



The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

Inside this Issue

- County awarded for efforts to improve employee health, Page 2
- Public Services employees recognized, Page 3
- Mosquito Control Division resumes use of pollinator-safe spray, Page 5
- Parks & Rec. Dept. opens registration for fall youth sports, Page 6
- Beanstack app adds motivation to read, Page 8

Calendar

June 20 – Georgetown County Planning Commission Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Historic Courthouse, 127 Screven St.

June 25 – County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m., Howard Auditorium, 1610 Hawkins St. (Council only has one regular meeting each month in June, July and August.)

June 27– Friends of the Waccamaw Library Book Sale Friends Night, 6-8 p.m. at the library auditorium. Sale opens to the Public on June 28 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) & 29 (9 a.m. to noon).

July 4 – County offices and facilities are closed for Independence Day.

July 22 – Recreation Commission quarterly meeting and open house at Choppee Regional Recreation Center, 5:30 p.m.

See more meetings and events on the calendar at gctcounty.org.

Volume 12, Issue 8

June 2024

County breaks ground on new jail; open date set for 2027

Georgetown County broke ground on the site of a new 85,000-square-foot detention center today. Expected to open in February 2027, the new jail will be located near the existing facility on Browns Ferry Road, which opened in March 1996.

The new jail will be 85,800 square feet – an addition of about 15,000 square feet compared to the current facility. It will have 256 beds, including 51 in a women’s wing, with the potential for up to 500 beds. The project has a \$65 million price tag and also includes construction of two other structures on the site: a 3,205-square-foot morgue and a 4,535-square-foot building for the Sheriff’s Re-entry program, which focuses on recidivism and preparing inmates for success after their release from jail.

“This groundbreaking signals a new era for public safety in



Artist’s rendering of the new jail. Below: officials break ground.



Georgetown County,” said County Council Chairman Louis Morant. “A lot of thought and discussion have gone into the purpose and design of this facility. We want to look beyond a sole purpose of incarceration.

We want to look at rehabilitation, at transforming those who are incarcerated into productive citizens of our community. Thanks to the Sheriff’s Re-entry program and

See “Jail,” Page 8

Grant will help county begin process of rehabbing brownfields

Georgetown County has been awarded \$500,000 in federal funds to begin a cleanup effort that would transform properties marred by environmental issues into usable community spaces.

The funds come in the form of a Brownfields Assessment grant from the Environmental Protection Agency. These grants can be used by communities for the purpose of inventorying and assessing brownfield sites, as well as conducting planning activities, developing site-specific cleanup plans and engaging community members in the process. The county received the



Winyah Gymnasium in Georgetown is among many sites that could qualify for assessment with the grant funds.

maximum award amount and plans to begin seeking public input this autumn on sites that should be considered for rehabilitation.

Sites that could qualify include those contaminated with asbestos, old fuel tanks or other pollutants and hazardous substances. Those could include abandoned schools, factories and a range of other sites.

“The idea is to have community participation in deciding where we might want to focus some cleanup efforts and get input on places people are aware of that could be repurposed and refurbished for the overall benefit and wellbeing of the community,” said Maureen Mulligan, an environmentalist and training coordinator in the county’s Environmental Services Division.

Plans are to host community information and input meetings throughout the county, so residents in all reaches of Georgetown County can be involved. This inclusive approach will help ensure the voices of those

See “Brownfields,” Page 8

County receives award for initiatives to help employees stay healthy

Georgetown County was selected from more than 185 employers in the Eastern coastal U.S. to receive the Gallagher High Performance Employer Award for Best Results in Physical Wellbeing for 2023.

The award was presented May 28 by Gallagher, one of the world's largest insurance brokerage and risk management consulting firms. The award is given annually to employers Gallagher has determined to be the best in their region at both healthcare performance and controlling healthcare costs within their agency. Georgetown County moved to administering its own health insurance plan back in 2017 and opened a health clinic for county employees and their family members covered under the county-administered plan. Employees can visit the clinic when sick or for routine and preventative care at no cost. Blood and lab work ordered by the clinic, as well as prescription medications received there are also at no cost to the employee.

The result has been a healthier workforce and a cost savings for the county.

"Georgetown County is actually seeing lower healthcare costs on a five-year average, while other employers are typically seeing these costs increase," said Steve Love, who presented the award on behalf of Gallagher.

While the industry average trend for health care costs has increased by 8% from 2019-2023, Georgetown County's health care costs have decreased by 13.11 percent over that same period. More importantly, employee rates of diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol and metabolic disorders have decreased. From 2019-2023, high blood pressure among county employees has decreased by 35%, diabetes by 24%, high cholesterol by 44% and metabolic disorder by 9%.

"Hats off to employees obtaining these metrics, but also the county and its leadership. What they are doing here is very forward thinking," Love said. "It's really something the county should be proud of."

Not only has Georgetown County yielded results in decreasing per member per month claims, there has been no increase to employ-



Members of County Council, along with County Administrator Angela Christian and Administrative Services Director Walt Ackerman, accept the award, which was presented by Steve Love of Gallagher May 28.

ees' cost contributions toward their health insurance since 2018.

"We deal with a lot of clients and this is really unheard of these days," Love said. "It's nothing short of miraculous. Controlling costs is important, but improving the lives of employees is critical."

In assessing employers for the annual award, Gallagher also looks beyond costs and physical health. They make sure the county is working to improve mental and emotional wellbeing also. Love called attention to financial wellness programs being offered, as well as career advancement programs. He additionally highlighted the diversity of the population in the wellness program – it includes people of various ages and levels of health and fitness.

He said the county's leadership team should be commended, for continuing to look for ways to improve.

"At every meeting, they say 'what else can we do,'" he said.

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

www.gtcounty.org

COMPOST 101
Pre-registration, call: 843-545-3443

UPCOMING CLASSES:
EVERY FRIDAY
9:00 am

201 Landfill Dr
Georgetown, SC 29440
at the Nature Center

Why is composting important?
How does it work?
How to get started

TAKE HOME A COMPOSTING TUMBLER!
limit 1 per household

Georgetown County
Environmental Services

County recognizes Public Services employees, presents awards

Georgetown County recognized employees in its Public Services Department last month as part of its annual celebration of National Public Works Week. The celebration included an awards lunch, as well as hosting of the annual regional Backhoe Rodeo.

From custodians to engineers to heavy equipment operators, “all those roles provide the public a very important function and keep our county healthy and thriving,” said Ray Funnys, Georgetown County’s Director of Public Services. “These team members are hard-working pillars of our communities, ensuring that our county is not just functioning, but vibrant and thriving.”

This year’s theme for National Public Works Week is “Enhancing Quality of Life for All,” which underscores the commitment of Public Works employees to inclusivity and equity.

“Public services are designed to benefit all community members, regardless of background or circumstances,” Funnys said. “As a testament to our commitment to enhancing the quality of life for all, I’m thrilled today to announce that our department has just recently received reaccreditation from the American Public Works Association. This is a prestigious recognition in our industry, because it is a testament to the hard work, dedication and professionalism of our entire staff. Achieving reaccreditation is no small feat. It requires comprehensive documentation and reviews of our policies, procedures, and practices. By adhering to all of these requirements, we truly enhance the quality of life for all of our citizens in Georgetown County.”

He recognized all the staff who played a part in helping the county achieve reaccreditation, and particularly Harley Walker of the Stormwater Division, who served as the reaccreditation committee chairperson. Members of the committee included Rodney Butler, Kevin Stimpson, Rob Burris, Roban Mears and Kristen Nelson.

The department also recognized three of its outstanding employees with awards: Haskel Linen, Sheryl Gibbs and Darren Rolston.

Linen, a Bush Hog operator, received the Green Earth Award for his efforts impacting environmental preservation. Part of his job includes cutting roadside ditches and limbs to ensure stormwater from roadways is minimally restricted. The overall results are ensuring that the roadway is not undermined, which in turn helps preserve infrastructure throughout the county, said Jacob Nesmith who presented the awards.

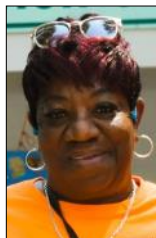
Gibbs, the chief custodian, received the Team Player Award. Nesmith said she stepped up when a staffing shortage created issues.

“She has been cleaning the courthouse and surrounding buildings, and not only cleaning them, but doing a good job and doing it with pride and integrity.”

The final award, the Leadership Award was presented to Darren Rolston, a projects planner with the Capital Projects Division. Rolston has gone above and beyond his duties and is “constantly utilizing his talents to improve the division and the department.”



Linen



Gibbs



Rolston



As part of the celebrations, staff met with local students to teach them about Public Works and encourage them to consider Public Works as a future career.

Nesmith said. “He successfully managed numerous projects and continues to uphold the ethical standards of Georgetown County. He is a fantastic communicator, a true problem solver, and consistently produces outstanding results.”

Georgetown County congratulates these employees and thanks all our employees for their hard work to improve the quality of life for all residents in our community.

How much could LOST save you on your taxes?

The Local Option Sales Tax isn't your typical tax. It was created to remove some of the tax burden from residents and, if approved, will actually result in a tax savings.

Use our tax calculator at gtcounty.org/LOST

Sign up for free alerts!

Don't miss out on important information from Georgetown County. Visit our News and Alerts center at gtcounty.org and sign up for free notifications via text or email. You can pick which alerts are important to you: emergency notifications that could keep you and your family safe, meeting notices, events, news and more. Sign up now!

Employees recognized for innovation in improving operations



Randy Akers and Johnny Pope of the county's IT Department were recently recognized for an innovative project that saved the county nearly \$200,000. The Georgetown County Emergency Operations Center began experiencing repeated failures of the audio-visual equipment that supports the EOC during emergency response operations and routine daily activities. After numerous failed attempts to obtain replacement parts for the aging system, the Emergency Services Director, Brandon Ellis, solicited assistance from Akers, Multimedia Technology Specialist. Initial estimates to replace the system with new technology were in excess of \$200,000 and well outside the department's budget capabilities. Akers worked diligently for weeks to explore available options to meet the department's needs and budget capacity, and was successful in identifying system components that would do the job, while using existing cabling infrastructure. The cost was less than \$4,000. Once the components were identified, Pope, MIS Network Engineer, was engaged in the project to ensure that the proposed solution would work on the county's network. Pictured from left are Ellis, Akers and County Council Chairman Louis Morant.



Members of the Midway Fire Rescue Safety Committee were recognized for development of a new Firefighter Ability Test. They are Pete Copeland, Matt Smittle, Mike Kalette, Howard Lutz, Paul Rentz, Steve Vankirk, Brendon Sherman, James Boyd and Clint Corpening. The test Midway previously used had become outdated. This test is utilized for pre-employment measures. Additionally, all current firefighters are required to complete the test twice per year. The purpose is to satisfy policy requirements and demonstrate that staff members are fit for duty as firefighters. The test is used in conjunction with an annual fire department medical physical and health screening. The old test consisted of 5 sub-parts that covered some of the recommended NFPA essential job functions, but some sub-parts did not cover current job-related tasks and it did not truly simulate the physical demands placed upon firefighters. The Safety Committee determined that by trying to incorporate more job-related tasks into the test, it would better fully evaluate firefighters. The new test consists of 11 structural fire event-related tasks that include everything from arriving on the scene to forcing a locked door and climbing stairs with equipment on. An allotted time for completion is required. To help internally validate the test, they asked for various internal volunteers of different ages, genders and builds to complete the test. Once done, they would then average the times to find a time that seemed realistic to meet by the validation test. This new test added no cost to the budget.

Waccamaw Neck Branch Library

MAKER SPACE

BOOK BINDING & CANDLE MAKING






JULY 8-11 2024

10AM - NOON

Monday, July 8th - Candle Making
 Tuesday, July 9th - Book Binding
 Wednesday, July 10th - Book Binding
 Thursday, July 11th - Candle Making

*For ages 13+
Seating is limited*

For more info: ddennis@gtcounty.org
 41 St Pauls Place, Pawleys Island, SC




MAKERSPACE
AGES 10+



LASER WEEK

MONDAY, JUNE 24, - THURSDAY, JUNE 27,
10:00am - Noon

Learn to use the library's
laser cutter/engraver on
a variety of materials.

Monday	Stamps
Tuesday	Acrylic
Wednesday	Stone
Thursday	Patches

SEATS ARE LIMITED




WACCAMAW LIBRARY TEEN ROOM
Contact ddennis@gtcounty.org for full details.

Bostic named Employee of the Quarter

Brianna Knox Bostic, administrative lieutenant at Midway Fire and Rescue, is Georgetown County's Employee of the Quarter. She is responsible for a multitude of administrative support duties, as well as coordinating many of the department's day-to-day logistics, EMS supply inventory and ordering, acting as EMS narcotics liaison with federal and state agencies, and much more. She has also taken the lead for Midway's internal hiring committee and maintains the department's social media accounts.



Bostic

She is additionally responsible for budget influence and input, as well as maintaining a watchful eye over line items that are included under her direct supervision. She is always working to find the best deals but yet never compromising service deliveries. Yet with all of this to do on a daily basis, she finds the time and energy to take on more.

"The real reason she is being nominated are the extra things she has done this quarter that are not on the list," said Midway Chief Brent McClellan. As part of recruitment initiatives and morale building, the department has hosted promotion ceremonies, graduation ceremonies and an awards banquet.

"Anyone attending these events was well pleased with the appearance of each. Brianna took it upon herself to see that decorations were put into place, professionalism was displayed and that everything was returned to normal afterward," McClellan said. "These events were special to many of our firefighters and even more so to their families. It is the little details that Brianna took upon herself to complete that truly made the biggest impact. "All of these things she did with a smile on her face and zero complaint. She didn't ask for anything in return and just wanted to make everyone's experience even more special."

County receives OK to bring back safer mosquito spray

It took nearly a year, but Georgetown County finally received permission last month to go back to using a more environmentally friendly product in its mosquito control efforts.

The County's Public Services Department started off the season last summer by announcing it was ditching the old chemicals it once sprayed up and down the county's roads and replacing them with a new organic product advertised to be safe for wildlife, pollinators and people. More repellent than poison, it's on the Environmental Protection Agency's Minimum Risk Pesticides list and uses natural ingredients including lemongrass, cedarwood, garlic and rosemary. Effects from application can last up to two weeks.

The county saw good results, but partway through the season, the Clemson Pesticide Regulatory Division ordered the county stop using the product until public use was covered on its label. The county switched back to the safer product as soon as it received word that had happened.

"It has some big advantages over the chemicals we used in the past," said Roban Mears Jr., who manages the county's Mosquito Control operations. "The product we used in the past, you spray it and it kills what's flying, then dissipates."

If it didn't dissipate, it would continue to poison anything it came in contact with, including other insects, wildlife, pets and people. "Once it dissipated, that was it. You didn't get any more effect from it. It killed what it touched and didn't hang around. These new products have residual effects, so they keep working."

First Friday

with Georgetown County



New episodes on the first Friday of every month. Join us as we discuss topics important to residents of our county. Listen on YouTube or anywhere you normally stream and download podcasts.

CAPITAL PROJECT SALES TAX



This November, Georgetown County voters will be asked to decide on a proposed 1% tax to fund specific capital projects, such as roads, water and sewer infrastructure, and public facilities. A list of projects to be funded will be approved by the end of May 2024. If approved, the tax would be in place for a limited number of years.

More information at gtcounty.org/cpst



Brockington, Daise provide tours of historic sites via new Hammock Coast app

Two of the most celebrated historians on South Carolina's Hammock Coast® – Lee Brockington and Ron Daise – have lent their distinctive voices to a new app that lets visitors experience Georgetown County history like never before.

The new app, titled "Hammock Coast" and available for free download at the app store of your choice, takes listeners along on three popular tours of historic properties in the City of Georgetown and the Town of Pawleys Island. The Hammock Coast, the moniker chosen for marketing of Georgetown County, has a remarkable history to tell that goes back centuries and is deeply rooted in Colonial history and the celebrated beginnings of the United States. Visitors to Georgetown and Pawleys Island can experience that rich heritage as they explore the city streets of Georgetown and the sand-dusted roads of Pawleys Island in two ways: using long-available self-guided brochures or by following along as Brockington and Daise detail the history of historic properties on the new interactive app.

"We are happy to share the rich history and cultural heritage of our region with visitors and using the app is the perfect way to see – and hear about – everything we have to offer," said Beth Stedman, president and CEO of the Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce, which produced the app.

The app offers three distinct tours: The National Register Historic Tour in Georgetown; the African-American Heritage Tour in Georgetown; and a tour of Pawleys Island historic sites. It also provides dozens of photos, text and audio by Brockington and Daise.

Brockington, the author of several books including "Pawleys Island: A Century of History and Photographs" and "Pawleys Island:

Stories from the Porch," narrated the history tours of Pawleys Island and the historic register tour in Georgetown for the app. She likes the app for the convenience it will offer.

"Some visitors like to keep their schedule flexible rather than sign up for a guided tour," Brockington said. "With this app, a visitor can choose the time for the tour. Really, they don't even have to be here to take the tour."

Brockington noted that information in the app is not only interesting but, most importantly, well-researched and correct information about local historical sites.

Ron Daise of Georgetown and his wife, Natalie, are widely known for co-hosting "Gullah Gullah Island," a musical children's television series celebrating the culture and language of enslaved Africans that was produced by and aired on the Nick Jr. programming block on the Nickelodeon network from 1994 to 1998. But before and after that successful program, the Daises have been passionate performers and educators about the African-American experience.

Daise, who previously worked at Brookgreen Gardens as vice president of creative education, has written several books, including "Little Muddy Waters: A Gullah Folk Tale"; "Reminiscences of Sea Island Heritage: Legacy of Freedmen on St. Helena Island"; and "Gullah Branches, West African Roots." For the app, he narrated the African American Heritage Tour in Georgetown.

Daise said he wanted to be part of the app project because it's important to share African-American history on the Hammock Coast. "I want visitors to know about the unique and interesting Gullah Geechee history and heritage of Georgetown and the surrounding area," he said. Read more at gtcounty.org.



FARMERS MARKET VOUCHERS

Farmers Market Voucher Distribution Center will be held on June 28, 2024 from 9:00am-3:00pm at the Beck Recreation Center.

BECK RECREATION CENTER 2030 Church Street, Georgetown SC

More information
 ☎ 843-545-3196
 ✉ vbrown@gtcounty.org




REGISTER NOW
GTC PARKS 2024 FALL SPORTS

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

CHEERLEADING
 Ages 5-12
\$35

Registration ends August 2nd, 2024
 Practice begins August 12th, 2024

Register at 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




Three of county's beaches make Top 5 list, with Pawleys Island ranked No. 1

It's been the best unkept secret since the 1700s, but it's official now. The best beach in South Carolina is Pawleys Island.

Pawleys, which lays claim to being the oldest seaside resort in America, bested 16 other Palmetto State contenders in a contest by USA Today/10 Best to name the "Best Beach in South Carolina." Two other Georgetown County beaches made the Top 5, with Litchfield coming in at No. 4 and Huntington Beach State Park at No. 5.

Voting took place from April 22 through May 20.

"I couldn't be more thrilled with this news," said Mark A. Stevens, director of tourism development for the Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce. "Pawleys Island topping the list for the Best Beach in South Carolina is only made sweeter in that Litchfield Beach and the spectacular Huntington Beach State Park also finished in the Top 5.

"We're not as famous as our neighbors to the north and south, but clearly the Hammock Coast's beaches are beloved by residents and vacationers. Our beaches are adored for their pristine shores and mild crowds, and we wouldn't have it any other way."

Beth Stedman, the Chamber's president and CEO, said the impact from yet another accolade is important.

"We all value the beauty of our area, where history and nature go hand in hand," Stedman said. "The majesty of our area, with tens of thousands of acres preserved and protected, sets it apart from many other coastal regions.

"Tourism is incredibly important to Georgetown County. There's no other economic driver like it here. The state estimates that tourism has an annual impact of more than \$300 million for

Georgetown County. Being recognized by yet another national publication speaks volumes for our efforts to promote sustainable, family-friendly, nature-centric tourism here on the Hammock Coast."

Pawleys Island dominated for much of the contest, only occasionally dropping below No.1 on the contest's leaderboard before rising back up to the top spot, where it ended up in the final tally. At one point during the contest, all three Hammock Coast beaches were in the Top 3, but competition was fierce with vacationers weighing in enthusiastically for their favorites.

Pawleys Island Mayor Brian Henry said he couldn't be happier – and not a bit surprised – to hear that Pawleys Island has earned the title of "Best Beach in South Carolina."

"The beaches on Pawleys Island have been welcoming families for many generations," Henry said. "It is pristine, uncrowded, and a throwback to an earlier time. There's nothing finer than a day spent on our beach!"

In 2022, Garden & Gun Magazine put Pawleys Island at No. 2 in a contest to name the Best Beach Town in the South. And, in 2023, Condé Nast Traveler named Pawleys as one of America's Best Beach Towns.

Likewise, Litchfield Beach, just north of Pawleys, welcomes visitors from far and wide to its pristine shores. TripAdvisor once named it one of the 10 best beaches in America, based on consistent five-star reviews.

Huntington Beach is the pristine beach connected to Huntington Beach State Park, which Southern Living recently named the best state park in South Carolina.

DIY Beach Brush Painting

Join us as we paint Beach Brushes to knock off sand after a day at the beach!

(*Ages 18+)

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

Registration Required

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

Pine Needle Basket Weaving Class

This is a beginners course on creating baskets by weaving pine needles.

The class is taught by artist Donna Davis. All supplies provided.

June 28th @ 10am
July 12th @ 2pm
August 2nd @ 2pm

Waccamaw Neck Branch Library

Ages 18+

Space is limited. Registration Required

Registration is limited to one class only

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

Jail

Continued from Front Page

other programs implemented by the Sheriff's Department, we are already accomplishing this. This facility will give us the space for enhancement of these programs."

The Sheriff's Re-entry program was launched in 2007 with a focus of giving qualifying inmates the skills needed to make a fresh start once their sentences have been served and avoid the pitfalls that lead so many back to jail. It has a nearly 100% success rate.

This is only the sixth jail to be constructed in the county's long history since the first jail opened in 1769 on the corner of Broad and Duke Streets. That building also served as the courthouse and billeting for British soldiers.

Sheriff Carter Weaver briefly reviewed the history of the county's jails during his remarks at the groundbreaking, working his way to present day and the future facility.

"This will be a state-of-the-art facility that addresses not only the needs of the inmates, but the safety and work environment that our corrections officers need," Weaver said. "The facility has been designed to stand the test of time so we can hopefully get back to the trend of operating such a facility for next to a century."

The county's first jail lasted

until 1845 and the second last-ed from then until the 1950s.

"We've planned, we've re-viewed, we've redrawn, we've added, we've taken away. We've done all of that as part of this process, and now, finally, we're at this point," said County Administrator Angela Christian. "We're going to have a top-notch facility that will serve Georgetown County citizens for years to come. This could not be done without Team Georgetown. There are lots of folks that are behind the scenes that are present and will be here every day to make this happen. We are so excited and we thank you for these hours that you're going to spend in the hot sun making sure that this facility will stand the test of time."

Todd Davis, vice president of Mosely Architects, the firm selected to design the jail, recalled having the first conversations about the facility all the way back in 2009 with Sheriff Lane Cribb. Bret Estridge, executive vice president of M.B. Kahn, construction manager for the project also spoke about the years of planning that have gone into the project and its complexity.

The jail will sit on a 50-acre public safety campus, about half of which will be dedicated to the current project. A new Emergency Operations Center and 911 center may also eventually be built there. Council is discussing that project now.

Brownfields

Continued from Front Page

who have lived and worked around neglected sites are heard.

The contractor for the project, Terracon, has already been selected and Mulligan is eager to get started.

"The cool thing about the assessment grant is it's the first step toward potentially getting multiple millions in federal dollars for clean-ups and improvements," Mulligan

said. "They especially are wanting to focus on historically ignored communities. And it really encourages community buy-in, so it's not just us coming and telling people what we want to do; it's finding out what the interests and priorities are for the community."

Mulligan said she hopes to have a kickoff meeting with Terracon and the EPA set up within the next month so she can begin scheduling public information meetings.

Wilson retires from County Fire-EMS



Theron Alston, a firefighter with Georgetown County Fire and EMS retired on May 31 after 25 years of dedicated service. His commitment, hard work and camaraderie have made a lasting impact on the department, said his colleagues. We wish him well in his retirement and are thankful he has agreed to continue as a volunteer firefighter.

Free Tennis Camp

For Registration :
Email Coach Lanna
lannatqueiroz1@gmail.com
Or Text @ 781-520-3528

Racquets Provided

<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <p>East Bay Park June 17th- 19th</p> </div> </div>	4 pm- 6 pm
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <p>North Santee July 8th- 10th</p> </div> </div>	4 pm- 6 pm
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <p>Andrews Rec Center July 22nd- 24th</p> </div> </div>	4 pm- 6 pm
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <p>Choppee Rec Center July 29th- 31st</p> </div> </div>	9 am- 11 am

HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE!

Make preparations now!
Visit hurricane.sc
or gtcounty.org/GCEMD
for more information

Beanstack app makes it easy to track summer reading progress

The Georgetown County Library system is the latest to join Beanstack, a free app that helps motivate readers of all ages with reading challenges and rewards. Best of all, it's just in time for the library's summer reading program and is a great tool for parents and kids to use to help track their summer reading progress!

The app makes it easy to join challenges, set reading goals and track when, how much, and what you read.

The Beanstack app is available at both the Apple App Store and Google Play. It can also be accessed at georgetowncounty.beanstack.org. After downloading the app, new users will be asked how they will participate in Beanstack and should select the option that says "at my library, school or bookstore." Then search for "Georgetown County Library System (SC)." From there, just create an account, choose your challenges and start reading!

Among the current challenges available for users in the Georgetown County Library system is the Adventure Begins at Your Library summer reading challenge. There are versions of this challenge for children and adults. Readers join challenges based on their age group and/or grade level. No child is too young to participate. A challenge for 1,000 books before Kindergarten will be added later this month.

Families can also use the app to find upcoming summer reading events at their local library branch. For more information, contact your local branch.



News from our Veterans Services Officer

Hello Veterans! I hope you had a great Memorial Day. On June 14, the U. S. Army celebrated its 249th birthday. Please give a big Happy Birthday, a salute and a thank you to our proud soldiers!

Please mark this date on your calendars: On July 17, the Georgetown Veterans Affairs Office will host a Claims Clinic. This event will be held at the Beck Recreation Center on Church Street from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This event is for you if you need to get assistance with: VA disability compensation and pensions; claims filing and assistance for veteran and widow benefits; mental health counseling resources; veteran readiness and employment benefits; homelessness; low-income housing and vocational support services; Columbia/Charleston VAHCS Environmental Health Coordinator; VHA health care benefits and on-site enrollment; VA Mobile; Vet Center VA National Cemetery Adm. Memorial Benefits; and more.

Bring you DD FM 214. If you don't have it, give us a call to see if we have a copy on file. This is a one-stop event to make things easier on our veterans. Bring all your claims questions, even you currently have a claim/appeal pending. The experts will be here. Refreshments will be served.

If you are still receiving paper check for your pension and compensation, please consider changing to direct deposit. You can make this change by calling 800-827-1000. They can take your routing and checking information and upset you file instantly.



By David Murphy

TASTE TEST TUESDAY!

Join us every *2nd* Tuesdays to sample a new recipe.

We have limited spaces available, secure your spot now!

Southern Georgetown Library
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(843) 545-3389

ANDREWS BRANCH LIBRARY

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JUNE 27TH 3 - 5PM

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843-545-3621

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, 545-3102

P.O. Box 421270
129 Screven Street

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



Andrews Friends group seeks new members



Volunteers with the Friends of the Andrews Library recently purchased a new rug for the branch's picture book area in the children's section. The group is looking for new volunteers to join as it currently has few active members. The group helps raise money by hosting book sales, raffles and other activities. Money raised goes directly to supporting the library and its many programs. For more information, call (843) 545-3621.

Adventure begins at your library!

Summer reading programs (and lots of fun adventures!) are under way at all five of the Georgetown County Library systems branches. This year's theme is "Adventure Begins at Your Library."

The Waccamaw Library has set up "Camp Waccamaw" and areas of exploration in different sections, including Under the Stars, Under the Sea and a friendly forest. They also have an adult summer reading challenge going on. Pick up challenge sheets at the Reference Desk and turn them in by July 29 for the chance to win a prize.

Similar programs for kids will take place at each branch, including free performances by Grey Seal Puppets, Pork Chop Theater and Story Ship; a magic show by Gerry the Great; a presentation featuring birds of prey; food, fun and fitness; Bingo; nature journaling; "Motherly Music," and more.

Programs for teens will also be taking place throughout the summer.

To check the schedule for your local branch, check out our calendar at gtcounty.org or visit the Georgetown County Library's Facebook Page. Most of the Library Friends groups also have Facebook pages they use to post about branch-specific programs and activities.

Georgetown Library moves closer to Aug. 1 open date, auditorium open now for programs



Opening of the newly renovated Georgetown Library has been pushed back until Aug. 1 due to delays in receiving some of the necessary furniture and shelving. Pictured above, artist April Bensch paints a mural in the children's area of the library. While staff are still busy unboxing and getting as much done as possible before the furniture arrives, the library's new auditorium is thankfully open and hosting programs, just in time for the Library's speaker series in celebration of its 225th anniversary. View upcoming library programs and events for all five of our branches at gtcounty.org. Free programs and activities are offered for people of all ages!

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The Friends of the Georgetown Library Present...

FARMERS MARKET BOOK SALE

Every Saturday, 9:00AM-1:00PM

Old City Hall Site, at the corner of
Fraser & Front Street, Georgetown

