



# The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

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- \$3.6 million grant will fund airport infrastructure improvements, Page 3.
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## Calendar

**May 29** – County offices and facilities are closed for Memorial Day.

**June 1** – Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 5:30 p.m., 129 Screven St.

**June 6** – Airport Commission Meeting, 3 p.m., 129 Airport Rd.

**June 15** – Board of Elections and Voter Registration meeting and canvass, 10 a.m., 303 N. Hazard St.

**June 15** – County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m., County Council Chambers, 129 Screven St.

**June 27** – County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m., County Council Chambers, 129 Screven St. (Council only meets once this month.)

Volume 11, Issue 4

May 2023

## New flood insurance rate maps in effect

**N**ew flood insurance rate maps from FEMA went into effect this month, meaning some residents may see changes to their home insurance rates. Residents whose homes were moved into special flood hazard areas on the new maps may see rates rise significantly, while those whose homes came out of flood zones may see lower insurance rates.

The changes went into effect May 9. It is the first time the maps have been updated since 1989.

“It was definitely overdue,” said Steven Elliott, Building Official for Georgetown County. “We’re the last county in the state to adopt the new maps. I think they’re going to be a lot more accurate than what we had previously.”

He adds that these maps are federally created and the federal government requires the county to adopt them.



Flooding in a residential neighborhood after a storm.

For the average person, the details of the new maps, the new criteria used for determining property elevations and what all this means for property owners is extremely complicated. Luckily, staff in the building department is here to help.

“If individuals have no intentions of doing any impro-

**See “Flood Insurance Rate Maps,” Page 4**

## Youth Academy puts kids on path to success

**R**onald McInnis is used to getting the call. Sometimes it’s from a parent; sometimes from a teacher or school administrator. Regardless of who’s on the other end of the line, the message is the same: There’s a student having disciplinary issues and the caller has heard about the Georgetown County Youth Academy and its success in getting kids back on track.

The group, led by McInnis, is a nonprofit that uses sports and physical conditioning to teach life skills, respect for others and oneself, and make a positive impact on young people. It started out over a decade ago, meeting weekly at Beck Recreation Center. It has grown so much that the program now takes place Mondays through Thursdays at Beck. It’s open to students ages 8-14. Participants are mostly boys who play basketball, football or run track in the program, but girls are welcome too.

The program was originally focused on one sport –



Georgetown County Youth Academy members and coaches after a recent basketball win.

basketball – and was called Team DEFF, an acronym for Development, Education, Fundamentals and Fun. It then transitioned to the Elite Ballers and finally to its current iteration and its broader scope.

On a recent evening, McInnis paced the perimeter of

**See “Youth Academy,” Page 10**

## County hosts inaugural Taxpayer Academy for National County Govt. Month

Five Georgetown County residents had a unique opportunity last month. They spent more than two dozen hours learning about all facets of their local government, talking candidly with staff in charge of various departments, touring facilities and getting a behind-the-scenes look at how their tax dollars are spent.

They were part of Georgetown County's inaugural Taxpayer Academy, which met every Thursday in April. It was part of the county's celebration of National County Government Month. Throughout the month, residents met with the County Administrator, Sheriff Carter Weaver, Clerk of Court Alma White and a number of department directors and staff. They toured the airport; hiked at Rocky Point Community Forest with the Parks and Recreation Director; learned about fire and rescue operations; participated in a hurricane training exercise; and heard presentations on the budget and financial operations, economic development, building and zoning, taxes and various tax services. Throughout it all, they were encouraged to ask questions and no topic was off limits. In the very first session on April 6, County Administrator Angela Christian told them to "ask me anything," and discussions ensued about topics including the port, economic development, affordable housing and how to keep young people from moving to other areas.

The inaugural Taxpayer Academy was initially planned for April 2020, but was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. County leaders decided the timing was right this year to try again.

"This year was sort of a beta test for the program," said Jackie Broach, County Public Information Officer, who designed and led the Academy. "We wanted to have a very small group and kind of let them test it out, to get their feedback once the program was over and see if they felt it was something worthwhile."

Broach said she was "honestly a little afraid they'd be bored by parts of it. There's a lot of minutiae in government." She needn't have worried. While participants did have some notes for improvement in future sessions, they all said they had fun — so much so that some said they wanted to do it all again next April.

The county plans to offer the Taxpayer Academy annually as part of National County Government Month. The program is offered for free to any resident of the county. Broach said the plan is to continue to keep the classes small, so there is ample opportunity for participants to ask questions and get the most of the experience. Anyone who would like to be notified when enrollment opens for future classes is asked to send an email to [jbroach@gtcounty.org](mailto:jbroach@gtcounty.org) or call (843) 545-3164.



Academy participants visit the county's Emergency Operations Center to learn about Emergency Management and Emergency Services with Director Brandon Ellis.



At top: Participants who completed the inaugural Taxpayer Academy are, from left, Julie Dyer, Ethel Bellamy, Deborah Greggs, Charles Smith and Dell Omega Grant. Above, Grant tries on fire-fighting gear during a session at Georgetown County Fire and EMS. In total, the Taxpayer Academy participants each spent about 26 hours during the month of April learning about county operations.

## 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](http://www.gtcounty.org) or through our social media accounts. If you'd rather have it delivered to your inbox, sign up at [gtcounty.org](http://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](mailto:jbroach@gtcounty.org). We welcome your feedback.

[www.gtcounty.org](http://www.gtcounty.org)

## Georgetown Airport receives \$3.6M for infrastructure improvements

The U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) awarded a \$3.6 million grant to the Georgetown County airport for infrastructure improvements to support business growth and job creation.

The grant will allow for site upgrades necessary for the development of two commercial hangars, including updated water and sewer lines, and a new taxiway as well as engineering design services. This EDA investment will be matched with \$881,548 in state and local funds and is expected to help generate \$8 million in private investment.

"The Biden-Harris Administration is investing in Georgetown County and communities across the country to create jobs and increase economic opportunity," said Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo. "This EDA investment in particular will help bolster

the local aeronautics industry, catalyzing new commercial opportunities and job growth."

"The Economic Development Administration is pleased to support Georgetown County as it works to create new economic opportunities and jobs," said Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Alejandra Y. Castillo. "The construction supported by this EDA investment will allow an aviation services firm to locate at (the) airport, creating good-paying, quality jobs in the region."

This project was made possible by the regional planning efforts led by the Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments (WRCOG). EDA funds WRCOG to bring together the public and private sectors to create an economic development roadmap to strengthen the regional economy, support private capital investment and create jobs.

## Committee tasked with telling county's Revolutionary history

To prepare for the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in 2026, the S.C. government established the SC250 Commission. It also encouraged counties to form their own commissions to help celebrate and better explain our history – and Georgetown County jumped at the opportunity.

"We plan to use this event to not only celebrate but also educate about Georgetown County's rich history," said Julie Warren, secretary for Georgetown County's 250 Committee. "We want to show the points of view that may be overlooked."

Many people know about Georgetown because of "the Swamp Fox" Francis Marion or the Historic Waterfront, which played an important role in the state's economic development since the early 1700s. The 250-committee's goal is to tell about everyone who contributed to make Georgetown County what it is today.

This celebratory event is expected to bring visitors to Georgetown County for many years to come. Although the 250th anniversary isn't until 2026, now is the time to get involved in the planning! The next meeting of the 250 Committee is open to anyone interested in participating and will be at 6 p.m. June 22 at the Georgetown County Museum on Broad Street.

**JUNE 24**  
11:00am-2:00 pm

**Georgetown County, SC**

*Celebrating*  
**SOUTHERN GEORGETOWN LIBRARY 2ND ANNIVERSARY**

**FUN FAMILY ACTIVITIES**  
Jumpy Castle  
Food Trucks  
Bingo  
Snow cones

**FREE FUN**

**ASK QUESTIONS OR REGISTER HERE**

Southern Georgetown Comm. Library 4187 Powell Rd. Georgetown

## REGISTER NOW

### GTC Parks 2023 Fall Sports

**FALL TACKLE FOOTBALL**  
Ages 9-12  
**\$45**

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**NFL Flag Football**  
Ages 5-8 and 9-12  
**\$40**

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**CHEERLEADING**  
Ages 5-12  
**\$35**

Registration ends 8/17/23  
Practice begins 8/21/23

**Register at [GTC Parks.org](http://GTC Parks.org) or at your local recreation center.**

Georgetown County Parks & Recreation  
2030 Church St. Georgetown, SC 29440  
(843) 545-3320 | [www.GTCParks.org](http://www.GTCParks.org)

@GTC Parks

## Library to close June 2 for renovations



Walls are going up on the new auditorium at the Georgetown Library, and the expansion and renovation project is moving into “fast forward mode,” said Library Director Dwight McInvaill. Materials came in earlier than anticipated, allowing work to move ahead of schedule. As a result, the library has moved up its closing date by a month. The library will now close June 2 to allow staff to begin boxing up books and moving everything out of the building to allow workers to begin renovations on the inside. The 33-year-old library opened in 1989 and has since had only one minor period of renovation, in 2007. Decades of wear are starting to show across every inch of the facility from sagging ceilings to hazy light fixtures. The structure remains sound, but the renovations — which include a 3,120-foot expansion — will make it shine again. The renovations will be funded through \$869,425 in capital sales tax dollars, \$568,502 in American Rescue Plan Act funds and a \$1.4 million bequest from the late Jean Flournoy Moody.

## Flood Insurance Rate Maps

Continued from Front Page

vements to their houses or commercial structures on their properties, there’s really nothing for them to do at this point,” Elliott explained. “Those individuals who have mortgages on properties that are transitioning into a flood zone, I’m sure they’ll be getting a letter from their mortgage company requesting that they carry flood insurance.”

Flood insurance is a requirement for properties in certain flood zones. It can be very pricy depending on the zone. In these instances where properties are transitioning into flood hazard areas, Elliott said it may benefit property owners to hire a surveyor to create an elevation certificate.

While the insurance industry does not use elevation certificates to determine risk when writing flood insurance policies, Elliott said he has spoken to insurance agents who confirm that a current elevation certificate can help lower rates — but only if it exhibits the property’s situation is better than the insurance agency previously deemed.

“As far as your risk, it could lower your premiums if you submit that elevation certificate to the company. But I would caution people to make sure it’s going to benefit you before you just provide that information,” Elliott said.

The new maps also introduced a new zone: Coastal A, which comes with more restrictive building requirements. Georgetown County applied for a variance from the State Building Codes Council that would allow it to not recognize the new zone and enforce those more restrictive measures. The request was denied in a 10-1 vote during a hearing on May 23.

“We will be enforcing Coastal A just as it’s written in the building code and defined on the map,” Elliott said.

The county is currently working with a company to help set up an online hub where residents can access the new maps in a format that will help to better explain changes for their property under the new criteria. The county will also upload some of the elevation certificates it currently has on file to better assist property owners. A link will be provided when the hub is ready.

“We’re trying to get as much information out as we can, but it will still be really useful for people to actually see a flood map and information just for their property,” Elliott said. “Until that’s ready though, you can still go onto the county’s website, to the GIS maps and use the drop-down menus. Sometimes those can be a little difficult to interpret though, depending on what features you have turned on.”

He said residents who have questions or need additional help interpreting the GIS maps are always welcome to contact the Georgetown County Building Department for assistance. The main phone number for the department is (843) 545-3116.

“If you don’t plan to do any improvements to your home, but you’re just interesting in knowing what’s happening, give us a call or look it up on the GIS map. But if you’re planning to do some improvements, the best thing to do would probably be to come in and sit down in the office with us and look at the maps,” Elliott said.

GIS maps are available at <https://georgetown.maps.arcgis.com/>. To make an appointment with the Building Department or Elliott, call (843) 545-3116.

# SENIOR FARMERS MARKET



JUNE 30TH, 2023  
9AM - 3PM

BECK RECREATION CENTER  
2030 Church St., Georgetown SC, 29440

Farmers Market Voucher distribution  
**\*\*Photo Identification Required\*\***

Benefits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis. To be eligible for the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program you must be:

- Age: a person must be 60 years of age or older on the date of application.
- Residence: a person who resides in one of the 46 participating counties.
- Income Level: applicants may self-declare their total household income (before taxes). Total household income cannot exceed 185% of the federal poverty income limits. Household is defined as a group of related or non-related individuals living together as one economic unit.

More information  
GTCParks.org

Georgetown County Parks & Recreation  
2030 Church St. Georgetown, SC 29440  
(843) 545-3320 | www.GTCParks.org




@GTCParks

## Stormwater Design Manual receives update

The Georgetown County Stormwater Division recently updated its design manual. It was the first update since 2007.

“We thought it was time to take all our notes from over the years and incorporate them,” said Ray Funny, director of the Public Services Department, which houses the Stormwater Division. The updates also align the manual with recent design standards from the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Part of the goal for the update was to make the manual more concise and easy to follow.

The Design Manual is utilized by developers and engineers when submitting to the Stormwater Division for a Land Disturbance Permit. The updated draft design manual is posted under Quick Links at [gtcounty.org/287/Stormwater](http://gtcounty.org/287/Stormwater), along with a recording of a virtual workshop that took place May 16 for developers and members of the general public. Overall, staff said those who participated seemed happy with the changes and had only minor concerns to be addressed.

Online comments on the manual are still being accepted.

The associated fee schedule for permit evaluation has also been revised. Going forward, there will be an additional surcharge for each submittal if permit requests are submitted more than twice. Funny said some permit requests come back four, five or more times.

“We believe after two submittals, a firm should be able to provide us with the documents we need to issue the permit,” Funny said.

For more information, visit [georgetowncountycleanwater.com](http://georgetowncountycleanwater.com).

## Park named for Abie Ladson



A park in the Plantersville community now bears the name of the late Abie Roger Ladson Sr. A dedication ceremony and sign unveiling took place at the park on April 15. County Council agreed a year ago to name the park for Ladson at the request of Plantersville residents. The park is located at 180 Jackson Village Road. Ladson, who passed away in February of 2021 at the age of 81, is remembered as a pillar of the Plantersville community. He was a strong advocate for the area's youth and led the effort to implement the first Plantersville community athletic program. His service and commitment to organizing football, basketball and baseball teams paved the way for many local youth to become successful athletes, and obtain athletic and academic scholarships to various colleges. Ladson also taught leadership, responsibility, accountability and courage to area youth, helping many of them flourish and become successful adults and community members. Ladson was also an Army veteran and a graduate of Choppee High School, the Hampton Institute in Virginia and the University of South Carolina.

### Teen Program

# MAKER SPACE ELECTRONICS WEEK



ROBOTS  
SOLDERING  
CODING

MONDAY, JUNE 12 - THURSDAY, JUNE 15  
10AM - NOON **FOR AGES 13+**

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION



Ask in the Teen Room or  
[ddennis@gtcounty.org](mailto:ddennis@gtcounty.org)

WACCAMAW NECK BRANCH LIBRARY  
41 ST PAULS PLACE  
PAWLEYS ISLAND, SC



Summer Reading is here!!  
Come by the Reference Desk at the  
Waccamaw Neck Branch Library  
to get your Bingo card!

\*Submit your Bingo Card by  
Monday, Aug. 7th, 2023  
to enter for a chance to win  
PRIZES!\*

## Williams promoted to Battalion Chief

Georgetown County Fire & EMS is proud to announce that Robbie Williams has been promoted to Battalion Chief. Williams is a Georgetown native who joined our department as a volunteer in 1990. He was hired as a full-time firefighter in 1993, following in the footsteps of his father, Heyward, who was a career firefighter with the City of Georgetown.



**Williams**

Williams worked for the City Fire Department from 1995 until 2003, before returning to County Fire as it was merging its Fire and EMS departments. He has been with us in the role of lieutenant ever since. This promotion is well-deserved, said Chief Jim Falkenhagen.

Williams lives in Georgetown with his wife, Theresa. They have four daughters and eight grandchildren. Williams said it is a joy and a privilege to be able to protect and serve the community in which he grew up.

## Delinquent tax notices go out in error

A number of individuals who are on a scheduled payment plan with the Treasurer's Office were erroneously sent a notice that their taxes are delinquent. The error was the result of a vendor mistake and an ongoing software conversion. We apologize for the mistake and any confusion or upset it may have caused. If you have received such a letter and have any questions or concerns, or would like to verify your tax status, please call the Georgetown County Treasurer's Office at 843-545-3102.

## Carter named Employee of the Quarter

Sanda Carter, an administrative assistant in the Building Department, has been selected as Georgetown County's Employee of the Quarter. She has been employed with the county for 38 years.



**Carter**

Carter is an integral team member and her contributions are much more than her job title covers.

"She literally keeps the permit function running along with her staff of clerks," said Department Director Holly Richardson. "Her historical knowledge and years of experience are valued, but her ability to work under pressure and lead others by quiet example are what elevate Sanda to Employee of the Quarter status."

Over the years, Carter has seen untold changes and improvements in the county. Her department moved offices multiple times, she has worked under a list of Administrators, Directors and Building Officials, and has guided her office from paper permits on carbon copies to electronic permits and reports. She has made the move from typewriter to laptop and helped the office transition from paper files to digital among numerous other updates.

The title "Administrative Assistant" indicates a support role and that role fits Carter well. She is known, not only for being the "go to" person for the other clerks in the office, but she sees herself as their advocate and does not shy away from speaking up when office improvements are needed.

"She knows County systems, she knows who to call, and she will have your paperwork ready and on time for whatever task presents itself," Richardson said.



**Waccamaw Neck  
Branch Library**



## Grey Seal Puppets: Tangle of Tales



**Tuesday  
June 20  
3:00  
Auditorium**



For any questions,  
contact  
[jlewis@gtcounty.org](mailto:jlewis@gtcounty.org)  
or call  
843-545-3349.

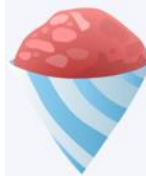


**Waccamaw Neck  
Branch Library**



## Summer Reading Kickoff!

**Snow Cone with  
Sheriff!**



**Tuesday June 13  
3:00  
Outside**



Complete your registration for summer  
reading! For any questions, contact  
[jlewis@gtcounty.org](mailto:jlewis@gtcounty.org) or call 843-545-3349.

## County fire depts. receive 'Fire Safe' designation

Georgetown County has once again been named a Fire Safe Community, thanks to the efforts of both Georgetown County Fire-EMS and Midway Fire-Rescue. The departments were recognized this month by Fire Safe South Carolina for efforts in 2022 to develop community risk reduction plans for their jurisdictions.

Just 132 departments across the state received the Fire Safe designation. The communities designated under this program continuously work to reduce fire related injuries in our state, thereby decreasing the risks for residents and firefighters. They also promote consistent fire safety messaging and stress the importance of providing all relative data collected at fire scenes.

"The enthusiasm for obtaining this designation continues to grow, and we remain encouraged by active participation," said Josh Fulbright, the program's Community Risk Reduction Chief. "We congratulate the 132 designees and are excited again to see a net gain of more than 25 percent in those participating from last year. We look forward to recognizing them with a formal award ceremony during the June Fire-Rescue Conference in Myrtle Beach."

To earn the "Fire Safe South Carolina" designation, fire departments completed courses to improve data quality, trained community partners to deliver in-home safety visits, and further developed their skills through online National Fire Academy courses in risk reduction and assessment.

Across the state in 2022, 536 community partners were identified, more than 2,500 fire service members were educated on risk reduction-related topics, and almost 1 million residents were educated on fire and life safety topics by their local fire departments.

## Scoville receives award for innovation

Tristan Scoville was presented with Georgetown County's Innovation Award this month for his work in creating bunker gear lockers at Station 10. He is a firefighter/EMT with Georgetown County Fire & EMS.



Scoville

The department had a consistent problem that left the apparatus bay cluttered and unorganized on a daily basis. The root of this problem was the fact that employees at fire station 10 lacked an organized area to place their personal protective gear when they were not on duty. This led to employees storing their protective gear in a bag and placing it in vacant areas of the apparatus bay.

Due to the fact there are numerous employees who work at station 10 between the three rotating shifts, clutter and disorganization were a huge problem. Moreover, storing bunker gear in bags presented employees with yet another problem: the fact their personal protective gear didn't have a chance to air out and dry properly. Personal protective gear comes at an extremely high cost and it is important to properly maintain the gear to maximize its life expectancy. Firefighters today need more than a bag or a hook on the wall to store multiple pieces of their personal bunker gear that include a flash hood, coat, pants, boots, gloves, helmet, and SCBA mask.

Tristan decided to approach this problem and was able to use his skill in woodworking to engineer an affordable solution.

To get this project off the ground and underway, he brought the idea of manufacturing gear lockers out of raw materials to his direct supervisor, Battalion Chief Robert Strickland, who then brought the idea to Assistant Chief Aaron Bostic and Chief Jim Falkenhagen.

Falkenhagen and Bostic both graciously approved of the idea and Firefighter/EMT Scoville never looked back. Battalion Chief Strickland and Firefighter/EMT Scoville immediately began collecting the necessary materials including plywood, paint, and hardware. Firefighter/EMT Scoville, being the avid woodworker that he is, brought in his very own cache of tools including a power drill, table saw, router, drill bits, sander, wood glue, and nail gun. After all the necessary tools and materials were acquired he got to work completing the handcrafted gear lockers. The plans and the know-how rested solely with Firefighter/EMT Scoville, however, due to the large scope of this project other members of Station 10 -- including a volunteer -- were eager to jump in and assist. Under the direction of Firefighter/EMT Scoville, Battalion Chief Robert Strickland, Lieutenant Ronald Smith, Lieutenant Acey Taylor and Volunteer Travis Brown were able to build, paint and install the bunker gear lockers in approximately three to four weeks.

The department is proud of the finished product that Scoville produced. The bunker gear lockers most certainly solved the clutter and organization issue within the apparatus bay. Furthermore, these lockers were crafted with precision giving the department many years of service with zero to minimal maintenance cost. They also provided a significant savings to the county compared to commercially available solutions.



**WE ARE HIRING**

Recreation Manager

\$55,101 salary + state benefits

To apply and for more information, visit [gtcounty.org](http://gtcounty.org)



**Duties**

- Assist in the operations and activities of the Recreation Department
- Plan and deliver quality services to Georgetown County residents
- Continually assess the needs of the community
- Oversee scheduling of sports leagues

**Did you know you can 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).

## Library celebrates installation of Memorial Grove



The Friends of the Waccamaw Library recently celebrated completion of the first phase of its Memorial Grove with a gathering at the Library. The Memorial Grove is located behind the library, around a pond in what the library refers to as its Big Backyard. The space also includes covered seating areas where programs can be held or patrons can sit quietly to read or reflect. The Memorial Grove allows people to honor loved ones by purchasing a tree to be planted in the grove in their memory. All the trees purchased in phase one were planted in December, with funding going to support library programming. Anyone interested in purchasing a tree to be planted in the grove should visit <https://www.thefowl.org/memorial-grove.html>.

## Enzor thanked for service to board



Harriet Enzor was recognized by the Georgetown County Library Board this month as she completes her term. She served at the board's vice chair. She is pictured with Library Director Dwight McInvaill at her last meeting. Her seat will be filled by Nancy Siau.

## Program will offer guided tour of the Constellations

A free program at the Waccamaw Library on June 1 will teach participants about the wonders of the night sky. The program begins at 10 a.m.

Astronomer Ian Hewitt, a NASA Solar System Ambassador, will offer a guided tour of the constellations for those in attendance, providing background information to help them fully enjoy and understand these star groups. His presentation is part of the Library's First Thursday program, which offers free talks and presentations on a wide range of topics.

Hewitt teaches astronomy at Coastal Carolina University and previously served as Research Adjunct for the Astronomy and Astrophysics Research Laboratory at the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences.

### Friends of the Waccamaw Library



### SAVE the DATE

**Members Only: June 29: 5~7:30pm**  
Become A Member & Get First Pick of Books!

**Public Sale: June 30: 9am~4pm**  
**July 1: 9am~11:30am**



Friends of the Waccamaw Library

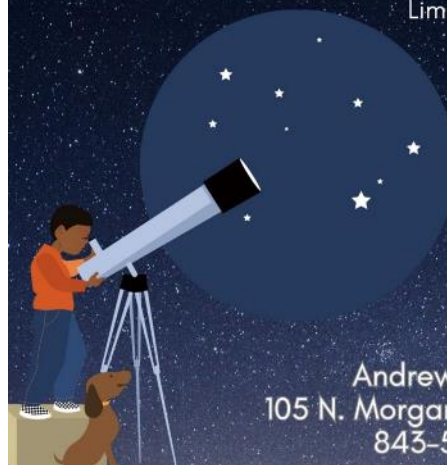
Hardcover Books: \$2  
Large Paperbacks: \$1.50  
Puzzles, Children's & Specialty Books as marked

Georgetown County Libraries Present...

# Check out a telescope!



Must be checked out by a parent/guardian.  
Limited to a 2 week check out.  
Limit to 1 per family.



Andrews Library  
105 N. Morgan Avenue  
843-545-3621



## Brick Chimney Rd. to reopen this summer



Work related to paving along Brick Chimney Road is complete and the road is now scheduled to reopen by July 31. The only remaining thing left to do prior to reopening is pave acceleration and deceleration lanes at the intersection of Brick Chimney and Highway 51. There will be no closures of Highway 51, but delays are likely once paving begins.

## Public Services Department presents employee awards

As part of its celebration of National Public Works Week, the Georgetown County Department of Public Services recognized several of its outstanding employees during an event on May 25. Three awards were presented: The Team



**Linen Walker**

Player Award went to Seamen Linen, the Leadership Award to Harley Walker, and the Green Earth Award was presented to the entire Facilities Services Division.

Linen received the Team Player Award due to his commitment helping his colleagues. "He is always eager to help and assist his crew and others when called upon," said Jacob Nesmith, who presented the award. Linen joined the county six years ago and has since been promoted to area supervisor.

Walker joined the Stormwater Division less than a year ago, during a time when several key positions became vacant. "These changes created a vacuum, which required some changes within the department and for some personnel to step up," Nesmith said. Walker did just that, earning herself the Leadership Award. She was originally hired as an administrative assistant, but is now the billing and office coordinator for the Stormwater Division, and is considered a vital member of the team.

The Facilities Services Division became the first in the county to add electric vehicles to its fleet. It was a process that took several years and required persistence, Nesmith said. "Pursuing sustainability is important throughout the county, and the Department of Public Services felt it was worthy to recognize this division," he added.

# GEORGETOWN COUNTY SOCCER TRAINING CAMP

Stables Field Complex June 12th - 15th

- Ages 8 - 14      \$165
- Only 50 spots available
- Registration April 1st - June 11th

Coach  
Allen Vital

Head Soccer Coach Tusculum University

Allen Vital is in his 25th year of coaching college soccer as an NCAA head coach. Throughout his career, Vital has always been involved in helping young players develop their games and strive to achieve their goals. His contributions include several years working with the Tennessee State Soccer Olympic Development program and over 10 years organizing international summer and year around soccer training programs. He is the current Head Men's Soccer Coach of Tusculum University which is located in Greeneville, Tennessee.

Coach Diego  
Cardona

Diego Cardona has a BA in Physical Education from Tusculum College. Coach Cardona is in his 27 years of coaching at the college, Travel and High school level. Cardona has developed hundreds of players who have gone and to play at the college level. Coach Cardona is currently employed at North Broward Prep, Florida. In his 18th year at the Prep, Cardona has led the Boys Varsity Program to a record of 279-71-24 during the past eighteen years his team has won 10 district championships, one Regional final and advanced to the regional tournament in sixteen seasons. Cardona was named Miami Herald and Sun Sentinel Coach of the year in 2007- 08 and 2009 - 2010 and 2015- 2016..

Stay Connected  
WITH YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

@GtCounty

# 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

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## Youth Academy Continued from Front Page

the gym at Beck while coaches led the Academy's basketball team through practice drills. As he observed, he kept a close eye on two teens he had instructed to push a towel around the gym floor. They had recently gotten detention and this was their punishment. Several times he went over to talk to each of the two individually. He counsels them using a fatherly tone. The boys listen solemnly and nod.

"We try to correct the behavior before it gets to suspension or expulsion," McInnis explained. "If they have a disciplinary problem, whether it's at school or at home, then we handle that inside these four walls here," he said.

As of this spring, the program has around 150 kids on its various teams. They come from all across the county, though the majority are from the in and around the City of Georgetown, where many of the facilities the Academy uses are located. The hope is to grow participation in other regions of the county with the addition of more volunteers and community support.

While sports are the most obvious activity kids in the Youth Academy participate in, McInnis stresses it's not a sports organization; it's so much more.

"What we do here is engage in children's lives to create positive results," McInnis said. "It's not about basketball or football. That's just the hook. It's about behavioral modification and character development. We're in there speaking to them about their grades. We're encouraging them to be better students, we're steering them away from the detentions and in-school suspensions."

It doesn't work for every child, but most are helped by the program and some of the successes are incredible. McInnis mentioned one young man who is currently being recruited by a Division One college.

"He started out in our program with some issues. He was coming into the junior varsity level of basketball then," McInnis said. "We helped him work through those issues – he got his anger under control, he got his attitude together. And then somebody saw him playing with us and he got into a Florida private school playing basketball. He got his grades up and now he's on a path to success."

McInnis said quite a few of the students who have come through the Youth Academy have



**A Youth Academy coach offers direction during a recent basketball practice at Beck Recreation Center. The Youth Academy uses sports including basketball, football and track and field to guide youth to becoming successful in other areas of life.**

gone on to college or the military and done very well for themselves.

"Athletically and academically, we've seen this program do a lot for our youth," he said.

In the shorter term, but just as importantly, parents see a difference in their kids at home after they get involved with the Youth Academy. McInnis recounted a conversation he had with a father at the end of last season.

"He said 'I want to thank you guys. This is the most I have communicated with my child in three or four years,'" McInnis recalled. The father said his son spent most of his time in his room on his phone or playing video games until he started the program. "They have open communication now," McInnis said. "Going to and from practice, traveling from games, we teach that."

In addition to sports and the lessons that are mixed in with them – such as team building and good decision making – the Youth Academy offers life skills classes and has students participate in exercises that promote social and emotional learning.

McInnis wants to see the program continue to grow and help youth across Georgetown County. He welcomes community support to help make that happen. "We need volunteers and we need financial support," McInnis said. "We need coaches and tutors. If anyone has a passion to help, we would accept them with open arms."

The Youth Academy is a 501(c)(3) organization. Monetary donations are needed to help pay for items including tournament entry fees and travel, insurance, uniforms and more. Anyone who is interested in getting involved as a volunteer or donor, or who knows a child who could benefit from the Academy, is invited to contact McInnis at [rbcinnis58@yahoo.com](mailto:rbcinnis58@yahoo.com) or (843) 833-4774.