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Calendar

Aug. 10 – Community meeting to discuss future development on the Waccamaw Neck, 7 p.m. See Page 8

Aug. 17 – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse

Aug. 19 – An Evening of One-Act Plays at the Waccamaw Library, 6 p.m. See Page 7

Aug. 21 – The Great American Eclipse. Make sure you have your eclipse glasses!

Aug. 22 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse. Council will have a special meeting at the airport the same day beginning at 3:30 p.m.

Aug. 22 – Congressman Tom Rice will meet with constituents in the historic Courthouse from 3-4 p.m. See Page. 2

The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

Volume 5, Issue 12

August 2017

Big crowds anticipated for Aug. 21 eclipse

On Aug. 21, Georgetown County will be in store for a rare sight. Parts of the county, including the City of Georgetown, Pawleys Island and the Town of Andrews, are in the path of totality for a total solar eclipse that will occur that afternoon.

It's being called "The Great American Eclipse" as its path goes across

the middle of the nation, from Oregon to South Carolina. But there are a very limited number of cities within the path of totality, which will be only about 70 miles wide. For a short time, those in the path of totality will see night briefly fall in the middle of the day. The temperature will drop, birds go to nest and crickets begin their evening chirps.

"It's really quite amazing to witness," said Dr. Louis Rubbo, an associate professor of physics and astronomy at Coastal Carolina University.

Areas outside the line of totality will not experience full dark. Even within Georgetown County, areas as close as Litchfield and Murrells Inlet are outside the path and will still be able to see a bit of sunlight. Rubbo



will watch the eclipse from the City of Georgetown for the full experience, he said.

This will be the first time since 1979 that a total solar eclipse will be visible anywhere in the United States. The last time an eclipse crossed the continental U.S. was 1918. That year the moon's shadow passed from Washington through

Florida, and finally out to Bermuda, Rubbo said. The August solar eclipse will mark the first time in our nation's history that the eclipse will be exclusive to the United States.

Because of the rareness of this event, areas within the narrow band of totality are preparing for a huge influx of visitors who want to watch the eclipse. Officials in Georgetown County and its incorporated areas aren't sure how many people may flock here for the event, but residents should expect larger numbers than usual, with eclipse watchers joining the usual summer crowds. Expect traffic on roadways including Highway 17. There will also be a larger police presence

See "Eclipse," Page 10

Long-range plan for airport now available for public review

Over a six-month period, 22 people from state, county and city government, the aviation industry, and private business contributed significant time and effort toward developing a strategic business plan for the Georgetown County Airport.

The process is now complete and an executive summary of the plan is available for public review. The plan will go before Georgetown County Council for review and endorsement during a special meeting at the airport on Aug. 22 at 3:30 p.m.

The important role the

Georgetown County Airport plays in the area's tourism and economic development is too often overlooked and uncredited, said Doug Decker, who chaired the planning committee. The plan outlines steps to solve that problem, as well as increase tourism and economic development in the county.

"The 680-acre airport property has room for expansion to accommodate business and industry in the region," the executive summary states. "The rapidly growing aerospace industry in South Caroli-



The Georgetown Airport.

na would find the Georgetown County Airport an ideal location for suppliers, given its expanse and robust transportation network... The physical attributes of the

See "Airport," Page 5

County opposes seismic testing, offshore drilling

At its July 25 meeting, Georgetown County Council adopted a resolution opposing seismic testing and offshore drilling activities in the Atlantic.

The department of interior is in the process of opening the mid- and south-Atlantic to exploration and development of offshore oil and gas, which will include the use of methods such as seismic testing. The seismic testing data collected will not be available for review by Georgetown County or members of the public.

“South Carolina’s coastal tourism economy, which supports 130,000 jobs and generates several billion dollars annually, relies on a healthy coast and ocean for fishing, tourism and recreation industries,” said Council Member John Thomas. “Offshore drilling maybe could generate a tiny fraction of that revenue and jobs. There is no economic reason to support offshore drilling, and it is certainly in our best interest to oppose that which would threaten our tourism economy.”

Other coastal areas including Charleston and Horry counties, and 128 east coast cities (including Pawleys Island, Georgetown, McClellanville, Mount Pleasant, Charleston and the Isle of Palms) have also expressed opposition to seismic testing and offshore drilling in the Atlantic.

Adoption of the resolution was met with applause. About a dozen local members of SODA (Stop Offshore Drilling in the Atlantic) were present to thank council for its action.

“You have a responsibility for taking care of and helping our communities, and that’s what you’re doing with this resolution,” Jim Watkins, a representative of the group, said. “Our community and our economy and our health is threatened by seismic testing.”

Watkins asked people to envision what the county and its beaches and inlets would look like if there were an oil spill here.

It is Georgetown County’s intent to protect our unique environment by managing our open spaces, rivers, beaches, ecological areas and natural resources in a manner consistent with our community’s values and priorities, which means opposing seismic testing and offshore drilling, council members agreed.

To read the full resolution passed by council, go to <https://goo.gl/93suLL>

Tom Rice to meet with constituents in Georgetown

U.S. Rep. Tom Rice will have a town hall meeting with constituents from 3-4 p.m. Aug. 22 in the historic Georgetown County courthouse at 129 Screven St.

The event will be part of Rice’s Coffee With Your Congressman series. Constituents will have the chance to meet Rice and discuss legislation and current events affecting the nation, state and 7th Congressional District, his office stated.

The event is free and open to everyone.

Rice also has similar meetings planned in Myrtle Beach, Nichols and Society Hill. For more information, visit www.rice.house.gov.

Don't Miss Our 2017 Fall Adult Leagues!



Soccer



Co-Ed Softball



Basketball

**Call or Email
Randy Akers
(843) 359-6419
bakers@gtcounty.org**






©GTC Parks

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

Adult summer leagues head into tournament play

Much like the recent weather, Georgetown County's summer adult sports leagues are beginning to heat up.

The county Parks and Recreation Department's adult soccer and co-ed softball leagues will each begin their post-season tournament play in August. On Thursday, **Aug. 17**, the softball league championship game will start at 6:30 p.m. (with an "if necessary" second game immediately following) at Retreat Park in Litchfield. Two days later, on **Aug. 19**, the adult soccer league championship will be played at Stables Park in Pawleys Island at 8:30 a.m.

Randy Akers, community specialist in charge of adult sports for Georgetown County Parks and Recreation, said the games are sure to be entertaining.

"Each of our leagues have been extremely competitive all summer long, and I can't imagine the championship games will be any different," Akers said. "These teams have played hard all summer, and I'm sure they would love to have some folks from their community come out to cheer them on to a championship."

While pick-up players are not allowed during tournament play, **registration is open for the county's fall adult leagues**. Co-ed softball will begin play on Sept. 14, with soccer starting a few days later on Sept. 16. Adult basketball, which was not offered over the summer, will begin play on Sept. 20. Players who are not part of a team are encouraged to add their name to the "free agent" roster, in case a team needs pick-up players over the course of the fall season.

For more information regarding registering a team for our fall adult sports leagues or becoming a pick-up player, please contact Randy Akers at (843) 359-6419 or via email at bakers@gtcounty.org.

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation also welcomes suggestions, so if there's a sport you'd like to play, let us know. Find more current and upcoming parks and recreation programs at www.gtcparks.org.

For general information about programs, call (843) 545-3275.



Let's get ready for some football!



Randy Walker of Georgetown County Parks and Recreation talks to participants during a recent Football Skills and Drills workshop for youth. The fall youth sports season is about to begin with NFL flag football, tackle football, cheerleading and soccer. Registration is open for winter youth sports including basketball and cheerleading. Find more information at www.gtcparks.org or call (843) 545-3275.

Free one-day farmers market Aug. 22

Georgetown County, in conjunction with Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Charleston, will host a free farmers market for families on Aug. 22 from 2:30-4 p.m.

The event will take place at Beck Recreation Center, 2030 Church St., Georgetown, and is open to all county residents. Customers will be able to receive fruits and vegetables of their choice at no cost, thanks to Catholic Charities, which brings these events to rural communities to give more people access to fresh, healthy food.

All customers are asked to bring their own shopping bags.



Tai Chi

Classes in Pawleys Island

Mondays and Fridays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
at Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center
 83 Duncan Rd., Pawleys Island

\$5 per class (introductory rate)

Call (843) 545-3202 for details

Library prepares for eclipse with fun, educational events

Free programs also offer eclipse glasses

The Georgetown County Library System has caught the growing eclipse fever and is hosting a number of entertaining events leading up to – and on the day of – the big celestial event. There are still a few left this month to get everyone ready for the Great American Eclipse on Aug. 21. Everything is absolutely free, and those who attend get free eclipse glasses.

Programs are as follows:

Aug. 9

Ron Revere, an Astronomy Instructor at Coastal Carolina University, will present a lecture called “The Solar Eclipse and Safety” at the Waccamaw Neck Branch Library at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 9. The discussion will seek to answer some of the myriad of questions folks may have regarding the eclipse: What is an eclipse? What causes it? Why are they so infrequent? Is there any danger in observing the eclipse?

A slide show of previous eclipses and simulations of what we can expect from this one will complement this short but thorough explanation of the causes and effects of solar eclipses.

“As many as 100 million people may watch the Aug. 21 eclipse in person,” Revere said. “Be sure to be ready!”

Revere is a 30-year veteran of teaching physics and astronomy. He enjoys making academic subjects interesting and exciting to regular folks. Currently, he is in his 11th semester of teaching Astronomy 101 at Coastal Carolina University’s main campus.

Revere has a bachelor’s degree in biology from the College of William and Mary. He has also earned a master’s degree in the teaching of natural science from Colgate University. He has also taken considerable coursework in biology, physics, astronomy, mathematics, chemistry, and education from the Universities of Virginia, Southern California, and Houston.

Aug. 20

On Sunday, Aug. 20, Dr. Louis J. Rubbo of Coastal Carolina University will present a lecture called “In the Moon’s Shadow: The Strange and Rare Occurrences of Solar Eclipses” at 6 p.m. at the Strand Theatre. In this talk, Rubbo will delve into the strangeness that is a solar eclipse, explain why they are

so rare, and discuss what to expect during the Great American Eclipse of 2017.

“It’s the middle of a summer afternoon, yet the temperature has just dropped abruptly as the sky darkens, stars and planets become visible in the sky, and insects begin their evening chirps,” Rubbo said. “This is just some of the strangeness that accompanies a solar eclipse; that rare time when the moon passes between the sun and earth.”

Rubbo spent three years as a postdoctoral scholar at the Center for Gravitational Wave Physics at the Pennsylvania State University before joining the faculty of Coastal Carolina University in 2007, where he now teaches introductory astronomy and physics along with advanced courses in computational analysis and astrophysics. His areas of expertise include gravitational wave astronomy, general relativity, physics education research and robotics education.

Rubbo earned a bachelor’s degree at the University of Colorado at Boulder before gaining his Ph.D. in physics from Montana State University.

Aug. 21

Rubbo will also be on hand to answer questions and offer insights at an eclipse viewing at Francis Marion Park on Front Street on the big day, Aug. 21.

Meanwhile, astronomer and educator

Kevin Manning will be at the Waccamaw Library on eclipse day, hosting live stream commentary from scientists throughout the nation and showing folks what’s coming using a giant space telescope.

From 9 a.m. until noon, Manning will be inside the library explaining the live feed from NASA television, then from 1-4 p.m., everyone will head outside for the celestial excitement. During and after the eclipse, Manning will offer other insights on the astronomical action with the aid of his telescope.

Manning is the President and CEO of “Look Up to the Stars.” Since 2003, he has had the mission of fostering scientific literacy nationwide through delivering awe-inspiring educational programs. He has served as a consultant with NASA and a number of ground-based astronomical observatories. Prior to founding “Look Up to the Stars,” Mr. Manning worked as the Program Manager for the Brookhaven National Laboratory. He has a BS degree in Physical Sciences along with additional academic work at Tufts University concerning Galaxy Formation.

For more events taking place during the eclipse, as well as safety and other information, visit www.gtcounty.org and check out pages 1, 8 and 10 of this newsletter.

*The Inshore Fishing
Association
Redfish and Kayak tours*

**Register
online now!**

**Sept. 23 and 24
in Georgetown**

Atlantic Qualifying Events

Registration fee is \$250 per team for the Redfish Tour and \$50 for the Kayak Tour.

Events offer 100% payback. Redfish Tour boat launch and weigh-in at the Carroll Ashmore Campbell Marine Complex, 101 River Walk Drive.

**For information and registration,
visit www.ifatours.com**



Airport

Continued from Front Page

airport argue for significant expansion to attract and accommodate new businesses in the region and more investment in resort property.”

However, the plan continues, there is a need for programs that would create a local workforce with the appropriate skills. One of the plan’s main proposals is the creation of education initiatives to address that shortfall.

In regard to tourism, “the Airport cannot be content to serve only residents and short-term visitors, but must respond to the needs of those who regularly come to Georgetown to check on their investments or transact new ones,” according to the summary. One of the ways in which that would be addressed is through construction of more hangars. The county currently has 41 nested T-hangars and consistently has a waiting list of pilots hoping to nab one. It also has one corporate hangar, with another under construction.

The plan establishes four long-term goals:

- Becoming the best general aviation airport in coastal South Carolina within the next four years;
- Transforming the airport into a stimulus for economic growth and investment in the county;
- Becoming a recognized center of excellence for aviation education and training within the next 10 years; and
- Increasing airport revenues enough for the airport to become self-sustaining with-



Planning committee members pictured in front of the airport at their first meeting.

in the next five years.

It won’t be an easy road, Decker said. But the committee members are confident the goals are reasonable and achievable with support from the county’s leadership.

Though the final end goal for the plan is 10 years from now, some components can be implemented immediately, including educational components. Committee members said they see a great need to reach out to local schools, expanding and creating programs that allow students to visit the airport and, in some cases, even take their first flight.

“We have a lack of demand here for flight training and also for mechanical engineering programs at PIA [Pittsburgh Institute for Aeronautics] in Myrtle Beach,” Decker said. “We just haven’t built that demand from the bottom up. We have to reach out to schools at the high school and college level with ro-

bust programs and let them know what kinds of opportunities there are for people with those skills. These jobs pay well, and since aerospace is the second largest industry in South Carolina, demand continues to grow for qualified people.”

“The strategic efforts that are currently under way will enable Georgetown County to be part of the growth in the aeronautics industry, and doing so at the airport will facilitate further aviation/aerospace opportunities for the state and the county,” said James Stephens, executive director of the S.C. Aeronautics Commission. Stephens participated in the long-range planning effort and said he believes “the end product will be something that can be replicated across South Carolina at many of our other airports.”

To read the full executive summary, visit www.gtcounty.org/airports/. The presentation to County Council on Aug. 22 at 3:30 p.m. is open to the public.

SAVE THE DATE

Household
Hazardous Waste
Collection & Paper
Shredding Event

Oct. 28,
9 a.m. to noon
at Ace Hardware
in Pawleys Island

Toxic.Free.Home.



Safely dispose of items including paint, used oils, auto batteries, rechargeable batteries, chemicals, antifreeze, pesticides and unwanted products labeled “poison,” “warning” or “caution.” Help us keep these items out of our water system with safe disposal!

Music IN THE Park
georgetownseaport.com

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

AUG 4th *the fantastic!* **SHAKERS**

SEP 1st **JIM QUICK AND COASTLINE**

OCT 6th **BLACKWATER**
RHYTHM & BLUES BAND

Shaggin on the Sampit
DJ Mike Worley every 3rd Friday

Projects funded through one-cent sales tax moving forward

Two dredging projects, resurfacing of more than 100 roads and construction of fire and rescue services facilities throughout the county were projects endorsed by voters when a one-cent Capital Project Sales Tax was approved in 2014.

After a little more than two years of collections, the county has made significant progress on these projects, having finished one dredging project, built two fire substations and completed about half the paving projects. Below is an overview of which projects have been completed, the work currently in progress and what is left to finish.

Dredging

Dredging at Murrells Inlet is substantially complete, County Administrator Sel Hemingway told County Council members during a July 25 update. This project will be beneficial to tourism, the commercial fishing industry and local businesses that benefit from tourist activity. Material dredged from the inlet was used to renourish the beach in Garden City, and that project is also complete.

The second dredging project proposed on the sales tax referendum would have deepened the channel at the Georgetown Port. Since the referendum, the Army Corps of Engineers doubled its



Road work on Duke Street began in July.

estimate on the cost to dredge the port, increasing it to \$66 million. Additionally, Arcelor Mittal permanently closed its steel mill in Georgetown, which would have been a primary beneficiary of dredging at the port. A new company has announced its intent to purchase the shuttered mill, but the deal has not yet been closed as the company investigates economic incentives that may be available from the state and county. The S.C. Ports Authority has also spoken publicly about the possibility of closing the port.

As a result, the county is waiting to determine if dredging at the port is still a viable project. If the determination is made that it is not viable, Council will have to determine how those funds may be redirected.

Roads

Phase 1 of road resurfacing has been complete and Phase 2 began in mid-July, with concrete work currently underway in the City of Georgetown as a Precursor to resurfacing. Completion of all paving projects included in the Capital Project Sales Tax plan is scheduled for June 30, 2018.

To view the complete list of paving projects and see which ones are completed and which are in progress, visit www.gtcounty.org.

The current estimate for completion is \$9.8 million.

Fire and Rescue Services

In its proposal for a one-cent capital project sales tax, the county pitched plans to build a series of fire substations that would help lower property insurance rates for residents, along with a new fire station in the Big Dam community and a new building for fire and police operations in the Town of Andrews.

Thus far, seven of nine sites for fire substations have been acquired. Fire substations have been completed in two locations: Yauhannah and Williams Hill. A third site has been cleared for construction. Permitting and site work continue on the remaining sites. All substations should be completed by the end of next year.

Construction documents are being finalized for a fire station in the Big Dam Community. The contract should be awarded by the end of this year.

In regard to the Andrews facility, the county is awaiting instruction from the Town of Andrews to proceed.

Collection of the Capital Project Sales Tax will end on April 30, 2019. If it generates more than is required to complete the approved projects, County Council will decide how additional funds are used.

County staff raises money for charity



Doug Johnson, left, and Debbie Newton were the winners of the competition.

Georgetown County employees donated their time and culinary skills to raise money for charity last month.

The county hosted a pilau cook-off and ice cream making contest for employees at Beck Recreation Center on July 28. Six employees volunteered their time to make pilau and four churned homemade ice cream. More than 100 county employees purchased tickets to sample each entry during their lunch hour and voted for their favorite in each competition. The event raised more than \$450, with proceeds split between charities selected by the two winners.

Doug Johnson of Georgetown County Parks and Recreation Maintenance was chosen as the winner of the pilau contest. Debbie Newton of the Clerk of Court's office won the ice cream making contest with her family recipe for vanilla ice cream "with an Ivey twist."

Johnson asked that his portion of the proceeds go to the Wounded Warrior Project. Newton's portion will be donated to the Family Justice Center of Georgetown and Horry Counties.

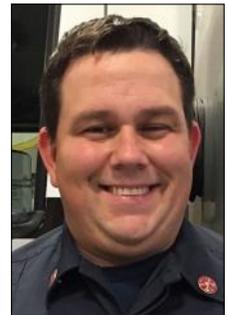
Employees who participated in the pilau contest were Johnson, County Administrator Sel Hemingway, Harold West of Public Services, Scott Proctor of the Finance Department, Harry Avant of Georgetown County Fire/EMS and Phillip White of the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office. Those who volunteered to make ice cream were Newton, County Administrator Sel Hemingway, Public Information Officer Jackie Broach and County Attorney Wesley Bryant.



At top: Pilau cooks prepare to serve. Above: An entry in the pilau competition.

Montgomery receives dept. recognition

Ronald Montgomery, a firefighter and EMT with Midway Fire Rescue, was named the Emergency Services Department's Employee of the Quarter for the second quarter of this year. He was also selected as Midway's Employee of the Month in March.



Montgomery

Montgomery, who has been employed with the county for four years, was an exemplary employee in the last quarter, according to his supervisors. He stepped into a leadership role by spending time with new hires, guiding them through the processes at Midway.

"With his determination and focus, Firefighter Montgomery has become one of those 'go-to' kind of employees," said Battalion Chief Jeff Pifer.

Additionally, Montgomery volunteered to reorganize the uniform and gear supply room at Midway's Station 81. The room now looks better than it ever has, Pifer said. Uniforms and gear are organized and easy to navigate. He has taken on the role of keeping the room neat and orderly. Midway can count on him to make sure that when someone separates from the department, their gear and uniforms are inventoried and returned to stock as needed, Pifer said.

Montgomery has also been checked off to drive Midway's fire engines since last fall and in the last few months was also qualified to drive the tanker, rescue and Quint, decreasing the likelihood of needing driver overtime. He has also used only one day of sick leave in the last six months. Less use of sick leave decreases the department's need for overtime coverage.

Midway, Emergency Services and the county are proud of the job Montgomery has been doing and are happy to recognize him for his achievements.

The Palmetto Players
 present
An Evening of One-Act Plays

Saturday, Aug. 19
6 p.m.
at the Waccamaw Library,
41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island

Sponsored by the Friends of the Waccamaw Library
 For information, email sbremner@gtcounty.org
 or call (843) 545-3623

Community meeting will focus on development

A group of Georgetown County residents concerned about future growth on the Waccamaw Neck will meet on Thursday, Aug. 10, at 7 p.m. at the Waccamaw Library. The meeting is open to all members of the public, and will be attended by members of Georgetown County's Planning and Zoning staff.

The meeting will be "a public listening session" to solicit input from residents of the Waccamaw Neck about planning for future growth, organizers said.

It will be hosted by Coastal Carolina University's Resource Center of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development in Georgetown. Residents will be asked for input about what they like about the present situation, what concerns they have and their ideas to better shape the future of the Waccamaw Neck.

Georgetown County is in the early stages of revising its Comprehensive Land Use Plan. This is one of a series of meetings planned to provide public input into the process.

For additional information contact John Sands, jsands@twc.com.

The Waccamaw Library is located at 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island.

Bassmaster to return in 2018

Georgetown County is pleased to announce that Bassmaster will return for another tournament next year, bringing with them some of the best anglers around.

Bassmaster will bring its B.A.S.S. Nation Eastern Regional Championship to the Carroll Ashmore Campbell Marine Complex June 20-22, 2018. Look for more details to come as the tournament draws nearer. In the mean time, check out the IFA Redfish Tour in Georgetown next month. See details on page 4.

SPACE WEEK
 Celebrate the Great American Eclipse at the Andrews Library



Monday, Aug. 14 at 11 a.m. — Craft — Sun Paintings, ages 5 and up
 Tuesday, Aug. 15, 10:30 a.m. — Sun Story Time, Ages 5 and under
 Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2:30 p.m. — Craft — Galaxy Slime, Ages 5 and up
 Thursday, Aug. 17, 10:30 a.m. — Moon Story Time, Ages 5 and under
 Friday, Aug. 18, 2 p.m. — Moon Movie — "Wall-E," All Ages
 Monday, Aug. 21 — Come watch the eclipse at the library starting at 1:15 p.m.
 (Children under 7 years old must be accompanied by an adult)

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

EXPLORING RELIGIOUS CULTURES

A look at the diverse beliefs and practices found in our area

JUDAISM

Learn more about Judaism in the next in this series from Rabbi Avi Perets. He was born in Jerusalem, Israel, and served in the Israel Defense Forces. He emigrated to the United States 28 years ago. He received his rabbinical ordination from Maimonides University Rabbinical School in Miami. He will explore the principles and practices of Judaism.

Wednesday, Aug. 23 at 4 p.m. at the Waccamaw Library, 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island

Sponsored by the Friends of the Waccamaw Library

News from our Georgetown County Veterans Affairs Officer

By David Murphy

Greetings, veterans of Georgetown County! Let's give a big Happy Birthday shout out to the U. S.

Coast Guard, which celebrated its 223rd year on Aug. 4. The history of the United States Coast Guard goes back to the Revenue Cutter Service, which was founded on Aug. 4, 1790 as part of the Department of the Treasury. Thank you to all members of the Coast Guard — past and present — for your service.



Murphy

On Aug. 24, **American Legion Post 197** of Pawleys Island will recognize nine rising seniors (three from Low Country Preparatory School and six from Waccamaw High School) whom it sponsored to attend Palmetto Boys State last June at Anderson University. The Post will also present the prestigious American Legion Academic Award to three selected rising seniors.

Commander **Glen Hero** will be recognized that evening for 50 continuous years as a member of the American Legion by the District Commander.

Post 197's next regular monthly meeting will be on Thursday, Sept. 28, at the Fish House in Litchfield. Dinner is at 5 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6 p.m.

American Legion Post 69 of Andrews meets on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at 1067 N. Morgan Ave.

Additionally, the **Andrews Veterans Association** meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Andrews Public library. New members are always welcome

As I end this column, I would like to discuss something that is very serious. Do you know what Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (**PTSD**) is? PTSD can occur after someone goes through a traumatic event, such as combat, assault or disaster. Most people have some stress reactions after a trauma. If the reactions don't go away over time or disrupt your life, you may have PTSD.

If you feel that you may be suffering from PTSD, this is nothing to be ashamed of. Please seek help. Stop by our office at 537 Lafayette Circle, Georgetown, for more information concerning eligibility for service connected compensation. Veterans may also call our office at (843) 545-3330 for assistance.

Whatever you're dealing with, we're here to help.

Lastly, I would like to note that our veterans fair at Beck Recreation Center has been postponed. We are working to find a new date so we can reschedule this and will share it as soon as a date has been selected.

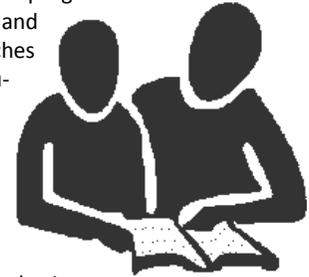
For more information about what is happening in our Veterans Services office, you may also look us up on Facebook at www.facebook.com/gtcveterans. Proud to serve!

David Murphy, Manager
County Office of Veterans Affairs

Library seeks volunteers to serve as learning coaches for adults

The Georgetown Library hosts a weekly Adult Learning Program that assists adults from the Georgetown area in developing their reading and writing skills. The free program

started in February and already has 34 coaches working with 35 students. More adult learners are interested and more volunteer coaches are needed.



Learners can see coaches on a drop-in basis from 2-6 p.m. each Wednesday at the Georgetown Library, 405 Cleland St., or can schedule weekly sessions at a mutually agreeable time.

Tutoring is available for topics including: basic literacy, learning English, résumé writing, filling out job applications, improving basic computer skills, improving basic math skills, filling out forms and improving test performance.

Coaches evaluate each adult's skills and create a plan for that individual's instruction. Then individuals are paired with a coach to complete the instruction plan. The coach and student will set up convenient weekly sessions to work together.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer is asked to call or email Sue Cross, Program Director, at pawleycross@gmail.com or 843-237-0289. The program is an outreach ministry of Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Church in Pawleys Island.

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.

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

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Eclipse

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out, particularly around the City of Georgetown. And residents who want to view the eclipse themselves should plan now. Pick your viewing spot, and if it is a public place, plan to get there early.

For the City of Georgetown, the partial eclipse will begin at 1:17 p.m. This is when people will first start to see the moon covering the sun. The total eclipse begins at 2:46 p.m. At this point, you will be able to observe the "diamond ring effect" at beginning of totality. The maximum eclipse point is at 2:47 p.m. This is the ONLY point when it is safe to view the eclipse without special protective glasses. For areas outside the path of totality there will not be a time at which the eclipse can be viewed safely without protective eyewear.

The total eclipse will be over at 2:48 p.m. and the partial eclipse will end at 4:09 p.m. Make sure to put your eclipse glasses back on as soon the total eclipse is ending. Please note these times are approximate and may vary slightly from location to location, even within a small area. To access an interactive map showing the path of the eclipse and determine if you are in the area of totality, as well as exact times for the eclipse at your specific location, visit: http://www.eclipse2017.org/xavier_redirect.htm

View it Safely!

For those in the area of totality, there are only a few moments when the eclipse can be viewed safely without protective eyewear. For those outside there area of totality there will be not point at which viewing with the naked eye is safe. If you plan to watch the eclipse, please make sure you have appropriate protective glasses. Find more information at www.gtcounty.org.



1:17 p.m.

The start of the partial phase, when the moon takes its first small bite out of the sun.



2:46 p.m.

The "diamond ring" effect at the beginning of totality. You should still be wearing your eclipse glasses.



2:47 p.m.

Maximum eclipse point for the path of totality. This is the only time it is safe to look at the sun directly, so take off your glasses for just one minute. This phase does not occur outside the path of totality.



2:48 p.m.

The end of totality. Put your glasses back on. The diamond ring appears again and a very small piece of the sun is visible again.



4:09 p.m.

The end of the partial eclipse. The show is over.

Times are approximate and based on the City of Georgetown's location. Exact times will vary slightly even within a small geographical area.

Where to go to view the eclipse

For Georgetown County residents and visitors, there will be plenty of options for viewing the eclipse and sharing the experience with others.

Sites in the Georgetown area that have been named designated viewing areas for the eclipse include:

- The Georgetown Harborwalk, along which Front Street businesses will be open. Businesses, restaurants and museums have a limited number of eclipse glasses to distribute.
- Francis Marion Park on Front Street, where Dr. Louis Rubbo, an associate professor of physics and astronomy, will be positioned to answer eclipse questions.
- East Bay and Morgan parks. East Bay will also house a cooling station. A shuttle service will take residents who park in satellite lots at Georgetown High and Middle Schools, to East Bay and Francis Marion parks. The shuttle will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and also picks up at the Hampton Inn and Quality Inn.
- Carroll A. Campbell Marine Complex, 101 Riverwalk Dr. A perfect place to park and watch the eclipse or launch a boat and watch from the river.
- Georgetown Airport, 860 Aviation Blvd. The Georgetown Airport will host a fly-in and drive-in on Aug. 21. Pilots from other areas will be invited to fly in for the day and view the eclipse. Local residents will be invited to drive in and watch. Bring a lawn chair. Solar eclipse glasses, food and drinks will be available for sale. Gates open at 11:30 a.m. and close at 4:30 p.m. Admission is free but get a ticket at <https://solareclipsegtcountycounty.eventbrite.com>.
- The Santee River. Black River Outdoors will have a Solar Eclipse Kayak Tour fundraiser to help rebuild the Huntington Beach State Park Nature Center. From noon to 3:30 p.m., participants will paddle the Santee River with experts on hand to talk about the eclipse. Everyone will have a chance to rest on a sandbar during the middle of the trip. For information, call (843) 546-4840 or visit www.blackriveroutdoors.com.
- The Kaminski House and Hopsewee Plantation also have events planned, but these have been reported sold out. Find more eclipse information at www.gtcounty.org.