



Inside this Issue

- Jay Watson is new County Attorney, Page 2
- Elections Board to hold hearing on residency challenge, Page 2
- County Council actions from September, Page 3
- 21-day fitness challenge begins Oct. 10, Page 4
- First responders, civilian, recognized for recent rescue of man and dog from submerged vehicle, Page 10

Calendar

Oct. 9 – Georgetown Library Community Yard Sale, 8 a.m. to noon. See page 6.

Oct. 9 – Bicycle Rodeo at Stables Park, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. See page 5.

Oct. 12 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m., Howard Auditorium.

Oct. 15 – Family Halloween Celebration at Rocky Point, 6-9 p.m. See Page 3.

Oct. 21 – Georgetown County Planning Commission Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Howard Auditorium.

Oct. 21 – County Library Board meeting, 5:30 p.m., Georgetown Library.

Oct. 26 – Georgetown County Council redistricting workshop, 4 p.m., Howard Auditorium. Council meeting follows at 5:30 p.m.

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

The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

Volume 10, Issue 2

October 2021

Longtime fire chief Mack Reed retires

Mack Reed has been part of Georgetown County Fire Department for his entire adult life — and almost as long as the department has existed.

“I didn’t know it was going to be a lifelong career,” Reed recalled on Sept. 28, just two days before his retirement. “They had just started the fire department and my brothers were on it. They said, ‘well, it’s a volunteer department. If we don’t serve, we won’t have any fire protection.’” So he joined them there to help his community. He served the department while working other jobs, including at the City of Georgetown Fire Department, for seven years until the county started looking for a paid fire chief. He was hired and spent the next 32 years at the helm, leading the department (which merged with Georgetown County EMS in 2005) through a tremendous amount of growth and change.

The department has been such a huge part of his life — and he such a huge part of the department and its history — that he wasn’t sure how he was going to handle the separation. And he’s almost certain it won’t be permanent.



“I’m going to do the honey-do list for a couple of months, do some fishing,” Reed said. “I bought a boat

See “Chief Reed,” Page 10

Resurfacing will temporarily close airport’s primary runway

Resurfacing of the main runway at the Georgetown County Airport may require diversion of some air traffic to neighboring counties during the months of October and November.

The airport will close its primary runway, “Runway 5/23,” for about 40 days beginning Oct. 11. Its secondary runway, “Runway 11/29,” will remain open, but cannot accommodate aircraft over 20,000 pounds.

“We get quite a few of those,” said Jim Taylor, Georgetown County Airport Manager. “They’ll have to divert to Charleston or Myrtle Beach during the resurfacing, but we’re hoping we can finish up phase one of the project in less than 40 days. It’s short-term pain for long-term safety gain.”

The resurfacing is merited by the condition of the asphalt, but once complete it will also allow the airport to accommodate heavier aircraft. The main runway currently has a weight cap of 60,000 pounds. Taylor



hopes it will be able to accommodate anywhere from 85,000 to 100,000 pounds after resurfacing.

The airport is currently repairing its secondary runway, but that work will be complete before the primary runway closes on Oct. 11. The county wanted to make sure the secondary runway was ready to accommodate the increased traffic that will be caused by the upcoming primary runway closure.

Watson joins staff as new attorney

Georgetown County Administrator Angela Christian is pleased to announce that John D. Watson has joined her staff as County Attorney. His first day on the job was Sept. 27.

Known to friends and family as Jay, Watson was born and raised in Florence. His grandfather and great-grandfather were native to Georgetown, and he has family scattered across the state from the Lowcountry to the Upstate.

Watson has been a licensed member of the Bars of South Carolina and North Carolina since 1995. He is also a certified Mediator with the courts of South Carolina and North Carolina. In more than 26 years of practice, he has represented individuals, families, small businesses, nonprofits, and national companies in a variety of civil and criminal matters covering issues of contracts, litigation, personal injury and property damage, construction, real estate, entertainment, business and mediation. Prior to practicing law, he worked with the North Carolina Governor's Crime Commission, where he assisted law enforcement agencies statewide to establish and operate criminal justice programs for special drug enforcement task forces, juvenile justice and domestic violence programs, and special prosecution teams under grants through the U.S. Bureau of Justice.

"The combination of experience he brings makes him an excellent choice for this role and we are excited to have him joining Team Georgetown County," Christian said.

Watson is also a former staff member of a small church in Asheville, N.C., where he served in counseling, teaching and administration, as well as oversight for a weekly ministry of a food and clothing pantry for many in need in the downtown area of Asheville.

Watson served for nine years on the Buncombe County Board of Elections, six years of which he served as chairman of the board. He has served as a legal intern with the United States Attorney's Office and as a legislative intern in the U.S. Senate. He is a graduate of Campbell University School of Law, and of Regent University, where he earned a Master of Arts in Public Policy.

Watson is married and a father of four. He enjoys sailing, swimming, and is a certified rescue diver.



Jay Watson

Elections Board to hold hearing on Oct. 8 over residency challenge

The Georgetown County Board of Elections and Voter Registration has schedule a hearing to deal with a challenge to the eligibility of one of the candidates in the Nov. 2 general election. The hearing will take place at 9 a.m. Friday, Oct. 8, in County Council Chambers in the historic courthouse on Screven St. The hearing is open to the public.

The residency of Jason Collins, a candidate in the City of Georgetown mayoral race, has been challenged by Donald Gilliard. State law requires a hearing to be scheduled when a formal challenge is issued.

Collins is one of three candidates on the ballot in the City's mayoral race. Running as an Independent, he is scheduled to challenge incumbent Brendon Barber, a Democrat, and Carol Jayroe, a Republican.

Elections to take place in all 3 county municipalities

The City of Georgetown and the Towns of Andrews and Pawleys Island will all have elections on Nov. 2. There are no countywide or other elections scheduled in Georgetown County.

Prior to Election Day, registered voters in these jurisdictions are encouraged to get ready by checking their registration information and making sure they know where their polling location is. These actions can be completed by visiting gtcounty.org/vote. Voters can also familiarize themselves with candidates running for office by viewing sample ballots, which are available under the Upcoming Elections tab at gtcounty.org/vote.

As a reminder, campaign materials (including hats, t-shirts, buttons, etc.) are not allowed at polling locations.

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 approves ordinance to allow officials to enact bans on outdoor burning

Georgetown County officials now have the authority to ban outdoor burning when conditions make such activity dangerous.

An [ordinance](#) approved by Council on Sept. 14 allows the County Administrator or their designee to institute a burn ban upon the recommendation of the jurisdictional fire chief. The ordinance mirrors state guidelines. Burn bans would be issued primarily due to weather conditions, such as wind or drought, that would make it easy for fires to get out of control, or other local circumstances that could make fires hazardous. An automatic prohibition of any open burning in the county will go into effect any time a Red Flag Fire Alert from the S.C. Forestry Commission is active.

The ordinance will not apply to small campfires, outdoor fireplaces, firepits and other specific items used for cooking or heat.

The penalty for violation of a burn ban will be up to \$500, or up to 30 days jail time or public service.

The ordinance also lays out guidelines for any open burning, including materials that should not be burned minimum distances from homes and other structures.

Other Council Action from September

- Council gave third reading to an [update](#) of the rules on tree protection and replacement. The primary goal of the update is preservation of existing tree canopy in the county and stronger tree replacement requirements. One of the major changes to the ordinance was a reduction to the size of what are considered "grand trees," which receive greater protections.
- Council agreed to [name the track and field complex](#) at Beck

Recreation Center in honor of Anthuan Maybank. Maybank is a native of Georgetown County and a 1996 Olympic gold medalist in track, who is also dedicated to being a mentor to youth. The track opened at Beck this spring.

- A [resolution](#) regarding American Rescue Plan spending was approved 5-1 (Steve Goggans was absent and Bob Anderson was opposed). The resolution called for spending \$50,000 on COVID-19-related supplies and activities; \$300,000 on broadband installation in the Rose Hill community; \$400,000 on economic development activities; and more.
- Lauren Joseph was reappointed to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee; Michael Morris was appointed to fill a seat on the Parks and Recreation Commission; and Martin Farrell was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals.
- Council gave [second reading](#) to an update of the Cultural Resources element of the Comprehensive Plan. A public hearing and final reading are scheduled for Oct. 12.
- The \$145,303 [purchase](#) of auto extrication equipment for Georgetown County Fire-EMS was approved.
- A construction contract worth \$850,085 was [awarded](#) to Green Wave Contracting for installation of a ground water protective system consisting of a chemical reactive barrier and new cap at an inactive area of the landfill.
- [Final reading](#) was given to rezoning of four parcels on the east side of Litchfield Landing from "General Commercial" to "10,000-square-foot residential."
- [Final reading](#) was given to rezoning at the Bluffs at North Hampton to allow for a Resort RV Park with amenities.

Join Georgetown County Parks & Recreation for a

HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, OCT. 15, FROM 6-9 P.M.
AT ROCKY POINT COMMUNITY FOREST

Featuring a marshmallow roast, hay ride, ghost stories, pumpkin painting, costume contest & more spooky family fun!

Admission is FREE.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.





WACCAMAW NECK BRANCH
LIBRARY

YOUNG ARTISTS EXHIBIT 2021

An art showcase by artists 18 and under at the WNBL

Exhibit: 11/1/21 - 12/31/21
Reception: 11/30/21 5:30-7

All artwork is for sale!
Call 843-545-3349 or email aking@gtcounty.org for more info.



Friends of the
Waccamaw Library

Parks and Recreation Dept. to launch 21-day step challenge



With temperatures finally starting to cool, Fall is a perfect time to enjoy the great outdoors and get in some extra exercise in the process. For a little added motivation, Georgetown County Parks and Recreation will kick off a new 21-day step challenge this month. The challenge begins on Sunday, Oct. 10, and everyone is encouraged to participate.

To do so, residents should take their weight and measurements (waist, chest, upper arm and thigh) at the beginning of the challenge. They should also aim to get at least 30 minutes of exercise five days a week for the duration of the challenge, and give up three unhealthy foods or habits.

"We're challenging everyone to set a goal and stick to it for the length of the challenge," said Loren Wallace, Recreation Manager. "If 10,000 steps a day just isn't doable for you and you usually get 3,000 a day, then aim for 5,000. The idea is just to get out there and walk and increase your step count."

Then weigh and measure again at the end of the challenge to check your progress.

Adult soccer league crowns new champions



In spring 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic changed almost every aspect of our lives. Georgetown County Parks and Recreation's adult sports leagues were not immune to these changes, and were forced to go on hiatus until this summer.

Now, as the summer 2021 adult soccer league draws to a close, the league has crowned its first new champions in quite some time.

On Saturday, Sept. 25, the final rounds of the adult soccer league playoffs took place at Stables Park in Pawleys Island, with four teams – #1 Prestige Worldwide, #2 Legends, #3 Georgetown United, and #4 LatinNet United – all vying for the championship. It was a challenging slate of games, especially considering the fact that Prestige Worldwide had won five out of the last seven league championships prior to this season.

In the first set of games, LatinNet United defeated Prestige Worldwide, 6-4, and Legends defeated Georgetown United, 5-3. In the league's championship game, the Legends gave it their all, but ultimately fell to LatinNet United by a score of 7-4, giving LatinNet, pictured above, their first league championship.

Although there will not be a full fall league, the Parks and Recreation department is exploring the possibility of holding a single-weekend tournament in the fall prior to the next full league season in the spring of 2022. For more information regarding registering a team for any adult soccer leagues, please contact Randy Akers at (843) 359-6419 or via email at bakers@gtcounty.org.

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](https://www.gtcounty.org/complan)

Classic movie series curated by Coastal Observer editor will focus on elections

Beginning on Friday, Oct. 15, the Waccamaw Library will unveil an exciting new series of weekly vintage film screenings titled, "Elections on Screen!: Political Elections in Classic Hollywood Films." Screenings will take place on Friday afternoons in October and November at 2:30 p.m. at the Library, located at 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island.

The films all depict political campaigns and elections and hail from the "Golden Age" of Hollywood: the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s. The films are selected by Charles Swenson, Editor of the Coastal Observer, who will provide introductions before each screening and lead audience Q&A sessions immediately afterward.

Swenson's lineup of movies reflects an engaging balance of comedy and drama, thrilling film noir and heartwarming romance, well-known pieces and fascinating under-the-radar picks—all of which are well worth seeing on the Library's extra-large screen. The movies feature some of the brightest stars from Hollywood's Golden Age, including Cary Grant, Jean Arthur, Marlene Dietrich, John Barrymore, and Spencer Tracy.

All screenings are free and open to the public, and are sponsored by the Friends of the Waccamaw Library. The full schedule is below:

- Oct. 15, 2:30 p.m., "The Great McGinty" (1940).
- Oct. 22, 2:30 p.m., "The Talk of the Town" (1942).
- Oct. 29, 2:30 p.m., "A Foreign Affair" (1948).
- Nov. 5, 2:30 p.m., "The Farmer's Daughter" (1947).
- Nov. 12, 2:30 p.m., "The Great Man Votes" (1939).



Charles Swenson

A note from our Veterans Affairs Officer

A letter to veterans from Georgetown County Veterans Affairs Officer David Murphy:

Hello Veterans! The U.S. Navy will celebrate its 245th birthday on Oct. 13, and on Nov. 10 the U.S. Marine Corps will also celebrate its 245th birthday. Please thank and give a birthday shoutout to our Sailors and Marines.

The Department of Veterans Affairs is strongly encouraging all personnel who submit claims on behalf of veterans to submit those claims electronically, not by fax or snail mail. Electronic claims submission is faster, and inherently more accurate. It will result in a quicker adjudication of the claim, and decision notification for the veteran. Veterans can choose to upload their claims on eBenefits, va.gov or you may bring them to the Veterans Affairs office at 537 Lafayette Circle, Georgetown.

Again as a reminder please make sure that you have a copy of your DD FM 214. If you do not have a copy of your DD FM 214, please check with our office. If you want to request a copy, the quickest way is to register on eBenefits at VA.gov. Another way is to request a copy from the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC). You can do this online from their website.

Please note we will also be hosting an exciting event for veterans on Nov. 5 There will be more information on that coming soon. Check our website, gtcounty.org/veterans, later this month.



Murphy



**PAWLEYS ISLAND KIWANIS
2ND ANNUAL BIKE RODEO
AND FAMILY SAFETY DAY**

- FREE HELMETS
- BIKE SAFETY CHECK
- FREE BIKE RAFFLE
- FIRE TRUCK
- POLICE CAR
- SNOW CONES
- BIKE DECORATING
- TRAIL BIKE RIDE
- AND MUCH MORE.....

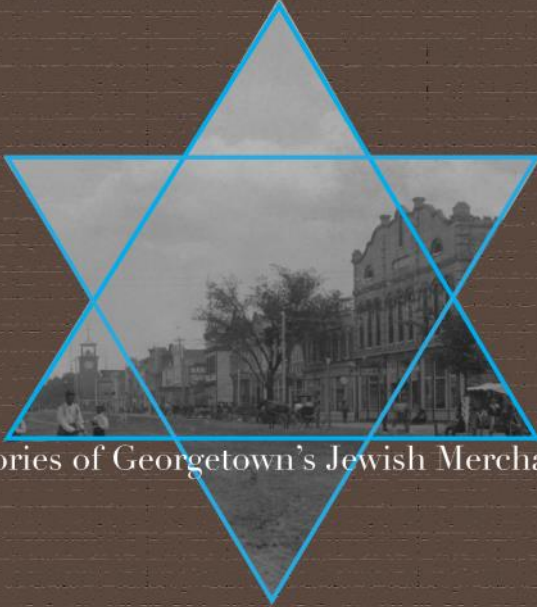


**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 10:00 - 2:00
STABLES PARK IN PAWLEYS ISLAND**

The FRIENDS of the GEORGETOWN LIBRARY Present

TUESDAYS WITH...

THE STORES OF FRONT STREET



Stories of Georgetown's Jewish Merchants

Richard Dimenstein and a special guest panel

OCTOBER 19th, 10:00AM

Georgetown Library Auditorium
405 Cleland St. Georgetown

WORKS OF ART



The Sheriff's Re-entry Program recently welcomed board members from Amazing Journey and volunteers from Club 142 of Pawleys Island for a party with a purpose. They priced more than 100 items that will be sold at the Wooden Boat Show on October 16 and 17. The funds will help inmates earn journeyman certification in high demand trades.

Officers take oaths of office



Sheriff Carter Weaver swore in a new officer and two returning retirees on September 22. Pictured, the Sheriff congratulates Kenneth S. Davis, Jr. (left), a certified deputy, and Mandy Glover and Bryan Todd (center), recent GCSO retirees who are returning to the force to serve as School Resource Officers. Glover will be at Andrews Elementary School and Todd will be at Carvers Bay Middle School.

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

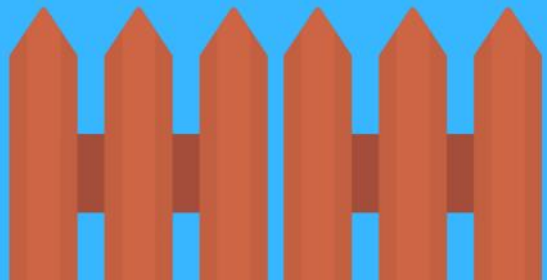
COMMUNITY YARD SALE

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



New tools will help save lives



Georgetown County Fire-EMS staff recently took delivery of two sets of Hurst eDrainic rescue tools to replace aging tools in their fleet. These state-of-the-art rescue tools will provide first responders with new technology and enhanced capabilities when encountering challenging vehicle extrication assignments, especially with new ultra-high strength components found in modern vehicles. These rescue tools will also provide more functionality in structural collapse environments or other technical rescue situations due to their compact design and increased power, said Brandon Ellis, Georgetown County Emergency Services Director. Several additional sets of these rescue tools are on order and are being funded by capital improvement funds. Once received, they will be strategically placed on specific apparatus throughout the Georgetown County Fire-EMS coverage area.



Eastham retires with 30+ years of service

Lt. Lesley Eastham with Georgetown County Fire-EMS retired on Sept. 29, after more than 30 years of service to Georgetown County and its residents. Eastham began her career with Georgetown County in August of 1991, and has been an integral part of the Fire and EMS community through her actions as an EMT/Paramedic, as well as her efforts to train and educate her fellow first responders in pre-hospital emergency care. Although Eastham is retiring, she will continue to serve her community as a valuable volunteer firefighter/paramedic in the Pleasant Hill Community. Thank you, Lt. Eastham for your dedicated service to Georgetown County. Enjoy your well deserved retirement!



Sponsored by the Crime Victim Advocates of Georgetown County

Candlelight Vigil

Thursday, October 21st, 11 am - noon
 Georgetown County Sheriff's Office
 430 N. Fraser Street, Georgetown



Sheriff Carter Weaver

The Vigil is dedicated to the memory of 2021 domestic violence victim Mrs. Hazel Daniels. Her granddaughter, Aleia Jeffery, is keynote speaker.

SBA announces changes to COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program

Application Deadline is Dec. 31

The Small Business Administration recently announced major enhancements to the COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program. Those changes are as follows:

- **Increasing the COVID EIDL Cap.** The SBA will lift the COVID EIDL cap from \$500,000 to \$2 million. Loan funds can be used for any normal operating expenses and working capital, including payroll, purchasing equipment, and paying debt.

- **Implementation of a Deferred Payment Period.** The SBA will ensure small business owners will not have to begin COVID EIDL repayment until two years after loan origination so that they can get through the pandemic without having to worry about making ends meet.

- **Establishment of a 30-Day Exclusivity Window.** To ensure main street businesses have additional time to access these funds, the SBA will implement a 30-day exclusivity window of approving and disbursing funds for loans of \$500,000 or less. Approval and disbursement of loans over \$500,000 will begin after the 30-day period.

- **Expansion of Eligible Use of Funds.** COVID EIDL funds will now be eligible to prepay commercial debt and make payments on federal business debt.

- **Simplification of affiliation requirements.** To ease the COVID EIDL application process for small businesses, the SBA has established more simplified affiliation requirements to model those of the Restaurant Revitalization Fund.

To learn about eligibility and application requirements and how to apply, visit sba.gov/eidl. The last day that applications may be received is December 31, 2021. All eligible applicants should file their applications as soon as possible.

Firefighter receives Medal of Valor, other recognized for lifesaving actions

Emergency responders and a civilian who recently rescued a man and a dog from a submerged car were recognized for heroism on Sept. 22. Midway Fire-Rescue presented their firefighter Thomas Doyle with the Medal of Valor for his actions. Meritorious Action Awards were presented to Firefighter Dustin Kilpatrick, Firefighter/Paramedic Steven Van Kirk, S.C. Highway Patrol Trooper Adam Marshall and a civilian, Blake Marsh. Other firefighters who were on the scene that day received a Unit Citation Award. They were Battalion Chief Jerry Liberatore, Master Firefighter Santini Washington, Captain Jeremy Skinner and Ben Dussault.



Thomas Doyle

Those honored put their own lives at risk to save a man and his dog on Aug. 29 when the car they were in landed in a pond in Litchfield and ended up completely under water. Firefighters arrived on the scene within four minutes. Trooper Marshall and Marsh were already in the pond working to free the victims. Firefighters used hydraulic tools to get the car door open and rescuers were able to get the unconscious man to safety. His dog swam to shore.

The event could have easily been a tragic one, said Midway Chief Doug Eggiman. See Eggiman's remarks and the awards presentation on our [YouTube Channel](#).

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION AND PAPER SHREDDING EVENT

Oct. 23, from 9 a.m. to noon
located at Waccamaw High School,
2412 Kings River Rd., Pawleys Island

Accepted items include: Paint, household cleaners, batteries (alkaline and rechargeable), incandescent and fluorescent light bulbs, non-commercial pesticides, fertilizers, items labeled "warning," "poisonous" or "toxic," and paper documents with staples, rubber bands or clips.



Gas, oil, antifreeze, 3-ring binders, medication and ammunition are NOT accepted. These must be disposed of at other locations.

For more information, call (843) 545-3443



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!

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

Two recognized for 45 years of service



On Sept. 29, Georgetown County recognized employees who celebrated milestone service anniversaries in 2020. The ceremony was delayed from last winter due to COVID-19. The employees with the highest number of service years in the group were Ricky Rowe of Georgetown County Parks and Recreation and Cynthia Howard of the Clerk of Court's Office with 45 years each. Other honorees were as follows. 35 years: Judge Isaac Pyatt Sr. 30 years: Jeanette Alston and Sharon Moultrie. 25 years: Tony Hucks, Deborah Johnson and Priscilla Johnson. 20 years: Annie Bowers, Holley Causey, Rhonda Stone, Sheila Gardner and Michael Thacker. 15 years: Jeffrey Bi-alecki, Adam Porter, Steven Richards, Peter Copeland, Henry Hulit, Holly Richardson, Harrison Walker, Mark Cox, Joanne Clarey, Angela Carter, Tanya Cumbee, Deborah Huggins, Pamela Pope, and Samantha Point. 10 years: Jennifer Lawrence, Susananna Wilson, Michael Derenzo, Alexander Roman, Vanunderia Brave, Rose Lewis, James Crawford, Kevin McLaughlin, Henry Betts, Bryan McKay, Alma Sierra and Tanisha Stanley. Five years: Patrice Cohen, Derek Harrelson, Alice Cribb, Jeanie Goodwin, Erin Hayes, Cynthia Kinder, Steve Goggans, John Thomas, Ethan McDaniel, Scott Walker, Hailey Davis, Aaron Bostic, Joshua Deleuze, Christopher Holmes, Josann Welch, Art Baker, Randy Welsh, Iteia Cooper, Folona Duncan, Michelle Brown, Jeremy Colbert, Caitlin Lavoie, Stephanie Johnson, Candice Lilly, Judge John Love, Rhonda Cunningham, Tiffany McBride and David Murphy. Photos of all groups are available on our Facebook page at facebook.com/gtcounty.

Council workshop to focus on redistricting

Georgetown County Council has scheduled a workshop prior to its regular Oct. 26 meeting to discuss plans for upcoming redistricting. The workshop will begin at 4 p.m. at Howard Auditorium.

The county has contracted with the state office of Revenue and Fiscal Affairs (RFA) to guide it through the redistricting process. RFA representatives will be present at the meeting to provide a report to council on the census numbers that impact how new district lines are drawn, as well as the process to be used.

Find more information on redistricting, including the RFA report, at gtcounty.org/redistricting. Public meetings will also be scheduled for January to review drafts of new council lines.

Fire Dept. offers tips to prevent cooking fires during Fire Prevention Month

October is Fire Prevention Month in Georgetown County, and firefighters want to help residents prevent one of the biggest fire risks in homes. More than half of all home fires in the United States are cooking related.

When investigating any fire incident, two of the many aspects of the process is determining the origin and cause of the fire, said Mark Nugent, Fire Marshal with Midway Fire-Rescue. In broad terms, the origin is the location where the fire started, and the cause is the circumstances which resulted in the fire. Typically, when the origin of the fire is a pan of grease on a hot burner, the cause is classified as "unattended cooking."

"In simple terms, someone left the kitchen while they were cooking with grease or oil, which resulted in the fire," Nugent said. "As we move closer to the winter holidays, we consistently see an increase of fires originating from cooking."

Midway offers to following tips to help prevent fires while cooking, and encourages residents to "Stand By Your Pan."

- Staying in the kitchen is critical to safety in the kitchen, by ensuring you are constantly monitoring food on the stove. This also helps prevent "little hands" from getting close to hot stove fronts or burners. If you have to leave the kitchen for a moment (as long as you're not frying food) take a cooking spoon, spatula or dish towel with you as a reminder to go back to the kitchen.

- Homes should be equipped with a 5-pound ABC Fire Extinguisher, located somewhere between the cooking area and exit door from the kitchen. Another easy solution is to keep the pan top or a cookie sheet close by, which can easily be placed on the top of a smoking or burning pan. NEVER put water on a stove top fire, and NEVER pick up a burning pan. The cover method or fire extinguisher are your best options.

For more fire and life safety information, send an email to contactmidwayfire@gtcounty.org.

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

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 usings 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



Reed shakes hands and accepts a retirement gift from Emergency Services Director Brandon Ellis.

Chief Reed

Continued from Front Page

three or four years ago and have only taken it out a few times." He also wants to start going to S.C. State University football games again. That's his alma mater and he used to play on the football team there.

"Then I'll see what happens from there, what I'm going to do with all this time. But I think I'm going to have to do something with the fire department. I'm not sure what yet. Maybe I'll come back and ride a truck. But I think I'm going to have to do something. It's been part of me for too long.

Reed recalled his first year as chief. He took the job just a matter of weeks before Hurricane Hugo hit, leaving the area devastated.



He counts that as one of the most memorable events during his tenure, along with a major woods fire while he was chief and a fire at International Paper Company while he was still working as a volunteer. He said both events took more than a week to get under control.

He has served under at least six county administrators and he can't even begin to guess how many County Council members.

"Chief Reed is not only a good leader, but he's also the heart and soul of this department," Emergency Services Director Brandon Ellis said during a retirement party for Reed on Sept. 30. "You look at Chief Reed and then you look at everyone in this department, you look at their actions and how they dedicate themselves to the public day in and day out. It's a reflection of him, of his character and integrity. He displays the best integrity of anyone I know."

A modest man who dislikes the spotlight, Reed asked not to have a big fuss made of his retirement. But officials from across the county still wanted to thank him for his service. In addition to Ellis' presentation, Georgetown County Council read a proclamation in honor of Reed's Service, and several other presentations were made. Video of the event is available at [YouTube.com/gtcounty](https://www.youtube.com/gtcounty).

Asked if he had any words for the public upon his retirement, Reed offered them his thanks.

"I appreciate the time you allowed me to serve," he said. "I've grown a lot over the years. It's a different challenge every year, but now I think it's time for some new changes. I hope the best for the department and I think there are great things in store."