

The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

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Calendar

June 5 – First Day of Georgetown County Parks and Recreation Summer Camp. See page 4

June 5 – First Day of Library Summer Reading Program. See page 10.

June 6 – Public meeting on proposed roundabout in Pawleys Island. See Page 2

June 9 – Pottery class for kids at the Murrells Inlet Community Center, 4-5 p.m., \$20 per child. See page 7

June 15 – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse

June 27 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse. Council only meets once a month through the summer

July 4 – Georgetown County offices and facilities are closed for Memorial Day

Volume 5, Issue 10

June 2017

County Treasurer retires this month after 45 years

Loretta Washington-Cooper thought she might set a record. Having worked in the Georgetown County Treasurer's Office since her senior year in high school and achieving the department's top position, the goal was in sight. When she retires at the end of June, she will have just over 45 years under her belt. It's just five years short of the record set by the late Betty Williams, who worked for the county for half a century before retiring as Clerk of Court in 1996.



Washington-Cooper

But Washington-Cooper said she felt called to a different direction.

When she leaves the Treasurer's Office for the last time as an employee, Washington-Cooper will turn her full focus to the ministry and leading the small church she and her husband Jonathan established on Greentown Road. It's more a change of profession than retirement.

"My husband and I were both youth pastors and have been in the ministry for a long time in this area. We knew the Lord had a plan for us and wanted us to start a church, but we had to wait until the time was right — until we got the go ahead."

Washington-Cooper said that happened about two years ago. She felt called to go search for a home for the church and was led to a small building near her former

residence. She had always admired the building, which was formerly a florist shop and then a restaurant. A week later, the building was theirs and the biggest hurdle to starting their church had been overcome. Washington-Cooper's new path was laid out before her and she knew what she had to do, she said.

"I know it was meant to be, because everything worked out so easily," Washington-Cooper said. So, she made the decision not to run for re-election in 2016. As someone who likes to give her all to every task she takes on, it wasn't feasible to keep splitting her time. The choice to leave county government was bittersweet, but clear cut.

"It was time to get out of my comfort zone and give my whole attention to this new mission," she said. "For the last two years I've been trying to wean myself away. I've been trying to learn how to relax."

Of course, for Washington-Cooper that means working what most people would consider a full day, then moving on to church business for several more hours. Add in Washington-Cooper's work as owner and financial instructor for Financial Finesse School for Men and Women, and one has to wonder when she finds time to sleep.

"I've been told I work too hard," Washington-Cooper said. But it's clear she takes pride in going the extra mile, having run her department efficiently and going above

See "Treasurer," Page 5

Sheriff's Office mourns Lt. who was 'soul of department'

Lt. Michelle Denise Gore King, 53, passed away Sunday, May 21, at Tideland's Georgetown Memorial Hospital after a battle with lung cancer. She was a beloved member of the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office, where she served for more than 25 years and had the distinction of being the first female deputy hired. She ended her career as supervisor of judicial operations.

"She was the soul of the Sheriff's Office," said Georgetown County Sheriff Lane Cribb during King's funeral at the First Baptist Church of Georgetown on May 25. King spent her life serving others, always with a smile and her standard assurance of, "I've got this, baby," he recalled.

King's funeral service was full of recollections of how she made the world a brighter place. Cribb recalled the most fun he ever had playing golf was when King



Sheriff's Deputies serve as pallbearers at Lt. Denise King's funeral on May 25.

was on the course as part of his foursome. He said he has no doubt heaven will be improved by King's

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Budget available for public review

Georgetown County's 2017-18 budget is scheduled to receive final reading by County Council on June 27. In advance of that, the budget is available for public review on the county's website, www.gtcounty.org. Bound copies are also available for public review in all four of the county's library branches and the historic courthouse on Screven Street.

The various budgets proposed to council total \$83.4 million and include a countywide millage increase of 1 mil, as well as a .5-mil increase for the Georgetown County Fire District, a .2-mil increase for the Midway Fire District, and a .1-mil increase for the special collections/recycling tax district. These increases would equate to an additional \$5.20 per year on a \$100,000 primary residence in the Midway Fire District and \$6.40 on a \$100,000 primary residence in the Georgetown County Fire District. These figures exclude School District millage.

County officials project a slight increase in revenue for the next fiscal year, and will see a decrease in workers compensation costs. However, it will see a significant increase in retirement system contributions and health insurance premiums for workers.

The county will need to use just under \$400,000 from its reserve fund to balance the general fund budget — part of continuing recovery from the 2008 recession — but still expects to maintain \$8.8 million in the reserve.

Council meets at 5:30 p.m. June 27 in the historic courthouse.

Proposed Waverly roundabout to be focus of public meeting

Members of the public with an interest in a roundabout proposed at Waverly Road and Petigru Drive in the Pawleys Island area are encouraged to attend a public information meeting set for Tuesday, June 6.

The meeting will take place from 5-7 p.m. in the Waccamaw High School cafeteria, located at 2412 Kings River Road, Pawleys Island.

The meeting will be hosted by the S.C. Department of Transportation, and will have a drop-in format with displays for viewing. There will also be opportunities for residents to provide written comments on the proposal. Formal verbal comments will not be accepted during this meeting, however if an official public hearing takes place in the future, residents will have the opportunity to make formal verbal comments.

Project information, including meeting material and comment forms will also be available on the S.C. Department of Transportation website, www.scdot.org, via the Public Involvement section of the site.

For more information, please contact Rebecca Breland, SCDOT program manager, at (803) 737-1194 or brelandrm@scdot.org.

My Favorite Place Georgetown County Photo Contest



Georgetown County is home to many special places. We want to see your favorite. Whether it's a popular spot or someplace only a select few see the beauty in, we're seeking photos of your favorite spot for our latest photo contest. The only requirement is they be located within Georgetown County and include a short paragraph explaining why you love the place pictured in your entry. Please also include a phone number where we can reach you in case you are selected as a winner.

Deadline for entries is July 15, 2017.

Send entries to jbroach@gtcounty.org.

Details and contest rules at

www.gtcounty.org.

Get the Chronicle

At Georgetown County, we want our residents and property owners kept abreast of what's going on inside their local government. That's why we created the Georgetown County Chronicle. It's a vehicle for information about county services and events, important messages from county officials and behind-the-scenes glimpses at how government works.

You can find the Chronicle on our website at www.gtcounty.org or through our Facebook page. If you'd rather have it delivered to your inbox, e-mail jbroach@gtcounty.org with the subject line "send me the Chronicle."

That's also the place to send questions and comments about this newsletter and its content. We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

www.gtcounty.org

Sheriff's Office mourns Lt. Denise King

Continued from Front Page

presence, "but they will have to step it up a notch."

The Rev. Jamie Harrelson, a law enforcement officer who knew King since she was a child, said this has been a "tough year for a tough family, seeing a young lady so healthy, so happy weakened by illness. Life throws us curveballs. Life takes away a qualified lieutenant from a department that needed her."

The congregation had to laugh when the Rev. Harrelson said King, known to those closest to her as "Neesie" was like a bug. "She jumped around," he said. "The only person louder than me: Neesie King. We have lost one who was loved and cherished."

King's funeral was followed by interment in Pennyroyal Memorial Gardens.

Born in Georgetown on Oct. 26, 1963, King was a daughter of the late James Archie Gore and the late Fancy Hyman Gore.

She was a Winyah High graduate who loved golf and boating. In her job with the Sheriff's Office, she served her community selflessly and volunteered her time wherever it was needed.

"She was somebody you could send out to solve any problem with people," Cribb said. "She loved to have fun. If somebody was having a bad day, she turned it into a good day."

King was a loving sister, aunt and friend who will be missed beyond measure. Surviving are one sister, Renee Gore Wall (Allen) of Kingstree; one brother, Danny Gore of Georgetown; four nieces, Betsy McKenzie (Wayne), Sarah Fancy Gore, Katie Gore and Brooke Wall; two nephews, Adam Wall (Maggie) and James Gore; three great nephews, John Wayne McKenzie, Allen Colt McKenzie, and Landen Gore; and ex-husband and friend, Jeffery Allen King of Myrtle Beach.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by a brother, Stan Gore.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office "Shop with Santa" Program. Donations may be mailed to: GCSO Shop with Santa, 430 N. Fraser Street, Georgetown, SC 29440. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.grahamfuneralhome.org.



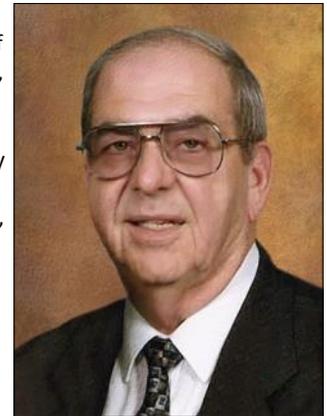
Lt. Denise King is remembered as a loving friend, a dedicated officer, and someone who could always bring a smile to the faces of those around her. She is dearly missed.

IN MEMORIAM

Nichols was former County Council Member, first Sheriff's Office PIO

James William "Bill" Nichols, 74, widower of Betty Robinson Nichols, passed away Friday, May 19, at Tideland's Waccamaw Community Hospital.

Born on June 8, 1942, in Charlotte, N.C., he was a son of the late Earl Mason Nichols Sr. and the late Gertrude Toomey Nichols. Mr. Nichols was a member of Herbert United Methodist Church. He



Bill Nichols

was the former owner and operator of WGTN and WAZX radio stations, was a retired public information officer with the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office — the department's first public information officer — and was a long-time member of Georgetown County Council.

"Bill loved Georgetown and was dedicated to serving Georgetown in any way he could, whether it was in the capacity of a councilman or utilizing his position with the radio station to promote events going on and trying to help make them successful," said County Administrator Sel Hemingway, who called Nichols a friend for 20 years. They also served on Council together.

"He was always very involved in the community and, in a time when radio was a main way for receiving the news, he was key in making sure important information, like emergency announcements reached their audience. He was a good, civic-minded person and he always made himself available to help," Hemingway said.

Mr. Nichols was a former bus driver with Sunway Bus Lines, something he considered more of a hobby than a job, and enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Survivors include two children, Anita Nichols Williams (Butch) of Georgetown and Todd Nichols of Simpsonville; four grandchildren, Katherine Hunter Weaver and Rodney Carter Weaver Jr. both of Georgetown, and Kennedy Claire Nichols and Parker Reece Nichols both of Simpsonville; one brother, Dennis Nichols of Lugoff; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a grandson, Zachary Carter Weaver; one brother, Earl Mason Nichols Jr.; and two sisters, Faye Johnson and Rose Moore.

A memorial service was held at noon on May 23 at Herbert United Methodist Church. Interment followed in Elmwood Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Herbert United Methodist Church, 84 Forest Ave., Georgetown, SC 29440.

Online condolences may be left at ridgewayfh.com.

County opens new Fleet Services building



Georgetown County Council Chairman Johnny Morant prepares to cut the ribbon on the new facility on May 9. He is surrounded by other county officials and members of the county's Public Services staff.

Georgetown County celebrated the opening of its new Fleet Services maintenance facility on Highway 51 last month with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

The building was constructed by the county's Public Services Department staff and is where county vehicles, along with vehicles from several other agencies including the Georgetown County Water and Sewer District, will receive servicing and repairs. The 12,000-square-foot building replaces an outdated facility the county had outgrown, and provides a more comfortable working environment for employees. Construction was part of the Capital Improvement plan.

The building includes a two-story office and conference area, as well as parts room, tire mounting room, lubricant storage room and general work space. An unattached portion of the structure adds an additional 500 square feet wash down rack. Only the office area is air conditioned, but the main portion of the building is fully heated and ventilated, making for more comfortable work space than the previous building.

The facility houses 12 work bays. Air and lubricants are piped to each of the bays. All efforts have been made to make it as user friendly to the employees as possible. The oil/water separator system is installed to make the building as environmentally friendly as possible.

The total cost for the facility and parking area totaled about \$1 million.

Fresh produce vouchers available to senior citizens

Georgetown County residents age 60 and older in low income households may be eligible



to receive vouchers for fresh fruits and vegetables through a Senior Nutrition Program.

Vouchers will be distributed on Tuesday, June 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Beck Recreation Center, 2030 Church St., Georgetown.

Vouchers may be used to purchase items at the Georgetown Farmers market, which is open every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Screven Street.

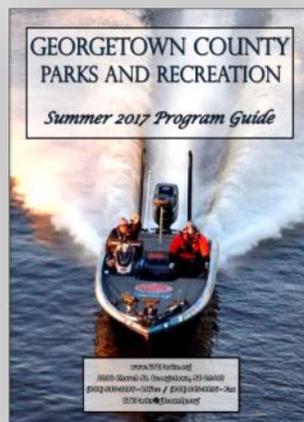
Residents must apply in person to receive vouchers, and must present a photo ID and proof of county residency.

For more information about the voucher program, contact Georgetown County Parks and Recreation, (843) 545-3275.

For more information about the Farmers Market, visit www.waccamawmarkets.org or call (843) 365-2667.

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.



Georgetown County Parks and Recreation



June 5 - July 28

in Georgetown and Pawleys Island

Camp is Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Beck and Waccamaw Regional recreation centers

Open to boys and girls ages 5-11

Each week has a different theme and activities

Cost is \$65 per child per week, plus \$15 registration fee

For information, call (843) 545-3275

or (843) 545-3202.

Online registration available at www.gtcparks.org

Treasurer to retire from county this month

Continued from Front Page

and beyond in her service to the public. She's typically the first to arrive in the Treasurer's Office and the last to leave, working 10- to 12-hour days, six days a week. She likes working Saturdays, she said, because that's when she can get the most work done, using the quiet and solitude to catch up on administrative tasks. Being in the office outside normal business hours allows her to talk with constituents who work 9-5.

"The public really appreciates that," she said. "I'll return a call at around 6:30, after they've had time to get home from work and they're surprised I'm still here."

People who go into the Treasurer's Department are also often surprised to see her working behind the counter with her staff, she said. She has an office in the back, but she rarely uses it — primarily for private meetings and paperwork on Saturdays. She much prefers her desk out front where she can be available to assist the public.

"That's my real office — out there with the taxpayers," she said.

Over the years, she has come to know many of them, by face if not by name. That and a good relationship with her staff will make leaving harder.

"These are my friends," she said. "I will miss the people this job has introduced me to and I will miss interacting with them."

Washington-Cooper was first hired in the Treasurer's office as a part-time file clerk in April 1972, a few months shy of her graduation from Howard High School. The department was looking for senior students with good math grades and Washington-Cooper was recommended by Carolyn Black, the school's guidance counselor at the time.

After proving herself to be a good employee, she graduated to full-time employment and was promoted to cashier, then chief cashier and finally deputy treasurer. Unfortunately, it was tragedy that originally brought her into the position of Treasurer. Her predecessor and friend D.Z. McKenzie died unexpectedly while in office in 1989. Former Gov. Carroll Campbell appointed Washington-Cooper to fill job until the next election. She won every election since until announcing her plans to retire, and said she is proud of the work she has done.

Washington-Cooper led her office into the computer age and, though Georgetown wasn't the first county to introduce services such as an online payment option, it was among the first. When she joined the department, everything was done by hand. Computers cut the work load significantly, but significant growth in the population and the amount of property more than made up for it. Still, the staff has only grown by 2 employees, with the current total at 9 full-time positions and 1 part-time.

One of her greatest accomplishments as Treasurer was consolidating that office with the Tax Collector's office in 2008, she said. That greatly improved efficiency. She also helped to ensure delinquent tax files stay updated and all items that should be taxed are in the system, allowing those monies to be properly collected.

Her only real regret is that that she was unable to achieve one goal — issuing license plates and stickers in office.

"I've been blessed and I've had a good run, but I admit, I'm a little tired," Washington-Cooper said. She's ready to have some extra time for her five grandchildren.

"Georgetown County has been good to me and I believe I have been good to Georgetown County," Washington-Cooper said. "I have enjoyed my time here, I really did. But I'm comfortable that I'm leaving my office in good hands."

Washington-Cooper will be succeeded by Allison Peteet, an employee in the Auditor's Office. Peteet has already been training with Washington-Cooper in preparation for the transition. And with help from the excellent staff already in place, Washington-Cooper said she fully expects Peteet will take the office to great places.

We thank Loretta for her many years of service and wish her all the best on her new path.

Animal center to offer \$5 vaccines for cats, dogs

Saint Frances Animal Center in Georgetown will have a \$5 vaccination clinic on two Fridays in June.

The clinics are open to walk-ins on June 2 and June 16, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The center will offer rabies, distemper and Bordetella vaccinations for cats and dogs for just \$5 with no appointment necessary. The center is located at 125 N. Ridge St., Georgetown, near the Department of Motor Vehicles.

For more information about clinics, adoptable animals and the many animals helped by Saint Frances Animal Center, visit www.sfanimals.org or follow Saint Frances Animal Center on Facebook. The center also regularly offers spay/neuter clinics and trap, neuter, release programs.





June 19-22 • July 10-13 • July 31-Aug. 1
9:00am-1:00 pm
Ages 7+
MATCH PLAY, INSTRUCTION, AND FUN GAMES!

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



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

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

302 Gilman Road, Pawleys Island • dbromberg@gtcounty.org

K-9 officers outfitted with safety vests thanks to community donation

Spike and Blitz, members of the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office K-9 unit, are better protected from injury thanks to the generosity of a group of concerned citizens.



Blitz models his new safety vest.

The dogs were fitted with vests that will protect them from gunfire and knife attacks during the performance of their duties. Blitz, a 3-year-old Belgian Malinois, and Spike, a 4-year-old Dutch shepherd, are trained for apprehensions, tracking, narcotics and article searches, according to their handlers, Deputy Joseph Kosydar and Deputy Eric Holtzback.

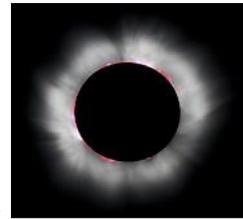
The fundraising group, organized by Realtor Robbie Buice, contributed \$615 toward the cost of the vests for the dogs. Donors included Seaspray Homes LLC, Quantum Realty Management, Shawn and Jeffrey Kanarish, Robert and Angie Buice, William Cartmill and Lisa Hergenrother, Steven and Susan Maynard, and Robert and Maggie Boineau.

The dogs will wear the protective vests when called into hazardous duty with the Sheriff's Office SWAT Team or ordered to bring down an uncooperative suspect, Kosydar said.

"We are grateful to these people for their generosity," said Sheriff Lane Cribb. "These dogs put their lives on the line to protect our officers. It's comforting to me to know that we are providing this additional protection for them."

Make plans now for Aug. 21 solar eclipse

Georgetown County will have more summer visitors than usual on Aug. 21, when parts of the county are along the path of a total solar eclipse. The path goes from Oregon to South Carolina and, while there are many areas from which a partial eclipse can be viewed, the "path of totality" from which the full eclipse is visible is narrow.



The center of the path will be near McClellanville, with the City of Georgetown, the Andrews area and Pawleys Island falling within the northern half of the path. The Litchfield area is on the very edge and Murrells Inlet will be too far north for a perfect total eclipse view.

County residents who would like to watch the eclipse are encouraged to go ahead and start making plans for where to watch from, as spaces are likely to fill up fast. Locations such as the Kaminski House and Hopsewee Plantation are planning viewing parties. Groups with space available to the public for viewing are encouraged to email that information to jbroadh@gtcounty.org, so it can be shared leading up to the eclipse.

The Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce will launch a website with more eclipse viewing information and eclipse related events in the near future. The web address is www.UltimateSPF.com

Pickleball Open Court

FREE and Open to Ages 18+!

Two Locations:

Waccamaw Regional
Recreation Center:

Beck Recreation
Center:

10am-12pm Mon-Fri
11am-12pm Sat

10am-12pm Fri

Call (843) 545-3202

Call (843) 545-3275

For Details

For Details

No Experience Necessary!

Come Join The Fun!



@GTCParks



Music IN THE Park

1st & 3rd FRIDAYS
Francis Marion Park
Georgetown
6-9pm May - Sep

georgetownseaport.com

JUN 2nd *Bard of Oz*

JUL 7th *THE TAMS*
www.thetams.com

AUG 4th *the SHAKERS*

SEP 1st *JIM QUICK AND COASTLINE*

OCT 6th *BLACK WATER RHYTHM & BLUES BAND*

Shaggin on the Sampit
DJ Mike Worley every 3rd Friday

Going Coastal Realty

PEPSI FLORENCE

ANDERSON BROTHERS BANK

Shag lessons, pottery making and more coming to Inlet community center

If you've ever watched couples dance the Carolina shag at beach music concerts and wanted to learn the steps, your chance is coming up this month! The Murrells Inlet Community Center will host a four-week shag class, with lessons beginning Tuesday, June 6.

Classes take place from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and are instructed by Al and Patty Guazzo, members of the South Strand Shag Club. Cost is \$40 per person. Dancers will learn the basic steps, female and male turns, a standard start, variations to the basic steps and beginner patterns.

The lessons are just one exciting addition to the line up at the community center. Pine needled basket weaving classes are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on June 9 and June 23 with instructor Zada Mae. Cost is \$30 for one session for \$55 for both.

Additionally, a pottery class for kids on June 9 will be just in time for little ones to paint a one-of-a kind Father's Day gift. The class takes place from 4-5 p.m. and cost is \$20 per child.

For more information about these classes and other events at the Murrells Inlet Community Center, call (843) 545-3651 or visit the community center's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MurrellsInletCommunityCenter.

Georgetown County FARMERS MARKET



**Find fresh produce,
baked goods and more!**

**Saturdays through October
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**at 122 Screven St.
in historic Georgetown**

Scoggins is Employee of the Quarter



David Scoggins, center, is pictured with Georgetown County Council Chairman Johnny Morant, right, and Human Resources Director Walt Ackerman.

David Scoggins, a firefighter/EMT with the Georgetown County Fire/EMS, was recently recognized as Georgetown County's Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2017.

Scoggins has been a firefighter and EMT at the department for the last five years, and has provided exemplary service. He has dedicated his life to caring for others and does so selflessly, his supervisors said in a letter nominating him for this recognition.

On calls, Scoggins always maintains his composure and provides care and understanding to the residents of our county and to his peers. He is a mentor and a role model for all new and current employees, and he continues to impress his supervisors "each and every day," his supervisors wrote.

Scoggins is usually assigned to Medic 10, one of the busiest ambulances in his department, yet he never complains and always gets the job done. He is a "go to" resource within the department and can always be counted on.

In addition to his normal responsibilities, Scoggins serves as a member of the Emergency Services Operations Improvement Program committee and has worked on projects to improve the level of fire protection within our district. The responsibility falls on him when it comes to assuring the state of readiness of his department's ambulances. Each and every month, he carefully inspects every ambulance in the fleet to ensure that all equipment, supplies and medications are present and in good condition. He has managed the department's medical supply inventory for the last six months. He makes every effort to ensure that our EMTs and Paramedics have everything that they need on hand to perform their duties.

"All of these qualities embody what we seek out in our employees to represent county government to our citizens," said Jim Thomas, the department's interim division chief of training. "I am honored to have David as a friend and coworker and feel that he is very deserving of this recognition."

For all of his hard work, Scoggins was also named the Emergency Services Department's Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter this year. We thank David for his hard work and dedication.

At the same meeting in which Scoggins was recognized, County Council also issued a proclamation in honor of National Emergency Medical Services Week, which began on May 21 this year.

County recognizes Public Works employees at Backhoe Rodeo

As part of its celebration of National Public Works Week, Georgetown County was host to the 24th annual regional Backhoe Rodeo, an American Public Works Association competition, on May 25. It also presented awards to several Public Works employees for outstanding job performance.

The Backhoe Rodeo involved 11 backhoe operators from jurisdictions including Georgetown County, Charleston County, the City of Charleston, the City of North Charleston and Berkley County. In addition to giving the competitors an opportunity to showcase their skills, the event is intended to put the spotlight on all public works employees and how vital they are to communities. Competitors show off their skills by completing three separate timed precision tasks.

For the second year in a row, Kevin Brown of Charleston County took first place in the Backhoe Rodeo, with a total time of 205 seconds for all three events. Second place went to **Wade Wilder** of Georgetown County Parks and Recreation, with a time of 267 seconds, and third place went to **Harold West** of Georgetown County Public Works Division with 341 seconds. Brown and Wilder will advance to the state competition later this year.

Awards for job performance were presented to **Sharon Moultrie**, **Matt Miele** and **Scott Walker**.

Moultrie, who has been employed with Georgetown County Public Services for 26 years, received the Leadership Award. She was drafted to take over her division and has done a stellar job at keeping the department running efficiently and managing daily operations, said Tracy Jones of the county's Stormwater Division, who presented the awards.

"Many times she has had to iron out messy situations, and always puts forth her best effort to keep the division running smoothly," Jones said. "Sharon has the unique ability to motivate the crews to work hard, even during crunch time when effi-



Miele



Walker



Left: Wade Wilder, left, and Harold West, took 2nd and 3rd places in the Backhoe Rodeo. Right: Pictured from left are County Council Member Austin Beard, Leadership Award winner Sharon Moultrie, presenter Tracy Jones and Public Services Director Ray Funnye.



ciency really counts. She is able to get work completed on time – and sometimes in the nick of time – when almost impossible deadlines are set."

Moultrie was complimented on her ability to lead her team to successful results and take charge of any situation.

Scott Walker, who joined the Georgetown County Public Services Department two years ago, was presented with the Green Earth Award for his efforts in promoting environmental responsibility and sustainability.

"Scott's dedication to the environment truly comes out in everything he does for his division," Jones said.

Hired as a laborer, Walker quickly proved his value to the department, working his way from the county's Household Hazardous Waste facility to commercial recycling collection truck driver, where he had the opportunity to learn about, promote and make improvements to the county's commercial recycling program. He also works at the county's semi-annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection events, where he made improvements in how materials are handled, allowing greater efficiency and safety.

Walker was recently promoted to heavy equipment operator, but still helps out at recycling and cleanup events throughout the county.

"His positive work ethic and personal motivation to recycle made him an ideal candidate for this award," Jones said.

Matt Miele, an employee of Georgetown

County's Public Works Division for just over a year, received the Team Player Award. Despite being new to the team, he has proven himself to be an employee who works hard and goes above and beyond to get a project done right, Jones said.

Miele works on projects across all departments in the county, usually up against difficult deadlines, and achieves exceptional results.

"He meets the challenges of his job in a timely and professional manner, treating all residents with whom he comes in contact with respect and courtesy," Jones said. "He has a great spirit and represents the county well."

Described as patient and efficient, Miele is also self-taught in several aspects of the job. He works to support the county's Stormwater Division with construction compliance inspections, pre-construction meetings and numerous final inspections. He makes himself available to accommodate developers and contractors, and is dependable and committed to helping out wherever he is needed within the county's organizational structure.

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.



News from our Georgetown County Veterans Affairs Officer

By David Murphy

Hello veterans! I hope that everyone had an eventful Memorial Day celebration as we reflected on the great deeds and sacrifices of our veterans. This month we celebrate the U.S. Army's 242nd Birthday. Let us congratulate our Army Strong soldiers and thank them for their Service to our nation.



Murphy

This month we also celebrate Flag Day on June 14. The Winyah Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Lowcountry Veterans Group will have **flag retirement ceremonies** that morning at 10 a.m. A ceremony at Morgan Park in Georgetown is open to the public. Bill Judd, a member of the Horry County Sons of the American Revolution, will be the guest speaker.

If anyone has a flag that needs to be properly destroyed, please bring it to the **Lowcountry Veterans Group**, located at The Meeting Place, 2921 Highmarket St., Georgetown.

Pawleys Island American Legion Post 197 is proud to announce that it will sponsor nine local rising seniors — three from Lowcountry Preparatory School and six from Waccamaw High School — to attend Palmetto Boys State at Anderson University June 11-17.



A flag retirement ceremony at Morgan Park on June 14 at 10 a.m. is open to the public. It is hosted by the Winyah Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Commander Glenn Hero has been appointed Chairman of the South Carolina Department Oratorical Contest Sub-Committee. We congratulate him!

Post 197 invites all Pawleys Island veterans to “continue to serve” by joining the post.

The Andrews Veterans Association (AVA) will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 13, at 6 p.m. at the Andrews Public Library on North Morgan Avenue, next to Andrews Town Hall. For information, contact AVA Chairman Thomas Alford at (843)833-3267.

And lastly, we still have our Veterans Fair scheduled for July 14 at the Beck Recreation Center from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please plan to attend and benefit from the information about available veterans benefits and programs that is being presented for our veterans and their families.

I wish you all a happy start to the summer.

Proud to Serve!

David Murphy,
Manager, Georgetown County
Office of Veterans Affairs

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR FALL YOUTH SPORTS!



NFL FLAG FOOTBALL

Ages: 5-7
Fee: \$20



TACKLE FOOTBALL

Ages: 8-12
Fee: \$25

SOCCER

Ages: 5-12
Fee: \$25

CHEERLEADING

Ages: 5-12
Fee: \$20

AGE CONTROL DATE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2017

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JULY 14, 2017

Late registration: July 17-July 28 (add \$10 late fee)

DON'T WAIT! REGISTER EARLY!

Georgetown County Parks & Recreation • 2030 Church St. • Georgetown, SC • 843-545-3275 • www.gtcparks.org

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.



Georgetown County, South Carolina

County Government

Numbers to know

Animal Control, 546-5101

Assessor, 545-3014

Auditor, 545-3021

Clerk of Court, 545-3004

County Council, 545-3058

Coroner, 546-3056

Elections, 545-3339

Finance, 545-3002

Planning and Zoning, 545-3116

Probate Judge, 545-3077

Register of Deeds, 545-3088

Sheriff, 546-5102

Treasurer, 545-3098

P.O. Box 421270
129 Screven Street
Georgetown, S.C. 29440-4200

Phone: (843) 545-3063
Fax: (843) 545-3292



Program seeks to train residents to aid their community in an emergency, offers free classes and supplies

Cries for help rang out eerily through the darkened corridors at the Murrells Inlet Community Center on an evening in late May. There was no way of knowing how many were injured or how severe the injuries might be.

But the civilians who entered seeking to help were equipped and ready to provide aid until paramedics could reach the site.

In this instance it was, thankfully, just a drill. The "victims" were community role players decked out in makeup to add realism. The rescuers were putting seven weeks of training to the test and earning their Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) certifications. A total of 15 graduated the program that night and are now ready to render assistance, whether it's a small scale emergency at a neighbor's home or a disaster that threatens a whole community.

"CERT is a national program we adopted here to help bridge the gap between when an emergency happens and when emergency responders arrive," said Sam Hodge, Georgetown County Emergency Manager. It might take just a few minutes for responders to arrive, or it might take significantly longer for a large scale disaster that results in a large number of calls to 911, stretching resources thin. Having civilians who are trained in ways to help, such as performing first aid, can help individual survive until professional help arrives.



The final part of CERT training is a rescue drill.

CERT training is free and can be schedule to accommodate work or school schedules. In addition to first aid, CERT classes provide training in fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. Participants also receive a backpack full of tools and supplies to help ensure they are prepared.

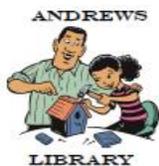
Students participate in weekly 2- to 3-hour training sessions for seven weeks. Individuals, community groups or entire neighborhoods can sign up.

For more information, call Georgetown County Emergency Management, (843) 545-3273 or email shodge@gtcounty.org.

Georgetown County Library Summer Reading Program! June 5—July 28, 2017



Exciting activities offered at all four Georgetown County library branches!



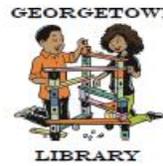
ANDREWS

LIBRARY



CARVERS BAY

LIBRARY



GEORGETOWN

LIBRARY



WACCAMAW

LIBRARY



Register and join us—it's all FREE!

georgetownlibsc.readsquared.com

For more information, call (843) 545-3300

