



The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

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Calendar

Aug. 18 – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m., County Council Chambers, 129 Screven St.

Aug. 22 – Tickets go on sale for FOWL Fall Luncheon. See page 6.

Aug. 23 – Teen Night at the Georgetown Library, 7-9 p.m. See page 4.

Aug. 23 – Georgetown County Council workshop, 4 p.m., County Council Chambers, 129 Screven St. Regular meeting follows at 5:30 p.m. (Council only meets once this month.)

Aug. 25 – Coffee with a Cop, 8-9 a.m. See page 8.

Aug. 29 – Last day to register for fall youth sports. See page 6.

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

Sept. 12 – Georgetown County Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting, 5 p.m. at the Howard Center.

Volume 10, Issue 11

September 2022

County preparing for Bassmaster College Championship

Several S.C. colleges and universities will be among 44 schools and 130 teams coming to Georgetown from across the nation next month to participate in the Bassmaster College National Championship.

The tournament, sponsored by Strike King, will take place on Winyah Bay Sept. 2-4, with daily boat launch from the Carroll Ashmore Campbell Marine Complex at 6:30 a.m. and weigh-ins on Front Street at 2:30 p.m.

The competition for a spot in this year's championship was fierce, said Beth Goodale, director of Georgetown County Parks and Recreation, which is hosting the tournament. She expects competition for the championship title to be just as strong.

S.C. schools competing this year include Coastal Carolina University, Lander University and Erskine College.

Other participating schools include: Adrian College, Arkansas Tech., Auburn, Baylor University, Bethel University, Blue Mountain College, Bryan College, Campbellsville University, Carson New-

man University, Catawba Valley Community College, Dallas Baptist University, Drury University, East Texas Baptist University, Emmanuel College, Florida Gateway College, Georgia College, Grand Valley State University, Greenville University, Hinds Community College, Jacksonville State University, Kent State University, Kentucky Christian University, King University, Lamar State College Orange, Liberty University, Marshall University, McKendree University, Minnesota State — Mankato, Mississippi State University, Missouri State University, Murray State University, N.C. State University, Northwestern State University, Sam Houston State University, Southern Union State Community College, Stephen F. Austin State University, Texas A&M University, UNC—Charlotte, the University of Alabama, the University of Louisville and the University of Montevallo.

T.J. McKenzie of Andrews will comprise one half the team from Emmanuel College.



See "Bassmaster," Page 8

Application period for A-tax grants open now through Sept. 30

Georgetown County began accepting applications for accommodations tax grants beginning on Monday, Aug. 15. The application period will run through Sept. 30 at 5 p.m. Grants are available for projects and events occurring in the 2023 calendar year.

Proceeds from the county's share of the state tax on hotel rooms and other vacation rentals — also known as A-tax — are distributed to organizations through grants for eligible tourism-related events and activities.



grant awards are made by an advisory committee comprised of representatives from the county's tourism industry. County Council will make final award determinations in December.

The grant program is administered by the Georgetown County Finance Department in accordance with program guidelines. For more information about accommodations tax grants, visit www.gtcounty.org/atax. Potential applicants may also contact Juliette Kelso in the Finance Department at jkello@gtcounty.org

Recommendations on or (843) 545-3068 for more information.

Patterson retires from Sheriff's Office



Patterson, right, is pictured with Sheriff Carter Weaver on Aug. 10.

Sgt. Robert Patterson was honored for 26 years with the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office during a retirement ceremony on Aug. 10.

Patterson joined the Sheriff's Office in 1996, working at the Detention Center, after completing 20 years in the Army. His last military assignment was as a drill instructor at Fort Jackson. He became a deputy in the county's Patrol Division in 1999 and worked as a transport officer before taking the job as coordinator of community outreach — a position he filled until his retirement.

Sheriff Carter Weaver said Patterson developed the standards for the job as he attended community functions to encourage safety at places ranging from children's day care facilities to nursing homes. He represented the Sheriff's Office in parades and escorted the Easter Bunny on his rounds. He met with members of the community to develop Neighborhood Watch programs and filled in for School Resource Officers when they needed time off.

Patterson said he approached his job with love — for both his fellow deputies and the people they serve. He was named the Sheriff's Office Deputy of the Year for 2020. His last day was Aug. 12. We wish him all the best in his retirement.

Seven file for four school board seats

When filing for four nonpartisan school board seats closed at noon on Aug. 15, only one of seven candidates found themselves unopposed. Keith A. Moore of Georgetown was the only candidate to file for the District 7 seat.

In District 2, Lynne Ford and Scott Dubose of the Pawleys Island area will compete for one seat. Four candidates will compete for two at-large seats. They are Brian J. Miller, Kathy Ferdon Anderson and Robert Cox, all of Georgetown, and Michael Cafaro of Pawleys Island.

The election will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 8. On that day, Georgetown County voters will also decide on three County Council seats (two are unopposed) and weigh in on multiple statewide elections, as well as two congressional seats.

The last day to register to vote in the general election will be Oct. 8. Voters who are already registered are encouraged to check their voter registration information and update any details that may no longer be accurate. For more information, visit gtcounty.org/vote.

Open play basketball suspended in two gyms

Open play basketball in the gymnasium at the Howard Center on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and at Beck Recreation Center on Sunday afternoons has been suspended until further notice. Georgetown County made this decision following a shooting incident that occurred in the parking lot of Howard on July 28.

Staff who work the open play hours say they do not currently feel safe to continue. The safety of our staff and those who use our facilities has to come first. The shooting is currently under investigation by the City of Georgetown Police Department. As more information comes out of the investigation, the county will re-evaluate open play at these facilities.

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



Labor Day Weekend
Downtown Georgetown
On the BASSMASTER Stage

Friday 9/2/22



Saturday 9/3/22



FREE

Sponsored by



Plan to have dinner on Front Street after BASSMASTER Weigh-In
Concerts begin at 8:00 PM
Beer, Wine & Beverages will be available for purchase

Sponsored by



georgetown
COUNTY CHAMBER

Rain Location:
Winyah Auditorium 1200 Highmarket St

Ketcham foils gunman in traffic stop

Master Sgt. James Ketcham of the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office was assisting Myrtle Beach Police recently when he likely saved the lives of several fellow officers.

Ketcham was working a details with Myrtle Beach Police when he assisted with a traffic stop. As Myrtle Beach officers approached the passenger side window of the vehicle, Ketcham saw the driver reach for a firearm. He grabbed the driver's arm, preventing him from firing the weapon, and pulled him from the vehicle. There was no injury to officers or the driver.

The firearm proved to be a pistol that had been illegally altered to be an automatic weapon with a large clip of ammunition.

As a result of his actions, Ketcham was recently recognized at Georgetown County's Deputy of the Quarter.



James Ketcham

Sheriff recognizes 12-year-old for life-saving good deed

Jack Olsen, 12, is proof you're never too young to make a difference in your community.

In late June, he noticed a man near the Marshwalk in Murrells Inlet who seemed to be in medical distress. Olsen called 911 and Sheriff's Deputies and Murrells Inlet-Garden City Fire/EMS were able to respond quickly and successfully render aid before transporting the man to the hospital.

"The man was certain to fall off the dock he was on, into the water, where he could have drowned," Sheriff Carter Weaver said. "The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office is grateful for Jack's bravery and quick action. We are honored to recognize him and his example inspires all who are sworn to protect and serve."

Weaver and the Sheriff's Office recognized Olsen for being a good Samaritan during a ceremony on July 18. He received a plaque and some Sheriff's office gear.



Jack Olsen in some of his new GCSO gear.

Watch Georgetown County Council meetings online!

We livestream every council meeting to make it easier for you to stay up to date with what's happening. Watch at [YouTube.com/GtCountySC](https://www.youtube.com/GtCountySC).



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 under county ordinance.



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.gtcounty.org/beachinfo

Limited time left to take advantage of book deals at farmers market

While the Georgetown County Farmers Market will continue on Saturdays through the end of October, Aug. 27 will be the last weekend this year that the Friends of the Georgetown Library book sale will be included.



The farmers market and the book sale will take place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Screven Street, across from the historic courthouse. Robert Wiley, president of the Georgetown Friends Group, said he hopes folks will come out to support the market and take advantage of the library's last two weekly summer book specials. Shoppers on Aug. 20 can look forward to a selection of hardback and paperback fiction, including a large number of paperback westerns; books on wit, wisdom and poetry; biographies; books on travel; and cookbooks.

As a special treat, the book sale will also include a jewelry sale, featuring a collection of pieces donated following a local store closing.

As always, prices are \$1 for hardbacks and 50 cents for paperbacks. Jewelry will be priced at \$3. All proceeds benefit library programming.

Keeping it Clean



Anna Coleman, an intern with the Coastal Conservation League, organized a cleanup of the Pawleys Island south end parking lot on Aug. 13. A total of 10 bags of litter were collected. You can organize a cleanup in your community too, and Georgetown County Environmental Services will help! We will happily partner with residents and groups to provide gloves, safety vests, trash grabbers, trash bags and important safety information to participants for roadside cleanups. We'll also arrange for pickup and disposal of all trash collected and notify organizations of the total weight of the litter they picked up. Anyone who would like to schedule a cleanup in their community is asked to contact the Environmental Services Division at (843) 545-3452 or email Maureen Mulligan at mmulligan@gtcounty.org.

The Georgetown Library Presents...

TEEN NIGHT AT THE LIBRARY

Ages 13-17

Food & Games! Virtual Reality! Special Guests!

Join us!! 7:00-9:00pm
The fourth Tuesday of each month.
405 Cleland Street, Georgetown

Reservations Required: ssullivan@gtcounty.org
843-545-3310/3311

Georgetown FARMERS MARKET

SATURDAYS
8AM-1PM
MAY 7 THRU OCT. 29
122 SCREVEN ST.
DOWNTOWN GEORGETOWN

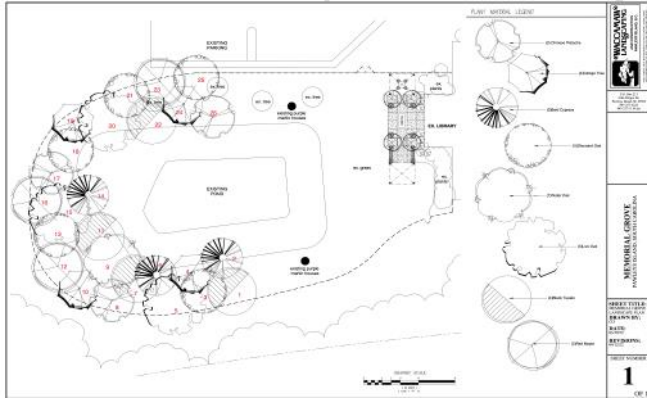
 WWW.WACCAHAWMARKETS.ORG 

Waccamaw Library announces fall ‘First Thursday’ program lineup

The Waccamaw Library’s “First Thursday” series returns in September with an exciting lineup of speakers to close out the year. The programs begin at 10 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month, and are free and open to the public. The fall schedule is as follows:

- Sept. 1 — Samih Baalbaki, “The Middle East Today.” Born and raised in Lebanon, Baalbaki spent 17 years in the Middle East before retiring in the U.S. in 2012. Based on his observations of daily social, religious and business practices in the region, he will share insights into current political and ethical issues affecting the Middle East.
- Oct. 6 — John Lane, “Riding and Writing the Rivers of S.C.” With 20 books to his name, Lane may be S.C.’s most accomplished eco-writer. Drawing from his most recent book, “Still Upright & Headed Downstream: Collected River Writing,” Lane will discuss his many adventures paddling the cascading wilds of our states rivers and describe how these waterways continue to inspire his writing.
- Nov. 3 — Giany Guedjo, “Growing a Community Garden.” The executive director of Carolina Human Reinvestment will describe challenges and rewards of creating and growing the Pawleys Island Community Garden, which provides fresh vegetables to area food banks and hunger programs. Originally from Benin, Guedjo has spent the past 14 years in S.C.
- Dec. 1 — Sara A. Rich, Ph.D., “Mushrooms, or Why We Ought to Respect the Little Things.” Few organisms elicit such levels of popular disgust as the slimy, slippery mushroom. But given their medicinal and culinary value, why are mushrooms so often detested? Based on her new book on the subject, Rich will reveal some surprising elements behind “myco-phobia” and explore the magical world of fungi.

Memorial Grove planned at library



The Friends of the Waccamaw Library are planning an exciting new addition at the library in Litchfield. The group is partnering with Waccamaw Landscaping to design and plant a Memorial Grove in the Garden behind the library.

It’s a perfect opportunity for community members to honor someone they care about, Friends members said. Anyone can purchase their choice of tree from a pre-approved list and donate it in honor of a loved one. Trees purchased this year will be planted in December — the ideal time for tree-planting in our area. Approved trees include live oak, water oak, shumard oak, bald cypress, Chinese pistache, ginkgo, black tupelo and red maple. Prices start at \$350.

There is a limited number offered of each tree species, so it is recommended donors order early in order to secure their first choice. Payment is due by Nov. 15. For more information, visit thefowl.org.



Book Page Pumpkin

Welcome autumn by decorating your own pumpkin using book pages! (*Age 18+)

Registration Required



September 9th @ 10am
at the
Waccamaw Neck Branch Library

Email Kendra Corey at
(kcorey@gtcounty.org)
or call 843-545-3351
to sign up.

41 St. Paul Place
Pawleys Island SC 29585

North Inlet-Winyah Bay NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE



Have you ever wondered

What goes on behind the Hobcaw signs?
What is a National Estuarine Research Reserve?
What types of research goes on in North Inlet?
Can I visit the North Inlet NERR?

Know the NERR

Join Reserve staff to learn more about the research, education and stewardship at the Reserve since its designation in 1992.

- Georgetown County Museum *Tuesday* September 6 5:30 PM
- Waccamaw Library *Thursday* September 8 10:00 AM
- Andrews Library *Saturday* September 10 11:00 AM
- Georgetown Library *Tuesday* September 13 11:00 AM
- Southern Georgetown Library *Thursday* September 15 3:00 PM
- Carvers Bay Library *Saturday* September 17 10:00 AM



Tickets on sale this month for Waccamaw Library's fall luncheon fundraiser

"Together Again... with Friends" is the theme for this year's Friends of the Waccamaw Library Fall Luncheon and Auction. A fundraiser for library programming, materials and more, the event is set for Tuesday, Oct. 18, at the Pawleys Plantation Conference Center.

Tickets are \$38. They go on sale Aug. 22 and may be purchased at the Library's Friends Center on online at thefowl.org.

The Friends are also accepting donations of items for the auction including: stylish clothing, jewelry, scarves, purses, home décor and items for the holidays. The deadline for donations is Monday, Sept. 2. Donations may be dropped off at the Library Friends Center, or to arrange pickup, call Diane Stern at 908-310-2953.

Library seeks true tales of the Gray Man

The Georgetown County Library system is working on a video project focused on local lore and legends, and they're asking for your help. Specifically, they want to talk to residents and visitors who believe they may have encountered one of the area's most famous ghosts: The Gray Man of Pawleys Island.

Although the stories vary somewhat from telling to telling, the Gray Man is typically said to be a benevolent spirit who shows up on the beach before a major storm as a warning to the living and an omen of safety for those who see him. He is said to warn those who see him to leave the island before danger approaches. He is said to have first been seen around 1822.

If you have a tale about the Gray Man you would like to share, contact Aaron Brickle at the library via e-mail at abrickle@gtcounty.org.



'Legends' win soccer championship



The Legends were the winners of this summer's Georgetown County Parks and Recreation adult soccer league championship.

The Georgetown County Adult Soccer League wrapped up its summer season with a series of playoff games on Saturday, August 6 and Saturday, August 13. Six teams – #1 Legends, #2 Georgetown United, #3 El Cerro Grande, #4 South Strand Fútbol Group, #5 LatinNet United, and #6 Internazionale Atlas – each fought their hardest to win the championship.

On August 6, South Strand Fútbol Group eliminated LatinNet United, the team that had won the two previous league championships, by a score of 6-2. In the second game, Internazionale Atlas pulled the upset over El Cerro Grande, also winning 6-2.

On August 13, Internazionale Atlas continued their Cinderella run by eliminating second-ranked Georgetown United, 6-3. In the second and closest game of the day, the Legends and South Strand Fútbol Group were tied through most of the game, until the Legends scored a late goal to take the win, 2-1. In the league's championship game, Internazionale Atlas couldn't pull off a third miracle, as they fell to the Legends by a score of 7-4 to give the Legends their first ever championship.

Although the summer league was the last adult soccer league of 2022, there will be more opportunities to get in on the action. The Parks and Recreation department plans to resume adult soccer in the spring of 2023. For more information regarding registering a team for this league, please contact Randy Akers at (843) 359-6419 or bakers@gtcounty.org.

GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SC

ANNUAL TAX SALE

NOV. 14, 2022

BIDDER REGISTRATION OPENS OCT. 24

DETAILS: GTCOUNTY.ORG/TAXSALE

GEORGETOWN COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION

YOUTH FOOTBALL CHEERLEADING

REGISTER BY AUGUST 29, 2022

Tackle 9-12 year olds
NFL Flag 5-12 year olds
Cheerleading 5-12

COACHES NEEDED!

Volunteer coaches receive discount for their kid

www.gtcparks.org

FLAG

National Night Out brings law enforcement together with residents



Local law enforcement participated in National Night Out events in two locations this month. National Night Out allows residents and law enforcement to get together for an evening of fun, bringing back a true sense of community and helping both groups find ways to support each other. Members of the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office (top photo) celebrated with a family festival at Pawleys Island Community Church. Georgetown County Parks and Recreation hosted the Georgetown City Police Department (above) at Beck Recreation Center.

Welcome, new recruits!



Georgetown County Emergency Services graduated 14 new firefighters from its Recruit School last month. The new graduates will put their skills to use at Georgetown County Fire-EMS, Midway Fire-Rescue and the City of Georgetown Fire Department. Watch the full graduation ceremony at [YouTube.com/gtcountysc](https://www.youtube.com/gtcountysc).

New Midway Chief is sworn in



Brent McClellan, the new chief at Midway Fire-Rescue, took his oath of office during a pinning ceremony in Litchfield on Aug. 5. McClellan's first day on the job was Aug. 1. He is pictured above with his wife Penny during the ceremony. The oath was administered by Georgetown County Emergency Services Director Brandon Ellis.

County Fire-EMS recognizes 2 retirees



Congratulations to Firefighter Joseph Holmes (top photo) and Firefighter/EMT Edsel Moore (above) on their retirement. Both are pictured with Chief Jim Falkenhagen. Holmes retired with 29 years of service, while Moore retired with 27 years. We appreciate and applaud them for their service and dedication! We wish both the very best in their retirements.

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



Bassmaster

Continued from Front Page

This year's event will again feature free concerts on the Bassmaster Stage on Front Street, courtesy of the Georgetown Business Association, Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce and the Hammock Coast.

Carolina Beach Music band Too Much Sylvia will take the stage on Friday, Sept. 2. The Blue Dogs, a country-rock band from Charleston, will play on Saturday, Sept. 3. Both shows begin at 8 p.m. Beer, wine and other beverages will be available for purchase. In the event of rain, the performances will move to the Win-yah Auditorium.

The County hosted a Bassmaster event annually from 2015 to 2019, but the tradition was put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Georgetown County last hosted Bassmaster in March 2019, when Bassmaster brought its Elite series to town. The last time the county hosted the College Series was in March 2017. That event featured a pair of familiar names atop the leaderboard. Current Elite Series pros Patrick Walters and Jonathan Kelley finished first and second en route to the 2017 National Championship, where they were bested by a team that included fellow Elite angler Jacob Foutz.

Anglers are scheduled to converge on Georgetown Aug. 30 and 31 for pre-fishing days. Bassmaster will set up its stage at the intersection of Front and Broad streets on the morning of Sept. 1.

"We are thrilled to welcome college anglers and their families to Georgetown County for the Bassmaster College National Championship in September," Goodale said. "We hope we'll see the kind of enthusiasm we saw from residents at past events and encourage members of the public to come out and celebrate with us."

Boat launches and weigh-ins are open to the public. Fishing fans are encouraged to come out and support their favorite college/university teams.

Administrator addresses fellow govt. leaders from across S.C.



Georgetown County Administrator Angela Christian was a panelist at the S.C. Association of Counties' Institute of Government earlier this month. She presented as part of a session on "Strengthening Your County's Cyber Resilience," sharing with other public officials her insight and lessons learned after the county fell victim to a ransomware attack last year.

Sheriff to host Coffee with a Cop on Aug. 25

The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office will host Coffee with a Cop at Parlor Doughnuts in Pawleys Island from 8-9 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 25. All residents are welcome to stop by for coffee and a casual conversation with their local law enforcement officers.

Coffee with a Cop events take place periodically across the county and offer an opportunity for local residents and deputies to engage with no agenda or speeches. Residents can ask questions, voice concerns and get to know the deputies who work in their communities.

NEED A WILL?

The Center for Heirs' Property Preservation is sponsoring a FREE Wills Clinic

Date: Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022

Time: Starting at 10:00 AM/Last appt. at 2:30 PM

Location: 1336 Cohen Drive
Hemingway, SC 29554

Call for an appointment to meet with an attorney to draft and complete your Simple Will for FREE!

You **MUST** make an appointment.

Please call: Ms. Sharon Piggs at 843.745.7055 to reserve a time



8570 Rivers Avenue, Suite 170
North Charleston, SC 29406

Phone: 843.745.7055
Fax: 843.745.7054

The Center for Heirs' Property Preservation is able to provide Wills Clinics as a result of funding provided by: Mary Reynolds Hobcock Foundation, Frances P. Bunnelle Foundation, Coastal Community Foundation, Gaylord & Dorothy Donnell