



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. 13 – Georgetown County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, 5 p.m., Howard Center.

Sept. 14 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m., Howard Auditorium.

Sept. 16 – Blood Drive at the Waccamaw Library, noon to 5 p.m.

Sept. 16 – Georgetown County Planning Commission Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Howard Auditorium.

Sept. 16 – County Library Board meeting, 5:30 p.m., Georgetown Library.

Sept. 22 – Georgetown County Transportation Committee meeting, 5 p.m., Howard Auditorium.

Sept. 28 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m., Howard Auditorium.

For more upcoming events, check out our full calendar at gcounty.org.

Volume 10, Issue 1

September 2021

Oct. 1 is last day to submit data for Phase 1 of plan

Residents and property owners on the Waccamaw Neck have until the end of this month to submit information on flooding and drainage issues to be included in the county's Watershed Master Plan.

The public is being asked to assist in the master planning process by using an online mapping tool to show officials locations along the Waccamaw Neck where flooding and drainage system issues exist. The mapping tool can be accessed at georgetowncounty.publicprojects.geothing.com. The tool allows user to drop pins on specific areas of the map and offer details about



Flooding along Highway 17 in Litchfield after a storm event.

the type of issue that exists in that area. Once the data collection period closes, staff in the county's Stormwater Department will add the information to its database and work with engineering con-

sultant Thomas and Hutton to find ways to solve flooding and drainage issues for the watershed. Recommendations on solutions should be ready by the end of this year.

See "Watershed," Page 7

Midway to commemorate 20th anniversary of Sept. 11 attacks

It seems unreal that two decades have passed since the terrorist attack that destroyed the Twin Towers in New York and tragically claimed thousands of lives, said Doug Eggiman.

Like most Americans who were of age on Sept. 11, 2001, Eggiman, the chief at Midway Fire Rescue, vividly remembers where he was and what he was doing as he watched the events unfold on the news. The department had been having a celebration that morning at its headquarters station. It was a sendoff for former Chief Mike Mock, who was moving up to the position of Georgetown County Emergency Services Director. As the news broke that the first plane had hit, "everything just sort of stopped," Eggiman recalled.

"Everybody piled into the day room and turned on the TV. We were just sort of watching in shock," he said. He doesn't have words for the feelings he had watching the second plane hit and then watching the towers collapse. "When that happened, you just knew that every single person in that building was gone," he said.

The staff and volunteers at Midway will come to-



The remembrance ceremony will take place at 9 a.m. Sept. 11 at the 9/11 memorial in front of Midway.

gether on the morning of the 20th anniversary of those attacks to again mourn all those who died that day, including more than 400 first responders — 343 of whom were firefighters. They invite members of the public to join them. Midway will host a remembrance ceremony at its headquarters station at St.

See "Sept. 11," Page 6

Sheriff's Office seeks information related to recent death investigations

The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office is seeking the public's help in gathering information related to the death of a 28-year-old man, whose body was found on Brick Chimney Road near Sangamon Ave.

The man, Daquawn Caderri Cuttino of 411 Queen Street, Georgetown, was found dead by a passing motorist at around 10:30 p.m. on Sept. 6. He had been shot.

Sheriff Carter Weaver called the death "tragic and senseless" in a plea to the community for any information that could help the Sheriff's Office learn what happened to Cuttino. Results of an autopsy were pending at the time of this publication.

The Sheriff's Office also continues to follow leads, collect evidence and seek information related to the deaths of Ben Franklin Jr., 38, and Kiashia Aaliyah Green, 25, who were killed last month at a residence on Sutton Road.

"Senseless violence like this will not be accepted as the norm in Georgetown County," Weaver said. "We are doing everything possible to find those responsible. There are people who know what happened ... and our community's safety depends on them coming forward."

Even small details could help these investigations progress, Weaver added. Anyone with information on these incidents or any other crime is asked to call the Sheriff's Office at (843) 546-5102. Anonymous tips may also be sent to the Sheriff's Office via Text-A-Tip. Just text the word "GCSOTIP" followed by your message to 847411. It is important that the keyword GCSOTIP be included before the message. For updates and more information, visit gcsheeriff.org.



Daquawn Cuttino

September brings peak hurricane season

As summer begins to transition to fall, there's another season that should still be on people's minds this month. Sept. 10 is the meteorological peak of the Atlantic Hurricane season.



"We've been lucky to have an uneventful hurricane season in South Carolina so far this year. But that doesn't at all mean we're in the clear," said Brandon Ellis, Georgetown County Emergency Manager and Director of Emergency Services.

Historically, the number of storms rises during the period from late August through the month of September. Activity in the Atlantic basin so far this year has been above normal, according to the National Hurricane Center. August saw six named storms, three hurricanes and two major hurricanes. Three to four named storms with one or two becoming hurricanes would be considered "normal" for August based on hurricane data for the last 30 years.

"Hurricane season doesn't end until Nov. 30. We've still got a long way to go and we haven't even hit the peak yet," Ellis said. "Now is the time when we should remain vigilant and take preparedness actions, such as getting your hurricane kits ready."

The worst storms in memory for South Carolina occurred in September and October. Hurricane Hugo hit near McClellanville on Sept. 22, 1989, causing catastrophic damage along the coast. Hurricane Hazel struck near Myrtle Beach on Oct. 15, 1954, permanently altering the coastline in Georgetown County.

Learn more about hurricane preparedness at gtcounty.org/gcemd or scemnd.org. Residents are also encouraged to download the SC Emergency Manager app. It's free at the App Store and Google Play.

Shop to Stop Domestic Violence

Serving Victims of Domestic Violence



FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER
of Georgetown and Horry Counties

Silent Auction
50/50 Raffle, Wine Pull
Heavy Hors d'oeuvres
Cash Bar Available

Friday, October 1, 2021
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Litchfield Country Club
619 Country Club Drive
Pawleys Island

Tickets \$50 per person
Available at
Family Justice Center
2705 Highmarket Street
Georgetown, SC 29442
or
Contact Gloria Dausch
gloria.dausch@gmail.com
240-315-4249

Event Corporate Sponsors:



Check out some of our fabulous silent auction sponsors:



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 social media accounts. If you'd rather have it delivered to your inbox, sign up at gtcounty.org by clicking the "News & Alerts" icon on the home page.

If you have questions or comments about this newsletter, please contact Jackie Broach at (843) 545-3164 or jbroach@gtcounty.org. We welcome your feedback.

www.gtcounty.org

Council requests ordinances to address affordable housing, holes on beaches

Georgetown County Council has instructed staff to draft ordinances that would address two ongoing local issues. Once complete, the ordinances will go before the council for consideration at a date not yet determined.

At the end of a workshop on Aug. 24, Council directed staff to move forward with creation of ordinances that would encourage the development of affordable housing within the county. Affordable housing was the sole focus of the hour-long workshop. Staff reviewed a [recent housing needs assessment](#) and some possible ideas to incentivize the development of affordable housing. According to the assessment, the county will need more than 2,400 for-sale housing units and more than 900 rental units over the next five years. Affordable housing is not synonymous with low-income housing, but simply means creating housing that is within budget for the area’s population — a significant number of whom would be middle-income.

“This is not just about affordability, but availability at all income levels,” said County Administrator Angela Christian.

Some of the measures staff will look at as it works on a recommendation to present to Council include cutting permit costs and other fees for developers who create affordable housing.

Staff was also asked to draft an ordinance that would regulate the digging of massive holes on county beaches. The direction was given to staff by County Council Member Steve Goggans at council’s regular Aug. 24 meeting following resident complaints that large holes dug and left on the beach pose a hazard to people and wildlife. He said residents have reported some holes large enough for a small car to fit into.

Emergency responders in Georgetown County warn the public annually that these large holes can collapse on diggers or children placed inside, causing injury or death. Holes left on the beach overnight also pose a danger to beachwalkers and wildlife, including sea turtles, who can sustain serious injury or become trapped if they fall into a hole in the dark. Without ordinance in place regarding holes on the beach, emergency responders, rental agencies and groups such as S.C. United Turtle Enthusiasts (SCUTE) regularly ask that beachgoers fill in any

holes they dig when they leave the beach for the day. But that has been largely ineffective. Last month a man on Pawleys Island reported being assaulted when a vacationer spotted him trying to fill in a large hole left on the beach.

Goggans told staff he thinks it’s time “we consider what we might do as a county” to manage the problem. Goggans also asked staff to provide an update on a landscape ordinance in the works at council’s next meeting on Sept. 14.

Other Council Action from August

- A \$2.2 million construction contract was awarded to Greenwall Construction for [drainage improvements in Garden City](#).
- Council approved purchase of a new dump truck for the landfill for \$616,236; two fire truck pumpers at \$719,522, plus equipment for the pumpers; and two tri-axle dump trucks a total of \$355,961.
- Ross Martin of Pawleys Island was appointed to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee by Council Member Bob Anderson. Martin owns the Coral Beach hotel in Myrtle Beach.
- A [request to downzone](#) two parcels on Grate Ave. from “10,000-Square-Foot Residential” to “Forest Agriculture” received final approval.
- Two parcels located on Bypass 17 at its intersection with Coquina Ave. were [rezoned](#) from “General Commercial” to “Flexible Design District to allow for a brewery, restaurant and other amenities.
- Second reading was given to an [ordinance](#) that would regulate outdoor burning.
- Second reading was given to a [major amendment](#) to the tree ordinance.

See “Council,” Page 4

REPORT FLOODING & DRAINAGE ISSUES ON WACCAMAW NECK

To learn more, scan the QR Code below with the camera on your smart phone, or visit gtcounty.org.



THE GEORGETOWN COUNTY LIBRARY

VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

Every Veteran has a story. We want to help you preserve it. The Georgetown County Library is filming interviews weekly. Come tell us your story.

For more information: Contact Julie Warren 843-545-3316 jwarren@gtcounty.org

Fire Chief to retire after 32 years

After serving the residents and visitors of Georgetown County for more than 32 years, Georgetown County Fire-EMS Chief Mack Reed announced his retirement on Sept. 10. His last day on the job will be Oct. 1.

Reed began his career with the County as the Fire Chief for the Georgetown County Fire Department in January 1989. In 2005, his department consolidated with Georgetown County EMS to form Georgetown County Fire-EMS and offer fire suppression and emergency medical services to portions of Georgetown County, excluding the Waccamaw Neck. Reed's legacy will forever be ingrained in the history of the fire service in Georgetown County. Look for more on Chief Reed and his experiences in the fire service in our October newsletter.



Mack Reed

Council

Continued from Page 3

- Second reading was given to a [request](#) to increase the zoning density of a property near Hog Heaven in Pawleys Island. Council Chairman Louis Morant recused him-

self. Second reading passed 4 -2 with John Thomas and Bob Anderson opposed.

- Council's August meeting was very lengthy. For more actions taken by council, watch the meeting in its entirety at [YouTube.com/gtcountysc](https://www.youtube.com/gtcountysc).

Veterans may be eligible for additional benefits

A letter to veterans from Veterans Affairs Officer David Murphy:

There are some veterans who may have received a letter from the VA about being eligible for additional benefits. The Department of Veterans Affairs recently issued new regulations to address health conditions associated with particulate matter exposures during military service. These regulations establish a presumptive of service connection for three respiratory health conditions: chronic asthma, rhinitis and/or chronic sinusitis. You may be eligible for disability compensation benefits if you meet the following criteria:



Murphy

- You served in Southwest Asia theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War beginning Aug. 2, 1990, to present, and/or in Afghanistan, Syria, Djibouti or Uzbekistan on or after Sept. 19, 2001, and
- You developed chronic asthma, chronic rhinitis and/or chronic sinusitis within 10 years of military operations.

If you fit this criteria, please call our office at (843) 545-3330 or email dmurphy@gtcounty.org for an appointment to apply. If you have applied in the past and were found not eligible, you may also reapply.

Please check to make sure that you have a copy of your DD FM 214. We have had many veterans pass away and the families either don't have a copy or are unaware what this document is. This is very important. The DD FM 214 is needed to request a flag, render military honors and for burial in a National or State cemetery.

Also, please note Georgetown County Veterans Affairs has tentatively scheduled a Veterans cookout event for Sept. 24. Look for updates at gtcounty.org.



For the protection of our sea turtles & other wildlife please

LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS ON GEORGETOWN COUNTY BEACHES!



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



LIGHTS OUT!

SEA TURTLES DIG THE DARK

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



See more local beach regulations at www.gtcparks.org



Sheriff's Office receives reaccreditation for dedication to excellence

Georgetown County Sheriff Carter Weaver accepted his agency's fourth Certificate of Accreditation from South Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc. in Columbia on Sept. 3.

During the accreditation process, all areas of the sheriff's office were inspected to determine if the policies, standards and performances were in line with recognized best practices. The final step was an inspection where South Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation Inc. assessors visited the Sheriff's Office to see the operations firsthand and solicit public input on the agency's performance. The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office is one of 30 law enforcement agencies in South Carolina to receive state accreditation.

The certificate reads: "Georgetown County Sheriff's Office has demonstrated dedication to excellence and professionalism in South Carolina law enforcement through voluntary compliance to specific standards designed to enhance the professional delivery of law enforcement services and is recognized as a leader in South Carolina law enforcement and is hereby awarded this Fourth Certificate of Accreditation."

Weaver says reaccreditation allows his department to measure itself against the highest standards in law enforcement and improve its delivery of services.



Georgetown County Sheriff Carter Weaver and Lt. Paul Howard accept the fourth accreditation from South Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation Inc. for the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office on Friday, Sept. 3, 2021, in Columbia, S.C. Others in the photo include, back row: Jarrod Bruder, Executive Director of S.C. Sheriff's Association; Van Henson, Risk Safety Manager of S.C. Association of Counties; Major Mike Nunn, General Counsel for Florence County Sheriff's Office; Chief Chris Watts, Rock Hill Police Department; Chris Radcliff, PS Loss Control Consultant at Municipal Association of S.C.; John "JJ" Jones, Executive Director of S.C. Law Enforcement Officers Association (SCLEOA); front row; Chip Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer of The Johnson Group; John Tucker, Chairman of SCLEA, President of SCPAC; Sheriff Weaver; Lt. Howard; Retired Sheriff Bruce Bryant (York County), Current Representative in the South Carolina Legislature; Chief Terrence Green, Chief of Lexington Police Department.

Georgetown County FARMERS MARKET



Find fresh produce and more!

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

*at 122 Screven St., Georgetown
across from the historic courthouse*

Friends of the Georgetown Library

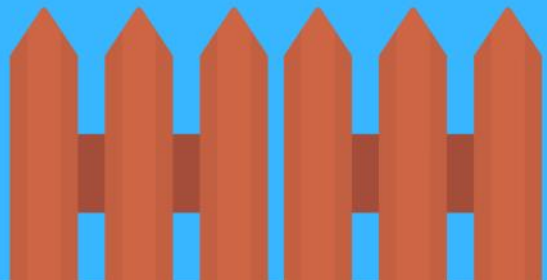
COMMUNITY YARD SALE

**Saturday, Oct. 9 | 8 am to noon
405 Cleland St., Georgetown**

Sellers: \$15 single space, \$20 double

*Registration forms available
at the Georgetown Library*

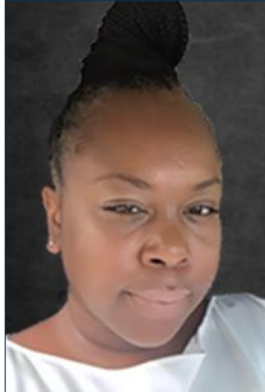
For information, call Sheila at (843) 545-3310



McCrea named Elections Director

Aphra M. McCrea of Georgetown is the new director of Georgetown County Elections and Voter Registration. She was selected from 16 applicants during a meeting of the county Board of Elections and Voter Registration on Sept. 8.

McCrea has worked as a clerk in the Elections and Voter Registration office since February 2020 and was promoted to interim director last month when the previous director, Kristie Richardson, resigned. McCrea's prior experience includes both customer service and management. She is a Holly Hill native and a graduate of Francis Marion University.



Aphra McCrea

"The board unanimously felt Aphra's experience and knowledge from working in the office made her the best person for the job," said James Sanderson, board chairman. "She lives in Georgetown County and is very well established here, and has some good ideas for making improvements to the office. She has already started reaching out to other voter registration and elections offices around the state about how we can improve our operations."

Among McCrea's goals is to improve her office's webpage, making it more user friendly and ensuring more information for Georgetown County voters is available online. Updates to the webpage started on day one of her new role.

"She wants to do everything she can to help educate the people in Georgetown County on the elections process and make it easy as possible to get registered and vote," Sanderson said. "That was important for the board."

Sept. 11

Continued from Front Page

Paul Place in Litchfield beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 11. The event will be outside in front of the 9/11 memorial that stands in front of the firehouse. All are welcome, Eggiman said.

The ceremony will open with a welcome and the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer by Midway Chaplain Will Keith. Staff will also talk about the monument at the station and how it came to be. The ceremony will close with a tolling of the bells.

"For a lot of people, and firefighters in particular, this day and the feelings that come with it are very personal and private," Eggiman said. "But I think there are some people who will appreciate a chance to come together and remember and grieve as a community."

As the anniversary has drawn nearer, Eggiman said he has seen an increase in amount of traffic at the memorial in front of the station. "We've had more people stop by and look at it this week than we have in a while," he said. "We used to see people walking up to it all the time and we'd often see a coin or card, a flower or a rock or something someone had left there. We haven't seen that in a while, so the increase tells me it's really on people's minds again with the anniversary approaching."

Eggiman said he hopes the ceremony at Midway this year will help some people get through what is a hard day for so many and may be a learning opportunity for those too young to remember the attacks.

"That was such an incredibly significant day for our nation and the world, and especially for the fire service," Eggiman said. "I hope that we never forget. And for the fire service, it's a reminder of why we're here and what we're willing to do for the people we serve."





New from
GTCOUNTY.ORG

Sign up for alerts! X

Did you know you can now sign up online to receive news alerts, meeting notices and more from Georgetown County Government? It's easy and free!

SUBSCRIBE

Alerts available via text message or email.
Choose which topics you want to be notified about.

MIDWAY FIRE RESCUE

20th Anniversary
Remembrance
Ceremony

September 11, 2021
9 A.M. at Midway HQ
67 St. Pauls Place,
Pawleys Island

NEVER FORGET

9/11/2001

Kids invited to explore Nature in monthly library program



The Friends of the Waccamaw Library had their first Pond Life Program this month with Hayley Fournier of the North Inlet-Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. Kids had the chance to get hands-on with nature and get a look at some microscopic pond life through a guided research program. The monthly program is free and takes place at 3 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month in the back yard behind the Waccamaw Library. For more information, call (843) 545-3349 or email aking@gtcounty.org.

Parks and Rec. gears up for fall flag football

With COVID-19 positive rates continuing to increase locally, Georgetown County Parks and Recreation had to cancel youth tackle football for the fall season, but it's still looking forward to a successful flag football season. Practices and parent meetings are scheduled to start on Sept. 20. The Waccamaw and Andrews regions will practice Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m., while the Northwest and Georgetown regions will practice Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. Updates will be available at gtcparks.org.



The county's NFL Flag Football League has 14 youth teams signed up to play. In Division 1 (ages 9-12) are the Andrews Cowboys, Northwest Chargers, Georgetown Steelers and four Waccamaw teams: the Patriots, Eagles, Browns and Giants. In Division 2 (ages 5-8) are the Andrews Saints, Northwest Jaguars, Georgetown Panthers and four Waccamaw teams, the Packers, Vikings, Titans and Panthers. Players are preparing now for the season with the NFL's Way to Play virtual workout series. Athletes from the county's cheerleading program will be on the sidelines at games.

For more information or to register, call (843) 545-3320 or visit gtcparks.org.

Watershed

Continued from Front Page

The master plan will eventually encompass all watersheds in the county, looking at existing publicly and privately owned drainage systems, land use and soil characteristics, and designated wetland areas.

The project started on the Waccamaw Neck because Georgetown County is mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency to administer the County's MS4 permit. A part of the permit requirement is to have an inventory of the MS4 area's drainage system. The MS4 area exists only on the Waccamaw Neck. It has not yet determined what area of the county data will be collected in next. The first phase of this project is funded through the county's stormwater utility fee.

Stay Connected
WITH YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

@GtCounty

Help us plan for the future

Georgetown County is in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan. We'd like you to be involved throughout the process. The county is collecting public input via surveys, public meetings and more. Sign up now to receive an alert when new opportunities for input become available.

GTCOUNTY.ORG/COMPLAN

Library announces return of "Tuesdays With"

The Friends of the Georgetown Library will kick off the return of their popular "Tuesdays With..." program this month with famed Gullah storytellers Ron and Natalie Daise. The husband and wife duo, who formerly hosted Nickelodeon's "Gullah Gullah Island" will team up with Johnny L. Ford on Sept. 21 to share memories of McKenzie Beach, which was the area's beach for black residents and visitors during segregation.

The Daises recently worked with Ford to create a children's book titled "McKenzie Beach Memories," based on Ford's memories. It was written by Ford and Ron Daise and was illustrated by Natalie Daise. It was published by CLASS Publishing and is available in local bookstores.

"Tuesdays With" programs take place on the third Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Georgetown Library Auditorium on Cleland Street. Each features a different speaker who will share their expertise on a topic they are passionate about.

In addition to the presentation from the Daises and Ford on Sept. 21, this season's lineup will include:

- Oct. 19 — Richard Dimenstein, along with a special guest panel, will present "The Stores of Front Street: Stories of Georgetown's Jewish Merchants."
- Nov. 16 — James Luken, a biologist with Coastal Carolina University, will present "A History of Natural Resource Protection at the Coast of South Carolina."
- Jan. 18 — Jeannette Myers, an astronomer at Francis Marion University will present "Enjoying the Winter Skies."
- Feb. 15 — Historian Leona Joy Bonds will speak on "The Life and Times of James Bowley."
- March 15 — Local writers and historians Bud Hill and Billy Baldwin will present "Frances Benjamin Johnston, Pioneer Photographer."
- April 19 — Ben Powell, entomologist at Clemson University, will discuss "Bees and Beekeeping in the Lowcountry."
- May 17 — Well-known historian Lee Brockington will present "The Grimke Sisters: South Carolina Women Who Worked Toward Abolition."

For more information, contact rwilley1019@gmail.com. Find more upcoming library programs at gtcounty.org/library.



Ron and Natalie Daise will be featured on Sept. 21 at 10 a.m. with Johnny L. Ford. The trio will discuss "McKenzie Beach Memories."



Ford



Luken



Myers



Brockington

Local author Valdema Lawrence shares story of surviving domestic abuse

On Saturday, Oct. 9 at 4 p.m., the Georgetown Library will host a reading and book-signing by author Valdema Lawrence. She will read excerpts from her new book, "Exposed Wounds," a personal account of her struggles enduring domestic violence.

The Georgetown Library is located at 405 Cleland Street, Georgetown. The event is free and open to the public. Doors will open for pre-event mingling at 3:30 p.m.

The event is part of the Library's recognition of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, a time to speak up about domestic violence, increase awareness, and support survivors of this devastating but common issue. It is estimated that in the U.S., more than 10 million adults experience domestic violence each year. Domestic violence can have major impacts on survivors, including physical injury, psychological trauma, and even death.

Born and raised in Georgetown County, Lawrence is a wife, mother, and the youngest of eight children. After suffering in silence with the effects of domestic abuse from a previous relationship, she realized that "the time has come for me to share my story with the world in hopes to make a difference in someone's life," she said. *Exposed Wounds* is a tell-all book that reveals some of Lawrence's deepest and darkest secrets about domestic violence and suicide.

Award-winning poet to lead Sept. workshop

Award-winning poet Libby Bernardin will lead a poetry-writing workshop on Thursday, Sept. 30, from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Waccamaw Library. The library is located at 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island. The program is free and open to all. However, space will be limited to give proper attention to all participants, so please register at 843-545-3363 or via email at dturner@gtcounty.org.

The workshop, titled "Making Meaning: How Poetry Connects with Readers," is based on the idea that considering your audience is a necessary part of any poet's writing process. This workshop will explore language that draws a reader into the poem and how language can turn a reader away from the poem. As the poet Robert Bly has suggested, words bring baggage, causing confusion about the poet's intention. Words also carry connotations that invite a reader to engage more deeply with a poem, intellectually and emotionally. Handouts will be provided. Participants are encouraged to bring one poem they are working on for feedback.

Bernardin has conducted several writing workshops for the Georgetown County Library since 2005, concentrating on development of poetic elements. Her recent book is "Stones Ripe for Sowing" (2018). She has published two chapbooks, "The Book of Myth" (2009), chosen by Kwame Dawes, and "Layers of Song" (2011), and her poems have appeared in numerous journals, including *The Asheville Poetry Review*, *Southern Poetry Review*, and *Kakalak*. In addition to winning several poetry awards from the Poetry Society of South Carolina and the North Carolina Poetry Society, she is a Pushcart Prize nominee and a Life Member of the Board of Governors for the S.C. Academy of Authors. Bernardin has proven a foundational presence on the Lowcountry poetry scene as well as an advocate for poetry across South Carolina, ensuring that there continue to be worthy opportunities for talented and emerging poets in our area and state.

County Administrator selected for Diversity Leadership Initiative

Georgetown County Administrator Angela Christian will join a network of more than 2,300 leaders committed to creating social and economic progress in South Carolina. She has been selected to join other distinguished leaders from across the Palmetto State to participate in the Diversity Leaders Initiative (DLI), an award-winning program of Furman University's Riley Institute.



Now in its 18th year, the program equips participants with tools and perspectives to leverage diversity as a way to improve organizational outcomes and drive social and economic progress in South Carolina. Christian is one of 42 individuals to be a part of the 15th Lowcountry cohort.

"Society faces enormous challenges on multiple fronts in 2021. Now more than ever, leaders must come together to identify ways to unite communities in the pursuit of better outcomes for all," said Dr. Donald Gordon, executive director of the Riley Institute. "The participants in this class will gain unique frameworks and tools as they lead in these unprecedented times."

DLI class members are selected through a rigorous application and interview process after being nominated by existing graduates of the program, known as Riley Fellows. Participants are accepted based on their capacity to create impact within their organizations and communities. Each class is crafted to reflect the diverse demographics in South Carolina.

Christian will take part in a highly interactive curriculum consisting of case studies, scenario analyses and other experiential learning tools that maximize interaction and discussion among classmates and facilitate productive relationships. Working alongside classmates, Christian will also develop a capstone project that raises awareness of community need.

Oct. 3 is last day to register to vote in this year's municipal elections

September is National Voter Registration Month and Georgetown County is using the opportunity to encourage



residents to become registered voters in time for this year's local elections. All three of the county's municipalities (the City of Georgetown and the Towns of Andrews and Pawleys Island) will have elections on Nov. 2.

The last day to register to vote in time to participate in these elections is Oct. 3. Registration is open to U.S. citizens 18 and up, as well as 17-year-olds who will be 18 by Election Day.

Getting registered to vote is extremely easy, said Aphra McCrea, director for Georgetown County's Office of Elections and Voter Registration. Register online at scvotes.gov or register in person at the Georgetown County Office of Elections and Voter Registration, located at 303 N. Hazard St., Georgetown.

For those who are already registered to vote, this is a great time to make sure your registration information is up to date, McCrea said. Updating your information can ensure you have a smooth experience on Election Day. Registration may be updated online at scvotes.gov, in person at your local Elections Office, or by calling the Elections Office. The Georgetown Office can be reached at (843) 545-3339. For more information, visit scvotes.gov or gtcounty.org/vote.



Apply for A-Tax grants now through Oct. 8, 2021

gtcounty.org/ATax

Art Classes!

the ART MUSEUM
visits the Georgetown Library!

Pre-registration is required. Please contact Shelia Sullivan to complete registration.
843.545.3310
ssullivan@gtcounty.org

Time | 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
Ages | 6 - 12 years old

September 21st | Weave It All to Me
Students will learn about exhibiting artist Chellis Baird and take inspiration from her work to create their own wristband by using a straw weaving technique.

October 19th | Coffee Monsters
In the spirit of Halloween, students will have the chance to create their own mythological monster using coffee rings, inspired by Cuban-American artist, Reynier Llanes.

November 16th | Painting with Yarn
By comparing and looking at the movement in both Chellis Baird and Jackson Polluck's work, students will create their own paintings using strands of yarn as their paint brush.

December 21st | Printingscape
Students will create their own animal inspired lithograph print in the style of Jacque Hnizdovsky's work.

**Georgetown
County,
South Carolina**
County Government

Numbers to know

(All begin with area code 843)

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

Parks & Rec., 545-3320

Planning/Zoning, 545-3116

Probate Judge, 545-3077

Register of Deeds, 545-3088

Sheriff, 546-5102

Treasurer, 545-3098

P.O. Box 421270
129 Screven Street

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



New Red Trail opens at Rocky Point Community Forest

Rocky Point, a boat landing and picnic spot in South Carolina's first Community Forest, has another new offering for nature lovers.

"We're getting ready to open our second trail in the trail system out here," said Loren Wallace, Georgetown County Parks and Recreation Manager.

The first trail — the Green Trail — opened this spring and is about a mile long. The Red Trail opened the first week in September, just in time for Fall. The new trail is also a mile long and is dotted with old-growth hardwoods, which will be full of leaves changing color this autumn. But there's another treat on both Rocky Point trails.

"One of the great, fun activities you can come out and enjoy while you're walking the Red and Green Trail is looking for geocaches," Wallace said. "We have eight geocaches strategically placed along the trail, so we invite you to get your phone out, look up the coordinates, and come find those treasures."

Georgetown County and the Winyah Rivers Alliance, who jointly managed the scenic site, are planning even more offerings in the future.



Chanterelles and other mushrooms can be spotted growing wild along the trails at Rocky Point. Chanterelles grow near live oaks from late May until the end of October.

"We're looking forward to adding some additional trails in the future," Wallace said. "Along with that, we're hoping to add some primitive camping, a kayak launch on Choppee Creek, and some multi-use trails and equine trails. There's a lot in store for Rocky Point. We invite you to come out and start enjoying what the forest has to offer."

Rocky Point is just off Choppee Road and stretches to a high Bluff overlooking the Black River. Watch our latest video about the trail opening at [YouTube.com/gtcountysc](https://www.youtube.com/gtcountysc).

