



GEORGETOWN COUNTY MONTHLY

A publication for our residents and visitors

MAY 2025



A Revolutionary War reenactor fires a musket during Francis Marion Living History Day in 2024.

Georgetown 250: Creating a celebration for all

As the United States approaches its 250th birthday in 2026, Georgetown County's 250 Committee is striving to lead a celebration that is more than just a look back — it's a chance to bring people together and inspire hope for the future. Georgetown 250, the county's local initiative under the statewide SC 250 Commission and the national America250 umbrella, is organizing events, building partnerships and calling on residents from every corner of the county — and every walk of life — to be part of this once-in-a-generation commemoration.

"This isn't just a history lesson — it's a celebration of who we are, where we've come from, and where we're going," said Ken Baeszler, Chairman of the Georgetown County 250 Executive Committee. "Our country was founded on the idea that people from all backgrounds could come together to build something greater. Georgetown 250 is about capturing that spirit, and making sure every community has a voice in this story."

The mission of Georgetown 250 is clear: to educate, engage and inspire residents and visitors by connecting them to the people, places and events of the American Revolution in Georgetown County. From Revolutionary War heroes to unsung figures who helped shape the course of local history, Georgetown 250 is committed to telling the full story — and ensuring it's accessible to all.

Recent events have included a symbolic tea dumping in Georgetown Harbor, echoing the Boston Tea Party, and Francis Marion Living History Day, which brought Revolutionary War reenactors to historic Georgetown. These events serve both to educate and to unite — but they are just the beginning.

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Inside this issue:



County receives national award for efforts toward employee well-being



GOAT program receives all-terrain wheelchairs from the Adaptive Surf Project



14 graduate from county's third annual Taxpayer Academy program

County receives national award for employee wellbeing

For the second year in a row, Georgetown County has received the prestigious High Performance Employer Award, outperforming thousands of other employers across the country and becoming the first to ever receive the award twice.

Presented by Gallagher, a global leader in insurance brokerage, risk management and consulting services, the award is presented to organizations that excel in creating environments where employees thrive, showcasing innovative strategies in health, financial wellbeing and career growth. Georgetown County has distinguished itself through its dedication to nurturing talent, promoting healthy lifestyles, and implementing effective risk management practices that safeguard its workforce. The accolade recognizes organizations that demonstrate exceptional commitment to fostering a dynamic and supportive workplace culture, aligning with Gallagher's mission to enhance organizational wellbeing and employee engagement.

"We are thrilled to honor Georgetown County with the High Performance Employer Award," said Rick Gantt, Market Leader at Gallagher. "Their commitment to cultivating a workplace that prioritizes employee wellbeing and development is truly inspiring. By investing in their people, Georgetown County not only enhances their organizational performance but also sets an impressive benchmark for others."

Georgetown County has implemented a range of initiatives that has contributed to its success, including creative healthcare cost mitigation strategies, comprehensive wellness programs, leadership development workshops and more. These efforts have resulted in increased employee satisfaction, reduced healthcare costs vs. industry averages, and a stronger



Amy King and Walt Ackerman of Georgetown County Human Resources are pictured with representatives from Gallagher. organizational culture.

"We are honored to receive the High Performance Employer Award from Gallagher," said Walt Ackerman, the county's Director of Administrative Services and Human Resources. "This recognition is a testament to our team's hard work and dedication to creating a healthy workplace where everyone can succeed. We believe that by investing in our employees' wellbeing, we are investing in the future of Georgetown County."

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.

Additionally, the county has launched several programs to help employees develop new skills, advance up the ranks and further their careers in ways they might not have considered before.

GEORGETOWN COUNTY **YMCA OF COASTAL CAROLINA & GTC PARKS PRESENT** the **YMCA**

SAFETY AROUND WATER SWIMMING LESSONS

FREE TO REGISTER

REGISTRATION: MAY 1ST - MAY 30TH

1 WEEK COURSES

AGES 5-9 : MORNING SESSIONS (9:00AM - 10:30AM OR 10:30AM-12:00PM)

AGES 10-15: AFTERNOON SESSIONS (1:00PM - 2:30M OR 2:30PM - 4:00PM)

DATES & LOCATIONS:

JUNE 2-5: ANDREWS REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER

JUNE 9 - 12: ANDREWS REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER

JUNE 16 - 19: NORTHWEST REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER @ CHOPPEE

JUNE 23 - 26: NORTHWEST REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER @ CHOPPEE

About this publication

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 Georgetown County Monthly.

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 our newsletter on our website at www.gtcounty.org/newsroom 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.

County addresses rumors about health concerns at 8 Oaks Park



On May 13, Georgetown County was made aware of an email circulating among parents of youth recreation league participants, expressing concern about a possible substance at 8 Oaks Park that allegedly

caused illness among players and visitors.

At this time, these claims appear to be based on rumor and are linked to two reported illnesses from individuals who were at the park in March. Thus far, the County has found no evidence connecting either illness to conditions at 8 Oaks Park or to any substances used there. One of the reported illnesses appears to have stemmed from a pre-existing medical condition.

No additional illnesses have been reported to Georgetown County by coaches, staff, or other park users. The only chemical applied at 8 Oaks Park during that timeframe was an herbicide, which was used in late March —after the date of one of the reported illnesses. According to the product label, it poses no known health risks with general exposure when used as directed.

Georgetown County takes the health and safety of its residents and park users seriously and will continue to monitor the situation closely. If you experienced any ill effects after being at any of our fields, please report them to Georgetown County by calling (843) 545-3097 or emailing halaycock@gtcounty.org.

Murrells Inlet Landing improvements



Georgetown County recently celebrated the reopening of the newly realigned Murrells Inlet Boat Landing parking access with a ribbon cutting. The landing was also dedicated in honor of Franklin "Snakeman" Smalls, a revered Murrells Inlet oysterman whose life "epitomized dedicat-



ion to his craft and community," County Council Chairman Clint Elliott said during the ceremony. Born Aug. 13, 1949, Smalls began harvesting oysters from the local pluff mud at the age of 9, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. This vocation became a lifelong passion, sustaining him for more than 60 years. He was celebrated for his unwavering work ethic and vibrant personality. He would often sing while laboring in the marshes, his crowbar ringing as he broke oysters from their beds. He was esteemed as the "last of the original oystermen" in the area. A plaque honoring Smalls will be put up at the landing and unveiled at a later date.

Georgetown County Library

Grants Workshop!

Free & Open to All!

Wednesday, May 28 at 3PM

Join us to learn how to find funding sources & what it takes to write successful grant proposals!



Dwight McInvaill, M.L.S.

Director, Georgetown County Library

In nearly 50 years of service as a public librarian, **Dwight McInvaill** has gained extensive experience researching wide-ranging funding sources & writing hundreds of winning grant applications totaling millions of dollars.

Learn inside tips & tricks from a master grant-writer!



Georgetown Library / 405 Cleland St / Georgetown



FARMERS MARKET VOUCHERS

Farmers Market Voucher Distribution Center will be held on June 27th, 2025 from 9:00am-3:00pm at the Howard Center.

HOWARD CENTER 1610 Hawkins street, Georgetown SC

More information

843-545-3196

vbrown@gtcounty.org



GOAT program receives all-terrain wheelchairs



Georgetown Outdoor Adventure Trails, also known as GOAT, received an exciting donation this month. The Adaptive Surf Project gave the program a pair of trail-rated Spartan Wheel Chariots. A program of Georgetown County Parks and Recreation, GOAT aims to get as many people as possible outside enjoying all that our beautiful county has to offer through biking, hiking and paddling. These new Chariots will make our trails accessible to more people and make it easier for people with mobility issues to participate in our guided programs. While the Adaptive Surf Program usually focuses on ways to make beaches more accessible, officials with the organization said they were excited to also be able to make hiking on wooded trails more accessible. T.L. Staub, the county's trails coordinator was on hand to accept the donation with great enthusiasm.

Investing in the future of Public Works



On May 20, Georgetown County Public Services Director Ray Funnye joined public works professionals and policymakers from across the country at a National Public Works Week roundtable in Washington, D.C., hosted by the American Public Works Association (APWA).

The event focused on one of the most pressing issues facing the industry: building and supporting a strong Public Works workforce. Participants from South Carolina, Iowa and Minnesota shared successful workforce development strategies, while APWA's Chief Learning Officer highlighted educational and credentialing opportunities. The panel was moderated by APWA CEO Scott Grayson, with remarks from U.S. Labor Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer and Rep. Dina Titus, Co-Chair of the House Public Works and Infrastructure Caucus.

Georgetown County is proud to be part of these national conversations as we work to ensure a strong, skilled workforce to support the vital infrastructure that keeps our communities running.

REGISTER NOW
GTCPARKS 2024 FALL SPORTS

NFL Flag Football
 Ages 5-12
\$40

CHEERLEADING
 *CUSTOM UNIFORMS INCLUDED
 Ages 5-12
\$50

Registration ends July 31st, 2025
 Player evaluations August 4th-7th, 2025
 Practice begins August 11th, 2025

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 @GTC Parks

GEORGETOWN COUNTY

JUNE EDITION

SUMMER YOUTH VOLLEYBALL

FREE TO PARTICIPATE

OPEN TO BOYS & GIRLS
AGES 5-15

REGISTER AT GTC Parks.org

NC author to teach memoir writing at Waccamaw library

Ever thought about writing down your life story? On June 26, the Waccamaw Library will host a free writing workshop on how to write a memoir. The workshop will be taught by N.C. writer Emily Dunlap Carter, author of "A Spork in the Road: Reflections on the Journey," which shares the stories that shaped her: growing up in the rural South, raising two sassy children, building a life with her husband (award-winning musician John), and finding her voice as a writer.

With warmth, humor, and the kind of wisdom that sticks to your ribs, Carter's memoir is a love letter to family, resilience and the joy of a well-told tale. Carter's writing talents cross genres, from memoir and creative nonfiction, to prose poetry, to country songs. She also composes a lively [blog](#) and even performs alongside her husband as an exciting poetry-and-music duo called Chick N Biscuit.

The workshop is free and open to the public. However, space is limited. Please register by contacting Dan Turner at dturner@gtcounty.org or 843-545-3363.

On June 25, at 11 a.m. at Quigley's Next Door, Emily and John will appear together as the delightful, dynamic Chick N Biscuit for The Moveable Feast, the long-running series of luncheons with authors spearheaded by the multi-talented Linda Ketron, founder of CLASS Publishing. To register for The Moveable Feast, email Ketron at linda@classatpawleys.com or call 843-235-9600. Tickets are \$35.

Air Force quintet to play free show



Kick off the month of June in a special way with a free outdoor concert on the lawn at the Kaminski House, featuring the U.S. Air Force Heritage Winds Quintet. The group will perform on Tuesday, June 3, at 5 p.m. Attendees are advised to come early and bring a chair or blanket.

In addition to the show, there will be yard games for all ages and the Smoked and Shredded food truck will be on site. It promises to be a fun time for all ages.

Heritage Winds is the wind dectet component of the United States Air Force Heritage of America Band. As professional Airmen, the musicians of Heritage Winds are dedicated to using the power of music to honor our veterans, inspire patriotism, communicate the Air Force story, and recruit those interested in serving our nation.

Also, save the date for the annual Independence Day concert by the Indigo Choral Society on the Kaminski House lawn. That show will begin at 6:30 p.m. on July 4.



JUNE 7TH, 14TH, 16TH, & 17TH

GEORGETOWN COUNTY LIBRARY

WRITER'S CIRCLE

SWEETGRASS

GULLAH
STORYTELLING

HANDMADE DOLLS

LINE DANCING

BUSINESS EXPO

ARTIST ALLEY
& MORE...



FOR MORE INFO CALL OR TEXT

843-833-5992

jjdavis@gtcounty.org

405 CLELAND STREET, GEORGETOWN, SC 29440

JUNE 2025 SCHEDULE

7th

11AM-4PM

PAYING HOMAGE

NATALIE DAISE ART EXHIBIT, HISTORY, WRITER'S CIRCLE, ARTS & CRAFTS, AND MORE

14th

11AM-6PM

BLACK BUSINESS EXPO

BUSINESS EXPO, WORKSHOPS, VENDORS, TALENT, & MORE

16th

2PM-4PM

4:30- 6PM

ARTIST ALLEY PART ONE

SWEETGRASS CRAFTS WITH JENNIFAYE SINGLETON

GULLAH DOLL MAKING SPONSORED BY ZENOBIA HARPER

17th

3PM

ARTIST ALLEY PART TWO

GULLAH STORYTIME WITH RON DAISE
GULLAHLICIOUS POUND CAKES & BOOKS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE

For more information, please call (843)833-5992.

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Dylan Burdick of the Library System has been selected as the Employee of the Quarter for the first Quarter of 2025.

Burdick works in the Tech Room at the Waccamaw branch as Teen Services Librarian Assistant and Laser Cutting Specialist. He joined the county staff in August 2022. On a day-to-day basis, he assists customers with their tech questions, and supports library programming and activities with a focus on teen, tween and Intergenerational activities.



Dylan Burdick

In the last quarter, Burdick has had a number of successes, including taking a leadership role in the library's participation in Pathways 2 Possibilities career fair and hosting of ShushCon. Library Director Dwight McInvaill said Burdick is always very professional and helpful when patrons, library staff, or other county employees come in with questions or production ideas. Over the last quarter, more than 100 customers learned about the Waccamaw Library's maker space and games services, and dozens of them received instruction on how to use the laser or created their own projects.

"Our teen patrons look up to Dylan as a role model," McInvaill said in his nomination. "One even told his parents he's trying to be a better person because of his time volunteering with us."

King recognized for innovation



Jon King, center, our Library IT Manager, was recognized by County Council this month for innovation on the job that resulted in financial savings for the county. He is pictured with Library Director Dwight McInvaill, left, and County Council Chairman Clint Elliott. Since 2012, Georgetown County has had a policy in place to recognize employees who create and introduce processes and projects that demonstrate innovation and result in reduced costs and/or increased efficiency for the county's benefit. King received the Innovation Award for his work at the new auditorium at the Georgetown Library. Upon completion of construction, technology needed to be installed to make the area a valuable meeting and event space for the county and its residents. Jon sourced all the technology components to provide a vast array of audio/video capabilities to suit almost any type of reservation request. And by repurposing equipment the county already owned but wasn't using, he saved the county more than \$8,000. His efforts brought a great deal of new functionality to the Georgetown Main branch library. This installation allows a one-button operation for patrons and staff to utilize the auditorium for various meeting scenarios and gatherings. Additionally, King updated the Waccamaw Neck branch library with a desktop computer, monitor, wireless keyboard/mouse, presentation remote, and HDMI switch. This equipment was placed in the auditorium main area as opposed to the storage closet where previous equipment was installed. This configuration allows a one-button operation for patrons and staff to easily change video sources, which completely removes the requirement for interaction with the audio/video cabinet.

GUITAR LESSONS

JOIN US ON THE
FIRST WEDNESDAY
OF EVERY MONTH
AT 1:00 FOR A
LESSON LED BY
SPECIAL GUEST
DAN SACHS.

GEORGETOWN COUNTY
MAIN LIBRARY
405 CLELAND STREET
843-545-3300



ROAD TO WELLNESS

Mobile Clinic Event

Services:

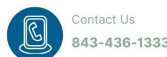
Health Screenings
Routine Check-Ups
Acute Care

Date: June 27th, 2025

Location: Carver's Bay Library
13048 Choppee Rd
Hemingway, SC 29554
Time: 10am-2pm

Join us for a day of community wellness! Our mobile unit offers health screenings, check-ups, and resources. Appointments are encouraged, walk-ins welcomed.

HEALTH ON THE MOVE: BRIDGING CARE, BUILDING COMMUNITY.



Mobile swim lessons bring life-saving skills to youth in rural parts of Georgetown County

This summer, Georgetown County Parks and Recreation is teaming up with the YMCA of Coastal Carolina to deliver life-saving swimming instruction to local youth — no matter where they live. Through the YMCA's innovative "Safety Around Water" program, a mobile pool will travel to two rural areas of the county in June, offering free swimming lessons for youth ages 5-15. Registration is free and open through May 30 at gtcparks.org.

The mobile pool will be set up at the Andrews Regional Recreation Center from June 2-5 and June 9-12, then move to the Northwest Regional Recreation Center in Choppee from June 16-19 and June 23-26.

Children ages 5 to 9 can register for morning sessions from 9-10:30 a.m. or 10:30-noon. Youth ages 10 to 15 will attend afternoon sessions from 1-2:30 p.m. or 2:30-4 p.m. Each participant will receive one week of lessons, free of charge.

The initiative is part of a larger regional effort by the YMCA to reduce drowning rates and teach essential water safety skills in underserved areas.

"Last year, 4,700 adults and children drowned in America," said David Byrd, CEO of the YMCA of Coastal Carolina. "Many of those lives were lost along the coast. Here in Georgetown County, we're surrounded by water — the Black River, Winyah Bay, the ocean. One of the leading causes of accidental drowning in children is simply not knowing how to swim. We're working to change that."

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation is delighted to have the opportunity to help with that mission.

The mobile pool is a flexible, fast-setup solution that can be constructed in about two hours and moved just as quickly. Byrd said the idea was inspired by a similar effort in Charleston County, and funding for the project was provided by the Parsons Foundation along with support from both Georgetown and Williamsburg counties. The program will move to Williamsburg after it wraps up in Georgetown.

The program is more than just swim lessons — it's an immersive water safety experience. "We even have a rip tide machine to simulate real ocean conditions," Byrd said. "It's a very unique and effective process."

Georgetown County Council, the school district, and local funders have all played key roles in bringing the program to life. Byrd emphasized that collaboration has been crucial to reaching children in areas where access to pools and swimming instruction are often limited.

"We now have programs and services developed in partnership with many in the county to deliver this," he said. "We're very grateful to Georgetown County Parks and Recreation and the other partners who are helping make this possible."



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.



Friends of the Waccamaw Library



Friends Night: Thursday, June 26th 4~7:00

General Public : Friday, June 27th 9~4

Saturday, June 28th 9~12:00

SAVE THE DATE





WACCAMAW NECK BRANCH LIBRARY

TECH ROOM

SUMMER SCHEDULE



Activities for Teens and Tweens run Monday - Thursday 10:00am to Noon.

Sign up for a full week at a time.

Space is limited, so register early in the Teen Room.

Rocketry and Aerospace

June 2nd - June 5th

Build and launch rockets,
learn orbital physics.

RPG Camp

June 30 - July 3rd

Explore dice systems and create dice.
Learn to be a better player or
GM in any table top RPG.

Laser Cutting & Engraving

June 9th - June 12th

Learn laser safety, and maintenance.
Create and assemble laser files.
Work with a variety of materials.

Crafting & Model Making

July 7th - July 10th

Painting miniatures, foam sculpting,
flocking, diorama staging.

3d Printing

June 16th - June 18th

Learn 3d modelling basics,
how to slice and print 3d files,
and material safety.

Electronics

July 14th - July 17th

Care of electronics,
macro and micro soldering,
and a special project.

Candles, Casting, & Mold Making

June 23 - June 26

Silicone molds, vacuum forming,
alginate, stone and wax casting.

Cosplay Exploration and Game Props

July 21st - July 24th

Sewing Machines 101,
foam costuming, and more!

Questions? - ddennis@gtcounty.org

→] Georgetown 250

Making History Inclusive and Meaningful

Moving forward, the committee is focused on expanding its reach and broadening participation. “A lot of our early events attracted history buffs,” Baeszler explained. “But we also want to bring in new voices — especially from communities that haven’t always been included in how we tell history.”

For example, the 250 Committee is currently developing new events aimed at highlighting African American contributions to the fight for independence. And it wants to invite more residents into the conversation. “This is a county-wide celebration,” said Baeszler. “We want people from Plantersville to Pawleys Island, from Andrews to Murrells Inlet — every community, every background — to see themselves in this moment.”

In an effort to make the committee and its meetings more accessible, the group has elected to begin meeting in other locations across the county. The group met last night at the Waccamaw Library and is looking at taking its meetings to other communities across the county.

From Reflection to Celebration

Chartered by the South Carolina General Assembly in 2019, the SC 250 Commission works to commemorate the American Revolution across the state by promoting the people, principles, and pivotal events that shaped South Carolina’s path to independence. Georgetown County, with its deep Revolutionary roots, plays a critical role in that story.

As part of the national America250 initiative — a nonpartisan effort that invites all Americans to reflect on our past and envision our future — Georgetown 250 is helping carry out that vision on a local level. The committee’s goals include not only honoring history, but also boosting cultural heritage tourism, supporting economic development and strengthening community pride.

“This is about more than the past,” Baeszler said. “It’s about continuing to build the future together. And what better time than now?”

Get Involved

Georgetown 250 welcomes new members and volunteers. There is no fee to join. To learn more and view upcoming meetings and events, visit <https://sc250georgetown.org/>. Let’s come together — to remember, to reflect, and to celebrate the story we’re all still writing.



Public Services staff honored for outstanding contributions

Georgetown County Public Services recently recognized three exceptional employees for their dedication, teamwork and leadership during a special awards presentation as part of National Public Works Week celebrations.

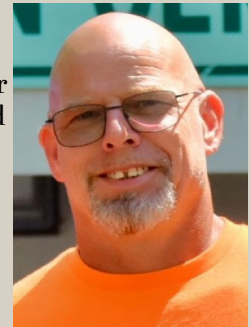
Patrick Sanders was recognized with the Green Earth Award for his outstanding work in environmental stewardship and HVAC efficiency. Known for his keen ability to identify and resolve system inefficiencies, Sanders has helped prevent harmful emissions through the detection and repair of freon leaks. His precision and dedication ensure our county buildings remain comfortable year-round while contributing to a more sustainable future.

Sanders’ journey through Georgetown County Government is a testament to perseverance and professional growth.

Shawmara Bromell received the Team Player Award. She began her career as a collections truck driver and now serves as a heavy equipment operator at the county landfill. Her versatility and initiative have made her indispensable to the Environmental Services Department.

Whether stepping in to assist across departments or lending a hand in the director’s office, Bromell consistently goes above and beyond. Her positive attitude and collaborative spirit create a supportive workplace culture that uplifts her entire team.

Judy Kabelova received the Leadership Award. Her role in managing Capital Improvement Projects has been pivotal to the department’s success. Her expertise spans research, design, permitting, bidding and oversight, and she has been instrumental in improving reporting and tracking systems for greater project efficiency. Kabelova is also known for her exceptional public engagement skills, building trust and maintaining strong relationships with the community while navigating complex regulatory processes. Her leadership is a model of technical skill paired with heart and integrity. Georgetown County is proud to have such talented and committed individuals serving our community through Public Services.



Patrick Sanders



S. Bromell



Judy Kabelova

<< Numbers >>
TO KNOW

(All begin with area code 843)

- Directory, 545-3063
- 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
- Public Works, 545-3438
- Probate Judge, 545-3077
- Recycling/Solid Waste
545-3463
- Register of Deeds, 545-3088
- Sheriff, 546-5102
- Stormwater, 545-3524
- Treasurer, 545-3102

P.O. Box 421270
129 Screven Street



Annual Taxpayer Academy graduates 14



On May 1, Georgetown County concluded its third annual Taxpayer Academy — a free, interactive program offered each April in celebration of National County Government Month. The 2025 session welcomed 14 participants who brought enthusiasm and curiosity as they explored the many departments and operations that make up Georgetown County Government. One and all, they said the same thing: they'd previously had no idea exactly how much the county is responsible for.

The Taxpayer Academy is designed to give residents a behind-the-scenes look at how their local government functions and how tax dollars are spent. It also provides an opportunity to connect directly with the people who serve the community as part of Team Georgetown.

This year's class toured the county airport and landfill, met with department directors, visited the Port of Georgetown property, and hiked at Rocky Point Community Forest while learning about the GOAT (Georgetown Outdoor Adventure Trails) program. Participants also experienced a K-9 demonstration at the Sheriff's Office, tested out impairment-simulation "drunk goggles," and gained a deeper understanding of the services and infrastructure that support life in Georgetown County.

The 2025 Taxpayer Academy concluded with a brief graduation ceremony, in which each participant received a certificate of completion. Georgetown County extends its thanks and congratulations to the graduates and encourages all residents to consider joining a future session of the Taxpayer Academy to learn more about their government and how it serves them. Anyone interested in joining the 2026 Academy is encouraged to contact Jackie Broach at jbroach@gtcounty.org or (843) 545-3164.

