

The Georgetown County Chronicle

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



Inside this Issue

- Korean War vets sought for ceremony, Page 11
- Summer safety tips, Page 5
- County partners with Alliance for economic development, Page 6
- Technology upgrade streamlines permitting process, Page 7
- New rec. center is more than gym space, Page 8

Calendar

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

July 6-9 – AA Dixie Youth State Championship Tournament, Eight Oaks Park.

July 9 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the old courthouse.

July 18 – Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the old courthouse.

We're introducing a full online event calendar soon! Plans are to unveil it before the summer is over!

Volume I, Issue 11

July 2013

BOAT, FISH, ENJOY!

Recreation Department makes it easy to enjoy Georgetown County rivers



Canoe/kayak day trips, regularly offered by Georgetown County Parks and Recreation, are a great way to see area rivers. The department also maintains 23 river accesses throughout the county.

There's a lot that makes Georgetown County a special place to live and visit, but for those who love the outdoors, the county's abundance of water resources is near the top of that list. Though perhaps best known as a beach vacation spot — and one of the best around — the county is also home to a wealth of freshwater resources. In addition to creeks, bays, marshes and ponds, it boasts five rivers: the Sampit, the Santee, the Waccamaw, the Great Pee Dee and the Black River.

That's one of the things that recently sold one group on bringing their catfishing tournament to the county. The event, which offers \$10,000 in guaranteed prizes, is set for April 25-26, 2014.

"They were very interested in us once we convinced them that we're more than just the beach," said Beth Goodale, Georgetown County's director of parks and recreation. "A lot of the places where they hold this tournament, they have just one river or one lake to do it on. We can fish five and that, along with having such easy access to the rivers, makes us pretty unique."

See "River access," Page 4

Local July 4th activities

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

- 47th annual Pawleys Island Parade, 10 a.m. — Visitors and locals parade down the island in floats that use local issues and current events to make fun, creative statements. All are welcome to watch or participate. Cost to enter a float in the parade is \$15 in advance or \$20 on the day of the parade. For information, call (843) 237-1698.

- Annual North Litchfield Children's Parade, 10 a.m. — This event is every bit as laid back as a beach vacation. There's no fee to enter, no registration process and the only real rule is there are no internal combustion engines allowed. Walk or decorate a bicycle, scooter or golf cart for this event that starts on Hanover Drive and heads past Litchfield Retreat.

- Salute from the Shore, 1 p.m. — Participants are asked to display red, white and blue as they view this military flyover. The flyover begins at the N.C. border and should be visible from any spot on the beach. Details at salutefromtheshore.org.

- Garden City Beach Golf Cart Parade, 3 p.m. — Carts will wind their way down Calhoun Road to Waccamaw Drive and up Woodland Drive. There's no fee to participate, but donations to the Murrells Inlet/

See "Events," Page 11

16 graduate from Sheriff's inaugural Summer Academy

Georgetown County Sheriff A. Lane Cribb's inaugural Summer Academy took place June 17-June 21, with 16 local high school students accepted into the program.

The week-long academy introduced the students to all aspects of the sheriff's office and the daily duties of a sheriff's deputy. The range of activities included the uniform patrol division, criminal investigations, crime scene analysis, judicial services, the detention center, the 911 communications center and the special operations unit.

The graduation ceremony for the group was June 21. There were about 50 people in attendance to cheer on the graduates. Each cadet received a certificate of completion and a sheriff's office challenge coin.

"It was a great experience for the cadets, as well as the officers," Cribb said. "We are looking forward to the next one."

Pictured at right are students and staff who participated in Sheriff A. Lane Cribb's inaugural Summer Academy last month.



Is your community StormReady?

Georgetown County offers help for communities interested in becoming better prepared for disasters. For more information, e-mail shodge@gtcounty.org.

DONATE BLOOD.

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



Blood Drive
Wednesday, July 31
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
at the Beck Recreation Center,
2030 Church St., Georgetown

Donors are encouraged to schedule an appointment online at redcrossblood.org.
Use the sponsor lookup code **GeoCounty**.
Donors will be entered to win a \$1,000 gift card from a home improvement store.

This event is jointly sponsored by Georgetown County government, Georgetown County School District, Georgetown County Water & Sewer District, the City of Georgetown and Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments.

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

Waccamaw River Blue Trail receives national recognition

Georgetown County is truly a "great outdoors community."

That's one of the things National Heritage Corridor officials said earlier this year when the county was selected as among the first to participate in the South Carolina Great Outdoors project, an initiative to promote our state as a premier international outdoor travel destination.

That will play hand-in-hand with the Waccamaw River Blue Trail's recent designation as a National Water Trail to showcase the county as a true gem for those who love the outdoors.

"As part of the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor, Georgetown County is rich with natural heritage borne from lands and waters," said Christine Ellis, who heads the Waccamaw Riverkeeper program. "And now we have confirmation of the significance of our region's eponymous river, the Waccamaw River, with this designation."

Local, state and national stakeholders worked since 2009 to establish the Waccamaw River Blue Trail, an effort led by American Rivers and its partners, the Waccamaw Riverkeeper program of the Winyah Rivers Foundation and the Pee Dee



Paddlers enjoy the view as they travel along the edge of rice fields during a recent day on the Waccamaw River. Photo courtesy of Frank Eaton.

Land Trust, to improve recreation and protect critical land along the river. Collaborators include the Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge, the Nature Conservancy, Georgetown and Horry counties, other local government groups, and local outfitters and businesses, in addition to others.

In 2013 the US Department of the Interior recognized this locally led collaborative effort in designating the Waccamaw River Blue Trail as a National Water Trail.

The new National Water

Trails System provides a cohesive national network of water trails the public can explore and enjoy. As a result, the Waccamaw River Blue Trail will enjoy several benefits including national promotion and visibility, increased opportunities for tourism and outdoor recreation, and improved collaboration for natural resource protections.

"Whether you are on land or on water, everyone can enjoy the Waccamaw River Blue Trail," Ellis said. "Enjoy paddling on the river or exploring

the Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge. In Georgetown County, natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources combine to make it truly a 'great outdoors community.'"

For more information on the Waccamaw River Blue Trail, visit www.winyahivers.org and www.americanrivers.org/initiatives/blue-trails/projects/waccamaw.html.

This article was contributed by the Waccamaw Riverkeeper program.

Want to explore the Waccamaw River Blue Trail?

Contact these Georgetown County organizations:

- Georgetown County Parks and Recreation, (843) 545-3275, www.gtcounty.org.
- Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce, (843) 546-8436, www.visitgeorge.com.

- Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge, www.fws.gov/waccamaw/.
- S.C. Department of Natural Resources Samworth Wildlife Management Area, www.dnr.sc.gov.

Businesses :

Sign up for the Waccamaw Blue Card
The Georgetown County Chamber of

Commerce, in partnership with American Rivers, has launched the "Blue Card," an innovative new program promoting local businesses and ecotourism along the Waccamaw River Blue Trail in Georgetown County. For more information or to sign up, contact Sally Hogan (shogan@visitgeorge.com) at the Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce.



Above is a view of the Carroll A. Campbell Marine Complex in Georgetown, a tournament level fishing facility. Below, a family participates in a canoe and kayak excursion on the Black River. At bottom, fishermen utilize a floating dock at the Campbell complex.

River access

Continued from Page 1

Of course, locals have known all along what a gem Georgetown County is. But with the county's recent emphasis on recreational tourism — and with new tournament-level facilities designed to attract visitors, as well as cater to local needs, being built countywide — it's a place that more and more people are coming to know and love.

"We have phenomenal water resources here and we make it as easy as possible for everyone to get out on the water and enjoy them," Goodale said.

The county has 23 public boat landings, so boaters never have to go far to find a place to launch. The boat landings are listed on the county's website, gtcounty.org. A GIS map of boat landings is also available.

The county's newest boat landing is the Carroll A. Campbell Marine Complex, which opened on the Sampit River in 2010. It's where the weigh-in for next year's catfish tournament will take place, along with several events being planned around the tournament.

One of the county's new tournament-level facilities, the complex was immediately lauded as "a win for boaters, anglers and taxpayers" when it won the 2010 BoatUS Recreation Boating Access Award. The 20-acre facility has six boat launch ramps, courtesy docking, and parking for 200 vehicles with boat trailers, as well as an outdoor event stage.

The Parks and Recreation Department also hosts canoe/kayak day trips, overnight trips and camps that allow participants to enjoy the rivers, get close to nature and get a workout at the same time. Popular with individuals and families, Goodale said day trips are an ideal introduction to kayaking or canoeing, while overnight trips are geared toward more experienced paddlers.

"It's a part of our programming we'd like to expand on," she said.

Though the rivers are an incredibly valuable asset to the county and Parks and Recreation is pleased to provide easy access to the rivers for the public, doing so does create some challenges.

"They're very spread out," Goodale said. "We basically have river accesses from county line to county line and, with a county that's around 850 square miles, just collecting the trash from all the sites is an endeavor."

See "River access," Page 9



Fire departments offer tips for staying safe this summer

The following tips are provided by Georgetown County Fire/EMS and Midway Fire Rescue.

Summer is here and with it comes fun and outdoor activities. It's an exciting time of year, but also one that brings dangerous conditions that individuals should consider when outdoors. The pleasure of family reunions, picnics, traveling, sunbathing and boating can come to a sudden end unless we remain aware and protect ourselves against fire, burn and heat-related injuries that can happen during these special occasions.

Beat the heat

Take the following precautions to avoid heat-related injuries and issues:

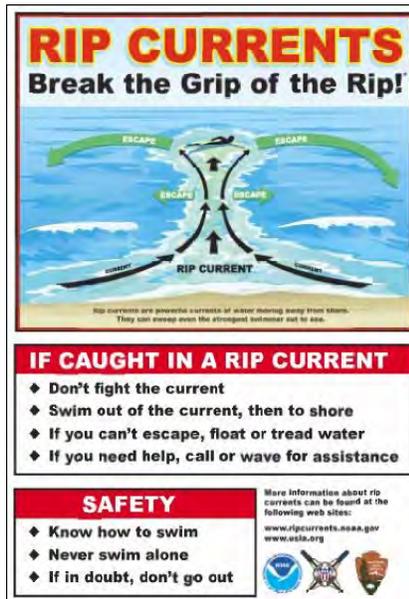
- Check local weather predictions and dress accordingly. Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- Keep hydrated by drinking plenty of water.
- Stay indoors; limit outdoor activities during peak hours.
- Use sunscreen SPF 15 or higher.
- Check on the elderly frequently.
- Avoid alcohol and caffeine as it will dehydrate you quicker.
- Find a cool place to get out of the hot conditions.
- Keep pets indoors and use air conditioning or fans to help keep them cool.
- Do not leave children, the elderly or pets in cars.
- Take cool showers or baths.
- Know the signs of heat emergencies, which include weakness, lightheadedness, heavy sweating, rapid heartbeat, throbbing headache, muscle cramps, vomiting and confusion.

Heat emergencies can lead to heat stroke which is a serious condition with symptoms of hot, dry, flushed skin and a high temperature. If you experience these symptoms, seek medical attention immediately.

Use fireworks carefully

For many families, fireworks are a Fourth of July tradition — but did you know that two out of five fires reported on that day are started by fireworks?

Fireworks and resulting fires injure more



than 10,000 Americans. More than half of these injuries occur during the first week of July, according to the American Burn Association. The good news is you can enjoy your holiday and fireworks safely, by following just a few simple tips:

- Know your fireworks; read the warning labels and performance descriptions before igniting.
- Have a designated shooter to organize and shoot your family show.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.
- Parents and caretakers should always closely supervise teens if they are using fireworks.
- Parents should not allow young children to handle or use fireworks.
- Fireworks should only be used outdoors.
- Always have water ready if you are shooting fireworks.
- Obey local laws. If fireworks are not legal where you are, do not use them.
- Wear safety glasses whenever using fireworks.
- Never relight a "dud" firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Soak spent fireworks with water before placing them in an outdoor garbage can.
- Never attempt to alter or modify consumer fireworks and use them only in the manner in which they were intended.

Rip Currents

Unfortunately, drowning deaths occur yearly on local beaches. Rip currents are often the culprit.

Signs that a rip current is present are very subtle and difficult for the average beachgoer to identify. Look for differences in the water color, water motion, incoming wave shape or breaking point compared to adjacent conditions. Look for any of these clues:

- Channel of churning, choppy water.
 - Area having a notable difference in water color.
 - Line of foam, seaweed, or debris moving steadily seaward.
 - Break in the incoming wave pattern.
- Avoid rip current problem by:
- Learning to swim. If you'll be in surf, learn to swim in surf. It's not the same as a pool or lake.

- Never swim alone.
- Swim near a lifeguard.
- Look for posted signs and warning flags, which may indicate higher than usual hazards.
- Be cautious. Always assume rip currents are present even if you don't see them.

- If caught in a rip current:
- Try to remain calm to conserve energy.
 - Don't fight the current.
 - Think of it like a treadmill you can't turn off. You want to step to the side of it.
 - Swim across the current in a direction following the shoreline.
 - When out of the current, swim and angle away from the current and toward shore.
 - If you can't escape this, try to float, or calmly tread water. Rip current strength eventually subsides offshore. When it does, swim toward shore.
 - If at any time you feel you will be unable to reach shore, draw attention to yourself: face the shore, wave your arms, and yell for help.

Sun Safety

It is now well recognized that sunburn and sun exposure should not be taken lightly. Deaths have resulted from acute

See "Summer Safety," Page 10

Partnership will improve economic development initiative

A new, formal partnership between Georgetown County government and the Alliance for Economic Development for Georgetown County, a private nonprofit, will allow both groups to work more effectively toward economic development in the county.

The Alliance took action in June to alter its bylaws, allowing the County Council-appointed Economic Development Commission to be absorbed into the governing body of the Alliance. The commission will be dissolved and the Alliance will have 21 board members, seven of which will be appointed by County Council.

Combining of the groups was recommended by a 2011 economic development study and was fully embraced by County Council, the county's administrator and economic development staff, and the Alliance.

"Georgetown County must be united in all of its economic endeavors," said County Council Chairman Johnny Morant. "The revised structure eliminates confusion regarding the handling of economic development issues within Georgetown County and allows resources to be levied and used more efficiently. It also forges a union wherein everyone is working for the common good of Georgetown County."

Following the Alliance's vote on Tuesday, Morant said he is looking forward to a new, closer relationship with the Alliance and the benefits it will bring for Georgetown County and all who live and work here. Morant acknowledged the many volunteer hours Alliance members put into economic development initiatives and, on behalf of council, thanked them for their energy and efforts, past and present. He also commended Bill Crowther, the Alliance's executive director, for his work in helping forge the agreement.

"The Alliance believes this joint commitment will help further economic development for Georgetown County," Crowther said. "The benefits to making these changes are a more cohesive working relationship for the Alliance and the County. This change will also provide the communities we serve with a united force working to enhance economic development in Georgetown County."

Under the new agreement, County Council, via the county administrator, retains authority over the county's economic development department and staff. The department will continue to be the lead entity in:

- Relations with existing industry;
- Actively working with new econom-

ic development prospects, whether developed internally or through an outside source;

- Working directly with the State Department of Commerce, the North Eastern Strategic Alliance, Santee Cooper and other agencies relevant to economic development activities.

The Alliance would support the department's role by:

- Sponsoring activities generally not fundable with public money, such as entertaining representatives from businesses being courted by the county;
- Obtaining studies pertinent to specific areas of economic impact, such as the port or the timber industry;
- Conducting periodic forums and events beneficial to economic development efforts within Georgetown County;
- Establishing and maintaining relationships with political leaders to promote legislative actions that would benefit economic development in Georgetown County;
- Other tasks that would serve to support and assist the efforts of the county's economic development director.

The Alliance's executive director and the county's economic development director will work closely together to develop strategies for each individual prospect.

Dig Into Reading!
Georgetown County Library Summer Reading Program

Time to have fun that's so fun you'll just shout!
At your local library, there are puppet shows about!
Animals, juggling, arts and crafts, too...
Check the link below for the fun nearest you!

ANDREWS  LIBRARY	CARVERS BAY  LIBRARY	GEORGETOWN  LIBRARY	WACCAMAW  LIBRARY
---	---	--	--

You won't want to miss it!

For more information, call 545-3300
As always, everything is FREE!

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.



Technology upgrade streamlines permitting process

Getting a building permit in Georgetown County will be a faster, simpler process now, thanks to a recent technology upgrade.

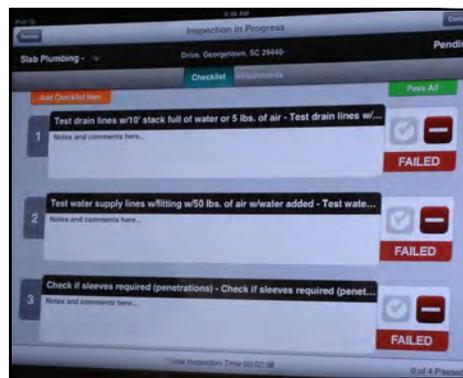
The county's building department started using software from EnerGov in the field about a month ago. The software is also used by other departments that play a part in the permitting process.

"It's a pretty comprehensive piece of software designed for municipal use. It allows everyone from permitting to the assessor to tap in, so when we finish with a set of plans they want to look at, it's right there at their fingertips," said Murray Presley, an inspector in the building department. "It brings everything into one hub."

For inspectors in the field, it means they can do their jobs more efficiently, which often means faster results for homeowners and contractors waiting on the OK to begin construction. Notes recorded by inspectors in the field are available in county offices almost instantly. Additionally, inspectors now get an electronic copy of all plans submitted to the department, so there's always a backup if the hard copy of the plans goes missing — a common problem on construction sites, according to Presley. In the past, the in-



Above: Mike Young of the county's building department shows off the new software used for permit inspections. At right: The program makes results of an inspection easy to read and share without a need for paper printouts.



spection would have to have been delayed until a new copy of the plans was available. Inspectors carry iPads to job sites and can pull up electronic copies of the plans and move forward with the inspection in minutes instead of hours or days.

"It's a big time saver for us, and the homeowner and contractor," Presley said.

"We're even able to e-mail the results of the inspection to a contractor or supervisor who may be on another job site," added Russell Flack, another inspector. "They can have the results immediately."

Previously, inspectors had to give hard copies of the checklists and results are compiled on.

The updated technology puts

the building department significantly closer to its goal of being paperless, said Robert Cox, who is in charge of the building department. Parts of the department's offices in the old courthouse on Screven Street are filled with row upon row of file cabinets holding paper records. Additionally, there's a storage space in the Deep Creek area where older files are kept. Anyone needing to access those has to have someone drive out there and physically search for them. Upgrading to electronic files not only frees up office space, it makes files more easily accessible.

There's also a cost-saving component in the technology upgrade, Cox points out. Inspectors used to take heavy-duty rugged laptops and mobile thermal printers with them into the field. EnerGov software used in conjunction with a tablet computer is much more cost efficient, and there's also much less physical bulk while also offering increased capabilities.

"If you have a question about whether something meets code, you can take a picture with your tablet, send it back to the office in real time and have an answer right away," Presley said. "Slowly but surely, we're cutting away incidentals like thermal paper for the printers, but we're also saving on time and fuel by not having to make multiple trips to sites."

The building department is still working on making some customizations to the software that will allow it to even better suit inspector needs. The next improvement the public can look for is the ability to apply and pay for permits online, Cox said.

He expects the department will have that function up and working later this summer.

Now registering for fall league sports!



Soccer—ages 6-8

Flag football—ages 6-8



Tackle football—ages 9-12



Cheerleading—ages 7-12

**To register, call 545-3275
or visit gtcounty.org.
Registration ends Aug. 31.**

*Also ask about our lacrosse camp July 8-10,
our free youth development football camp
July 20 and our volleyball camp July 8-11!*

New Pawleys Island rec. center is more than gym space

The following editorial is by Beth Goodale, Georgetown County's director of parks and recreation.

When Georgetown County opened the doors at the new Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center to the public for the first time back in April, the crowd that passed over the threshold was a good indicator of what was to come.

Dozens of people turned out for the ribbon cutting, all smiling and thrilled to see the facility — long sought and much needed — finally complete. They were black, white, young, old, rich, poor and virtually everything in between. As much as the facility itself was a dream for residents of the Pawleys Island area, and the Parkersville community in particular, this was a dream for Georgetown County.

County officials wanted the facility to be more than gym and program space (though that's certainly of great importance too). We wanted it to be a true community center, something else the Pawleys Island area has lacked.

So far, the center hits the mark. Day after day we see all types of people walk through those doors. Adults come in during the mornings to utilize the free indoor walking track and throughout the day to exercise on the equipment in our fitness center. During the afternoons, the sounds

of laughter echo throughout the space as kids use the gym for a variety of sports including basketball, volleyball, pickle ball and shuffleboard (also free). They cede the court to the adults in the evenings. Our program rooms are filled daily by senior citizens who participate in our congregate program, coming in to enjoy each other's company, participate in a range of activities and share lunch together. During the first week of June, about 35 Pawleys Island area residents gathered at the center for a hurricane preparedness workshop.

The opening of a rock climbing wall in the center on June 10 and the continual addition of programs and classes including Zumba, yoga, line dancing and more should bring in an even wider variety of people.

With its location in the Parkersville community, the facility is almost dead center in the middle of the Waccamaw Neck. Neighborhood kids can easily walk or bike over, and we see a number of adults walk over as well. But the center is also a relatively short drive for those in the southern part of the Pawleys Island area and up into

Murrells Inlet. We'd have been hard pressed to find a more centrally located spot for this facility, as this location is truly the heart of the Waccamaw Neck.

This is the first county-owned gym facility on the Waccamaw Neck and that's certainly monumental. It allows us to significantly expand our programs in that area for all age groups.

That, again, is something that has been needed for a very long time. But we believe it's even more important that this is also among the first truly regional facilities for the Waccamaw Neck. The only other might be the Waccamaw branch of the library.

The Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center offers a place where communities within the Waccamaw region can come together and everyone, regardless of their socio-economic level, has access to an indoor recreation facility. Even for those features at the center that have an associated fee, such as the rock climbing wall and fitness center, we try to keep the cost low so they can be enjoyed by all.

We're so excited that we were finally able to make this vision a reality through the county's Capital Improvement Plan and we're grateful to the Pawleys Island Civic Club and those residents who worked with us to make this facility possible. But we're not through. We'll continue to work to make this facility a valuable asset for as many people in the Waccamaw region as we can. We'll continue adding new programs and we welcome community input. We'd love to hear from individuals what they would like to see offered at the center, and we're constantly looking for instructors who would like to help us expand our programming. We're open to everything from niche sports to chess.

If you haven't been to the center yet, please drop in. We'd love to show you what it has to offer.

You can also visit our website and Facebook page to learn more about operating hours, current programs and our other facilities around the county. This center was a major accomplishment in our Capital Improvement Plan, but we've got so much more in the works!



Goodale

BILLY BLANKS'

TAE BO®

OFFICIALLY TAE BO® CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR

**Classes offered Tuesdays & Thursdays
6-7 p.m.
at Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center,
Pawleys Island**

Fee is \$8 per class

Register at www.gtcountry.org or call 545-3275

River access

Continued from Page 4

As a result, the county relies on members of the public who enjoy these facilities to help keep them clean. The county also works to make that as easy as possible by making sure trash receptacles are located at boat landings — something that's not exactly common.

The county supports the S.C. Department of Natural Resources' "pack it in, pack it out" policy of having individuals take back with them everything they brought, trash included. However, people often don't follow the policy and the county hopes providing trash receptacles will at the very least encourage them to keep their trash off the ground and out of waterways.

"We definitely need the public's help," Goodale said. "Add in vandalism and theft, and it takes a lot of work to keep these accesses in good shape and be able to provide this resource for the public."

Free fishing, boat inspections on July 4

For those who haven't been out on the county's rivers lately (or perhaps not at all), summer and the Fourth of July weekend in particular are a perfect time. July 4 is Free Fishing Day in South Carolina.

On Independence Day, all South Carolinians may fish at no cost in freshwater, without a recreational license (all fishing regulations, including bag and size limits, and gear restrictions remain in place).

DNR will also offer courtesy boat inspections from **10 a.m. until noon** on July 4 at the East Bay Street boat landing in Georgetown. The inspections are part of an effort to keep waterways safe during the holiday weekend. Those not in compliance with safety regulations or registration requirements will not be ticketed during the complimentary inspections.

DNR officers will also be available to answer questions and give boaters tips on how to stay safe in the water.

To report boating violations such as reckless operation or an intoxicated boat operator, call the DNR toll-free, 24-hour hotline, 1-800-922-5431.

Have a safe and happy
Fourth of July!



Causey named Manager of the Quarter

Holley Causey, Georgetown County's risk manager, was selected as the county's Manager of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2013.

An employee of the county for 12 years, Causey in the last fiscal year saved the county more than \$44,000 in insurance premiums by consolidating insurance carriers for the Fire and EMS divisions.

She also increased safety aware-



Causey

ness for county employees by implementing two new programs and by contributing a column to the county newsletter, in which she offers safety advice.

She implemented a campaign to reduce the workers compensation experience modifier in an effort to again decrease insurance premiums and reduce accidents.

Causey is also part of the county's central safety committee and morale committee in addition to other groups, and regularly volunteers for tasks. She was nominated by her supervisor, Greg Troutman.

Things to do this month in Georgetown County

Annual book sale is July 11-13

If you're planning to be in Georgetown County in early July, you'll of course want to check out some of our area's great Independence Day activities, which we highlighted on page 1 of this month's newsletter.

But there's something else July in Georgetown County is known for. It's the Friends of the Waccamaw Library annual book sale and it's a great opportunity to find books in great condition at bargain prices, all while supporting the Waccamaw Library's programs for children.

The sale, at St. Paul's Waccamaw United Methodist Church in Litchfield, opens for friends members only at 6 p.m. July 11. That's when you'll find the best selection, and if you're not already a member, don't worry. You can sign up at the door.

The sale is open to the general public from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 12 and from 9 a.m. to noon on July 13. Hardbacks will be priced at \$3. Trade paperbacks will be \$1 and mass market paperbacks will be \$.75.

Rec center hosts Farmer Jason



The Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center recently hosted Farmer Jason, a popular, nationally-known children's entertainer. The program was sponsored by McNair Law Firm. The event attracted an enthusiastic crowd. See more photos at www.facebook.com/gtcountysc.

Summer Safety

Continued from Page 5

sun exposure and significant temporary disability is experienced by millions of sunburned people each year. Over the long term, extensive research on skin cancer has documented the contribution of frequent youthful sunburn to the development of life-threatening skin cancer later in life.

Unlike a thermal burn, sunburn is not immediately apparent. By the time the skin starts to become painful and red the damage has been done. The pain is worst between six and 48 hours after sun exposure.

To avoid sunburn and the harmful effects of ultraviolet rays:

- Select shaded areas for outdoor activities.
- Wear a broad-brimmed hat, tightly woven clothing, a long-sleeved shirt (preferably cotton), long pants and gloves when you to spend long periods in the sun.
- If you are wearing a baseball cap and plan to spend a lot of time outdoors, tuck a handkerchief under the back of the hat to help prevent sunburn on the neck.
- Avoid tanning altogether or at least avoid tanning for long periods, particularly between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. during the summer months.
- Avoid using sun lamps.
- Be careful of medication. Certain prescriptions can make your skin more sensitive to UV rays. Consult your doctor if you have any questions about your medication.
- Protect your eyes as well as your skin from ultraviolet damage. The more often your eyes are exposed without protection, the higher the chance of serious eye problems later in life.

Summer camps combine learning, fun



Georgetown County summer camps are in session and kids are having a blast as they learn and explore nature, in addition to the usual summertime fun and games. See more photos at facebook.com/gtcountysc.



We're having a photo contest!

Georgetown County government invites photographers of all skill levels to enter its first photo contest. We've selected "Georgetown County Rivers" as the theme for this contest. We're looking for scenic shots that show what an incredible resource our rivers are — environmentally, scenically and/or recreationally speaking. Color and black and white photos will be accepted.

You must read the complete rules, terms and legal conditions at www.gtcounty.org before submitting any photos!

For more information, call (843) 545-3164 or visit www.gtcounty.org.



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

Sheriff, 546-5102

Treasurer, 545-3098

P.O. Box 421270
129 Screven Street
Georgetown, S.C. 29442-1270

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

Find us on the web!
www.gtcounty.org



County seeks Korean War veterans for ceremony

The Georgetown County Veterans Affairs office is asking those who served in the Korean War to step forward and be recognized.

"The Korean War is often called 'the forgotten war,' but we want these men and women to know they are not forgotten, even 60 years later," said Natrenah Blackstock, the county's veterans affairs officer. "We are honored to recognize these veterans."

The Veterans Affairs Office is planning a special celebration to commemorate the 60th anniversary this year. Though an armistice ending the war between North and South Korea was signed on July 27, 1953, the celebration will be on Veterans Day. Each veteran who participates will receive a certificate of appreciation from the Department of Defense. Certificates have al-

ready been requested for all Korean War veterans who have recently participated in or applied for a local Honor Flight. All other Korean War veterans are asked to contact the Veterans Affairs Office so their certificates can be ordered.

"We would like to issue as many certificates and say thank you to as many of these veterans as possible," Blackstock said.

To participate in the celebration, veterans from this era should come to the Veterans Affairs Office, located at 537 Lafayette Circle, Georgetown, and fill out a registration form. The deadline to register is Aug. 1, as the office has to get the names to the Department of Defense in time to have all the certificates printed.

For more information, contact the Veterans Affairs Office, (843) 545-3330.

State park passes again offered at county facilities

Georgetown County will again offer annual South Carolina state park passports at two of its library branches.

The passes will be sold for \$55.50, limited to two passes per residence, and can be purchased at either the Georgetown or Waccamaw branch libraries or the county's Parks and Recreation administrative offices at 2030 Church St., Georgetown. For information, call (843) 545-3300 or 545-3275.

Each passport is valid for park admission fees and provides access into any S.C. state park that charges a fee, including Huntington Beach State

Park, located between Litchfield and Murrells Inlet. Huntington Beach offers a number of perks for beachgoers in Georgetown County, including ample parking space, a rich element of history as home to Atalaya "castle," and it also has the only beach in the county where lifeguards are stationed. Regular admission is \$5.

For more information about Huntington Beach State Park, visit <http://www.huntingtonbeachstatepark.com/>.

To learn more about S.C. State Parks and park passports, visit <http://southcarolinaparks.com/park-passport/default.aspx>

Events

Continued from Page 1

Garden City Fire District will be accepted. Call (843) 655-2151 for information.

- 30th annual Murrells Inlet Boat Parade, 5 p.m. — This patriotic display leaves from Garden City point and heads south down the Murrells Inlet shoreline to the Hot Fish Club. This year's theme is "Palmetto Pride — Inlet Tide." For information, call (843) 652-4236.

- Pawleys Island Fourth of July Evening Celebration, 6 p.m. — This third annual musical celebration at Precious Blood Family Life Center on Waverly Road features the Pawleys Island Concert Band, along with other singers and speakers. The event is free. Refreshments will

be available for purchase. For information, call (843) 235-9931.

- Indigo Choral Society concert, 7 p.m. — The society will present its 17th annual Fourth of July concert on the lawn of the Kaminski House Museum in Georgetown. The concert is free and everyone is welcome. Featured will be the High Tide Brass Quintet and Dr. Patti Edwards, soprano. Bring a blanket or lawn chair.

- Fireworks at East Bay Park, 9:30 p.m. — The Georgetown City Fire Department presents its annual display. The Harborwalk and other areas along the Sampit River make great viewing locations.

- Murrells Inlet Fireworks show, 10 p.m. — Marshwalk restaurants will light up the sky with a fireworks display conducted from Veterans Pier. Visit murrellsinletsc.com for information.