



GEORGETOWN COUNTY MONTHLY

A publication for our residents and visitors

JANUARY 2026

RINGING IN A NEW YEAR



The Waccamaw Library welcomed 2026 with a "Noon Year's" celebration on Dec. 31. Kids and their families counted down until noon and celebrated with noisemakers, balloons and snacks. See more photos on page 10.

Inside this issue:



Parks and Recreation Dept. introduces GC Calm initiative for more mindful outdoor experiences.



Exodus Drive dedicated in honor of the late Johnny Morant.



Carvers Bay Library branch will close for up to two months for flooring work.



Officials receive update on construction of new detention center, slated for completion in January 2027.

County announces organizational restructuring to improve efficiency, service delivery

Georgetown County kicked off the new year by implementing a series of organizational changes aimed at improving operational efficiency, strengthening coordination across departments and supporting major county initiatives.

As part of this realignment, the County has added two Assistant County Administrator positions, filled by Emergency Services Director Brandon Ellis and new Public Services Director Carla Harvey. Both will retain their current roles while taking on expanded responsibilities to help oversee county operations.

"These changes are designed to better position Georgetown County to manage growth, deliver services efficiently and move forward with major initiatives that matter to our residents," said County Administrator Angela Christian. "This structure allows for stronger coordination while ensuring continued focus on County Council priorities and long-term planning."

Those priorities include construction of projects that will be funded with the 1% Capital Project Sales Tax voters approved in 2024, as well as getting a Local Option Sales Tax referendum on the ballot this November.

Under the new structure, several departments will shift their chain of command to improve alignment and operational effectiveness:

- The Georgetown County Airport will transition to the Economic Development Department.



B. Ellis



C. Harvey

→] Continued on Page 10

Parks & Rec. introduces 'calm spots' to promote forest therapy

Georgetown County Parks & Recreation is proud to introduce GC Calm, a new initiative designed to bring forest therapy and mindful outdoor experiences to residents and visitors throughout the county. With growing recognition of the mental, emotional, and physical benefits that come from spending intentional time in nature, the department has identified and designated several quiet areas across its park system where individuals can pause, reflect and reconnect with the natural world. Signs will be installed later this month.

Marked with the newly designed GC Calm logo, a peaceful squirrel silhouette nestled within soft, rounded foliage, these locations will invite visitors to slow down, breathe deeply and experience the therapeutic benefits of nature. The GC Calm visual identity was intentionally created to evoke stillness and serenity, said Department Director Beth Goodale. Unlike Forest the Squirrel, the county's energetic and playful Parks and Recreation mascot, the GC Calm squirrel represents the opposite side of the outdoor experience: quiet, reflective moments centered on well-being and mindfulness. Together, the two embody the balance Georgetown County Parks and Recreation strives to offer: Spaces for both active recreation and peaceful restoration.

The first GC Calm spots will be installed at Morse Park, 8 Oaks Park, Stables Park, Rocky Point Community Forest and Pea House Landing. Each site provides a unique natural environment, from waterfront vistas to shaded groves to forested overlooks, creating opportunities for

visitors to experience the diverse landscapes that define Georgetown County.

Forest therapy, also known as "forest bathing," encourages individuals to slow down, engage their senses and connect mindfully with their surroundings. Research shows that spending quiet, reflective time in nature can lower stress levels, improve mood, support cardiovascular health and enhance overall well-being. GC Calm aims to make these benefits more accessible by providing designated spaces designed specifically for relaxation and mindful engagement.

"GC Calm reinforces our intention to create meaningful recreational experiences that support the health and well-being of our community," Goodale said. "In a world filled with constant noise and distractions, these spaces invite people to unplug, breathe deeply and enjoy the peacefulness that nature provides."

Visitors to GC Calm spots will find simple guidance encouraging them to silence digital distractions, take slow breaths, observe their surroundings and spend a few quiet minutes in reflection.

Parks and Rec. plans to expand the program in the coming years, identifying additional locations and exploring partnerships to support outdoor wellness initiatives, educational programming and guided nature experiences. By creating GC Calm spots, the department continues its commitment to fostering accessible, community-centered opportunities for recreation, health and connection with nature. Whether for a moment of quiet before a busy day or a longer period of peaceful exploration, GC Calm invites everyone to experience the calming, restorative benefits of Georgetown County's natural spaces.



GC Calm

**3RD ANNUAL
GEORGETOWN COUNTY
JOB FAIR**

**JOBSEEKER
REGISTRATION**

SAVE THE DATE

**FEB
12**

HOWARD CENTER
1610 Hawkins Street
Georgetown, SC 29440

3:00PM - 6:00PM

**GEORGETOWN
ALLIANCE** for
Economic Development



SC WORKS
WACCAMAW

SC Works & Georgetown County are collaborating to host a Job Fair to assist the community in achieving their career goals.

Scan QR code to pre-register

Scan Me



tinyurl.com/5n8tx5rm

An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Relay Services 711
For program funding details in compliance with the Stevens Amendment, please visit www.dca.sc.gov/funding

americanjobcenter NETWORK

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.

Exodus Drive dedicated in honor of former Council Chairman

On Dec. 26, Georgetown County officials joined the Morant family, the county legislative delegation, community leaders, and residents in dedicating Exodus Drive in honor of the late Johnny Morant.



Morant

Morant, a local attorney, served Georgetown County with quiet strength and deep commitment for 25 years on County Council, including a decade as chairman. His leadership helped guide the county through growth and change, while always keeping a focus on improving quality of life—particularly in rural communities, which he cared deeply about.

The dedication ceremony was a meaningful opportunity to reflect on his lasting impact and to ensure his legacy will continue to be recognized for generations to come.



Local officials, along with family and friends of the late Johnny Morant are pictured with the new sign on Exodus Drive honoring Morant's legacy.

Carvers Bay Library branch to close temporarily for flooring work

The Carvers Bay Library will be closed for up to two months this winter while workers complete a flooring renovation. The closure will begin on Jan. 19.

Flooring in the branch was previously damaged by a water leak and extensive repairs are needed, included removing the old carpet and materials underneath. As the job will require removing all the books from the library, staff will also take the opportunity to do some

overdue weeding of the collection, removing books that are damaged or outdated.

The new flooring material being installed will be more durable, officials said. The renovation will be a big improvement for the branch.

During the closure, patrons are invited to visit other branches or utilize online services, including Overdrive, which offers a large selection of e-books and audiobooks.

Andrews Branch Library



How to Prevent Weeds

JANUARY 21ST
@ 11 AM



Join us with Brad Fowler
Clemson
Urban Horticulture
Extension Agent



Please Register at Andrews
Library

105 N. Morgan Ave
Andrews SC, 29510
843-545-3621







THE FRIENDS OF SOUTHERN GEORGETOWN COMMUNITY LIBRARY

SILVER MATINÉE



ZACHARY LEVI NAYA DESIR-JOHNSON

SARAH'S OIL

FEBRUARY 04, 2026
11:00 AM
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
(843) 545-3389
4187 Powell Rd., Georgetown, SC

sponsored by




Quilting 101 series comes to Southern Georgetown Library

If you've ever wanted to learn the art of quilting, here's the perfect opportunity! Join Southern Georgetown Library staff members Audrey Anderson and Nicole Deas for Quilting 101, a three-part, hands-on series designed for beginners and those looking to refresh their skills. Both Anderson and Deas bring personal quilting experience and a passion for sharing this timeless craft.

The series begins Feb. 18 with Getting Started with Quilting, continues March 18 with Piecing It Together, and concludes April 22 with Finishing Touches. Sessions begin at 11 a.m. and will guide participants through the basics from start to finish.

Whether you've always wanted to try quilting or are ready to pick it back up, this welcoming program is a great place to start. Call (843) 545-3389 for details. The library is located at 4187 Powell Rd.

Library offers voter education session

The Southern Georgetown Library will offer a presentation titled "Voter Education for South Carolina Residents" on Tuesday, Feb. 24 at 11 a.m. This informative and interactive session is designed to help S.C. voters understand their rights, responsibility and the voting process.

Whether you're new to South Carolina, a first-time voter or just want to make sure you have all the facts, this free session is sure to be a wealth of important information.

Join Paula's
Awesome
ZUMBA
Class

\$5
WALK-IN
FEE

EVERY THURSDAY AT 6PM

MURRELLS INLET COMMUNITY CENTER
4462 Murrells Inlet Rd, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

Morant is Employee of the Quarter

Georgetown County has named Maya Morant its Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2025, recognizing her exceptional leadership, professionalism and steady commitment to the Economic Development Department during a period of significant transition.



Morant

Morant's nomination was submitted by Economic Development Director Kelly Robertson-Slagle, who credited her with keeping the department operating seamlessly in recent months. When the department was without a director, Morant stepped up to "hold down the fort," managing daily operations, supporting key partners and ensuring essential projects continued moving forward without interruption.

"Maya has been an invaluable asset to Economic Development," Robertson-Slagle said. "Her leadership, dedication and professionalism made it possible for the department to continue its work at a very high level, even in the midst of major change."

Morant also played a central role in onboarding Robertson-Slagle into her new position, providing steady guidance and clear communication as the department welcomed new leadership.

"On a personal level, Maya has been extraordinary," Robertson-Slagle said. "Her patience, knowledge and willingness to help have made a meaningful difference in my transition—both as a new director and as a new full-time resident of Georgetown County."

Highly regarded across South Carolina's economic development network, Morant is known for her professionalism, integrity and relationship-building skills. Her work has strengthened partnerships with the S.C. Department of Commerce and helped raise Georgetown County's profile throughout the region.

We congratulate Morant and thank her for her service.



PUBLIC WORKSHOP INVITATION

The County invites residents and interested parties to participate in a public workshop featuring interactive, small-group discussions to share feedback on uses, pedestrian opportunities, transportation, and other key issues. Input from this workshop will help guide the drafting of the County's first Unified Development Ordinance.

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

6:00-8:00PM

County Library - Main Branch
405 Cleland St.
Georgetown, SC 29440

Officials tour site of new jail



On Jan. 13, a select group of county officials and staff with the Sheriff's Office toured the site on Highway 51 where a new jail is being constructed. Crews have completed block work and are in the process of doing electrical work on the new facility, which is scheduled for completion in January of 2027.

Included in the group were County Administrator Angela Christian, Sheriff Carter Weaver, three members of County Council and others, including Assistant County Administrator Carla Harvey. The new facility

replaces the current detention center, which opened in the 1990s. It will offer more space, improved security and updated technology, and is designed to be safer for staff and inmates. The new jail will be able to accommodate 250 inmates, compared to the existing jail's capacity of 212. The detention center campus will also include separate buildings for a law enforcement training center, a new Coroner's Office, 911 telecommunications, and the Sheriff's Reentry Program, which provides inmates with skills to reenter society.



Bright Star Touring Theater will bring civil rights stories to life

The Georgetown County Library System and Bright Star Touring Theatre are pleased to announce three upcoming performances that will offer local audiences an engaging and educational look at the American Civil Rights Movement. All programs are free.

On Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 11 a.m., "Let It Shine: The American Civil Rights Movement" will be performed at the Southern Georgetown Branch. Using storytelling and music, the program highlights the sacrifices made in the fight for equal rights, focusing on key historical moments such as the Montgomery Bus Boycott, the formation of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the landmark Brown v. Board of Education decision. Influential figures including Rosa Parks and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. are also featured.

Later that day, at 3:30 p.m., the Georgetown branch will host "Heroes of the Underground Railroad," highlighting several of the stories of the brave men and women who dared to escape slavery and the abolitionists who risked everything to aid them. Featuring historic figures including Harriet Tubman, Henry "Box" Brown, Frederick Douglass and Levi Coffin.

On Saturday, March 14 at 2 p.m., "The Life of Dr. King," will be performed at the Waccamaw Branch. This dramatic performance traces the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. from his childhood in Georgia to his rise as a national and international civil rights leader. The show explores both the triumphs and tragedies of his journey and encourages audiences to reflect on the ongoing struggle for equality.

While all are welcome, these programs are recommended for ages 8 and up.

The Georgetown County Library presents

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DREAM DAY EXHIBIT

Honoring the Legacy. Igniting the Dream. Inspiring Our Community.

An interactive self-guided tour, featuring special appearances, lectures and more.

Friday, January 16, 2026
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
at the Georgetown
Library Auditorium,
405 Cleland St.



Email areed@gtcounty.org
or call (843)545-3311



Featuring...



Once Upon a Dream: Storytime
Ieshia Tucker
Author
11:00 AM



Letter From A Birmingham Jail
Steve Williams
Author, Orator, & Historian
12:00 PM (Suitable for ages 13+)



I Have A Dream
Marlanda Dekine, LMSW
Poet Laureate & Author
1:00 PM



The Dream Is Still Being Written
Raymond M. Grant III
Author, Artist, & Civil Rights Activist
2:00 PM (Suitable for ages 18+)



Self-Guided Tour: King's Legacy
I Have A Dream Display, Craft Stations,
Did you Know? Trivia, Dream Hands
Memorial, VR Stations (Ages 10+), and
more.
11:00 AM-5:00 PM



Children 13 and under must be accompanied by an adult.



Sheriff presents annual awards



Sheriff Carter Weaver, left, with Investigator of the Year Jennifer Clynès and her family.

Sheriff Carter Weaver recently recognized several outstanding employees, including Deputy of the Year, Corrections Officer of the Year and Telecommunicator of the Year. He also introduced a new award, presenting the Unit Citation to the Criminal Investigations Division, which he praised for its excellent teamwork and drive in 2025 as it pursued suspects in cases ranging from homicide to larceny and brought offenders to justice. The unit is led by Lt. Michael Thacker and staffed by Investigators Jonathan Griffith, Eric Holtzback, Anthony Marracino, Jennifer Clynès, David Law, William McWethy and Matthew Watkins.

Investigator Clynès was also recognized as the 2025 Deputy of the Year. In 2025, Clynès took on the role as the Special Victim's Unit Investigator with a primary focus on missing persons and runaway juveniles. Her dedication, skills, and training led to the location of all missing persons reported last year. Clynès also continued her work on other cases varying from property crimes to murder, showing dedication and leadership that closed several major cases.

Officer Robert Cruz was recognized as the 2025 Officer of the Year. His calm demeanor, strong work ethic and ability to handle challenging situations with integrity set a standard of excellence. Among his many safeguarding accomplishments in 2025, he identified a firearm an inmate was attempting to smuggle into the Detention Center and secured the weapon without incident.

Sarah Pope was named the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office 2025 Telecommunicator of the Year. Pope began her career at the 911 Center in 2022 and was promoted to a Lead Communicator position in 2024. She has excelled at her position and her dedication is inspiring to her coworkers.

Weaver also recognized two employees of the Damascus House Program for their life-changing work with Georgetown County Detention Center inmates who are battling drug and alcohol addiction. Dillon Dowler and Victor Wilson have run the program at the Detention Center since its inception in the Spring of 2024, working intensively with program participants to create individual assessments, treatment plans and remediation therapies. Damascus House Ministries is a nonprofit formed by the Pawleys Island Community Church.



Pope



Cruz

Tanner retires from GCSO



On Dec. 17, a retirement luncheon was held for Kathi Tanner, manager of the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office Records Division. She served the county for 26 years. We thank Tanner for her service and wish her all the best in retirement.

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.

PEE DEE COMMUNITY PROJECT

ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY

WHERE & WHEN
MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2026 @ 9AM
PEE DEE COMMUNITY CENTER
1336 COHEN DRIVE, HEMINGWAY, SC 29554

Join the Pee Dee Community Project for our Annual MLK Jr. Community Clean Up Day! Help honor Dr. King's legacy through service as we come together to beautify our community. Volunteers are needed, and refreshments will be served after the cleanup.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
CLAUDIA COHEN, 919-701-2524

County announces discount prescription drug program

Georgetown County is pleased to announce that it has reconnected with the National Association of Counties (NACo) Prescription Drug Discount Program, providing residents with another option to help reduce the cost of prescription medications.

The NACo Prescription Drug Discount Program is free to use, requires no enrollment, and is available to all residents, regardless of age, income or insurance status. The program can be used at participating pharmacies nationwide and may offer savings on many commonly prescribed medications.

Residents may access the program in two ways:

- Printed discount cards, available at the Beck Recreation Center (2030 Church St., Georgetown) and the Bureau of Aging Services administrative office at the Howard Center (1610 Hawkins St., Georgetown)

- Online access, allowing residents to search medications and download or print a card from home

“This program offers an additional option for residents who may be struggling with rising prescription costs or who fall into coverage gaps,” said Beth Goodale, Georgetown County’s Director of Recreation and Community Services. “We are pleased to make this resource easily available to our community.”

The NACo Prescription Drug Discount Program can be used instead of insurance when it provides a better price, but it cannot be combined with insurance or Medicare.

For more information or to access the program online, visit the NACo Live Healthy website at livehealthycard.com. To get your card, click the following link: [Georgetown County Card](#).

Live music returns to library


The Friends of the Waccamaw Library Musician Series will be back in full swing starting this month and continuing on **select Thursdays at 6 p.m.** Tap your toes and clap your hands to an exciting variety of live music, including soothing acoustic classics, a jazzy cabaret concert, a lovely choral ensemble, an entertaining duo, mellow sounds of the 70s, and a full-scale concert jazz band.

All concerts are free and open to the public. The Library is located at 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island.

On **Jan. 15**, warm up with an evening of cozy acoustic favorites, courtesy of longtime guitarist, vocalist and recording artist **Dan Sachs**, who will strum and sing a show full of harmonizing “Acoustic Classics.” On **Jan. 22**, treat your ears to “That’s Life: Jazz & Cabaret,” thanks to the talented **Pam Purvis Ackerman** and her backing band. Hailing from Louisiana and Texas, she received training at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, and for nearly three decades toured the U.S., Europe, Mexico and Brazil.

On **Feb. 12**, the Library welcomes back the **Pawleys Island Ladies Ensemble** with “A Choral Celebration,” featuring beloved hymns and joyful favorites. On **Feb. 26**, the dynamic husband-and-wife duo **Chick ‘N’ Biscuit** brings together the poetic storytelling of Emily Dunlap Carter and the soulful, bluesy sounds of her other half, award-winning musicians John Carter of the band Old Age & Treachery. On **March 26** the **Pawleys Island Concert Band Jazz Band** will perform. Twenty pieces strong, it will swing its way through a delightful rendition of “Jazz in the Stacks.”

And as this season’s grand finale, guitarist and vocalist **Rich Johnson** returns to the auditorium stage on **June 11**, this time to perform soothing hits from the 1970s that will delight Parrotheads and Deadheads alike.




▶▶▶▶ Waccamaw Neck Branch Library
41 St Pauls Place, Pawleys Island
In the Tech Room

3D PRINTING Classes

MONDAYS @2:00*
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH
*NO CLASSES JAN 12TH OR MARCH 16TH & 23RD

Bring your ideas to life with precision and innovation! Explore 3D printing and file creation for customized solutions that push the boundaries of design and manufacturing.



- ✔ **PROTOTYPING**
- ✔ **FILE CREATION**
- ✔ **SMALL BATCH PRODUCTION**
- ✔ **DESIGN ASSISTANCE**

FREE!

Reserve a seat
ddennis@gtcounty.org


Waccamaw Neck Branch Library
41 St Pauls Place



**DIGITAL ART
AND DESIGN**



WEDNESDAYS AT 1PM*
*NO CLASSES JANUARY 14TH OR MARCH 18TH




Join us to learn free and easy digital design programs. We will focus on design basics, creating digital art, and basic software proficiency.

WHAT YOU’LL LEARN:

- How to create fliers in Canva
- Affinity Publisher
- Inkscape



FREE

**Waccamaw Neck
Branch Library**

41 St Pauls Place
Pawleys Island

Seats are limited, basic computer skills are required.
Enroll at ddennis@gtcounty.org

GOAT program kicks off new year with new challenges, events

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation is excited to welcome a new year of outdoor adventure through the Georgetown Outdoor Adventure Trails (GOAT) program. As 2026 gets underway, residents and visitors are invited to get moving, explore local trails and waterways, and take part in a variety of self-paced challenges and special events designed to support healthier, more active lifestyles.

Registration is now open for the 2026 Fit GOAT / Iron GOAT Challenge, a self-paced mileage challenge running from January through October. Participants can log miles by walking, hiking, running, biking or paddling at their own pace throughout the year. Achievement levels range from Fit GOAT to Iron GOAT Elite, allowing participants of all fitness levels to set personal goals and track their progress. Details at gtcounty.org/goat.

Upcoming GOAT Events

In addition to the annual mileage challenge, several special events are scheduled for early 2026:

- Hike and Seek Team Challenge, Jan. 24 at noon.

Teams will navigate trails while searching for waypoints along the 8 Oaks Trail System in a fun, fast-paced outdoor challenge. Divisions: Open, Family, and Senior.

- Ride the Rock Mountain/Gravel Bike Endurance Event, Feb. 21 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This six-hour endurance ride at Rocky Point Community Forest allows teams of one to four riders to complete as many laps as possible within the time limit. The event is designed for both experienced riders and those looking for a new challenge in a supportive environment.

Adult
CRAFT TIME
Card Making & Flower Pens
FEBRUARY 13, 2026
@ 10AM
CRAFT SELECTIONS AVAILABLE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED
Waccamaw Neck Branch Library
41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island

Logos for Georgetown County and Friends of the Waccamaw Library are included.

The Friends of the Waccamaw Library are pleased to announce



THE 2026 LITCHFIELD TEA + POETRY SERIES



Monthly presentations through March, each featuring thought-provoking poets with S.C. connections.



Programs are free, open to the public and start at 10 a.m. at the Waccamaw Library.



Each presentation will be followed by an open mic session. Attendees are invited to read a single-page poem of their own.

JAN. 15: ED GOLD



Ed Gold is a graduate of the Johns Hopkins University Writing Seminars who taught for many years at the University of Maryland. In addition to his new collection, "Loveship," he has two other chapbooks—"Owl" and "Sundown"—and poems in Ekphrastic Review, Petigru Review, Think, Kakalak, and elsewhere. For the Poetry Society of South Carolina, Gold conducts the Skylark poetry contest for high school poets. He lives in Charleston with his wife Amy and their dog Edie.

FEB. 26: SYLVIA KELLY



Sylvia Kelly is the author of two collections of haiku-based poetry: *The Upward Climb: Into the Light of Day* and *Haiku from the Heart*. Before retiring to the South Carolina coast, Kelly was a nurse who served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps Reserves and a former security guard through the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division. In addition to writing poems, she also loves being a wife, mother, and grandmother.

MARCH 12: YVETTE R. MURRAY



Yvette R. Murray is an award-winning poet and the author of the poetry collection *Hush, Puppy* (2023) as well as a new children's book *Celebrate We Gullah Geechee* (2025). She has been published in *Chestnut Review*, *Aunt Chloe*, *Emrys Journal*, *Litmosphere*, and *A Gathering Together*, among other venues. Murray is the 2022 Susan Laughter Meyers Weymouth Fellow, a 2021 Best New Poet selection, a Watering Hole Fellow, and a Pushcart Prize nominee.

CELEBRATING OUR 20TH YEAR!

Public invited to attend Unified Development Ordinance workshop

Georgetown County invites residents, business owners and other interested parties to participate in a public workshop focused on shaping the County's first Unified Development Ordinance (UDO).

The interactive workshop will feature small-group discussions designed to gather community feedback on land uses, pedestrian opportunities, transportation and other key planning topics. Input collected during the workshop will help guide the drafting of the County's Unified Development Ordinance, which will establish a unified framework for future growth and development.

The UDO will bring together all of Georgetown County's zoning and land use ordinances into a single, user-friendly document. In addition to consolidating and simplifying the County's existing regulations, the UDO will serve as a tool for implementing the land development and zoning strategies outlined in the County's recently adopted Comprehensive Plan.

The workshop will be Wednesday, Jan. 21, from 6-8 p.m. at the Georgetown County Library, 405 Cleland St.



2026

GEORGETOWN COUNTY
POLAR PLUNGE

OCEANFRONT LITCHFIELD INN
1 NORRIS DRIVE, PAWLEYS ISLAND

2.7.26

Registration 10 am | Costume contest 11 am
Plunge at 11:30 am

When you join the **Polar Plunge**, you help athletes with intellectual disabilities to experience the life-changing benefits of participating in **Special Olympics**, at no cost to themselves or their families.

Donate
or raise \$50 and take the plunge with us!

<https://www.classy.org/campaign/2026-georgetown-county-polar-plunge/c724519>

For more information contact:
Lt. James Ketcham at Georgetown County Sheriff's Office
jketcham@gtcounty.org or 843-546-5102

FOWL 1st Thursday series announces winter/spring lineup

The popular Friends of the Waccamaw Library (FOWL) 1st Thursday Speaker Series returns next month for another highly anticipated run. Though subjects of presentations are eclectic, most highlight a facet of local or South Carolina Lowcountry culture.

Presentations take place in the DeBordieu-Cross Auditorium at the Waccamaw Library, located at 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island. All 1st Thursday events begin at 10 a.m. on the first Thursday of the month, and are free and open to the public. Arrive early to enjoy piano music performed by Tom Santopietro. If you miss a presentation, videos are available afterward on the [Georgetown County Library YouTube Channel](#).

The schedule is as follows.

- Feb. 5: David G. Hodges (Author), "In the Sway: The Fascinating History of Pawleys Island Hammocks."
- March 5: Justin McIntyre (Curator/S.C. Maritime Museum), "The Best Way South: The Clyde Steamship Co. in South Carolina."
- April 2: Steven D. Smith (Research Professor/S.C. Institute for Archaeology & Anthropology), "Francis Marion & the Snow's Island Community: Myth, History, & Archaeology."
- May 7: Erin Pate (Development & Community Relations Manager/Open Space Institute), "Black Magic: New Developments with the Black River Initiative."
- June 4: Dr. Lynn Hanson (Former Co-Director/Baruch Institute for S.C. Studies), "Enslaved Communities at Hobcaw Barony: Insights from Research."

Friends of the Georgetown Library

TUESDAYS WITH.

Kendy Altizer

History of Peachtree Plantation
of the Thomas Lynch Family
St. James Parish, South Carolina

20 JAN 2026 | 10:00 AM

Georgetown Library Auditorium
405 Cleland St.
Georgetown, SC 29440
(843) 545-3300

<< 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



"Noon Year's Day" at the Waccamaw Library



Dozens of people met in the auditorium of the Waccamaw Library on Dec. 31 for a family friendly New Year's celebration. They participated in crafts and activities, enjoyed light refreshments and counted down to noon, celebrating with noisemakers, balloons and cheers. Watch the video on our Facebook page at [Facebook.com/gtcounty](https://www.facebook.com/gtcounty).

→] Organizational Restructuring

- The Tax Assessor and Register of Deeds offices will move under Planning and Zoning.
- Management Information Systems (MIS), Public Information and Fleet Services will report to Assistant County Administrator Brandon Ellis.
- The Capital Projects Sales Tax (CPST) program will fall under Assistant County Administrator Carla Harvey.

"Residents expect accountability, transparency, and results," said County Council Chairman Clint Elliott. "This organizational approach helps ensure we are using resources wisely while continuing to invest in infrastructure, public safety and quality of life."

The reorganization builds on a year of significant progress for Georgetown County, including investments in infrastructure, technology, public safety and community wellness, as well as national and state recognition for fiscal management, safety standards, communications and financial reporting. County officials emphasized that the changes are part of a broader effort to strengthen service delivery, support future growth and ensure Georgetown County remains responsive to the needs of its residents and taxpayers.