



The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

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- Library to host Community Yard Sale, Page 7.
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Calendar

Sept. 27 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m., County Council Chambers, 129 Screven St.

Sept. 29 – Sheriff's Office hosts Coffee with a Cop, 8-9 a.m. See page 4.

Sept. 29 – Garden City Community Meeting, 5:30 p.m. See page 3.

Sept. 30 – Ribbon cutting ceremony at new recycling center in Big Dam community, 11 a.m. See page 4.

Oct. 1 – Council District 7 Community Clean-up, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. See page 2.

Oct. 11 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m., County Council Chambers, 129 Screven St.

Oct. 14 – Very Scary Estuary Talk and Painting Event, 10 a.m. See Page 6.

Oct. 15 – Household Hazardous Waste Collection event, 9 a.m. to noon. See page 5.

Oct. 20 – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m., County Council Chambers, 129 Screven St.

Oct. 25 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m., County Council Chambers, 129 Screven St.

Volume 10, Issue 12

September 2022

Sheriff's Community Forum to address opioid crisis

On Oct. 11 and 13, Sheriff Carter Weaver will host "Sheriff's Community Forum: The Opioid and Fentanyl Crisis in Georgetown County."

The forum will feature a panel of experts from the medical community, law enforcement, the school district and addiction treatment who will share the real damage the opioid epidemic is inflicting on our community.

The Tuesday, Oct. 11, meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Pawleys Island Community Church, 13034 Ocean Highway, and the Thursday, Oct. 13, meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Georgetown, 219 Cleland Street. Residents are invited to attend either gathering.

The presenting panel will be (in order of appearance):

• Dr. Gerald Harmon served as the American Medical Association President in 2021-2022. He is a clinical faculty member for Tidelands Health Family Medicine and volunteer medical supervisor for the Georgetown County School District. He earned his medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina and has practiced medicine for more than 35 years.



• Dr. Ryan Galica is a board-certified pain management physician at Tidelands Health. He earned his medical degree from Northeast Ohio Medical University and completed a residency and fellowship in interventional pain management at University Hospitals Case Medical Center.

• Carter Weaver joined the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office in 2001 as the Assistant Sheriff and was elected Sheriff in February of 2020. He began his law enforcement career in 1986 when he joined the SC Law Enforcement Division (SLED). He earned a Juris Doctor degree from Charleston School of Law and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy.

See "Opioids," Page 8

Community meeting to discuss proposed solar farm set for Oct. 10

The Georgetown County Planning Department has scheduled a community meeting in Lambertown next month to help address concerns about a proposal to develop a solar farm in the area.

The meeting is set for Monday, Oct. 10, from 5-7 p.m. at Saints Delight Pentecostal Church, 8285

Saints Delight Road, Andrews. It will have an open house format, with information stations on different topics that participants can visit.

Members of the Georgetown County Planning De-



partment, as well as the developer, Silicon Ranch Corp., will be on hand to talk with residents and answer questions. Silicon Ranch Corp. is also the property owner.

Anyone with concerns about the proposed project or who would like more information about the project is encouraged to attend.

The proposed project was up for second reading by County

Council on Sept. 13 when residents came forward during public comment session to express to council members concerns they had about the project and ask for

See "Solar," Page 3

Newsletter to go on hiatus for the fall

This will be the last issue of our monthly newsletter, the Georgetown County Chronicle, for the remainder of this year. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Many of our longtime readers are probably familiar with our PIO, Jackie Broach, who designs, edits, provides most of the content for and distributes the newsletter. Jackie and her husband, Randy, are about to welcome a baby girl, so Jackie will be out of the office for much of the remainder of this year. As Jackie is the only member of her department, during this time Heather Pelham and Randy Akers will be helping to fulfill many of her job duties in addition to continuing to fulfill the obligations of their own positions. The newsletter, however, will be on hold until January.

In the meantime, there are still plenty of ways to keep up with the latest news and happenings from Georgetown County government. News releases and events will continue to be posted to our website, gtcounty.org and our social media accounts. You can also get updates directly to your email or via text message when items of interest are added to our website. To sign up for alerts, visit gtcounty.org and click on the "News & Alerts" icon on the home page.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time. Please join us in offering congratulations and best wishes to Jackie and Randy, and their new baby girl.



Early voting begins Oct. 24

Sample ballots available now for review

Early voting for the Nov. 8 general election will open in South Carolina at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 24 and run through Saturday, Nov. 5. Early voting centers in Georgetown County will be located at the following locations:

- The Registration and Elections Office at 303 N. Hazard St., Georgetown,
- Andrews Regional Recreation Center at 220 S. Cedar Ave, Andrews,
- Northwest Regional Recreation Center at 8259 Choppee Rd., Georgetown, and
- Litchfield Exchange, 14363 Ocean Highway, Pawleys Island.

Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, except for Sunday, Oct. 30, when centers will be closed. Voters in Georgetown County can go to any of the early voting centers.

Voters are reminded that S.C. election laws changed this spring to eliminate in-person absentee voting and introduce early voting. Voters who wish to vote early do not need any special reason to do so. Mail-in absentee voting is still allowed. An absentee ballot may be requested online at gtcounty.org/vote, or by calling the Georgetown County Elections Office at (843) 545-3339. Absentee ballot applications should be returned no later than Oct. 28. More information about who qualifies to vote absentee is available at gtcounty.org/vote.

Anyone wishing to vote in the general election must be registered at least 30 days prior to the election. Voters who are already registered are advised to review their registration information now and make any updates. Voters can also get ready for their visit to the polls by reviewing sample ballots online. Sample ballots are available at gtcounty.org/vote by clicking the upcoming elections tab.

District 7 Community Cleanup

District 7 County Council Member
Louis Morant is organizing a
community roadside cleanup.

Saturday, Oct. 1
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Browns Ferry | Choppee | Kensington
Plantersville | Pee Dee | Sandy Island
Spring Gully | St. Paul

*Sign up now to volunteer and help
improve communities across District 7.
Team leaders are needed for each
community. All materials will be
provided by Georgetown County. For
more information, contact Council
Member Morant, (843) 527-2448.*

Breakfast for volunteers will be provided
beforehand. There will also be a
celebration at 5 p.m. featuring a fish fry
and live entertainment. Call for details.



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

Emergency Services Director offers mid-season hurricane update

After a grim pre-season forecast, the first half of the Atlantic hurricane season started particularly slowly. Tropical Storm Alex opened the season in early June, followed by tropical storms Bonnie and Colin in early July before the season entered an unexpected lull from early July through early September.

This nearly two-month period of inactivity drew a lot of attention away from the tropical Atlantic as we approached the climatological peak of hurricane season on Sept. 10.

As expected, we have experienced a flurry of tropical activity in the first three weeks of September with four named storms. Danielle entered the stage as our first hurricane of the season, followed by Earl and now Fiona — which has the distinction of being the season’s first major hurricane — as a category 4 storm with maximum sustained winds of 130 mph.

Although we are on the downside of the seasonal peak, we are far from out of the woods. Additional activity in the Atlantic basin is expected over the next several weeks as we continue to work our way toward the finish line for the 2022 season. Will we see impacts this season? It is impossible to know for sure, but what we do know is that now is the time to prepare in the event that we do experience a tropical storm or hurricane this season.

“Ensuring your personal preparedness is a simple, three-step process,” according to Brandon Ellis, Director of Emergency Services for Georgetown County. “Have a plan, build a kit and know your hurricane evacuation zone. If you follow these three tenets of hurricane preparedness, you will be ahead of the game should a storm threaten our area this season.”

As a reminder, hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30 each year. Don’t let your guard down just yet!

Solar

Continued from Front Page

further details. As a result, second reading was delayed until a community information meeting could be scheduled.

The project had already received a nod from the County Planning Commission following a public hearing in which several people spoke against the project and one person from the S.C. Coastal Conservation League spoke in favor of it.

As presented to Council and the Planning Commission, the request from Silicon Ranch seeks to rezone just over 2,000 acres off Saints Delight Road from “Forest Agriculture” to “Solar Energy Facility Floating District.”

The property is currently vacant and used for timber harvesting, and currently has only a few stands of forested pines remaining. It is near Walker and Wild Horse roads.

Silicon Ranch wants to construct two 100-megawatt solar farm systems and a substation to supply solar power to the Santee Cooper grid. The proposal meets the county’s requirements for a Solar Energy Floating District. The plan also includes details of required buffers and a decommissioning plan.

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).

GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SC
CIRCA 1769

Thursday, Sept. 29

5:30 PM
at the Murrells Inlet Community Center
4462 Murrells Inlet Rd.

GARDEN CITY COMMUNITY MEETING

FREE & OPEN TO ALL

Talk with local officials about future plans in the Georgetown County portion of Garden City Beach.

More details, including speaker lineup, to be released leading up to the meeting.

Georgetown
FARMERS MARKET

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

GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SC

WACCAMAW MARKET COOPERATIVE

WWW.WACCAMAWMARKETS.ORG

Library to screen ‘Meltdown in Dixie’

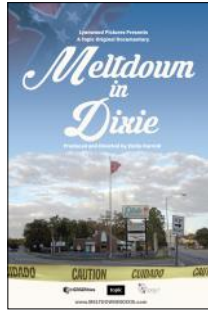
On Thursday, Nov. 17, at 6 p.m., the Waccamaw Library will screen director Emily Harrold’s award-winning documentary “Meltdown in Dixie,” followed by a panel-led community discussion.

The film explores the controversy sparked by a Confederate flag flying outside an ice cream shop in Orangeburg, S.C. The community discussion will be guided by a panel of local humanities experts, featuring Lee G. Brockington and Steve Williams. The program is cosponsored by the Center for Creative Partnerships, with support from South Carolina Humanities, The Joanna Foundation and the Friends of the Waccamaw Library. The Library is located at 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island. The event free and open to the public.

Historian and author Lee G. Brockington is a signature figure when it comes to her intricate knowledge of Georgetown County’s multifaceted histories, and her books include “Plantation Between the Waters: A Brief History of Hobcaw Barony and Pawleys Island.”

Steve Williams is a historian, author and columnist who dives deeply into fascinating elements of area history in books such as “Ebony Effects: 150 Unknown Facts about Blacks in Georgetown, SC” and “As I Travel Along: The Story of Harriet Tubman and James Bowley.”

Similar screenings and discussions of “Meltdown in Dixie” are planned in 15 counties across South Carolina. For information on other events around the state, call (803) 928-6851 or email centerforcreativepartnerships.com.



Sheriff to host Coffee with a Cop Sept. 29

The Georgetown County Sheriff’s Office will host Coffee with a Cop at its headquarters in Georgetown from 8-9 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 2. All residents are welcome to stop by for coffee and a casual conversation with their local law enforcement officers.

The Sheriff’s Office is located at 430 N. Fraser St., in Georgetown.

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

Hitchcock film series will usher in spooky season

Local residents are invited to get in the Halloween spirit next month by watching some of Alfred Hitchcock’s most famous films at the Waccamaw Library. The Library will show weekly Hitchcock classics on Fridays at 2:30 p.m. beginning Oct. 14 with “Rebecca” (1940). A screening of “Shadow of a Doubt” (1943) will follow on Oct. 21 and the series will close with “Psycho” (1960) on Oct. 28. All screenings are free and will include film introductions, as well as an audience question and answer session.

JOB VACANCY

FULL TIME

MIS (IT) TECHNICIAN, LIBRARY

This employee functions as an IT technician for the Georgetown County Library with general on-location oversight by the Library Director. This position requires demonstrated ability to function capably as a computer hardware/software technician and Microsoft domain administrator.

Minimum two years of IT training along with three to five years of documented work experience in the IT field or any combination of equivalent training and/or experience which provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities. CompTIA A+ certification preferred.

FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO APPLY:

GTCOUNTY.ORG/JOBS
HUMANRESOURCES@GTCOUNTY.ORG



WE'RE HAVING A
Ribbon Cutting
 Friday, Sept. 30 at 11 a.m.
 New Recycling Center at Big Dam Swamp
 17 Big Dam Swamp Dr.
 Andrews, S.C.

Stay Connected
WITH YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

@GtCounty

Highway named in honor of late Sheriff



A highway in the Pleasant Hill community is now named for former longtime Georgetown County Sheriff A. Lane Cribb. The new road sign was unveiled on Sept. 22 near the intersection of County Line Rd. and Pleasant Hill Drive (Hwy. 513). Cribb's family and friends, along with local officials, including current Sheriff Carter Weaver, gathered for the ceremony and a reception afterward at the Pleasant Hill Community Center. Cribb, right, served as County Sheriff from 1992 until Sept. of 2019, when he passed away unexpectedly while in office at the age of 73.



DNR seeks public's help in tracking spread of non-native crab species

Residents along the coast are being asked to be on the lookout for what looks like an enormous fiddler crab. Should you spot one, the S.C. Department of Natural Resources asks you take a photo and send it in.



A DNR Staffer holds a blue land crab.

These crabs are known as blue land crabs and after a spate of recent sightings, SCDNR biologists are seeking the public's help gathering reports to learn more about where this non-native species is spreading. Blue land crabs are comparable in size to South Carolina's native blue crabs, but they range in color from gray-blue to orange-ish to white.

These large, burrowing crabs are native along the coast from Brazil to South Florida, and their origins and impacts in South Carolina are not yet known. Recent heavy rains may be pushing them from their burrows and making them more visible.

Report sightings at: <https://arcg.is/1vW1eS>

FRIENDS OF THE GEORGETOWN LIBRARY'S

YULETIDE HOME TOUR 20TH YEAR

SANTA'S SHOPPE

DECEMBER 9, 6:00-8:00PM

OPENING RECEPTION FOR HOMEOWNERS, DOCENTS, CRAFTSPEOPLE, AND PLANNING COMMITTEE WITH THE CHRISTMAS CHILI CELEBRATION

DECEMBER 10, 10:00AM-3:00PM

FOR GENERAL PUBLIC

COST FOR CRAFTSPEOPLE: \$25/SPACE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT BOB WILLEY:
RWILLEY1019@GMAIL.COM

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION AND PAPER SHREDDING EVENT

Oct. 15, 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," medications and paper documents with staples, rubber bands or clips.



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

For more information, call (843) 545-3524

Marine Corps Band to give free concert

Georgetown County and the Lowcountry Veterans Group will sponsor a free concert by the Parris Island U.S. Marine Corps Band next month.

The concert is open to all and will take place at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11, at the Howard Auditorium, located at 1610 Hawkins St., Georgetown.

For information, call (843) 527-6555 or (843) 325-8845.

Fall sports under way at county facilities



After receiving requests from parents, Georgetown County Parks and Recreation introduced a youth soccer program at Andrews Regional Recreation Center this season. The Andrews campus, along with facilities across the county, have been packed with activity this month as fall programs ramp up. The programs include flag football, tackle football and cheerleading, in addition to the new soccer program. Residents can also find a wide array of classes and programs for adults at our facilities, including Zumba, line dancing, stretching classes, yoga, tai chi, shag lessons, tennis programs and much more. Visit gtcparks.org to find a full calendar of events and get registered.

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN

**APPRENTICESHIP TO
EMPLOYMENT**

- Electrical
- Plumbing
- HVAC
- Carpentry

apply at:


gtcounty.org/ameriCorps



AmeriCorps

For more
information call
843-545-3452





ANNUAL TAX SALE

NOV. 14, 2022

BIDDER REGISTRATION OPENS OCT. 24
DETAILS: GTCounty.org/TAXSALE

Very Scary Estuary Talk & Painting

Join the North Inlet-Winyah Bay NERR Education staff as they talk about what lurks underneath the water of the North Inlet Estuary.

Gear up for Halloween as you learn about some of the things that make an estuary scary...or not so scary.

Afterwards, you will create your very own estuary painting to take home with you!

Waccamaw Neck Branch Library

October 14th @ 10am

Registration Required Ages 18+

Contact Kendra Corey to register.
kcorey@gtcounty.org 843-545-3351



NEW LAWS REGARDING ANIMAL TETHERING

On Aug. 23, 2022, Georgetown County Council approved changes to the county's Animal Control Ordinance, specifically relating to the tethering of dogs and other domestic animals.

Here's what you need to know:



TETHERING IS ALLOWED ONLY IF:

- The animal is over 6 months old.
- It is in sight of a caretaker.
- It is not unattended longer than 8 hours in a 24-hour period.
- The tether is at least 12 feet long and meets all other specifications.

CONSIDER WEATHER CONDITIONS

- Animals may not be tethered outside from after sunset to sunrise.
- Animals may not be tethered without appropriate shelter and sustenance during periods of inclement or extreme weather.



KENNELS, PENS & RUNNING LINES

- Similar rules exist for kennels, pens, running lines and similar devices.
- Enclosures must give the animal sufficient room to freely run and exercise.

FULL DETAILS AVAILABLE AT GTCOUNTY.ORG

PIO wins national photo award



Georgetown County Public Information Officer Jackie Broach recently won the 2022 Award of Excellence in Photography from the National Association of County Information Officers. The award was announced Aug. 25 and was presented for an image (shown above) Broach took during at a ceremony last year in which the remains of enslaved people disturbed during construction at Hagley were reinterred in a permanent resting place.

Friends of the Georgetown Library

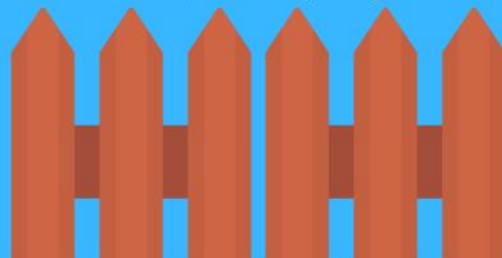
COMMUNITY YARD SALE

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

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

*Registration forms available
 at the Georgetown Library.
 (Rain Date is Oct. 22.)*

For information, email rwilley1019@gmail.com



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



Opioids

Continued from Front Page

• Chase Ridgeway has served as Georgetown County Coroner since January 2021. He previously served as Deputy Coroner and has been a managing partner of a local funeral home since 2012.

• Major Frank O'Neal is the Supervisor of the Narcotics and Vice Section for the SC Law Enforcement Division (SLED). He has been a police officer in South Carolina for 42 years, and has worked in narcotics enforcement for 35 of them.

• Raphael M. Carr is the Executive Director for the Georgetown County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. He is a Senior Certified Prevention Specialist and worked as a Substance Abuse Prevention professional with local drug abatement services before joining the commission.

• Keith Price has served as Superintendent of

the Georgetown County School District since June 2020. He was Assistant Superintendent in Richland School District Two from 2014-2020. He has been an educator for 26 years and earned a Master of Education and Education Specialist degree from the University of South Carolina.

• Bryan Braddock is the CEO of the House of Hope of the Pee Dee, a ministry dedicated to assisting homeless men, women and children. He also serves as a City Councilman for the City of Florence. His experience as a former opioid addict — and his 15 years clean and sober — has assisted him in his work at House of Hope and as director of a faith based addiction program.

This discussion is the first in a series. Future meetings will explore how the judicial system, legislators, clergy and community can take action.

Residents are encouraged to attend.

SHERIFF'S COMMUNITY FORUM

THE OPIOID AND FENTANYL CRISIS IN GEORGETOWN COUNTY

HOST AND PRESENTER



CARTER WEAVER
Georgetown County Sheriff



DR. RYAN GALICA
Pain Management Physician
Tidelands Health



CHASE RIDGEWAY
Georgetown County
Coroner



MAJ. FRANK O'NEAL
SLED, Office of Alcohol,
Narcotics, and Vice Services



RAPHAEL M. CARR
Exec. Director, GTC Drug and
Alcohol Abuse Commission



KEITH PRICE
Superintendent, Georgetown
County School District



BRYAN BRADDOCK
C.E.O., House of Hope
of the Pee Dee

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

6:30 PM
PAWLEYS ISLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH
10304 OCEAN HIGHWAY

- OR -

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

6:30 PM
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GEORGETOWN
219 CLELAND STREET

FIRST IN A SERIES.

Future meetings will explore how the judicial system, legislators, clergy and community can take action.

Free and open to all members of the community.