

The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

Inside this Issue

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- County opens new fire station in Big Dam community, Page 10.

Calendar

July 3, 5&6 – Waccamaw Library Summer Book Sale. See page 2.

July 4 – Georgetown County offices and facilities are closed in observance of Independence Day.

July 15-18 – Video production classes for teens at the library. See page 6.

July 18 – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse on Screven St.

July 20 – Organizing Your Genealogy workshop at the Georgetown Library, 9-11 a.m. See page 8.

July 23 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse on Screven St. (Council only meets once per month in June, July and August).

July 24 – Blood drive at Beck Recreation Center, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. See page 2.

Volume 7, Issue 8

July 2019



Participants at Georgetown County's senior citizens centers came together last month at the Howard Center to beat the heat with a Beach Bingo party. For more information about programs available for senior citizens, call (843) 545-3185.

New penalties for golf cart violations

Penalties for violation of state laws governing the operation of low speed vehicles — including golf carts — on roadways have recently changed. Georgetown County Sheriff Lane Cribb issued this reminder to residents and visitors ahead of the 4th of July, hoping to head off any issues that could put a damper on holiday plans.

Such violations are considered a misdemeanor under state law, and conviction is punishable by a fine of up to \$100 or imprisonment for up to 30 days.

The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office receives complaints throughout the year in reference to illegal operations of golf carts on roadways, beaches and bike paths. The following requirements are included in the

See "Golf Carts," Page 4

Practice fireworks safety this July 4th

Exploding brilliant colored fireworks, backyard barbecues and roasting marshmallows are highlights of every summer. Emergency responders in Georgetown County want every resident and visitor to have a fun and safe summer, and

ask that those using consumer fireworks be extra careful while doing so.

Burns are a common cause of injury during the summer months



and especially around the 4th of July, say local firefighters. Fire and burns are a leading cause of unintentional injury-related deaths

See "Fireworks," Page 7

Local July 4th activities

Happy Fourth of July to all our residents and visitors! If you've opted to celebrate Independence Day in Georgetown County, you made the right choice. There are a number of patriotic activities going on and we're sure you'll enjoy your holiday here. Check out one (or more!) of these local events:

- The 36th annual **Murrells Inlet Boat Parade** begins at 9 a.m. on July 4 at the point of Garden City Beach and heads south, down the Murrells Inlet shore line to Morse Park. This year's theme is "Liberty, justice and a good time for all!" The annual inlet **Marsh Walk fireworks show** will begin at 10 p.m. and last approximately 20 minutes. Then, on the morning of July 5, folks will be asked to come together to help clean up the inlet after the celebrations. Volunteers should meet at 9 a.m. in the Wicked Tuna parking lot.

- The 53rd annual **Pawleys Island Parade** will kick off at 10 a.m. July 4. Visitors and locals parade down the island in floats that use local issues and current events to make fun, creative statements. The theme, as always, is red, white and blue! All are welcome to watch or participate. Cost to enter a float in the parade is \$15 in advance or \$20 on the day of the parade. For information, call (843) 237-1698.

- The 10th annual **Salute from the Shore** military flyover will take place at 1 p.m. July 4. This tribute to America's armed forces and their families will feature F-18s and a C-17 Globemaster. Participants are asked to display red, white and blue as they view the flyover. The flyover

See "July 4," Page 10

County's largest book sale set for July 3-6

It's a book sale so good, some people have been known to plan their vacations around it. That's right, it's once again time for the Friends of the Waccamaw Library's annual summer book sale, with hundreds of books in excellent condition, all at prices that can't be beat.



Members of the Waccamaw High Football team help transport books for the sale.

County residents and visitors start lining up an hour or more before doors open to make sure they're among the first in line for the sale's opening night and get first shot at the selection.

The sale will open for friends members only on July 3 from 6-8 p.m., with special pricing. That day only, hardback books are just \$1 and trade size paperbacks are 50 cents. Friends memberships will be available at the door (\$15 for individuals or \$25 for families). The sale opens to the public July 5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and July 6 from 9 a.m. to noon. Hardback books will be \$3. There are no sale hours for July 4, as the library will be closed for the holiday.

Organizers promise this year's sale will offer "a tremendous number of newer, high-quality books of all genres," so bring your shopping bags and prepare to take home a summer's worth of great reading. Organizers say there are some exceptional art books available this year.

The Friends group offers a special thanks to the Waccamaw High School football team, which was again kind enough to help with transporting and unpacking the books for the sale. The Friends annually support the team's Booster Club in thanks for the assistance.

Cummings receives promotion

The Georgetown County Public Services Department is pleased to announce that Donny Cummings has been promoted to the position of Facilities Service Manager. He replaces Herb Puckett, who recently retired. Cummings previously held the position of Judicial Center Facility Manager.



Cummings

Cummings has been a valued member of the county's Public Services team since he joined the Facilities Division in 1999. He has continued to expand and refine his skills through training and countless hands-on experiences that are unique to our historic county's diverse facilities, said Public Services Director Ray Funnye.

Cummings is widely respected for his thoughtful analyses of facilities-related challenges and his cooperative manner, notably his willingness to listen to and evaluate options from seasoned industry professionals as well as staff members.

Funnye said he is proud to have Cummings join the Public Services Department's senior leadership team.

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

It's safe. It's simple. It saves lives.

Blood DRIVE

Wednesday, July 24
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
at the Beck Recreation Center,
2030 Church St., Georgetown

Donors are encouraged to schedule
an appointment online at redcrossblood.org.
Use the sponsor lookup code **GeoCounty**.

*This event is co-sponsored
by Georgetown County government.*

IN MEMORIAM

County elections director passes away following hard-fought battle with cancer

Donna Maria Hatchell Mahn, 60, of Florence and Georgetown, passed away on Sunday, June 23, following a long battle with cancer. Donna was born in Darlington, a daughter of the late John B. Hatchell Sr. and Ramona Stokes Hatchell. She is also preceded in death by a sister, Brenda Hatchell.

Donna graduated in 1977 from St. Johns High School. She worked in Florence County for 11 years and in Georgetown County as Director of Elections and Voter Registration for the last 14 years. She was a dedicated employee, who worried over the details of her office's upcoming local elections activities even from her hospital bed in the weeks leading up to her death.

She was a kind and gracious friend and coworker, who always had a ready hug, a listening ear and a shoulder to lean on, even at times when she by all rights should have been the one doing the leaning. She cared deeply about her family, her friends, her colleagues and her community.

Donna was a member of Toni's Tigers and the S.C. Association of Registration and Elections Officials. She loved the beach, kids, her job, Christmas lights, crafts and bowling.

Surviving are her husband of 32 years, David L. Mahn Sr.; a daughter, Allison M. Mahn of Florence; a son, David L. Mahn Jr. of Florence; and a brother, John Hatchell, Jr. of Everette, Wash.

A memorial service took place on June 28 in the chapel of Cain Calcutt Funeral Home in Florence. Memorials may be made to MUSC Health Florence Medical Center, Flamingo Mammaries Fundraiser "Toni's Tigers", 805 Pamplico Hwy, Florence SC 29505.



Donna Mahn

Georgetown County Parks and Rec. presents
Free Movie Mornings
 Tuesdays and Thursdays this summer
 at the Howard Center, 1610 Hawkins St.



All movies are family friendly.
 Showings begin at 10 a.m.

Call (843) 545-3275 for details.

Take lightning threats seriously

Lightning strikes the United States about 25 million times a year. It also kills an average of 47 people per year across the country, with hundreds more severely injured.

Although most lightning occurs in the summer, people can be struck by lightning at any time of the year. Most lightning victims are taking part in outdoor activities when they are struck.

"Lightning awareness is an extremely important topic," said Sam Hodge, Georgetown County Emergency Manager. "It's something a lot of people don't take seriously enough. They underestimate the danger, or think 'that won't happen to me.' But the reality is, it can happen to anyone, pretty much anywhere. No outdoor location is safe from lightning when a thunderstorm is in the area."

As soon as a person sees lightning or hears thunder, they should take shelter indoors or inside a hard-topped metal vehicle with windows closed. Georgetown County Emergency Management stresses the importance of proper planning and knowing to take shelter in the event of a thunderstorm while participating in outdoor activities.

Here are a few things you might not know about lightning, from the National Weather Service and the National Lightning Safety Council:

- Lightning is hotter than the surface of the sun and can reach temperatures around 50,000 degrees.
- Lightning often strikes outside areas of heavy rain and may strike as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall.
- Many lightning deaths



occur ahead of storms or after storms have seemingly passed.

- If you hear thunder, lightning is close enough to pose an immediate threat.
- June, July and August are the peak months for lightning activity across the U.S.
- From 2006 to 2018, almost two-thirds of lightning deaths (a total of 396) occurred to people who had been enjoying outdoor leisure activities, including fishing, beach activities, camping, boating, soccer, and golf. For work-related activities, farming topped the list with 19 deaths.

While only about 10 percent of lightning victims die, many survivors live the rest of their lives with pain, neurological disabilities, depression, and other health problems.

The National Weather Service's website also offers tips for what to do in the event of lightning when working outdoors, and lightning safety plans for specific locations, such as stadiums and golf courses. For more information, visit www.weather.gov/lightning.

Remember, "When thunder roars, go indoors," and "When you see a flash, dash inside."

Sheriff's Office warns about fireworks prohibited zones

While Georgetown County does not have any ordinance against fireworks, there are a number of Fireworks Prohibited Zones in effect, as allowed under state law.

Under the law, a property owner may apply to County Council for such a zone, and a number of residents have taken advantage of this.

The majority of residences along the beachfront in North and South Litchfield are fireworks prohibited zones. The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office warns that anyone who knowingly and willfully discharges fireworks in one of these zones may be charged with a misdemeanor and, upon conviction for a first offense, may be fined or imprisoned.

Additionally, fireworks are banned entirely in the Town of Pawleys Island.

Residents who choose to utilize fireworks are asked to be mindful of their surroundings, follow safety precautions (see Page 1 of this newsletter), and clean up debris left by fireworks.

For the convenience and safety of residents and visitors, public fireworks shows are available in Georgetown and Murrells Inlet. See the article that begins on Page 1 for further details. A community cleanup is set for the morning of July 5 in Murrells Inlet to help rid of fireworks debris.

Golf Carts

Continued from front page

laws for operation of golf carts in the state and in Georgetown County.

- A person operating a permitted golf cart must be at least 16 years of age and hold a valid driver's license.

- A golf cart operating on roadways must have liability insurance.

- A golf cart has to be permitted by the State of South Carolina. An individual or business owner of a vehicle commonly known as a golf cart may obtain a permit decal and registration from the Department of Motor Vehicles upon presenting proof of ownership and liability insurance for the golf cart and upon payment of a \$5 fee.

- A golf cart can only be operated during day light hours, including carts with headlights and turn signals.

- The operator of a permitted golf cart being operated on a highway or street must have in their possession: 1) the registration certificate; 2) proof of



Golf carts and other motorized vehicles are prohibited on the Waccamaw Neck bike path and on public beaches. Violators may be fined up to \$100 or sentenced to up to 30 days in jail.

liability insurance for the golf cart; and 3) their valid driver's license.

- A permitted golf cart may be operated within four miles of the address on the registration certificate and only on a secondary highway or street for which the posted speed limit is 35 miles an hour or less. Highway 17 Business in Murrells Inlet is not considered a secondary highway.

- A golf cart cannot be operated on a public bike path or public beaches in Georgetown County.



For the protection of our sea turtles & other wildlife please

LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS ON GEORGETOWN COUNTY BEACHES!

Umbrellas



Tents



Hammocks



Beach Toys



Picnic Tables



Chairs



All items must be picked up off the beach at the day's end, including chairs, tents, toys and, of course, any food packaging or other litter. Litter laws are strictly enforced. Any items left on the beach at the end of the day are considered abandoned and may be removed.



LIGHTS OUT!

SEA TURTLES DIG THE DARK



- Turn out beachfront lights after dusk
- Close blinds, curtains in beachfront homes
- Do not disturb nesting females or hatchlings by using flashlights, flash photography or lanterns at night
- Fill in any holes in the sand at day's end



See more local beach regulations at www.gtcparks.org



Parks and Rec. team hosts evening events for youth across the county this summer

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation facilities are the place to be on Friday nights this summer. The department will continue hosting "Fridays at the Rec." this month from 6-10 p.m. (except July 5) as part of its summer programming.

Fridays at the Rec. offers youth a chance to join our community specialists on Friday evenings for less structured activities to keep kids and teens engaged and active. Activities are set for the Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center on July 12, Olive Park in Andrews on July 19 and the Choppee Recreation Center on July 26. The series will culminate with the county's End of Summer Celebration and Campout at 8 Oaks Park on Aug. 2 (see page 7 for details). In addition to camping, the event will include glow-in-the-dark kickball, hiking, canoeing and more. The campout is free, but reservations are required.

The department also continues to host "Fun in the Parks" events this month. Families are invited to join community specialists from 6:30-8 p.m. as they lead youth in outdoor activities in local parks. Events are scheduled for July 8 at Wachesaw Park in Murrells Inlet, July 15 at North Santee and Lanes Creek, July 17 at Sampit and Dunbar, July 22 at Oatland and St. Paul, July 24 at Plantersville and St. Luke, July 29 at Annie Village and Lambertown, and Aug. 1 at Wachesaw Park.

For more information about Georgetown County Parks and Recreation activities and programs, visit www.gtcparks.org or call (843) 545-3275.



Residents encouraged to participate in GSATS' Hwy. 17 corridor study



The Grand Strand Area Transportation Study (GSATS) encourages citizens to get involved in a newly initiated U.S. 17 Corridor Study. The Highway 17 corridor in Georgetown County currently carries an average of 35,000 vehicles per day. This area has experienced significant growth which has led to increased congestion and safety concerns along the corridor.

Key challenges along the corridor include how to move traffic efficiently through coastal resort communities, while maintaining access to businesses, and providing bicycle and pedestrian accommodations. The study will analyze traffic operations, crash history, growth patterns and access management strategies to improve safety and traffic flow. The study will result in short-term, mid-term and long-term recommendations that local governments and the S.C. Department of Transportation can implement in the future to benefit the corridor.

The study area begins at the intersection of Highway 17 and the Highway 17 Bypass in Murrells Inlet, and continues south for 19 miles to Hobcaw Barony.

The Grand Strand Area Transportation Study is leading the project and has contracted with a consulting firm, AECOM, to do the necessary studies. Georgetown County is also a key project partner.

The study is just getting underway so preliminary engineering and traffic studies are beginning now. No decisions have been made, but some of the possible solutions may include: intersection improvements to relieve congestion, geometric improvements to improve safety, bike/pedestrian accommodations, and signal timing.

The study began in June and is expected to conclude by the winter of 2020. Residents are encouraged to get more information about the study and make comments on the wiki map at this location: <https://wikimapping.com/US17.html>. The wiki map offers a place for citizens to leave comments for the project team about specific locations on the corridor. The wiki map also includes general project information and frequently asked questions. Public information meetings will also be scheduled in the future as the study progresses.

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**

Moultrie named state's best Public Works employee for 2019

Sharon Moultrie, an employee of Georgetown County Public Works, has been named this year's most outstanding public works employee in the state – an honor she has more than earned, according to her supervisors and colleagues.

Moultrie was recognized in Columbia on June 20 by the S.C. Chapter of the American Public Works Association, which presented her with the 2019 Outstanding Public Works Employee Award. The award is based on outstanding achievements, level of activity in professional organizations, endorsements from others in the field, initiative and how much the nominee is valued by their employer.

An operations specialist for Georgetown County Public Works, Moultrie received eight glowing letters of endorsement for the award from superiors, subordinates and professionals from outside agencies, including the S.C. Department of Transportation, Charleston County Public Works and Georgetown City Public Works.

The essay penned by Ray Funnye, Georgetown County Public Services director, made it abundantly clear that Moultrie is highly valued by her employer and is considered a vital part of her division.

"She has a natural and selfless service orientation, demonstrated most recently when she assumed the role of weekend project manager for her sister's home-building project in Myrtle Beach, while her sister was deployed abroad with the Army," Funnye said. "The Moultries are a close family... each embodying in some way their parents' teachings on the importance of independence, responsibility and faith.



Moultrie is pictured with APWA staff during the award presentation June 20.

These are the cornerstones of Sharon Moultrie's character and the enduring traits that contribute to the respect she has earned in Georgetown County as a model employee and effective leader."

Moultrie was hired in Georgetown County's Public Works Division in 1990 as an administrative assistant. She was immediately recognized for her hard work and superior organizational skills, and as a result was steadily promoted to positions of increasing responsibility. Repeatedly, she proved able to handle whatever was thrown at her and advanced to her current position as a part of her department's senior management team. She has held her current position since 2014. She is the longest-tenured employee in her division.

"In her tenure as operations specialist, she has worked through some challenging times, stepping in to take the leadership reins in the absence of a Public Works manager, and fulfilling the requirements without missing a beat regarding her own position's demands for an intermittent period of 18 months,"

Funnye said. "Her uncomplaining demeanor makes her a management model for both her colleagues and the employees who report to her for assignments."

Moultrie's job includes managing field operation employees responding to urgent requests for road drainage maintenance, coordinating both inspection and repair services. She also handles emergency road closures and the county's At Your Request system, which is an online system that allows members of the public to report road issues directly to Public Works. She also assists the Public Works manager with the County Transportation Committee's tracking of the pavement management program for secondary roads. She is described as firm, but fair, and always the picture of professionalism.

"I don't know anyone else in the Public Services Department who knows the county road system better than Sharon," said Tracy Jones, who manages the department's Stormwater Division. "At department-wide events, I see how the Public Works staff respect her and admire her."

Moultrie additionally serves as the county's chairwoman of the APWA Lowcountry Regional Backhoe Rodeo committee, and has done so for the last six years, growing and improving the event and its mission to promote and advance public works initiatives and achievements.

"Sharon is singularly qualified to earn this award," Funnye said, "not only for the excellence with which she executes her duties daily, but because she embodies the essence of public service and is a role model for all who come into contact with her."

Teen

Video Production

Classes

July 15-18

10:30—12:30 am

Questions/registration:
hpelham@gtcounty.org or (843) 545-3327

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.



Fireworks

Continued from front page

among children ages 14 and under, national statistics show.

On average, 280 people go to the emergency room every day with fireworks-related injuries in the month around the July 4th holiday.

About 10,000 people suffer fireworks injuries every year, including over 4,000 children age 14 and under. Burns resulting from improper use of sparklers and illegal fireworks usually involve the hands, face, arms and chest areas. Injuries can be severe and result in loss of fingers or more extensive damage.

Keep summer activities enjoyable, fun and safe by following these fireworks safety guidelines:

- Leave all fireworks activity to the professionals. Watch a public fireworks show rather than shooting off fireworks at home. Public shows will take place in Georgetown and Murrells Inlet on July 4.
- Check with local police or fire departments to determine what fireworks can be legally discharged in your area. You may

also want to check with your property association or the Sheriff's Office to find out if fireworks are permitted.

- Only adults should handle fireworks. Read and follow all instructions with fireworks. All fireworks must carry a warning label to discuss necessary safety precautions.
 - Be sure spectators are out of range before lighting fireworks.
 - Never place your face or any other part of your body over fireworks.
 - Never try to re-ignite fireworks that have malfunctioned.
 - Keep a bucket of water or a fire extinguisher handy.
 - Only light fireworks on a smooth flat surface away from houses, dry leaves and any other flammable materials.
 - Never throw, point, or shoot fireworks toward people, buildings, vehicles or wooded areas, especially if the weather has been dry.
 - Never hold or get close to any lit fireworks. Watch what you wear. Loose clothing can catch fire, and should not be worn while handling fireworks.
- Have a safe, happy Fourth of July!

Free Medicare and retirement information sessions offered at Waccamaw Library

Are you maximizing your Medicare? With so many options, how do you know what Medicare plans are the right fit for you?

Tony Carlton, a certified financial planner and insurance broker, will offer two Medicare and Retirement Information Sessions with question and answer periods at the Waccamaw Library to provide informed advice. The sessions are intended to help attendees get the best benefits through Medicare Supplement, Medicare Advantage and Step Therapy programs.

Carlton will also help connect attendees' Medicare plans to their overall retirement strategy.

The first session will take place on Tuesday, Aug. 13 at 10 a.m., and the final session is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 3 at 10 a.m.

Both sessions are free to attend and open to all. The Library is located at 41 St. Paul Place in Pawleys Island.

"Retirement shouldn't be an afterthought," Carlton said. "With proactive planning and productive approaches, retirement should be the reward of a full life."

Sign up for emergency alerts!

Don't miss out on important information that could keep you and your family safe. Sign up to receive emergency alerts specific to your address from Georgetown County Emergency Management Division via email or phone. Sign up for this free service at www.gtcounty.org (look for the link near the top of our home page) or call (843) 545-3213.

FIGHT the BITE



To request mosquito control service in your area, leave a message at (843) 545-3616.

Protect yourself:

- Wear light-colored clothing. Mosquitos are attracted to darker colors.
- Spray yourself and children with repellent.
- Wear long sleeves and pants if possible.

Reduce breeding sites:

- Drain or eliminate sites that have standing water.
- Reduce and eliminate garbage in drain areas.
- Be sure to repair window and door screens.



End of Summer Celebration Camp-Out at 8 Oaks Park

Friday/Saturday, August 2 & 3, 2019

In addition to Camping, we will have Glow In The Dark Kickball, Hiking, Canoeing and more! Food will be provided - cost is FREE but pre-registration is required. For more info or to register, please call Loren Wallace at (843) 545-3333!



National Get Outdoors day exists to encourage Americans, especially our youth, to seek out healthy, active outdoor lives and embrace our parks, forests, refuges and other public lands and waters.

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



@GTC Parks

Sheriff names Employees of the Quarter

The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office honored Employees of the Quarter at the detention center and emergency communications during a luncheon at the Sheriff's Office on July 2. Those presented plaques by Sheriff Lane Cribb were: Nicole Greene, Correctional Officer of the Quarter and Becca Filyaw, Telecommunicator of the Quarter.

Greene has been employed at the Detention Center since November. Her attention to detail speaks loud and clear about her commitment to dependability, efficiency and willingness to learn, said her supervisor, Sgt. Keona Brunson in nominating her. "Working in a detention center at times can weaken the strong and frighten the brave," Brunson said, "but for Officer Greene, she walks with confidence at all times leaving an impression of empowerment among all. Her abilities to resolve difficult situations are supported by remarkable patience and admirable tact which results in peaceful resolutions. More importantly, her character, attitude and work ethic inspire others to elevate to new levels of achievement and reflect positively on this agency."

Filyaw has been employed at Central Dispatch since February 2015. "She has excellent verbal and written skills; she multitasks very well, loves helping others and is a trainer and team player," said Major T.L. Staub. "Becca shows great enthusiasm for her work, goes above and beyond and shows great compassion and exceptional dedication."

The Deputy of the Quarter will be announced at a later time.



Greene



Filyaw

Public Services Dept. streamlines damage assessment process

The Georgetown County Public Services Department is transitioning from paper to electronic recording for its damage assessment processing in time for the peak of this year's hurricane season. The new electronic system will allow staff to document disaster-related damages in real time, and submit it to the Federal Emergency Management Agency along with photos, right from the damage site.

The new system will save considerable time in documenting, communicating between agencies, and hopefully in receiving federal reimbursements.

The department will participate in a live action training session this summer to get a feel for using the software.

"We should be ready before September and October, when our area is most likely to see hurricane activity," said James Coley, engineering and capital projects planner for the department. "The bad news is that we keep having these hurricanes year after year, but the good news is that we're getting better and better at hurricane response with all the practice. This new system will really streamline the process and help us continue to improve."

The county only recently got its last repair project from Hurricane Florence approved and just finished the last repair project from Hurricane Matthew.

**Attention
All Beekeepers**

**Are you a Beekeeper
in Georgetown County?
Please Call (843) 545-3615**

In an effort to protect the local bee population, Georgetown County Mosquito Control keeps a list of local beekeepers. Please register so we may provide you with advanced notice of aerial adulticiding sprays.

Georgetown County Department of Public Services
Division of Stormwater, Mosquito Control
(843) 545-3615
www.gtcounty.org/mosquito_control

**ORGANIZING
your
GENEALOGY**

**Genealogist Patti Burns will show
you how to put the branches on
your family tree the right way!**

**Saturday, July 20
9 - 11 am
Georgetown Library
405 Cleland Street**

News from our Veterans Affairs Officer

By David Murphy

Greetings, veterans of Georgetown County! We will be celebrating our nation's Independence on July 4th. There will be fireworks at East Bay Park as well as the Murrells Inlet Marshwalk. Please see the article on page 1 for details. Also, let's remember to be careful during our cookouts and fireworks displays.

On June 14, Flag Day, I had the pleasure to join in the Flag Burning Ceremony with the **Low Country Veterans Group** under the command of Mr. Franklin Rutledge. The Low Country Veterans Group holds this ceremony every year. Salutes to each of you.



Murphy

In June 2019, President Trump signed legislation known as the **VA Mission Act of 2018**. The Act affects many VA programs, including changes that make dramatic improvements to how Veterans receive health care provided outside of VA facilities.

I have a Frequently Asked Questions brochure in my office that helps explain the changes brought by the act. This brochure covers eligibility, beneficiary travel, urgent care, scheduling, pharmacy and billing. If you would like a copy, please give my office a call at (843) 545-3330 and I will be more than happy to provide one.

Blue Water Navy Veterans: Veterans who served in the territorial seas of the Republic of Vietnam are entitled to the presumption



Members of the Low Country Veterans Group are pictured during their annual Flag Day ceremony.

of exposure to Agent Orange. Claims that might be affected by the Procopio ruling include those based on herbicide exposure for which the only evidence of exposure is service on a vessel within 12 nautical miles of the territorial sea of the Republic of Vietnam or other service offshore, depending upon VA's evaluation of the court's decision. If you have any questions please give me a call.

If you are a veteran and have questions or want more information about services that may be available to you, please contact my office at (843) 545-3330.

Proud to serve!

David Murphy is manager of the Georgetown County Office of Veterans Affairs.

BEING RAY BRADBURY



A Talk & Dramatic Reading by
Bill Oberst, Jr.

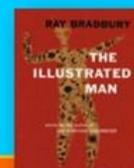
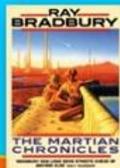
Thursday, August 22 at 10am



Join us for a wonder-filled celebration of the life and work of great sci-fi and fantasy author **RAY BRADBURY** on what would be his **99TH BIRTHDAY!**

BILL OBERST will deliver dramatic readings from Bradbury's works and discuss what inspired him to create an acclaimed stage show centered on this major American writer, whose classics include Fahrenheit 451, The Martian Chronicles, & The Illustrated Man.

Emmy-winner Oberst is a celebrated stage, film, and television actor who splits time between his native Georgetown County and Hollywood. Q&A with Oberst to follow!



At the Waccamaw Library, 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island

**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



County celebrates opening of new fire station



Georgetown County cut the ribbon on its newest fire station on July 2. Station 16, the Big Dam Community Fire Station was funded with monies from the Capital Project Sales Tax. Volunteers are needed at the new station. Call (843) 545-3138 for details.

Library hosts programs and activities for adults

In the midst of summer reading programs for kids, Georgetown County library branches are making sure its older members have something to keep them entertained and learning too. There are several exciting programs coming up that are geared specifically toward adults.

First up, the Waccamaw Library will host Moonrise Tech Day on July 18 at 10 a.m. Adults will be invited to learn about exciting technology connected with the library's celebration of

the 50th anniversary of the moon landing. This tech includes virtual reality, which will be used to explore the solar system, as well as 3D printing and laser cutting.

A program at the Waccamaw Library on July 23 invites participants to get crafty with Mallary Allen's "Summer Crafternoons." Allen will teach participants to give new life to old, worn out books by turning them into new holiday decorations, including angels, trees, candles and pumpkins. On Aug. 20, she will turn

her sights to making home décor including banners, flower pots and critters, again from old books. Both programs are from 3-4 p.m. All ages are welcome to join in, but children must be accompanied by an adult.

These programs are free and open to the public.

For more information about upcoming programs, events and classes happening at your local library branch, visit georgetowncountylibrary.sc.gov. There's always something exciting happening!

July 4

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begins at the N.C. border and should be visible from any spot on the beach.

- The **Garden City Beach Golf Cart Parade** has a new start time this year. Line up is at 2 p.m. July 4 behind Willard's Fireworks on Calhoun Drive. The parade steps off at 3 p.m. Carts will wind their way down Calhoun Drive to Waccamaw Drive and up Woodland Drive. This is a wet parade, but no water balloons, please. A collection for the local fire department will also take place. For more information and updates, visit the parade's Facebook page, facebook.com/gardencitygolfcartparade.

- The 9th annual **4th of July Evening Musical Celebration** at Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Church will take place from 6-8 p.m. in the Parish Life Center. This event is a salute to our nation, veterans and first responders, and features the Pawleys Island Concert Band. The event is free. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Call (843) 235-9931 for details.

- Spend the evening of July 4 on the lawn of the Kaminski House Museum, where the **Indigo Choral**



Society will give a patriotic performance. The event will take place from 7:30-9:30 p.m. The museum is located on Front Street in Georgetown. The concert is free and everyone is welcome. The concert will include selections of Americana, Carolina-themed songs and a salute to our Armed Forces. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and picnic baskets. This is also the Kaminski House's 250th year, so there is also likely to be birthday cake!

- The City of Georgetown will present its annual **Fireworks display** from East Bay Park at 9:30 p.m. July 4. The Harborwalk and other areas along the Sampit River make great viewing locations.