

The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

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Calendar

Sept. 5 – Georgetown County offices and facilities are closed for Labor Day

Sept. 8 – Celebration of Gullah series begins at Waccamaw Library. See page 4

Sept. 13 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse

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

Sept. 16-17 – End of summer canoe/kayak camping trip with Parks and Recreation. See page 8

Sept. 24 and 25 – IFA Redfish Tour and Kayak Tour at the Carroll A. Campbell Marine Complex

Sept. 27 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse

Volume 5, Issue 1

September 2016

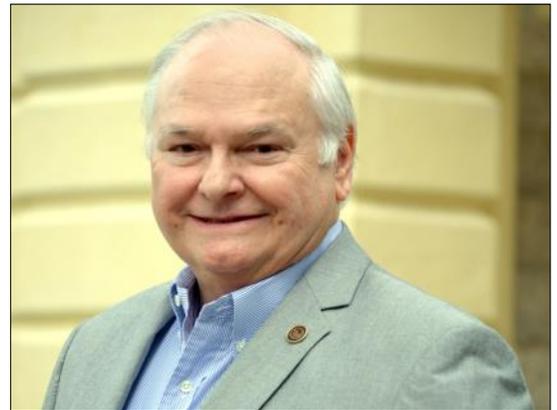
Troutman to retire after 20 years of service

Over the course of two decades as Georgetown County's director of human resources, Greg Troutman has shepherded thousands of employees, touched an enormous number of lives and helped many begin lifelong careers.

His retirement at the end of October will be a great loss for the county and its 700-plus employees.

"Greg joined the staff even before I was on County Council," said Georgetown County Administrator and former Council Chairman Sel Hemingway. "He has served under three different administrators, including myself, all with different management styles, and unfailingly has done his job with great professionalism and cooperative spirit. He has a great rapport with our employees and knows the workings of Georgetown County inside and out. He has served the county well and will be sorely missed, but we wish him all the best in his retirement. He has certainly earned it."

Troutman, 62, joined the County's team on Dec. 2, 1996. At retirement, he will have 20 years of service under his belt. He said the idea of retirement is a bit bittersweet — he'll miss his colleagues and the challenges of being a department director — but he's delighted at the prospect of more time to spend with his "beautiful bride," Anne. Though the Troutmans have been married for 30 years, he still glows like a newly-



Greg Troutman

wed when he talks about Anne. "Who would have thought I'd have ended up with a wife like that? I'm just lucky," he said with a smile. "She's my No. 1 advisor, supporter and best friend. She's the whole package. It's pretty darn wonderful."

Troutman said he may eventually look for some part-time work. "It would be too difficult for me to go from full-time employment to no employment." But first, he and Anne plan to make some travel plans. They may

See "Troutman," Page 10

Redfish tournaments return to Georgetown, open to local anglers

The IFA Redfish Tour and Kayak Tour will return to Georgetown County next month, and it's not too early for local anglers to sign up to participate and possibly win big prizes, in addition to bragging rights. The top prize is a \$26,000 boat package, and anyone can enter the tournament for a chance to win, as long as they have a fishing partner and a boat.

The Redfish Tour will be held at Georgetown County's Carroll A. Campbell Marine Complex Sept. 24, with the Kayak tour scheduled for the following day.

A \$30 membership to the Inshore Fishing Association is needed to sign up for the Redfish Tour and can be purchased at registration. Participants fish in two-person teams. Entry fee is \$250. Get a registration form at www.ifatours.com. Registration and a dinner for participants will be from 5-7 p.m. Sept. 23 at the marine complex, located at 101 River Walk Dr., Georgetown.

Sept. 24 & 25
at the Carroll A. Campbell
Marine Complex

Sign up now!
No pre-qualifier
www.ifatours.com



The tournament starts Sept. 24, with boat launch at dawn from the complex and weigh-in at 3 p.m. at the same location. Spectators are welcome.

The Kayak Tour takes place on Sept. 25, with registration at the Campbell Marine Complex on the evening of Sept. 24. It has a \$10 membership fee and \$50 entry fee.

See "Redfish," Page 5

County celebrates Aviation Week



County officials gathered at the airport in Georgetown on Aug. 23 to celebrate S.C. Aviation Week. Guest speaker was Doug Decker, a pilot and tenant at the airport, who spoke about the great value of the county's two airports to the community and local economy. Upgrades the county recently made to its airports put the county in a position to create economic and job growth, he said. Aviation Week is a celebration of the history of aviation and the many economic benefits that come with it. The county's airports have a direct economic impact of more than \$1 million for the county. The indirect economic impact is more than \$900,000.

Fundraising campaign underway for track and field project enhancements

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation is seeking the community's help to make enhancements to an upcoming project that will create lighted multipurpose fields and a six-lane athletic track on the grounds of Beck Recreation Center in Georgetown next year.

The project will cost a total of about \$500,000. The county launched a crowdfunding campaign Aug. 23 in hopes of raising \$30,000 toward the addition of a concession stand. The campaign runs through Sept. 23 and is through the National Recreation and Park Association's "Fund Your Park" program. The program encourages communities to take ownership of their local parks by helping to fund initiatives. Donations can be given in any size and no contribution is too small, said Loren Wallace, the county's recreation manager.

"If someone wants to help and can only give \$5, that's fine. Those contributions add up and will combine to make a difference in the quality of facilities and programs we're able to offer here at Beck," Wallace said.

The concession stand would offer healthy food options at a low cost to people using the recreation center. Additionally, funds raised from the concession stand will go back into programming, allowing the county to improve or add programs at Beck.

Find the link to make a donation 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

The Inshore Fishing Association
Redfish and Kayak tours

Register online now!

Sept. 24 and 25
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



IN MEMORIAM

Former long-time Clerk of Court Betty Williams led by example

Betty Louise Williams, a lifelong resident of Georgetown, died Aug. 20 at her residence. She was 87.

She worked for Georgetown County a total of 50 years, having been hired on June 17, 1946. She worked in the Georgetown County Auditor's and Treasurer's offices until 1951, when she was hired as Deputy Clerk of Court. She was appointed Clerk of Court in 1974 by Gov. John West and spent 22 years in that role before retiring on Dec. 31, 1996. She was instrumental in making the Georgetown County Clerk of Court's office among the most efficient and effective in the state. She is remembered as an exemplary public servant.

"Ms. Williams loved everything about the court and she loved the Clerk of Court's office. She slept, ate and breathed it. She knew it inside out," said Alma White, the current Clerk of Court, who had known Williams since 1982 and remembers her as a mentor.

In fact, White added, Williams literally wrote the book on her job.

"She and some of her contemporaries across the state, in the early/mid 1970s, wrote the Clerk of Court Manual to initiate standard operating procedures for clerks before there was a South Carolina Court Administration office," White recalled. "Every county clerk had been handling administrative procedures his or her own way. She was a pioneer in helping to create unification in the Clerk of Court's office."

Cindy Howard, who was hired by Williams in 1976 and still works in the Clerk of Court's office, recalled that Williams was always dedicated to the job and "by-the-book," but treated her staff like family and touched many lives during her tenure.

"She was respected not only by her staff, but her peers, judges and attorneys. Betty was a hard worker and she put her heart in her position as Clerk of Court. She represented Georgetown County well and made an impact on others.

"Betty had a humble spirit about her, but she also ran her office in a most professional manner," Howard continued. "I can honestly say that she was a woman of integrity, carried herself well and let her staff know how much she appreciated them. If she thought one of us was in need, she wanted us to know that she was there for us."

Williams was involved in her church, First Baptist, and her community.

"Betty was truly an example for anyone to follow when it came to business or her personal life," said Wanda Prevatte, Georgetown County Registrar of Deeds.

Bertie Richardson of the county's human resources office recalled Williams was very intelligent and enjoyed reading law books in her leisure time.

Williams was born in Georgetown on Jan. 11, 1929, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Henry Williams Sr. She is survived by her brother, Carl Sampey Williams of Georgia; two sisters-in-law, Miriam Williams of Mount Pleasant and Bobbie Williams of Avon, Conn.; and 12 nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her sister, Onie Williams Yates; and two brothers, Dr. Clifton Lide Williams and John Henry Williams Jr.

Williams graduated third in her class from Winyah High School in 1946. She went to work for the county right after graduation. When she retired in 1996, Georgetown honored her by dedicating that year's Harborwalk Festival to her and declaring "Betty Williams Day." Even after her retirement, she stayed in the Clerk of Court's Office



Betty Williams is pictured in front of the historic Georgetown County Courthouse. The county's court functions have since moved to a new facility on Cleland Street. Photo courtesy of Georgetown Times.

for six months to assist her successor and ensure a smooth transition. She did the same later for White. Even up until her last years, she remained a valued resource by the Clerk of Court's office.

"My staff and I kept up with Ms. Williams over the years. We might call to ask a job related question or we might call just to say hello," White said.

Just a few weeks before Williams' passing, White had visited her and had a good conversation. White said she's grateful she had another chance to thank Williams for her support and help when the Clerk of Court's office needed her.

During her many years of service, Williams was an inspiration to many career women. She was a member of several state and local professional organizations, serving as president of groups including the Georgetown Business and Professional Women's Club. She was selected as Career Woman of the Year for 1976-77.

Family members say she shared her sense of humor and quiet strength with loved ones, and her gentle sense of calm was always present at every family celebration. She was selfless and humble, always putting the needs of others before her own.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, 219 Cleland St., Georgetown, SC 29440. Sign a guest book at www.mayerfuneralhome.com.

LEGO Free Build is back in September!



**Mondays, 3-5 p.m. at the Georgetown Library
For ages 4-13; Visit the children's desk for info**

Waccamaw Library to host Celebration of Gullah series in Sept.

The Waccamaw Library and the Friends of the Waccamaw Library will present "A Celebration of Gullah," a month-long series honoring a rich, once-overlooked part of the heritage of Georgetown County. Throughout the month of September, the library will offer lectures, performances and hands-on activities that will shed light on the history and traditions of Gullah.

Events taking place at the Waccamaw Library, 41 St. Paul Place, during this series are as follows. With the exception of materials for the art class, all events are free.

- Sept. 8, 6:30-7:30 p.m. — Coastal Carolina University professor Preston McKeever Floyd will present "Three Echoes of Africa: Bakongo Region." This lecture is on the culture of the Bakongo Region of Africa.

- Sept. 10, 6:30 p.m. — "Gullah Artists of Georgetown County," a documentary, features nine local artists who explore their craft and the inspiration behind their creations.

- Sept. 15, 6:30-7:30 p.m. — Robert Inasley will lecture on the fascinating life of Georgetown County native Renty Tucker. Tucker, born in July 1831, was a highly skilled carpenter enslaved to Plowden C.J. Weston of Pawleys Island, owner of Hagley and Wee-



Above: The Wona Womalan West African Drum and Dance Ensemble, Right: Traditional dolls by Zenobia Harper.



hawka Plantations. It is believed that Tucker received at least part of his training in England and returned to Georgetown to build Weston's Zoyland (Pelican Inn), St. Mary's, the slave chapel at Hagley Plantation and other structures in the Georgetown area. Tucker was also involved in the local community, serving as the county coroner and as a member of the Georgetown City Board of Health. He was an active member of Prince George Winyah Episcopal Church and served as a sexton for many years.

- Sept. 16, 6-8 p.m. — A hands-on art class will teach participants how to make traditional dolls with local artist Zenobia Harper. Harper says "while each doll is one of a kind, they all share a common thread, they are all ambassadors of the Gullah culture." To make your own doll during this class, the cost of materials is \$65. The class is free to observe. Please register by Sept. 12 between the hours of 1-6 p.m. Payments may be made to the Friends of the Waccamaw Library. Contact Steele Bremner to register or if you have any questions at sbremner@gtcounty.org.

- Sept. 17, 4 p.m. — A performance by Wona Womalan West African Drum and Dance Ensemble with Shaleena Capers will bring the music and dance of Africa to people of all ages. The group, founded in 2009, is based in Charleston and comprised of 10 performers who play traditional West African instruments including djembe, Doun Doun, Sangban and Kenkeni.

- Sept. 24, 10 a.m. — Multimedia artist Chetta D., will present her inspirational lecture, "#Beauty Unveiling." She was inspired by her visual impairment to start a body of work titled #BeautyUnveiling to bring light and awareness to the variations of visual impairment. She is a masters of fine arts candidate studying photography at Savannah College of Art and Design—Atlanta.

- Sept. 24, 6:30-8:30 p.m. — Leon Jackson of the Egbe Kilimanjaro African Caribbean Drum and Dance troupe will perform. Jackson has taught hundreds of children as a resident artist for the S.C. Arts in Education Program since 1998. His troupe's masterful blend of traditional and non-traditional African and Caribbean rhythms bring congas, djembes and other percussion instruments to life.

Georgetown County FARMERS MARKET



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

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

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

Tickets on sale for annual library luncheon and auction

The 26th annual Friends of the Waccamaw Library Luncheon and auction is set for Sept. 27, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pawleys Plantation. This year's theme is "All Dolled Up," and tickets are \$35.

The Friends group is accepting donations of gently used items for the auction, including jewelry, accessories such as belts, purses and hats, as well as holiday items and household decorative items. Items are arranged into exquisite vignettes for the event, with all proceeds going to book purchases and programming expenses for the library.

Buy tickets or drop off items at the Library's Friends Center or call Diane, (908) 310-2953.

Instructors sought for programs at community and rec. centers

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation is looking for individuals interested in sharing their knowledge on subjects ranging from arts and crafts to sports and fitness.

The county has space available at recreation and community centers throughout the county that can be utilized by independent instructors. For courses selected to be made available in a county facility, the county will help instructors reach an audience of potential students.

Anyone interested in becoming an instructor should call (843) 545-3532 for an appointment. Please have your résumé, course plan and any necessary materials ready to showcase.

Redfish

Continued from Front Page

Anglers fish solo in one-man kayaks for this tournament.

The tours have made twice-yearly stops in Georgetown County for the last several years and have been very successful, attracting upward of 140 anglers — many of them from Georgetown and surrounding counties. County officials are hoping to increase local participation and register 100 boats in next month's tournament.

"We're happy to welcome the IFA Redfish Tour back this year, and we're looking for an even bigger success this time around, with more anglers and some new faces," said Georgetown County Administrator Sel Hemingway. "We work hard during every visit to make sure all those who participated previously will want to come back and that's something we plan to repeat."

The success of this and other tournaments have a significant economic impact for the county.

New equipment at East Bay Park

Area residents recently celebrated the installation of new exercise stations at East Bay Park, thanks to the Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce's 23rd Leadership Georgetown County Class, which raised more than \$18,000 for the project.

The new stations are the result of two years of planning and work, and public-private partnerships from

around the county. Georgetown County Parks and Recreation (which manages East Bay Park) along with Tidelands Health and the Frances P. Bunnelle Foundation were partners in the project. Part of the goal of the installation is to improve use of the park.

"Georgetown is a great community where people and businesses come together fairly quickly to support area parks," said Loren Wallace, Georgetown County's recreation manager. "Our parks provide fun and safe opportunities for families and add to the physical and mental well-being of the community. Without these kinds of partnerships, making the most of these parks becomes much more difficult."



Courtesy/Michael Martinez

Students from the Georgetown School of Arts and Sciences demonstrate how to use the new equipment during a dedication ceremony Aug. 26.

Georgetown County Department of Public Services Environmental Services Division COMPOST BIN SALE ONLY \$50.00

At 201 Landfill Drive Daily from 8:00 - 4:30
For information call James Coley 843-545-3443



- 80 gallon/ 10 cubic ft.
- 33" diameter
- Easy snap-together assembly takes only minutes
- Manufactured from recycled material
- Twist locking lid
- Vertical and horizontal columnar ventilation, no corners for materials to dry out

If 250 residents from our community actively compost, we would divert 50 tons of organic debris from our landfill every year...

Jonathan Green paintings featured in Sept. 17 concert fundraiser

The widely acclaimed Lowcountry Voices, under the dynamic direction of Nathan L. Nelson, will travel to Georgetown on Sept. 17 to present a concert featuring the paintings of the Rice Collection produced by internationally known artist Jonathan Green. Green is one of the most significant artists of the Lowcountry experience and his works reflect an intrinsic sense of history in the South — especially South Carolina.

The concert will take place at 5 p.m. at the Howard Center, 1610 Hawkins Street, Georgetown. Tickets are \$10 each for the concert and \$30 for the concert and a meet and greet reception with Green from 4-4:45 p.m. Proceeds benefit The Village Group, a nonprofit that provides educational and cultural opportunities for local youth. Vendors will be set up in the lobby before and after the concert to sell items including sweet grass baskets, authentic African wear and accessories from Ghana, as well as original works by Green, prints and other items featuring his work.

Tickets for this event are expected to sell out, so early purchase is recommended. Tickets are available at: St. Paul AME Church — Plantersville, Aunny's restaurant, Brittain Resorts and hotels — Myrtle Beach, Island Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram, The Village Group,

and The Carefree Canvas on King St.

Lowcountry voices is the featured choir for the concert that will highlight various paintings through music depicting the experience of the Rice culture in the Lowcountry. A multicultural and ethnically diverse choir, LCV performs standard choral repertoire with special emphasis on African-American musical traditions. Formed in 2012 by Nelson, the music director, with assistance from Sandra Barnhardt, assistant director, the new choral group was quickly embraced by the North Charleston Cultural Arts Department. Now entering its fifth season, the choir maintains a robust performance schedule locally and regionally, having performed in New York, New Jersey and Atlanta.

During the 2015-16 season, the choir was invited to sing at the Homegoing services for the Rev. Clementa Pinckney, performed live at the Colonial Arena in Columbia with the iconic James Taylor. They also performed at the Lincoln Center in New York and during the re-opening celebration of the Gaillard Center.

Visit thevillagegroup.org for more.



Green

Sheriff's Office working to keep kids safe this school year



Top: Sgt. Robert Patterson of the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office talked to kids about safety and awareness on Aug. 10 during Kids Appreciation Day at the Reserve Harbor Yacht Club's Back to School Event in Pawleys Island. The club invites local agencies to this event annually to help get kids ready to go back to school. Above: School resource officers are back on the job. From left are Ursular Armstrong, Mandy Glover, Robert Patterson, Ryan Owens, Tiffany Kinloch, Paul Glover and Michael Harrington.

Georgetown County Parks & Recreation Beck Recreation Center Weight & Cardio Fitness Center

Monthly Rates

Adult (18-59) \$25 (additional adult in residence \$20)
Senior (60+) \$20 (additional senior in residence \$15)

Daily Adult Walk In \$4
Daily Senior Walk In \$3

Ask us about discounts for County/School District Employees
Monday - Thursday 8am - 8pm
Friday 8am - 5pm

****Closed Saturday & Sunday****



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.



Free three-part workshop to help parents navigate the adventures of raising a child

The Waccamaw Library will present a lunchtime discussion series for parents, grandparents, guardians and teachers this October, focusing on what adults can do to help the children in their lives travel the road to success.

Led by nationally certified Parenting and Family Life Educator Jim R. Rogers, the series will run from noon to 2 p.m. on Oct. 4, 11 and 18.

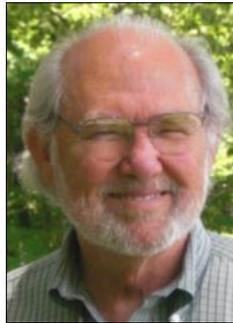
“Helping our children find their way in the world is one of the most important tasks we have as adults and caregivers — much more important than many of the other social issues to which we give our time and attention,” Rogers said.

Rogers offers an opportunity to explore some of the most effective ways caregivers can help secure a more stable and productive future by providing safe and effective guidance for the adults of tomorrow. The first discussion date will be introductory, with participants meeting each other and sharing experiences about the challenges of raising children in the complicated world of today. The proceeding discussions will be based on which topics the group finds most important, and will have themes woven throughout, including managing technology, discipline, motivation, relationship building for more harmonious expectations and interactions in the home, communication skills, cooperation versus confrontation, listening well and positive parenting styles.

Rogers is the author of “The Incredible Importance of Effective Parenting: Plain Talk about Raising Children from a Concerned Field.” He was a columnist for Parent News, a regional specialty newspaper for 20 years, and conducts parenting meetings all over our area in a variety of venues. Most importantly, he is the father of two men and a woman, and grandfather of four young men.

“The discussions will be open-ended, with time for questions and abundant interaction,” Rogers promised. “No lecturing, no blame, no fixing. Just looking for answers together.”

Space is limited, so register early by emailing sbremner@gtcounty.org.



Rogers

Waccamaw Library announces end-of-month Game Days

Whether you enjoy classic board games, roleplaying or something a little more high tech, the Waccamaw Library has the perfect event for you.

On Sept. 24, Oct. 29, Jan. 28 and Feb. 25, the library in Pawleys Island will host all-day gamer gatherings with games for everyone. Organizers promise a vast collection of hobby-games with classics and some of the hottest new games, alike.

“In other words, it won’t be all Monopoly and Chess, but also modern board games, roleplaying games, collectable card games, video games and miniatures games,” said Donald Dennis, Teen Games and Technology Librarian.

The first game day in August celebrated Pokémon related games, and games from Asia or featuring an Asian theme, including Mah Jong, Machi Koro and many others.

“It’s exciting to bring together new and old games to gamers of all ages,” says Stephanie Frey, Teen Tech Assistant. “Some of the games we have to show off aren’t even published yet, while others are older than America.”

Kid-focused games and activities usually run from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., but parents are invited to join their children playing games throughout the day.

For monthly game day schedules, contact Dennis at the library, (843) 545-3343, or check out the Georgetown County Library Facebook page.

Again, all ages are welcome, from kids and teens, on up to adults.

Gamer gatherings are free.

**Sell Your Stuff!
Rent a Space
Only \$10**

**Saturday
October 1
9 am - 1 pm**

**Support
Children's
Programming!**

**Rain Day:
October 8**

**Community
YARD
SALE**

**Andrews Library - 105 N. Morgan Ave.
Limited Space Available! Call 843-545-3621**

**85 days
until
Christmas!**

Feline Neuter-thon Just \$10 on Sept. 10



By appointment only!

Call now:

(843) 546-0780

Located at
125 North Ridge St.,
Georgetown



Georgetown County Employee Spotlight:

Sharon Moultrie stays cool under pressure

With more than 25 years of dedicated service as an administrative assistant under her belt, Sharon Moultrie is a fixture in the Public Works office, as well as an invaluable asset. Her excellent performance recently got her promoted to public works operations supervisor.

Moultrie's experience and knowledge of the county's inner workings is nearly unsurpassed. But it's her efficiency and ability to stay cool under pressure, no matter what the day brings, that have earned her a reputation as a go-to employee. The way she handles herself while dealing with a constant influx of requests and daily duties is "truly an example to be followed," said Ray Funnys, director of the Public Services Department, which encompasses Public Works.

"Sharon handles day-to-day operations of the Public Works office, and she always has a watchful eye and notices discrepancies that, when addressed, ensure the safety of County operations," Funnys said.

Moultrie led the planning committee for this year's annual regional Backhoe Rodeo, which the county hosted, and ensured its success as a great event. She has impeccable organizational skills and her attention to detail is unmatched, Funnys said. Additionally, it shows by her work and actions both on and off the job that



Sharon Moultrie

she truly cares about not only Public Works, but about Georgetown County, he added. "She is a perfect representative of Georgetown County to residents and the county proud to have her as part of its team."

Moultrie resides in Georgetown and is a native of the North Santee area. Outside of the office, she enjoys shopping and baking, she said. She is also a recent recipient of the Public Services Department's Customer Service Award.

Keep up the good work, Sharon!

KEEPING OUR MARITIME HERITAGE ALIVE

GEORGETOWN
wooden boat show®

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL

SATURDAY OCTOBER 15 & 16, 2016
ON THE WATERFRONT
AT FRONT AND BROAD STREETS

WWW.WOODENBOATSHOW.COM

Georgetown County Parks & Recreation

End of Summer Canoe/Kayak Camping Trip



Leave from Browns Ferry Landing and paddle to Rocky Point Landing/Campsite.

September 16-17

3 p.m. until 10 a.m.

Cost is \$35 per person ~ Ages 18 and up
(17 and under must be accompanied by an adult)

Minimum of 6 participants required

Meals Included. We will provide transportation and canoe (if needed). Call 843-520-9621 or email mjordan@gtcounty.org for information.

Register online at www.gtcounty.org
or at a local recreation office.



News from our Veterans Affairs Officer

By David Murphy

First of all, happy Labor Day from the Georgetown Veterans Affairs Office! Please note that our office, along with all other county offices and facilities, will be closed on Sept. 5 in observance of Labor Day, but our staff will be back to assist you with your needs on Sept. 6.



Murphy

The Post Commanders of local veterans organizations have asked me to remind all members of their monthly meetings.

The **Andrews Veterans Advisory Committee** would like to inform veterans of a **9/11 remembrance ceremony** on Sept. 11 at 4 p.m. at the Pavilion, located behind the Andrews Library, 105 N. Morgan Avenue, in Andrews. This event is hosted by the Andrews Church of God. The **next VAC meeting** will be on Sept. 13 at 10 a.m. at Andrews Town Hall.

Georgetown American Legion Post 114 and **VFW Post 6444** will host a **"Folds of Honor" ceremony** at the Georgetown Veterans Memorial on Church Street at noon Sept. 7. The public is invited. The ceremony is intended to raise scholarship money and awareness for an organization called Folds of Honor. Through educational scholarships, the organization assists the spouses and children of fallen and disabled American military heroes.

Col. Gary West (USAF retired) has mounted his bicycle and embarked on a 2,500-mile Patriot Honor Ride. His bicycle ride began in Maine on Aug. 1 and will end in Key West, Fla., at the end of September. Gary 'Gumby' West is a combat veteran and has flown more than 130 combat missions in F-15 and F-16 planes over the skies of Iraq and Bosnia. He will cycle through South Carolina and **arrive in Georgetown on Sept. 7** at around noon. Upon his arrival, Georgetown veterans, led by commanders Rodney Ward (American

Legion) and Sonny Gamble (VFW), will use eight of the Memorial's ten flagpoles to coordinate a simultaneous flag raising ceremony for 16 flags and a flag folding ceremony. The 16 flags will be given to the families of the Folds of Honor recipients after completion of the ride. All foldings will be documented.

At least 16 veterans are needed to assist with raising, lowering and folding the flags. This is an honor, so please try to stop by. For more information about the ride, visit PatriotHonorRide.com.

For more information about the local ceremony, contact Commander Rodney Ward, Georgetown American Legion Post 114, at (843) 833-3700, or Vice Commander John Livingston, Georgetown VFW Post 6444, at (843) 833-2818.

On Sept. 13, McDonald's in Pawleys Island will have a **Community Night to benefit American Legion Post 197**. I encourage all who are able to participate!

The Pawleys Island American Legion Post has begun a **new Post Service Officer initiative** to assist local veterans in submitting their packets for benefits to the Georgetown County Veterans Services Office. If you are a Pawleys Island veteran and want to contact the Post Service Officer, call Chaplain Greg Hill at (843) 231-4507.

Myrtle Beach Stand Down activities will be Friday, Sept. 23, at the Army Reserve building on Phillis Drive near Market Common.

And last, but most certainly not least, I'd like to note that the **U.S. Air Force** will celebrate its 69th Birthday on Sept. 18. Let's celebrate this day with them and thank them for their service!

As always, please know that if there is anything I can do to further help our veterans, I can be reached at (843) 545-3330.

Proud to Serve!

David Murphy,
Manager,
Georgetown County
Office of Veterans Affairs



Photo contest winners announced

Photos by Cheryl Wheeler and June Jordan were selected as the winners of Georgetown County's Buildings and Architecture photo contest. Wheeler's photo (top) of the old Munneryn's store won the popular vote on Facebook. Jordan's photo (above) of the Magnolia Beach Club ruins was selected by county staff.

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Georgetown County, South Carolina

County Government

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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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129 Screven Street
Georgetown, S.C. 29440-4200

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Troutman

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revisit some of the places they were stationed when Troutman served in the Army, he said.

Troutman grew up an Army brat and spent 20 years in the Army himself before retiring and moving his family to Georgetown.

"It was when I left the Army that my wife and I got to choose for the first time where we wanted to live and where I wanted to work," Troutman said. They could have gone anywhere, but chose to buy a house in the Pawleys Island area and Troutman came to work for Georgetown County.

"I made great decisions in both respects and never regretted either one," he said. "Those that have a lot of contact with us see that, I think."

Troutman remembers being interviewed for the job by Gordon Hartwig, who was the administrator at the time. He remembers when Hartwig brought him in to make the job offer, Hartwig first took him around to see the various departments and offices.

"As he took me around, I realized that he introduced me to every employee we came in contact with," Troutman recalled. "He knew the name of every single one, and the county had nearly 400 at the time. I was so impressed that the county's chief administrative officer had gone to the effort to learn every employee's name. I knew this was a place where I wanted to be the human resources officer."

Hartwig eventually retired and was succeeded by Tommy Edwards, then Hemingway.

"Through three administrators and numerous County Council members, I've been blessed that we've had great leadership and they have always been supportive of any initiative to improve the conditions of employment for our employees," Troutman said. "Of course there are financial constraints that keep us from doing everything we want to do as soon as we want to do it, but there has never been a lack of support, which made my job much more comfortable."

Troutman has seen many changes during his tenure at the county, including the incorporation of technology into daily life. He can recall when only Human Resources, Finance and the County Administrator's administrative assistant had desktop computers.

"That was it for automation. It's really unbelievable how far we've come. For a dinosaur like me, the learning curve was pretty steep, but it has been wonderful, and it has certainly made daily tasks much easier, not having to dig through file cabinets and compile things the way we used to."

The county has grown from 400 employees to around 700, but "we really haven't grown that much when you consider how much more we do



Top: Troutman is pictured recently with his staff, Holley Causey, Bertie Richardson and Vechini Walker. Above: Troutman, center, is pictured with other county officials, including current Administrator Sel Hemingway, County Council Chairman Johnny Morant and former Administrator Tommy Edwards, in 2005 when Georgetown was named an All American County.

than we used to and how many more services we provide," Troutman said. "Georgetown County has really remained lean, mean and efficient."

He added that his department has only added one position in the last 20 years. His current staff consists of HR supervisor Bertie Richardson, payroll supervisor Vechini Walker and risk manager Holley Causey. Troutman said the team he has in place in his department is the thing he's most proud of from his tenure.

"Not only are they very capable of helping employees with any issue they bring to them, but I like to think that employees are very comfortable coming to any of those folks for assistance. Human resources departments in a lot of workplaces are places that employees avoid. I really don't feel our employees have any hesitation about coming up for assistance. Their problem is going to be taken seriously, it's usually going to get solved very quickly and they appreciate that."

"I think the personality of the department will continue because it has to do with the personalities of those people on the team and they are going to continue to be as personable as possible. They see their primary responsibility as responding to employees' needs. I'm very proud of that. I've always said it would be kind of embarrassing if the HR director had hired unsatisfactory employees, but nobody can say that. I have hired fabulous employees and I feel good knowing they'll stick around."