CHATHAM COUNTY CONNECTION



April 30, 2017







Helen Stone District 1



James Holmes District 2



Bobby Locket District 3



Patrick Farrell
District 4



Tabitha Odell District 5



James "Jay" Jones District 6



Dean Kicklighter
District 7



Chester A. Ellis District 8

For more information on the current district lines visit: http://www.chathamcounty.org/Government/BoardofCommissioners/CommissionDistrictMaps.aspx

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Al Scott, Chairman

Over the past year, the citizens of Chatham County have heard a lot about the Hospital Authority and its relationship to Memorial University Medical Center. I want to explain how the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, the Hospital Authority and Memorial interact with each other. These roles sometimes are difficult to understand but each entity has a role to play.

In 1954, the Chatham County Hospital Authority was created and has functioned since that time providing care for all of the citizens of Chatham County. In the early years, the Hospital Authority ran the day-to-day operations of Memorial Hospital. However, those duties were turned over to a managing board by a lease agreement. In the more recent years, the Hospital Authority has focused on ensuring that certain services, specifically those needed by our vulnerable population, remain available at Memorial Medical Hospital. That institution, with both the Neo-Natal and Trauma units, carries the brunt of services which are not profitable in most medical settings in Georgia.

The laws of Georgia created a "Hospital Authority" in every county and that authority can vary in the size of membership and terms of office. The size, terms, and any limits to those

appointments are determined by the County's Board of Commissioners.

Once created, the Hospital Authority cannot be disbanded, or in other words, it exists in perpetuity. The Hospital Authority is a separate legal entity and stands alone as its own creature. It can lease, buy or rent real estate. It can borrow money, be sued and otherwise conduct the essential functions of government. Property owned by the Hospital Authority is exempt from taxes in the same way other city or county property is exempt.

The Board of Commissioners does not have direct control over the Hospital Authority. The Board merely appoints the membership of the Authority in much the same way as Chatham Area Transit works. In 2012, the Board of Commissioners became more involved when it decided to refinance the struggling hospital's debt and

guarantee \$163 million in bonds backed by the County's bond rating. This bond rating guarantees a lower interest rate because it pledged a millage rate increase. This pledge means that if Memorial defaulted on the bonds, the Board of Commissioners was obligated to raise the millage rate of every taxpayer in Chatham County. The Commission's willingness to pledge the County Digest to guarantee the bonds provided a lifeline of more than \$20 million in capital in 2012. It also reduced expenses going forward by approximately \$4 million annually for Memorial by lowering the interest payments of previous debt in much the same way as refinancing a mortgage saves interest over the life of the loan.

The decision last week to sign a Letter of Intent to sell Memorial Hospital rested with the Hospital Authority and gave Hospital

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Functional and Medical Needs Clients Encouraged to Register with Health Department

It's hard to believe that hurricane season is just around the corner. From the beginning of June through the end of November, hurricanes are a threat to coastal Georgia. They can be an even bigger threat to those residents with a functional or medical need who have no way to evacuate if a storm is coming.

The Chatham County Health Department maintains a list of people with those types of needs so that if a storm is heading our way, we can get those residents safely out of town.

The Functional and Medical Needs Registry is made up of residents who may require transportation and medical help during a hurricane evacuation and have no other resources such as family, friends, neighbors, or church members to help them if they need to evacuate. Residents must apply to be on the registry and if they meet the criteria, someone from the Chatham County Health Department will explain to them, in detail, how and when the Registry will be activated should a storm threaten our area.

Residents who meet the criteria and are put on the Registry will be evacuated to an American Red Cross general population shelter in an inland county. The shelter will be located in a gym or other similar setting and it could take several hours to get to the shelter

Are you ready for storm season?



urricanes and severe storms bring high winds and rain, strong waves, and storm surges that can damage or destroy your home, boat, or other property, can put your family or your business at risk, and have the potential to create a large amount of marine debris. Not only can storms damage the environment and property, but you could lose your own possessions and have to replace them. Do you know what to do to get ready, protect your family and belongings, and help prevent marine debris?



How can I protect my family and our home?

Debris from storms can crash into your home and damage it. Your possessions can also be ruined and can end up in waterways – even if you don't live right on the water – affecting navigation safety for boats.

What to do:

- Secure items on your property. Movable items, such as lawn furniture, should be put away in a secure, enclosed location like a garage or building.
- Items that cannot be put away in storage, such as outdoor appliances, should be secured carefully and tightly.
- Be sure you and your family stay in a safe place during the storm. You could be severely injured by falling trees and other debris, or by sudden flooding.
- You can get storm and hurricane planning guides for homeowners at: stormsmart.org/handbook.

Did you know?

Many household or boat items can become projectiles in severe storms. These include lawn chairs and barbeque grills, fishing nets and traps, utility carts and marina equipment, and gasoline cans and propane tanks, which are especially hazardous.

You can protect your home, boat, and the environment from the impacts of severe weather by taking a few simple steps.



Ages: 6-12 Time: 9:00am-3:00pm Cost: \$40 per Session (2 weeks) Extended Care: 8-9am 4 3-5pm Additional \$20 per Session

REGISTRATION STARTS MAY 1st

(The first 35 paid will be accepted)

7226 Varnedoe Drive

For more information contact: Cameron Chastain 912-652-6782 or cjchasta@chathamcounty.org



Chatham County Parks & Recreation Dept. Lake Mayer Summer Camp Registration Form

Camp location: 1850 E. Montgomery Crossroads, Savannah, GA 31406 Registration Address: 7226 Varnedoe Drive, Savannah, GA 31406 Phone: (912) 652-6782 May 30th - July 21st 2017

Participant						
Address						
Street	City/	Γown	State		Zip	
Phone#	Date of Birth				Age	
Parent's Name					T-Shirt Size (100% cotton)	
					YS YM YL YXL	
Parent's Email						
Emergency Contact Phone#						
Health Comments (Allergies, Health Problems, Medications, etc)						
	Drop-Off	9 <u>:00am</u>	Pick-Up	3:00pm		
Please place an (X) in the Summer Camp Sessions that you are participating in:						
(1) May 30 th -June 9 th (2) June 12 th - June 23 th (3) June 26 th -July 7 th (4) July 10 th -July 21 st						
Extended Care: 8-9am & 3-5pm Yes No Extended Care - \$60.00/Session (2 weeks)						

Camp FEE \$40.00 Session OR \$60.00/ session if you add EXTENDED CARE

*Make check payable to Chatham County Park Services.

*We will be going on a few field trips. Please be advised that some of these will have an extra fee. Parents will receive adequate notice before the trip.

IMPORTANT- PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: I hereby waive and release all rights and claims for damages against Chatham County and their employees and agents for all injuries, which may be

sustained, by herein named minor or myself while participating in the program listed above. I understand the content of the program and the risk of personal injury therein. I also give my permission for employees of the County and /or the closest medical emergency facility to the activity site to admit me or my child for EMERGENCY medical treatment that would become necessary as a result of a medical emergency during the program. I also give permission to the County to make noncommercial use of any activity photographs of my child or myself. Any information provided will be treated with confidentiality and will allow the County to better serve individuals attending programs.

Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date
C	

Office use only				
Paid Amount	Date Staff (initials)			

Medical Needs

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because we want to make sure that those on the Registry are transported well out of harm's way of the storm.

Functional needs registrants are individuals who may need services to maintain their independence in a shelter. This includes children and adults with physical, sensory, mental health, and cognitive and/or intellectual disabilities affecting their ability to function independently without assistance. Medical needs registrants are individuals who require support of trained medical professionals. This includes those individuals who may need assistance with managing unstable, terminal, or contagious conditions that require observation and ongoing treatment.

It's important to note that people living in

Chairman

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Corporation of America the right to a due diligence period prior to closing. The Board of Commissioners had no say so in the intended sell. However, as the appointing body, and with the County's monetary backing of Memorial through its bond commitment and millage pledge, the Commission has a keen interest in ensuring that health care services remain at the highest possible level in the County while protecting the taxpayers from an undue tax burden. I am pleased with the outcome the Hospital Authority was able to achieve in this difficult situation.

Looking forward, Georgia law requires that the Hospital Authority conduct a public hearing and explain the terms of the sale, both the potential pitfalls as well as potential advantages. This hearing must occur 60 days before the actual sale can be finalized. All funds from the sale of the hospital will go into an Indigent Care Trust Fund administered by the Hospital Authority.

As for the County, Chatham County and its Board of Commissioners have sought non-traditional ways to provide necessary health care to indigent citizens. By funding both the Curtis V. Cooper and J. C. Lewis Centers, the County, along with its strategic partners, provide non-life threatening health care to prevent an influx of non-insured citizens in Memorial Hospital's emergency room. These centers, along with a focus on providing mental health treatment through additional agencies such as Gateway Behavioral Health, demonstrate the County's ongoing dedication to meet the needs of its citizens in the area of healthcare.

Pill Take Back Program

Thanks to a partnership with CVS, the Chatham County Sheriff's Office provides two locations to safely dispose of expired or unused medications and help reduce the risk of accidental exposure or intentional misuse. One is located at the entrance of the Sheriff's Office at 1050 Carl Griffin Drive. This location is available 24 hours a day. The second is on the first floor of the Chatham County Courthouse at 133 Montgomery Street and is available during business hours only.



This is an environmentally safe and secure way to dispose of prescription pills, prescription patches, prescription ointments, over the counter medications and pet medications. These locations do not accept thermometers, needles, inhalers, aerosol cans or hydrogen peroxide.

These drop off locations help keep your home and community safe in the fight against prescription drug abuse.

nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and personal care homes are not eligible for the Functional and Medical Needs Registry and must follow their facility's emergency plan.

Residents in Chatham County can apply for the Registry by calling 912-691-7443. The application and protected health information authorization form can also be downloaded by going to www.gachd.org/registry.

What Is Internal Auditing?

Internal auditing is an independent, objective assurance and consulting activity designed to add value and improve an organization's operations.



At its simplest, internal auditing involves identifying the risks that could keep an

organization from achieving its goals, making sure the organization's leaders know about these risks, and proactively recommending improvements to help reduce the risks.

For internal auditing to be effective, the organization's leaders must be open to discussing tough issues and seizing opportunities to make necessary changes for improvement. And the internal auditors must have an independent reporting line to the highest governing body (e.g., the audit committee of the board of directors), ensuring them the requisite authority to access all areas of the organization and know that they will be supported if and when their views differ from those of management.

Internal auditors' independence and broad perspective of the organization make them a valuable resource to executive management and the board of directors. They ensure that the organization is held accountable to its stakeholders, whether those stakeholders are



INTERNAL AUDITING = ASSURANCE, INSIGHT, AND OBJECTIVITY

Governing bodies and senior management rely on internal auditing for insight and objective assurance that existing internal controls are adequate to mitigate the organization's risks, governance and risk management processes are effective and efficient, and organizational goals and strategic objectives are met.

investors (as in the case of a publicly traded company) or the general public, served by a government organization.

Ultimately, internal auditors add value to their organizations by providing assurance, insight, and objectivity. Internal auditors can save their organization substantial amounts of money and protect its reputation in the marketplace by identifying operating inefficiencies, wasteful spending, employee theft, fraud, and cases of noncompliance with laws or regulations, for example.

They keep an eye on the corporate climate and perform a variety of activities such as assessing risks, analyzing opportunities, suggesting improvements, promoting ethics, ensuring accuracy of records and financial statements, educating senior management and the board

on critical issues, investigating fraud, detecting wasteful spending, raising red flags, recommending stronger controls, monitoring compliance with rules and regulations, and much more!

Seems like a lot to ask from one resource? Maybe for some, but for internal auditors, it's all in a day's work. Governing bodies and senior management rely on internal auditing for insight and objective assurance that existing internal controls are adequate to mitigate the organization's risks, governance and risk management processes are effective and efficient, and organizational goals and strategic objectives are met.

At Chatham County we have a team of internal auditors that regularly look at our departments and our practices to ensure that we are achieving the best outcomes for our residents.

Keep Kids Healthy; Enroll in Free or Low Cost Health Coverage



Bilingual (Spanish) Application Assistance Available for Medicaid & PeachCare for Kids!

The Coastal Campaign for Healthy Kids would like you to know that we offer Spanish-language enrollment assistance for Chatham County families who would like to apply for children's health insurance programs, Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids. Yahira Heraldez of the Coastal Campaign for Healthy Kids and Yaritza Figueroa of Curtis V. Cooper Primary Health Center are native Spanish-speakers and experienced public benefits enrollment assistors who are ready to help parents and legal guardians! Both enrollers are available to visit schools, churches, health providers, community events and more to talk to parents about eligibility and provide onsite enrollment assistance.



Yahira Heraldez is the Campaign's Bilingual (Spanish-English) Enrollment Specialist

Ms. Heraldez offers mobile enrollment help and is available for appointments at convenient locations, offering evening and Saturday morning hours if

You may reach her at 912-661-1290 or yahiraheraldez@chlink.org.



Vira Salzburn is the new Program Coordinator for the Coastal Campaign for Healthy Kids

Ms. Figueroa is available Monday-Wednesday, Friday 8am-5pm at Curtis V Cooper Primary Health Care Center, 2 Roberts St., Savannah and the First Hispanic Baptist Church, 1 Gamble Rd., Savannah on Tuesdays, 6pm-9pm, Thursdays 9am-4pm, 6pm-8pm.

You may reach her at 912-527-2729 or yfigueroa@cvcphc.com.

End of school and summer fun is right around the corner! Don't forget that enrollment for children's health coverage is available all year-round. Health coverage for children and teens (0-19) through the Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids programs offer no cost or low cost comprehensive medical, vision and dental. Eligibility is based on income and household size. Children in a family of four earning up to \$60,024 may qualify.

Coverage includes

- Regular Check-ups
- **Immunizations**
- Sick Visits
- Dental Care Vision Care
- Hospital Stays
- Mental Health Services

- Prescriptions
- And more...

The Coastal Campaign offers free, in-person mobile enrollment assistance. Our enrollers are flexible and offer help after 5:00pm weekdays and on Saturday mornings. We can meet you at our offices, at your work, at your child's school, on the practice field or any other public space that is convenient. Contact Yahira Heraldez at 912-661-1290 or yahiraheraldez@ coastalcampaign.org.

For a list of all our enrollment events and for more information on eligibility requirements for Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids, visit www. coastalcampaign.org.



Spanish-speaking, mobile enroller, Yahira Heraldez offering onsite Medicaid & PeachCare for Kids at enrollment help at a local library.

To see if your child is eligible or to enroll now, call (912) 661-3040 or visit coastalcampaign.org

Our Enrollment Assistance Partners...

In Chatham County, in-person assistance for signing up or renewing coverage is available from the Campaign for Healthy Kids enrollment partners:

Locations Accepting Walk ins

Bull Street Public Library 2002 Bull Street, Savannah Details: 2nd Tuesday of each month Hours: 5pm-8pm

Centro Hispano de Savannah First Hispanic Baptist Church (SE HABLA ESPAÑOL) 1 Gamble Road, Savannah

Hours: Tuesdays 9am-4:00pm, 6pm-9pm

& Thursdays 6pm-8pm

912-429-3803

Locations Accepting Walk ins and Appointments

Curtis V. Cooper Primary Health Center (SE HABLA ESPAÑOL) Two locations:

106 E. Broad St. Savannah, GA 31401 912-527-1000 Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8am-5pm, Tuesday & Thursday 8am-7pm, Saturday 9am-2pm

Savannah, GA 31408 912-527-1100 Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm **Savannah Counseling Center**

800 E 70th St, Savannah, GA 31404 Hours: Friday mornings 8:30am-11:30am

St. Mary's Community Center 812 W. 36th Street, Savannah

912-447-0578 •

Locations Accepting Appointments Only

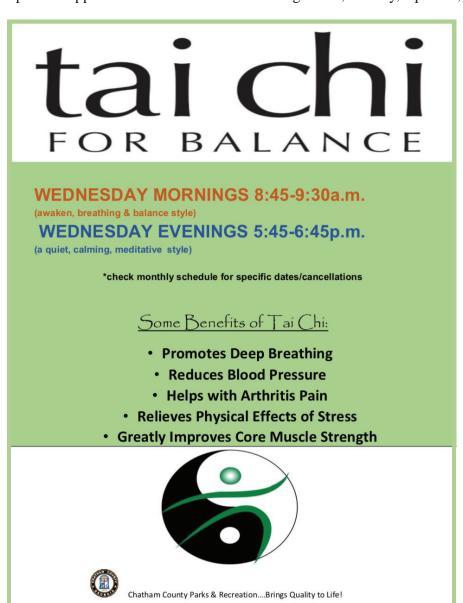
Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council Chatham County Health Department 1395 Eisenhower Drive, Savannah 912-356-2887

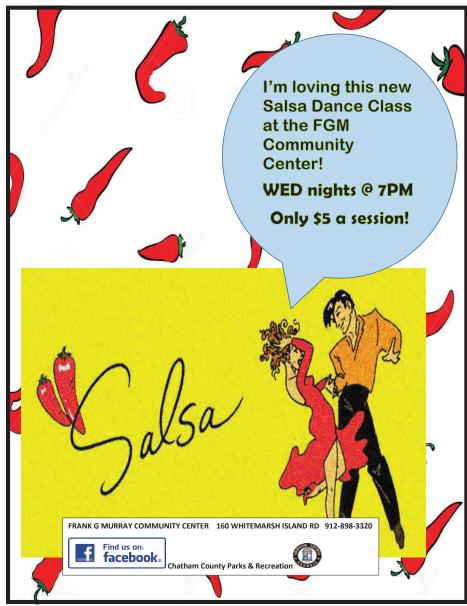
Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-4pm

Step Up Savannah 428 Bull Street, Savannah 912-232-6747 **Hours:** Monday-Friday 9am-4pm

Coastal Campaign for Healthy Kids Mobile Enrollment

Call for locations. 912-661-1272 912-661-1290 (SE HABLA ESPAÑOL) Hours: Monday 8:30am-4:30pm, Saturday 10am-12:00pm







CHATHAM COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION 1ST ANNUAL BURGER FEST

CELEBRATING THE BACKYARD GRILLERS

SAVANNAH FOOD TRUCKS...

TAILSPIN @ the dog park... **COASTAL PET**

RESCUE ADOPTIONS

LIVE MUSIC...

CHILDRENS'

ACTIVITIES... TOUR OF MOTHER

MATHILDA HOUSE

TO ATTEND...BRING YOUR FAMILY & YOUR DOG!!!!!!

SATURDAY, MAY 6TH 10 AM-1 PM

(a)

MOTHER MATHILDA BEASLEY PK.

(500 E. BROAD ST.) FEE: \$35.00 PER GRILLER **CASH PRIZES FOR 1ST**

PLACE IN EACH CATEGORY









FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL VICKI @ (912-652-6784 OR JODI @ (912) 898-3320.

Frank G Murray Community Center's

5th Annual Summer RUMMAGE



Sat. JUNE 10th 9am-12

Sign up now to rent a table indoors for \$15

Come shop & have a fun morning!!

Call (912) 898-3320 for more info

Summer Bonanza Partnership, Inc.

A Chatham County Youth Initiative



Affordable Camp

Every Saturday

Fun Activities

Lunch Included

Educational Programs

Cultural Enrichment

gram founded by Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas. The pro-

The Summer Bonanza Partnership, Inc., is a pro-

gram will expose young people to local government, cultural diversity, and positive role models. Strengthening academic development while providing



state, structured and fun activities for youth is esssential. Summer Bonanza meets once per week on Saturday mornings from 10 am - 1 pm at the Moses Jackson Center. The program fee is \$10 per child.

To register please visit: summerbonanza.com or call (912) 663-4528 for a paper application.

Parents must attend the orientation session on May 27, 2017.

May 27, 2017 • 10 am **Moses Jackson Center** 1410B Richards Street

Registration begins at 9am - 10am Ages 7 - 14