## NONPROFITS | Good Friends

## Group builds new partnership for people in need

**BY CHRIS SOKOLOSKI** COASTAL OBSERVER

A nonprofit that helps local residents in need has a new partner as it enters its third decade of service.

Good Friends of Georgetown County is teaming up with Helping Hands of Georgetown County starting in January.

"I think it's going to be really exciting," said Anne Mountford, chairman of the Good Friends board. "I think it's going to be an easy transition because Helping Hands is so organized."

Good Friends helps county residents struggling to keep up with expenses related to things like shelter, utilities, medical expenses and transportation. Helping Hands assists residents with food insecurity, utility support and dental care, while also providing job training and youth empowerment programs.

Good Friends used to get its referrals from the Department of Social Services, but DSS ended the partnership earlier this year.

"They said they really needed to concentrate on the programs that they had," Mountford said. "It was a shock that they weren't going to be able to help us any more. But at the same time it probably was really good because we could start thinking about going in a different way."

considered hiring someone to process the requests.

"If we did that, that was went back into the community," Mountford said.

The board also considthe work. "Most of us are retired and don't want to commit to a job again," Mountford said.

The two nonprofits will continue to raise money separately and keep their funds separate. Helping Hands will research requests and provide referrals, and Good Friends will write the checks.

The first step in the new Murrells Inlet. partnership is updating the



Photos by Charles Swenson/Coastal Observer

Santa (Roy Seigel) and his elf (Anderson Wilson) unload a donation of toys for the sheriff's office outside the DeBordieu club. At left, Mrs. Claus (Beth Seigel) admires a baby Yoda.

lot of new people," Mount- raised more than \$1 mil- ism, and Coastal Floodford said. "That was fun."

has not made a decision on a luncheon in 2022.

"Perhaps we'll come up with something different,"

2001, Good Friends has Pawleys Island SC 29585.

lion, including \$213,000 ing" with Phillip Dustan The Good Friends board last year, to help thousands of county residents.

To make a donation visit goodfriendsofgeorgetowncounty.org or send a check Ann-Chadwell Humphries; to Good Friends of George-Since its inception in town County, P.O. Box 667,

Music history | Lloyd with Kendra Hamilton; Kaplan, a music professor, will explore how popular music influenced major social changes occurring during the 1920s, 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s at the Waccamaw Library next month.

of U.S. 1920-1960 As Told Through Popular Songs" will take place on Tuesdays in January at 2 p.m.

The lectures are free and hosted by the Friends of the Waccamaw Library.

Speaker series | The (1946); Friends of the Waccamaw Library's First Thursday series returns on Jan 6.

The lineup is: • Jan. 6, "Global Gullah: South Carolina to Sierra Le-

one" with Dennzon Winley; • Feb. 3, "All About Alice: Writing the Book on Alice Ravenel Huger Smith, Charleston Artist" with Dwight McInvaill, Caroline Palmer and Anne Tinker;

 March 3, "Corals, Tour-(livestreamed on Facebook);

• April 7, "A Poet and the Gift of Blindness" with

• May 5, "Romancing the Gullah: Images of Gullah Life in Popular Culture"

• June 2, "New Political author, and jazz musician, Theologies and the Changing South" with Franklin

Tanner Capps. All events start at 10 a.m. and are free and open to the public.

Classic films | Friday af-"A Short Social History ternoons at the movies return to the Waccamaw Library in January. They will be introduce by Bill Harvey, a local film buff.

The schedule for the Classic Film Series is:

• Jan. 7, "The Big Sleep"

• Jan. 14, "Duck Soup"

• Jan. 21, "The Magnifi-

cent Seven" (1960); • Jan. 28, "The Philadel-

phia Story" (1940); · Feb. 4, Guess Who's

Coming to Dinner (1967);

• Feb. 11, Blade Runner

• Feb. 18, Chariots of Fire

Screenings take place at 2:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public.





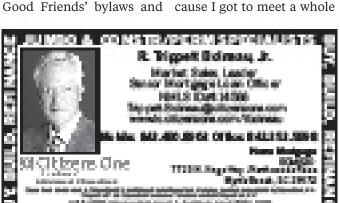
website to remove all references to DSS.

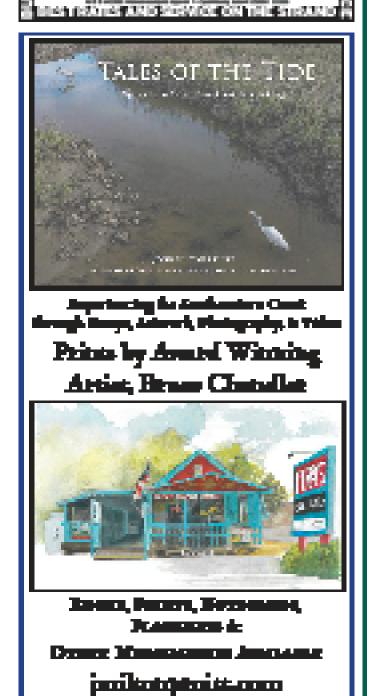
Good Friends usually hosts its largest fundraiser, an in-person luncheon The Good Friends board in December, but the event was canceled this year and last year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Ingoing to take from us being stead of one event, supportable to say that 100 percent ers held small events, like cocktail parties and holiday

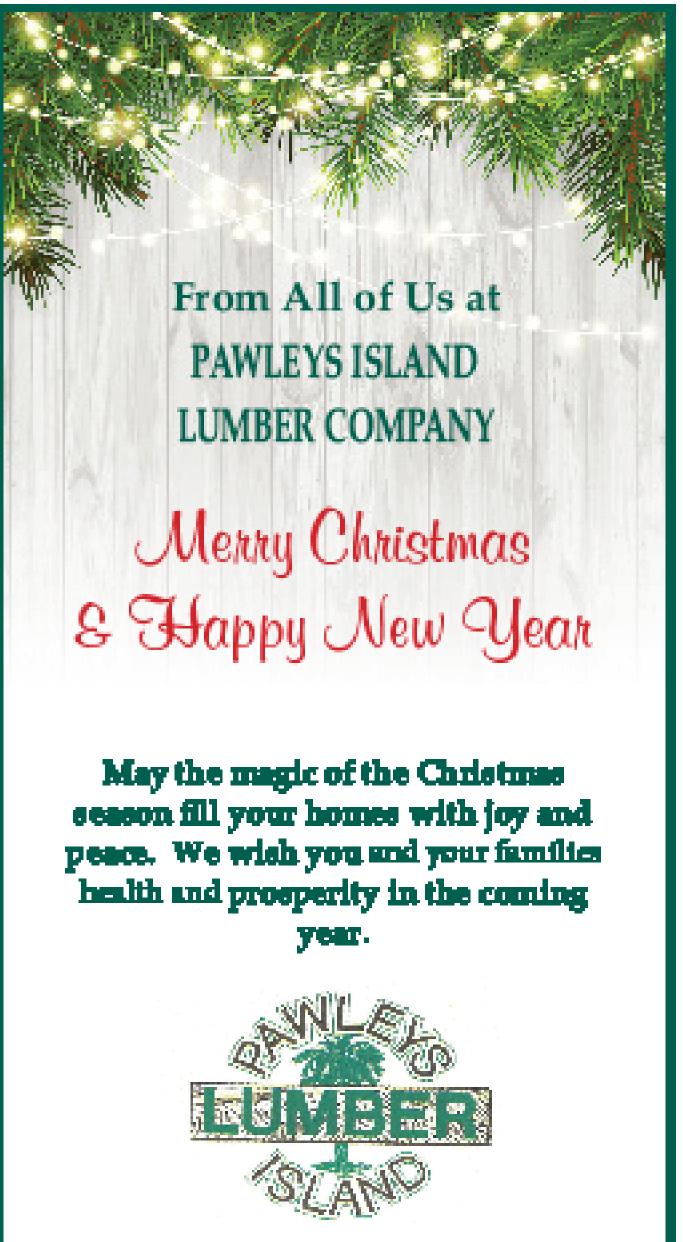
'We had a lot of peoered having members do ple say 'I like doing it in the smaller groups because it was just cozier and you could actually talk to people," Mountford said. "With the large group, your friends were maybe sitting across the room from you."

> Mountford recently went to Murrells Inlet to pick up checks from a fundraiser. It was the first event that she knows of held in

"That was really nice be-







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