The
Georgetown County Chronicle

Inside this Issue

- Committee to review accommodations tax grant applications, Page 2
- Library program looks at prehistoric archaeology, Page 3
- Sheriff’s Office offers training to prepare public for active shooter situations, Page 5
- County to host Top Gun Winter Nationals baseball tournament, Page 7
- Household hazardous waste collection a success, Page 8

Calendar

Nov. 16 – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse.

Nov. 23-24 – Georgetown County offices and facilities are closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Nov. 28 – Georgetown County Council special meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse.

Nov. 30 – Coffee with a Cop, 8-10 a.m. at Eggs Up Grill on Willbrook Blvd. See Page 2.

Dec. 12 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse. Council only meets once in December.

Dec. 16 – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse.

Dec. 22-26 – Georgetown County offices and are closed in observance of the Christmas holiday.

Volume 6, Issue 3 November 2017

County announces new disc golf course at Stables

Thanks to a generous donation from three local residents, Georgetown County Parks and Recreation will soon be able to offer a second disc golf course for area residents to enjoy.

The first course, located in East Bay Park in Georgetown, has been open for several years now. The new course will be located at Stables Park, in the area between the Waccamaw Regional Tennis Center and park’s field complex. It was made possible through the efforts of local residents Jonathan Poole, Tom Housner and Blaine Harvey.

Poole, who served as the course’s primary designer, said that Stables Park was an ideal spot to host a course he hopes newcomers, families, and seasoned disc golf veterans will enjoy.

“Disc golf is a great form of outdoor recreation that is also very affordable. Most people already own Frisbees they can use,” Poole said. “From a construction standpoint, it’s been pretty easy because the property is so open. We showcase the beautiful live oaks that are out there, and there are three ponds on the course so there are a variety of different shots that bring the water into play. There’s a lot of people in this area who have never played disc golf, so the course needed to be accommodating for them as well as challenging for advanced players. That’s what we tried to create.”

Poole is a long-time veteran of the disc golf industry, having worked for Innova Champion Discs for 21 years. Housner helped Poole with the majority of the “heavy lifting” during construction, moving downed branches and tree limbs while also assisting with pouring cement to help anchor the goals. Harvey has been primarily

See “Disc Golf,” Page 8

In Memoriam: Midway Fire Rescue says goodbye to firefighter, friend

Joshua Powers Carney, a battalion chief with Midway Fire Rescue, died of cancer at his residence surrounded by his loving family on Oct. 19. He was 41.

It was a tragic loss for the community, but especially for his friends and colleagues at Midway, in addition to his family. He was an 18-year veteran at Midway and had been diagnosed with an aggressive form of melanoma just four months ago.

A packed funeral service took place at Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church in Pawleys Island on Oct. 27. There were so many people in attendance, the county provided a shuttle service to allow for off-site parking.

After Carney’s passing, Midway Fire Rescue Chief Doug Eggiman encouraged mourners to draw from Carney’s own words as they work through their grief. In a letter to Midway staff, Carney had written of “good times, bad times, obstacles to overcome, challenges to face, times you want to forget and times you will cherish forever.”

“It is through these experiences that we learn,” Carney wrote. “We learn what not to do, and we learn what makes us stronger as an individual and as a team. We need to always be learning, and wanting to grow ourselves and those around us. Individually we each have the opportunity to make a choice. What are you doing to take care of other brothers and sisters? What are you doing to bring them up in spirit, raising them when they are down? Together, we find comfort and strength to carry on. After all, the band on your arm reads ‘We’re in This Together.’

See “Josh Carney,” Page 2
Sheriff’s Office to host Coffee with a Cop

Georgetown County Sheriff’s deputies want to take some time on Nov. 30 to talk with residents in the Pawleys Island area about their communities, their safety concerns, and whatever else may be on residents’ minds.

The Sheriff’s Office’s Coffee with a Cop program is coming to Eggs Up Grill, 115 Willbrook Blvd., from 8-10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 30. The program, which takes place at restaurants across the county, offers an opportunity for deputies to meet casually with members of the public over coffee, answer questions and discuss community issues.

Coffee will be free at the event and residents are encouraged to be open with deputies about their concerns and issues.

Coffee with a Cop provides time for law enforcement officers and community members to have relaxed one-on-one conversations, said Jason Lesley, Sheriff’s Office spokesperson.

Accommodations Tax Committee to make recommendations Nov. 16

The Georgetown County Accommodations Tax Committee met on Nov. 9 to review A-Tax grant application packets and to hear applicants present their applications. There were 13 applications received totaling $921,687. Only $821,659 in funds are available to award.

Accommodations tax funds are collected on temporary rentals, such as hotel rooms, throughout the year. The funds are then put back into activities that increase tourism in the county through the award of grants for projects.

The Committee will meet again on Thursday, Nov. 16, at 9 a.m. to decide on their award recommendations to be presented to County Council. The meeting will take place in County Chambers at the historic Georgetown County Courthouse, located at 129 Screven Street in Georgetown. The presentation to council will be made at council’s meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 12.

County Council to alter meeting schedule for holidays

Georgetown County Council will have only one regular meeting during the months of November and December to accommodate Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday schedules. The November meeting took place at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 14 in Council Chambers. The December meeting is Dec. 12 at the same time and location.

Josh Carney
Continued from Front Page

A former resident of New Haven, Conn., Carney is survived by his wife of 20 years, Lillian Collins Carney of Myrtle Beach, formerly of Branford, Conn.; and a daughter, Shayla Carney of Myrtle Beach.

Right out of high school, Carney started his firefighting career in the U.S. Air Force. In addition to his work at Midway, he was also the owner/operator of JLS Firearms Training.

Memorials may be made to the S.C. Governor’s School for Science and Mathematics, the school in which he was proud to tell everyone his daughter attends. 401 Railroad Ave, Hartsville, SC 29550

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
Youth ages 5-17 are invited to register for the 2015 Youth Basketball League. The last day for registration is Nov. 30. Fee is $25 per child. Check with staff to see if you qualify for a discounted rate. Call (843) 545-3275 for information or visit www.gtcounty.org.

Library Friends Center to offer holiday home gifts

Holiday shopping should be fun and easy, according to members of the Friends of the Waccamaw Library. So, the Friends Center began the Christmas season on Nov. 1 by offering loads of unique items for purchase, with proceeds benefitting the library and library programs.

The group’s theme for the holiday season is “Home for Christmas,” so the center is offering a range of gifts that are perfect to give for someone else’s home or to keep for your own.

“Our gifts are always thoughtfully sourced and often one of a kind, so once we sell out of an item, no more will be ordered,” a representative of the group said. “If you see it and love it, you should buy it now!”

Program looks at prehistoric archaeology

Native American history expert Chris Judge will give a free lecture and hands-on exploration of artifacts at the Waccamaw Library on Nov. 17 at 10 a.m.

The lecture is associated with an exhibit at the Native American Studies Center at USC—Lancaster that focuses on prehistoric Native American history. Judge is the Director of the Native American Studies Center at USC—Lancaster, where he teaches courses in anthropology, archaeology and Native American Studies. After earning bachelors and masters degrees in anthropology from USC—Columbia, he has devoted his life to the study of Native Americans in South Carolina.

“In the lecture I talk about the major periods in South Carolina prehistory—Paleoindian: 19,000-10,000 years ago, Archaic: 10,000-3,000 years ago, Woodland: 3000-1000 years ago and Mississippian: 1000-400 years ago,” Judge explained. “As I am lecturing, I pass around artifacts and share a little of that human touch.”

Judge is active in many archeological and anthropology organizations, including the Native American Advisory Committee and S.C. Commission for Minority Affairs. In 2006, he joined the faculty at USC—Lancaster to help build the newly formed Native American Studies program. He was appointed assistant director of Native American Studies in 2007. By 2012, Judge served as building supervisor for the 15,000-square-foot Native American Studies Center that houses galleries, special collections, archives, archaeology, Catawba language and folklore labs, and classrooms. He also runs a public archaeology lab at the center, inviting volunteer members of the public of all ages to wash and sort artifacts recovered from the Kolb site.

For more information, email sbremner@gtcounty.org or call (843) 545-3623.

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County, residents continue to discuss Pennyroyal Rd.

Georgetown County Council’s Landuse Committee and Economic Development Director Brian Tucker met in a lengthy session Oct. 26 with residents of the Pennyroyal Road area. The economic development department is seeking to rezone about 950 acres between Pennyroyal and the Sampit River to lure industry and jobs to the county. Residents are opposed to bringing more heavy industrial jobs to their area. County officials hoped some compromises could be reached at the meeting. No compromise was reached, but residents did present detailed information on their concerns for council members to review. It has not been determined when the issue will go back before the full council for third and final reading. For more information on this issue, check out the article in last month’s newsletter.

Library to screen ‘Nutcracker’ performance by NYC Ballet

The Waccamaw Library will leap into the holiday spirit with a special gift from Lincoln Center: a showing of the 2011 performance of George Balanchine’s “The Nutcracker” by the New York City Ballet. The performance will be shown on Thursday, Dec. 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the library’s DeBordieu Auditorium at 41 St. Paul Place.

The live performance of the ballet was a spectacle like no other, involving 90 New York City Ballet dancers, 62 musicians, 32 stagehands and two casts of 50 young students from the school of American Ballet.

Tschaikovsky’s music, the choreography of George Balanchine, sumptuous costumes and lavish sets all added to the magic. Lincoln Center, at the time, reported that the one-ton Christmas tree that grew from a height of 12 feet to 40 feet brought audible gasps of disbelief from the audience at each performance.

The viewing on Dec. 14 is sponsored by the library and the Lincoln Center Outreach Program, and is free and open to the public. For more information, email sbremner@gtcounty.org.
Williamson named Employee of the Quarter

Joseph Williamson, a technical systems administrator with Midway Fire Rescue, has been selected as Georgetown County’s Employee of the Quarter for the third quarter of this year. He will be recognized by Georgetown County Council at its 5:30 p.m. meeting on Dec. 12 at the historic courthouse in Georgetown.

An employee with Georgetown County Emergency Services since 2001, Williamson was integral to the success of several important projects during the third quarter, said Sam Hodge, Georgetown County’s Emergency Manager. Hodge nominated Williamson for the award. Williamson is described as a “go-to employee” known for being reliable and who always gets the job done.

Among the projects Williamson assisted in was the emergency management component of managing the huge influx of visitors that poured into the county this summer to view the total solar eclipse. He was instrumental in developing a redundant communications plan in the event emergency services lost communications and put safeguards in place to ensure communications stayed in place for emergency response agencies throughout the county.

Williamson spearheaded an upgrade of the P25 to 800mhz radio system for Georgetown County Emergency Services, as well as the Sheriff’s Office and municipal emergency response agencies. Countless hours went into the project and ensuring a smooth transition.

Williamson also helped develop a HAM radio plan to give redundancy in communications, accepted an invitation to serve on the S.C. Communication Task Force, and assisted with the set up of computers and AV equipment for the SC Emergency Management Association Conference.

“When I look for nominees for this award, I look for someone who not only serves their own department, but the county as a whole,” Hodge said. “Joseph is the perfect example of a team player.”

Library to show ‘The Shack’

The Friends of the Waccamaw Library will bring the popular movie “The Shack” to the library’s DeBordieu Auditorium on Friday, Dec. 8 at 6:30 p.m. This free showing is open to the public and reservations are not needed.

Based on the New York Times best-selling novel, “The Shack” takes viewers on a father’s uplifting spiritual journey. After suffering a family tragedy, Mack Phillips (Sam Worthington) spirals into a deep depression causing him to question his innermost beliefs. Facing a crisis of faith, he receives a mysterious letter urging him to an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon wilderness.

Despite his doubts, Mack journeys to the shack and encounters an enigmatic trio of strangers led by a woman named Papa (Octavia Spencer.) Through this meeting Mack finds important truths that will transform his understanding of his tragedy and change his life forever.

For more information, call (843) 545-0780 for details!

Sheriff’s Dept. offers active shooter training

In light of the recent tragic event that occurred in Texas, the Georgetown County Sheriff’s Office, a state accredited agency, would like to remind residents, businesses and churches that it continues to offer an active shooter training course to teach people what to do if they are ever in a place where a shooter begins firing.

Since the inception of the training program in January 2015, about 1,500 people have participated. Participants include members of the local school district, churches, businesses and utilities, along with members of Georgetown County government and judicial services.

The purpose of this class is to familiarize participants on situational awareness, protection and survival strategies, basic active shooter traits, state laws on concealed weapons, and how to respond and react in a mass causality event.

The class is available to all Georgetown County residents, businesses and churches at no cost. It lasts up to two hours and can be instructed at the Georgetown County Sheriff’s Office or at the requesting organization’s location. Classes are scheduled in advance with the Sheriff’s Office’s training division.

For more information, call the Georgetown County Sheriff’s Office at (843) 546-5102, where the caller will be forwarded to the agency’s training division for available dates, times and locations.

Do you have free roaming cats in your neighborhood? Did you know Saint Frances will spay or neuter them for free? Call (843) 545-0780 for details!

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
Prestige Worldwide nabs soccer championship

Prestige Worldwide claimed its second Adult Soccer League championship of 2017 with a 3-0 win in the Fall Championship game on Nov. 4. The win was the team’s seventh straight, capping a perfect season which saw Prestige Worldwide outscore their opponents 52-18. The team also won the Spring Championship earlier this year. Registration for Parks and Recreation’s spring adult soccer league is expected to open in early January, with play due to begin in March. For information or to register your team, contact Randy Akers at (843) 359-6419 or bakers@gtcounty.org. As always, pick-up players will also be needed.

Driver’s licenses and IDs changing

Anyone who wants to use their S.C. driver’s license or identification card to pass airport security, enter secure federal buildings or visit military installations, will soon need to change it to a REAL ID license or identification card. REAL IDs will be available in early 2018.

Anyone who wants to change their license or ID will have to bring all of the following items to their local branch of the S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles:

- Proof of identify, such as a birth certificate or valid U.S. passport.
- Proof of Social Security Number, such as a Social Security card or W-2 form that has you SSN, name and employer’s name.
- Two proofs of current physical address, such as a current S.C. driver’s license or ID and a utility bill no more than 90 days old that show the same name and address.
- Proof of all legal name changes, such as marriage license or court order issued by your county’s probate or family court. You must present a complete name change history that links your birth certificate name to your present day name.

Only original documents or certified copies of all documents will be accepted. The DMV will not accept other copied or scanned versions.

With these documents, most people who have a Class D, E, F or M license will be eligible for a REAL ID. These new IDs and licenses can not be obtained online.

Those who have a commercial driver’s license (CDL) will also need to have their Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration medical qualification certificate, as well as liability insurance information from a company licensed to do business in this state.

Residents are not required to switch to a REAL ID at this time. Existing driver’s licenses and ID cards will still allow residents to drive and vote, as well as apply for or receive federal benefits.

Additionally, a valid U.S. passport or passport card, military ID or other federally approved form of identification can still be used to pass TSA checkpoints at airports nationwide. Federal buildings and military installations may have different, specific ID requirements. Contact the building or military installation you’re visiting for specific requirements.

Congress passed the REAL ID Act of 2005 as a result of the 9/11 Commission’s recommendation to standardize government-issued identifications, including driver’s licenses. The State of South Carolina requested an extension to become REAL ID compliant. As a result, current unexpired drivers licenses and ID cards will continue to be accepted to board domestic flights and enter federal buildings until Oct. 10, 2018.

A REAL ID license is valid for no more than eight years. The SCDMV will continuously release information regarding the status of REAL ID as it’s confirmed. Follow the agency on Twitter, @SC_DMV, and Facebook, @SCDMV. For more information, visit www.scdmvonline.com.
News from our Georgetown County Veterans Affairs Officer

By David Murphy

A belated Happy Veterans Day to all our veterans! It’s a day when we all pause to honor and thank you for service and sacrifices to help make our country the greatest place to live. Though the Georgetown Veterans Day Parade was rained out, there were still plenty of wonderful events to commemorate the holiday and we thank all those who worked hard to organize and make the programs possible.

I would also like to give a shout out to our men and women of the U.S. Marine Corps! On Nov. 10, the Marines celebrated their 242nd birthday. Please lets us congratulate them and thank them for their service.

Thank you Georgetown for your giving to the victims of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma during our recent fundraiser. We raised $1,037, which will be sent to veterans organizations of the states that were effected by the hurricanes.

Georgetown Jobs Connection consist of a collaboration between Goodwill, A Father’s Place, Helping Hands and Friendship Place. The group provides a job training boot camp to include the following areas:
- Soft skills assessment
- Resume Development
- Work Keys Testing
- Effective Communication
- WIOA Orientation and What Employers are Looking For
- Critical Thinking
- Interview skills
- Mock Interview preparation

At the completion of the boot camp, participants are able to attend a mini job fair on-site. Employers at the mini job fair vary depending upon position openings.

In addition, participants are paired with career coaches from A Father’s Place, Helping Hands, Goodwill and Friendship Place, where the career coach provides:
- One-on-one follow-up sessions
- Job leads on a weekly basis
- Goal setting
- Referrals to other community resources and assistance services

• Follow-up with employers after the participant has completed applications for consideration.

A Boot Camp in Andrews was held Nov. 6-10. A Georgetown Boot Camp Information session will take place on Nov. 30 at 10 a.m., with boot camp following the week of Dec. 4-8 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Professional Dress is required for all sessions. Sessions start promptly and being on time is required. For more information, call (843) 527 – 3022. Lastly, we will be celebrating Thanksgiving this month. Please, as we pause to give thanks for the things that we have been blessed with, let’s remember those who are still suffering from Hurricanes Matthew, Harvey and Irma. Let’s also remember our service men and women who are still deployed and can’t be with their love ones this Thanksgiving. Thank you for all you do.

Proud to serve,
Dr. David A. Murphy
Manager
Georgetown County Office of Veterans Affairs

County to host Top Gun Winter National Tourney

Georgetown County will host the Top Gun Baseball Winter National Tournament Nov. 18-19 at five facilities across the county. More than 100 teams will participate, bringing their families to the area for the weekend.

Top Gun has been a regular user of tournament-level playing fields in the county since they were constructed several years ago in hopes of attracting tournaments and increasing tourism in off-peak months.

Tickets for games will be available at all participating facilities. Members of the public are welcome.

Georgetown County Council to hold special meeting Nov. 28

Georgetown County Council will have a special meeting at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 28 in the historic courthouse. The purpose of the meeting is to finalize adoption of a pending bond ordinance, which will enable the county to take advantage of refinancing opportunities by closing prior to Jan. 1.

The projected Net Present Value of savings to the County on advance refunding of a 2013 bond issue is about $880,000, or slightly over 5 percent.

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.
Waste collection event continues to break records

Georgetown County staff and volunteers took in a whopping 6.59 tons of paper and 10.88 tons of household hazardous waste during a collection event in Pawleys Island on Oct. 28. It was a new record for the Public Services Department’s semi-annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Paper Shredding event, which takes place each spring and fall on the Waccamaw Neck. The event attracts more people and takes in larger amounts of waste each time it comes around. There was a steady flow of cars with the line starting at 8:15 a.m. and lasting until after the event’s scheduled end at noon. The county’s Stormwater Division also gave away 12 rain barrels and informational material. These collection events ensure toxic materials are correctly disposed of, keeping chemicals from leaching into the ground and ending up in our water system. Plans are to introduce a similar event in the western portion of the county. The event was held in conjunction with Palmetto Ace’s Home Store’s Fall Festival.

Disc Golf
Continued from Front Page

responsible for assisting with finding sponsorships to help with the costs involved with constructing the course. So far, Pawleys Island Lumber, Pawleys Island Pharmacy, and New South Brewery have each made significant contributions.

Beth Goodale, Director of Georgetown County’s Parks and Recreation department, said she is very impressed with their work.

“We are so thankful to Tom, Jonathan and Blaine for not only donating the resources for this project, but also for so generously donating their time and effort in designing and constructing the course,” Goodale said. “The amount of hard work these gentlemen put into this project is evident from the moment you set foot out there, and I hope all of Georgetown County’s residents will come and take advantage of this addition.”

Information regarding a grand opening ceremony will be announced soon.

Pictured from left are Housner, Poole and Harvey.

We’ve Lowered Our Fitness Center Rates!

And We Now Have THREE Locations to Serve You

1) Brook Recreation Center, 2030 Church St. Georgetown, (843) 545-1273
2) Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center, 83 Dunan Ave. Pawleys Island, (843) 545-3202
3) NEW FOR 2017! Choppee Recreation Center, 8259 Choppee Rd. Georgetown, (843) 545-3130

September 2017