customers to quickly and conveniently make payments from wherever they are, home or abroad," White said. "Many support payers are unavailable during business hours to visit the clerk's office to make a payment before the penalty takes effect, or perhaps they simply drop a check in the mail too late to arrive in a timely fashion to be posted before a Rule-to-Show-Cause notice is served on them."

White said she believes this service will be very beneficial to a lot of customers, just as the direct deposit service became beneficial for many.

For more details about online payment or direct deposit, please visit the Clerk of Court's office at 401 Cleland Street or call (843) 545-3047.

## 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 via email or phone. Sign up for this free service at [www.gtcounty.org](http://www.gtcounty.org) (look for the link near the top of our home page) or call (843) 545-3213.

## Zumba Gold class a hit in Murrells Inlet



Residents in the Murrells Inlet area have found a fun way to stay in shape with Zumba Gold classes, offered at the Murrells Inlet Community Center every Tuesday and Saturday from 10-11 a.m. Taught by Karen Whited, Zumba Gold offers lower intensity moves than traditional Zumba, making it perfect for older adults. Classes are \$3 each. Sign up and/or check out some other great classes and programs offered countywide at [www.gtcounty.org/parks\\_recreation](http://www.gtcounty.org/parks_recreation).



### Introducing Club Volleyball In Pawleys Island & Georgetown



AGES 7-17 GIRLS & BOYS  
ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME

WACCAMAW RECREATIONAL CENTER & GEORGETOWN BECK CENTER  
[CLUBCOASTALVOLLEYBALL.COM](http://CLUBCOASTALVOLLEYBALL.COM)

#### Pre-Registration

Player Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Player Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Player Gender: M / F Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Skills'N'Drills \_\_ Summer Camp \_\_ Preferred Facility: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Skills & Drills

#### 2 Day Clinic:

\$20 Per-Register  
Waccamaw Recreational Center-  
June 22 – 23, 5-7pm  
Georgetown Beck Center-  
June 24 – 25, 5-7pm

#### Summer Volleyball Camp:

6 Sessions, once a week  
Georgetown-  
July 7 - Aug 11  
Pawleys Island-  
July 8 – Aug 12  
See website for pricing and Details

Pre-Register on our site  
[ClubCoastalVolleyball.com](http://ClubCoastalVolleyball.com) or  
[Gtcounty.org](http://Gtcounty.org)

also you can Mail to:  
Club Coastal Volleyball  
P.O. Box 543  
Pawleys Island, SC 29585

## Free game design, videography workshops offered for teens

This summer, teens are invited to spend some time in the fascinating world of digital creation. Dozens of free classes will be offered at all four branches of the Georgetown County Library.

"Whether you want to design your own game, create apps, compose new music, tell a digital story or make a movie, we've got something for you," promised Donald Dennis, teen and gaming services librarian.

For example, on Wednesday mornings at the Waccamaw Library, teens can use computer science to tell fun and interactive stories. On Mondays at the Georgetown Library, kids can create apps as professional as ones making big money on the Internet. Tuesdays at Carvers Bay, teens will explore digital composing and making music videos. Mondays at Andrews, kids 9-14 will build creative games with racing, mazes, falling objects and more.

"And many of these classes are going from library to library, so every area can catch the fun," Dennis said.

There are so many classes, you'll want to check the library website to choose your favorites: [georgetowncountylibrary.sc.org](http://georgetowncountylibrary.sc.org). For more information, call Dennis at the new Waccamaw Library Teen Tech Center, (843) 545-3343.



## Contest for young artists, writers

Artists and writers ages 5-17 are invited to enter the Georgetown County Library's "Every Hero Has a Story" contest. There will be three age categories: 5-8, 9-12 and 13-17.

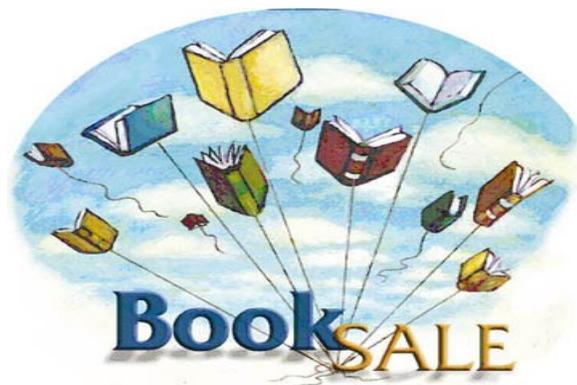
Artists are asked to draw a picture that represents someone who is a hero to them. No trademarked characters are allowed. Those entering the writing contest will write on the theme "My hero is." Entries may be about a real or fictional hero who is important to the author. Word limit depends on age category.

The contest starts June 8 and deadline for entries is July 17.

For complete rules and an entry form, visit [www.gtcounty.org](http://www.gtcounty.org).

Free library programs teach an array of tech skills to teens.

## Friends of the Waccamaw Library Annual Summer



**July 7th, 9a.m. - 7p.m.**

*in the Waccamaw Library auditorium,  
41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island*

**Join us for our highly anticipated summer event!**

We're celebrating our Silver Anniversary with a new sale location (inside our beautiful new library) and some amazing discounts.

*A special presale event for Friends members only will be Monday, July 6 from 6-8 p.m. Memberships available at the door.*

**Call (843) 545-3623 for details**



## Sign up now

for the Georgetown County Parks and Recreation

## 2015 Summer Camp

at Beck Recreation Center in Georgetown  
(All spaces in the Waccamaw camp are already full)

For boys and girls ages 5-11

Cost: \$60 per child per week  
Plus a one-time \$10 registration fee

Camp Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Summer Camp starts June 8 and ends July 31

Georgetown County provides daily snacks,  
but please send a non-perishable lunch  
with your child each day.

**Call (843) 545-3275 to register  
or visit [www.gtcounty.org](http://www.gtcounty.org)**



## Assisted Rides program helps residents get where they need to go

As mobility manager for Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments and coordinator of the agency's award-winning Assisted Rides program, Trina Cason talks to a lot of people. In fact, her phone seems to ring at all hours of the day and night, as residents in three counties try to arrange transportation to locations ranging from church to life-saving medical appointments.

On one recent morning the first call came in before dawn. It was a veteran in need of a ride to the Veterans Affairs Hospital for an appointment that day.

On average, Cason schedules about 500 rides a month through the program, which utilizes volunteer drivers. To qualify for Assisted Rides, a person must reside in the Waccamaw region (comprised of Georgetown, Horry and Williamsburg counties), have a disability that prevents them from driving, and be between the ages of 21 and 59. Those 60 and older may also qualify, but only if they are not already receiving or eligible to receive another transportation service. Assisted Rides is not intended to be a substitute for any existing means of transportation.

In the month of January alone, Assisted Rides provided rides totaling 34,557 miles.

"For some of our riders, including those who use Assisted Rides to get to dialysis, this program is vital," Cason said. "Assisted Rides is very much needed, especially in the more rural parts of our region and we're so grateful that our incredible team of volunteer drivers makes it possible for us to get so many people where they need to go."

George Bradshaw, 68, who lives in the Winyah community of Georgetown, is a veteran who utilizes Assisted Rides to get to the VA hospital in Charleston. He's been a rider for four months



**Assisted Rides passenger Andrew Nelson, right, is pictured with volunteer driver Michael Sparkman.**

and says he loves the program, the staff and the drivers.

"Everybody's been real nice to me. I was not expecting that," he said.

Before he discovered Assisted Rides, he would have to catch a veterans transport van from Myrtle Beach, which stops in the City of Georgetown at 6:45 a.m. on most weekday mornings. But the 15-mile trip to get to the van was sometimes an insurmountable hurdle.

"I'd have to leave my house before daylight when I could get a ride," he said. "I had to cancel some of my appointments." When he could make his appointments, he'd be in Charleston the whole day waiting on the van to depart and bring him back. "Since I got started with this organization, I haven't had any more problems getting to my appointments and they get me there and back home safe. The drivers are excellent."

Though Assisted Rides is able to improve the lives of many people like Bradshaw in the tri-county region, Cason unfortu-

nately has to turn away some ride recipients, either because volunteer drivers aren't available to get a rider to their requested destination or because the person requesting the ride doesn't meet the eligibility requirements for the program. Some of the requests that have to be turned down include those from people who can drive, but find themselves temporarily stranded due to mechanical problems with their vehicles or because they can't afford gas for their vehicles.

"They are in need, but we can't serve them. I wish I could give rides to everybody who calls, but the funding isn't there and we have to make sure people meet the requirements for qualification," Cason said.

Additionally, Assisted Rides frequently receives requests for emergency transportation. Those have to be turned down, because the program's volunteer drivers don't have the training to handle medical emergencies. Those callers are generally instructed to dial 911. The program also cannot accommodate wheelchair-

### Assisted Rides given in January 2015:

- 30 rides for people residing in rural Horry County (including Loris, Longs, Little River and Conway),
  - 40 rides from Kingstree to medical appointments in Florence,
  - Transportation for eight people to Caring and Sharing to pick up food boxes,
  - Four rides to Coastal Eye Group for appointments,
  - Transportation for 34 veterans to medical appointments in Charleston, Myrtle Beach and Columbia
  - 44 rides to Georgetown Hospital system,
  - Eight rides to the Medical University of Charleston,
  - Eight rides to see other medical specialists in Charleston,
  - Six rides to St. James Medical Clinic,
  - 20 rides to Smith Medical Clinic,
  - Transportation for nine people to dialysis appointments (totaling 234 rides), and
  - 36 rides to locations including social services offices, religious services, grocery stores and pharmacies.
- Total: 34,557 miles**

bound riders, as volunteer drivers use their personal vehicles, which generally are not equipped to accommodate wheelchairs. Riders also cannot be transported out of state through the program.

Cason and Waccamaw Regional are still working to spread the word about the program and connect more qualifying riders with drivers. The program is always in need of more volunteer drivers. Drivers are reimbursed for mileage and can select which trips they agree to provide. Volunteers with an interest in fundraising are also welcome.

The program currently has a waiting list for those in need of rides to dialysis appointments. More volunteers would help with that issue.

For more information, contact Trina Cason, (843) 436-2110 or [tcason@wrcog.org](mailto:tcason@wrcog.org).

## Changes continue for economic development group

The Georgetown Economic Development Alliance continues to work through its self-evaluation and reorganization, looking for ways to better serve its membership and the existing industries in Georgetown County, in addition to providing more direct support of county economic development efforts.

In recent months, the Alliance has restructured its board of directors to better represent the private-public collaboration needed to grow and diversify our local economy. The new board has also chosen to focus its efforts on advocating for improved infrastructure, primarily Highway 521 and improving the Port of Georgetown, as well as improving the pipeline of skilled and reliable workers.

These two initiatives impact every single industry in Georgetown County. The ability to move raw materials and finished product efficiently is crucial for every business and is second only to having a quality workforce with the needed skills that meet the needs of our local industries.

The reorganization will also facilitate more collaboration and increased communication between the Alliance and the county's economic development efforts.

"To successfully recruit new companies into the county, we have to operate as a team, said Brian Tucker, director of economic development for Georgetown County.

"This reorganization provides us a solid foundation to do just that. Every project, whether an expansion of an existing company or a new company moving into the area, has a number of moving parts, and the Alliance's new structure brings everyone together to ensure that we are all pulling in the same direction."

The most recent and a very significant change for the Alliance is the departure of Bill Crowther. Bill served as the Alliance's executive director for the last three years, but stepped away to serve as president of the Atlantic Energy Alliance (AEA). The organization will promote and support energy exploration and production in the Southeast. Their efforts will include onshore and offshore wind, solar, oil and gas exploration.

"Bill has served our organization well over the last several years and we wish him the best," said Perry Collins, chairman of the Alliance. "While Bill will be missed, every change can create an opportunity to be better. That is our approach moving forward and we are excited about the path ahead. Our current board is as strong and committed as any board on which I have ever served."

For more information about the Alliance, its mission and how to become involved, call Brian Tucker (843) 545-3163 or email [btucker@gtcounty.org](mailto:btucker@gtcounty.org).



## Community cleanup planned for July 5

Independence Day is traditionally a busy day in Georgetown County with locals and visitors out enjoying the holiday, and many of them enjoying fireworks as well. As a result, that's also the day we see the most litter left on beaches, waterways and in other locations throughout the county.

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation is interested in hosting a countywide community cleanup on the morning of July 5 and is asking community groups and individuals to get involved. For more information or to sign up, call (843) 545-3532.

### Upcoming free author talks

- Bill Doar, a veteran and Georgetown native, will discuss his book, "Letters from Iwo Jima," at the Georgetown Library from 4-6 p.m. June 4. The book is a collection of letters written by Doar that gives a glimpse into the mind of "the Greatest Generation" during that period.
- Diane DeVaughn Stokes will discuss "Floating on Air: A Broadcasting Love Affair" at the Waccamaw Library from 5-7 p.m. June 9. Her book features 40 years of television and radio stories, celebrity interviews and more.
- Sarah Bruce Kelly will discuss her three historical novels, including "The Red Priest's Annina," from 5-7 p.m. June 16 at the Waccamaw Library.

## Find us online!

Whether you're looking for jobs, the latest news or to contact a specific department, online is a great way to stay updated or get in touch with us.

Visit our website at [www.gtcounty.org](http://www.gtcounty.org). You can also find us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram. Just search for GtCountySC.



## Georgetown County Parks and Recreation hosts **SUMMER 2015 BRITISH SOCCER CAMP**

**July 20-24**

**at Stables Park Field Complex,  
2400 Petigru Rd., Pawleys Island**



Contact Greig Munro,  
1-800-739-9441 or sign up at  
[www.challengersports.com](http://www.challengersports.com)

# County recognizes public services employees during Backhoe Rodeo

The Georgetown County Department of Public Services recognized several of its outstanding employees last month for their efforts on the job. In a National Public Works Week celebration on May 21 that included the annual Backhoe Rodeo, awards were presented as follows:

- James Dorsey, a landfill supervisor who has been employed with the county for about a year, was presented with the department's Leadership Award. In addition to using logical, innovative best management practices to improve operations and encourage growth for the department, Dorsey is known as a "proactive problem solver" who leads by example.

He doesn't go home just because it's quitting time if there's still work that needs to be done, said Tracy Jones, who presented the awards. "It doesn't matter what the clock says, this employee stays until the job is complete."

- Bobby Hurst received the Team Player Award. A long-time employee of the department, he started as a painter and over the years added carpenter, roofer and plumber to his job description. He has also assisted with HVAC work and is quick to offer help with any other task that might come up in the course of any given week.

"He has never been assigned a task that he didn't take on," Jones said. "He also sees things that need to be done and proceeds to do them without having to be asked. He is truly the best team player within our organization."

- James Coley, environmentalist/training coordinator for the Environmental Services Division, was appropriately presented with the Green Earth Award for his environmental consciousness on the job.

"His dedication to the environment truly comes out in everything he does for work and play," Jones said.

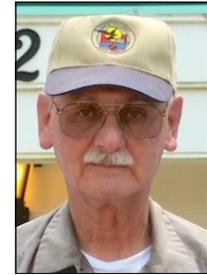
Coley has spearheaded numerous events to educate school-age children on the benefits of recycling and various ways to go about reducing and reusing. He also initiated an event to encourage businesses to shred and recycle paper, keeping it out of the landfill.

"He works tirelessly to reduce his footprint in every aspect of his job here with the county," Jones said. "During his short time with the Environmental Services Division, he has embraced and seeks to grow our green culture. His positive work ethic and personal motivation to recycle make him an ideal candidate for the Green Earth Award."

- George Avant, a heavy equipment operator, was recognized for his "dedication, meticulousness and diligent service" in helping with the Backhoe Rodeo. Avant annually plays an an integral role in making the event happen.



At top: From left are County Administrator Sel Hemingway; award presenter Tracy Jones; James Dorsey, winner of the Leadership Award; County Council Chairman Johnny Morant; and Ray Funnye, director of the Public Services Department.. Above: Wade Wilder represents Georgetown County in the annual Backhoe Rodeo.



Avant



Coley



Hurst

Public Services workers play an important role in every community, making it possible for residents to have clean water, efficient transportation systems, clean communities and much more, said Ray Funnye, director of the Georgetown County Public Services Department. For that reason, Funnye said, he believes it's extremely important to recognize those employees during National Public Works Week.

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# Georgetown County, South Carolina

County Government

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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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Georgetown, S.C. 29440-4200

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## Midway's Williamson named Employee of the Quarter

Joseph Williamson, technical systems administrator for Midway Fire Rescue, was recently recognized as Georgetown County government's Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2015.

Williamson has been a dedicated county employee for 15 years and "strives every day to make Georgetown County better," according to his supervisors and co-workers.

Among his accomplishments in the first quarter of this year, Williamson assisted with the large-scale Vigilant Guard hurricane training exercise, and was instrumental in the planning and delivery of the exercise program to all agencies involved, from the federal level down to local volunteer agencies. He put in countless hours for this operation, both on and off the clock, to ensure it was a success.

He also secured 7,680 DHEC pandemic flu kits for the county at no cost. These are valued at more than \$30,000. Additionally, Williamson has a reputation as the go-to person for developing the communications components of Incident Action plans required for any large-scale planned event or training exercise.



Joseph Williamson, center, is pictured with Georgetown County Council Chairman Johnny Morant, right, and Greg Troutman, human resources director.

Williamson is known throughout the Emergency Services Department and beyond as someone who will pitch in to help wherever and however needed, said Sam Hodge, Georgetown County Emergency Manager. On a recent Saturday, Hodge said he called Williamson with a question and found he was at one of the rural fire stations cutting the grass.

"This is just another example of his dedication to Emergency Services and Georgetown County," Hodge said. "We're lucky to have him on our team."

## TV show to film at flea market

The City of Georgetown will host "Flea by the Sea," a flea market in Downtown Georgetown during the Georgetown County Farmers Market on Saturday, June 20.

"Endless Yard Sale," a TV show that airs on the Great American Country channel will be filming during the event. The flea market will take place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the farmers market site in the public parking lot across from the historic Georgetown County courthouse, 122 Screven St.

Items sought include: vintage items, home goods, toys, art, jewelry and more. Vendors can purchase space starting at \$25. Space is limited. For a vendor application and more information, visit [www.DoGeorgetown.com](http://www.DoGeorgetown.com)

## Howard receives promotion



Paul Howard, left, of the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office, was recently promoted to the rank of Patrol Sergeant. Howard is pictured with Sheriff Lane Cribb. Please join us in congratulating Patrol Sgt. Howard.

## Ricky Rowe

Continued from Front Page

and host tournament events.

The county received numerous requests from staff and the public to recognize Rowe and his work in some way. The county was happy to comply.

"He has always been a guy who would give of his time and respond to the needs of the residents of Georgetown County. Now, we as a County, are happy to say thank you," Hemingway said.

In addition to the naming of the road, a plaque will be put

up inside 8 Oaks Park detailing Rowe's many contributions for future generations.

This means of recognizing Rowe was selected because it will serve as a lasting tribute to Rowe for his lasting impact on the county and its residents, Hemingway said.