MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Al Scott, Chairman

As we begin the fall season in Chatham County, I know residents have several issues on their mind. At the forefront of those issues are collection of debris from Hurricane Irma and police services in the Special Service District (SSD).

For the first 30 days after Hurricane Irma impacted our area, Chatham County had two county employee crews removing debris from the SSD. At the same time our FEMA approved debris removal contractors prepared to deploy resources to expedite the cleanup process. Our contractors now have more than 10 crews helping to remove debris. To date more than 45,000 cubic yards of debris have been collected from both public and private roads. Removal efforts will continue over the next several weeks to months until all the debris has been removed.

After Hurricane Matthew, the Board of Commissioners approved a one-time fee of $131 to help rebuild reserve funds used to fund the cleanup of debris from Matthew. At this time, the County does not anticipate an additional fee will be needed as a result from the debris cleanup of Hurricane Irma.

Most residents of Chatham County are aware that in June of this year the City of Savannah Council voted to end the contract for police services for the Special Service District, commonly referred to as Unincorporated Chatham County. As a result, Chatham County has opted to re-institute the Chatham County Police Department.

Shortly after City of Savannah Council made their decision, I asked County Manager Lee Smith to form a transition team and move forward with providing police services to the SSD. The transition team has been hard at work ensuring that a police department of the highest quality is ready to serve the public on February 1, 2018.

The Chatham County Police Department will be based out of three County owned buildings: the Whitemarsh Precinct, the Islands Precinct and the West Chatham Precinct. The County will start work on the Whitemarsh Precinct in November. The work will include setting up network systems for computers and telephone systems. It is anticipated that both the Islands and West Chatham precincts will be shared with Savannah Police Department until a time when both departments have an adequate space to move their police operations.

A nationwide search is underway for a Police Chief and interviews are being conducted for command staff and officers. The County Human Resources Department anticipates the first wave of hiring for the police department will come in the first part of December. After the staff is onboard, they will receive their equipment and start training. It is likely that residents of the SSD will see Chatham County Police Officers and their vehicles in their neighborhoods as early as January 2018 as they learn their new beats and are out meeting residents and business owners.

As the new Chatham County Police Department begins its operations to protect and serve unincorporated Chatham County, I believe it will be facing exciting and challenging opportunities. The Chatham County Board of Commissioners, Team Chatham, and the Chatham County Police Department will ensure excellent police services going forward without interruption during the transition.

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

Vote for Chatham County Sheriff’s Office

This year, the Aftermath K9 Grant will award a total of $15,000 in grants to five departments and their existing or prospective K9 programs for maintenance, safety equipment, or officer training. Officers and community members nominate and vote for local departments; the top five nominees will be awarded grants in the following denominations:

1st PLACE — $5,000
2nd PLACE — $4,000
3rd PLACE — $3,000
4th PLACE — $2,000
5th PLACE — $1,000

Voting for the 2017 Aftermath K9 Grant is officially underway! From now until November 7th, you have a chance to vote and help your department earn up to $5,000 in grants for maintenance of your K9 unit, safety equipment, or officer training.

Everyone, from your fellow officers to community members in local businesses, can vote, so rally the troops and spread the word! The five departments with the most votes will be awarded grants. Submit your first vote today.

VOTE FOR CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

www.aftermath.com/k9-grant

Chatham County Marine Patrol Commander attends training for newly appointed Heads of Law Enforcement Agencies

Chatham County Marine Patrol Lieutenant, Russell F. Davis attended the Chief Executive Training Class 17-52 for newly appointed chiefs of police and heads of law enforcement agencies at the Police & Municipal Training Center in Duluth, GA, from September 18-21, 2017.

The 60-hour course, administered and provided by the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police (GACP), is required by state law for all newly appointed chiefs of law enforcement agencies. The training course is designed to give newly appointed law enforcement administrators and command staff personnel training on police management, as well as inform them of laws and policies affecting their departments. Topics covered in the course include: Management Liability and EEOC Laws, Police-Manpower Allocation & Budgeting, Community Policing, Budget Administration, Political & Practical Realities, Risk Management, Evolution of Ethics, Media Relations, Departmental Organization, Employee Selection Process, Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Overview, Promotional Systems, United States Department of Justice Programs, Leadership Management Role of the Chief, Employee Performance & Employee Discrimination, Legislative Process, Social Media for Law Enforcement Leaders, and other timely topics.

“The Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police is pleased to provide executive level training for the nation’s new law enforcement leaders,” said GACP President Dennis Beldin of the Clayton County Department of Corrections.

Lieutenant Davis was among 50 law enforcement administrators attending the course. The GACP provides the executive training for newly appointed chiefs of law enforcement agencies and command staff personnel twice a year, along with several other training programs throughout the state. It is the largest professional association for law enforcement administrators in Georgia, and one of the largest in the country.

The membership of over 1,700 includes agencies representing municipal and county governments, the Georgia State Patrol and universities, as well as private security firms and numerous state and federal agencies.

Help Your Local Law Enforcement Earn an Aftermath K9 Grant!
**WHAT IS ASIST?**

- Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) is the world’s leading suicide intervention workshop.
- It is a two-day course in suicide intervention skills.
- Participants learn and practice a life-saving intervention model.
- It is widely used by the general public and by professionals.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND ASIST WORKSHOPS?**

- ASIST can be learned and used by anyone.
- ASIST teaches participants, 16 or older, how to apply suicide first-aid skills in many settings: family, friends, co-workers, and teammates, as well as formal caregiving roles.
- Anyone who interacts with suicidal individuals on a monthly basis can benefit from the skills gained through ASIST workshop.
- First responders, hospital employees, human resources staff, counselors, parole officers, and teachers can benefit from the skills gained through ASIST workshop.

**Chatham County is pleased to inform our residents about a new show that will air on its public, educational and government (PEG) Channel 16. The new program, titled The Chat with Chatham, will take viewers on an in-depth tour of Chatham County. The show will premiere a new, 20 to 30 minute program, titled The Chat with Chatham, will take viewers on an in-depth tour of Chatham County. Each month, we will feature different aspects of Chatham County government. “We want to demonstrate what Team Chatham is all about. We want to educate our community on what their government is all about.” - Lee Smith, Chatham County Manager.

**FREE, IN-PERSON ENROLLMENT ASSISTANCE FOR MEDICAID AND PEACHCARE FOR KIDS**

Your child or teen may be eligible for free or low-cost health insurance through Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids. These health benefits will get them the care they need, such as a physical, and provide coverage throughout the year. Children in a family of four earning $66,768 a year may qualify. With Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids, they can get the immunizations, check-ups, eye exams, dental visits and other care they may need to fully participate in classroom and after-school activities.

To see if your child is eligible, visit peachcare.org or call one of our enrollment assistants, Tamara Solomon at 912-661-1272 or Yahira Hernandez at 912-661-1290. Our enrollment specialists offer free, in-person enrollment assistance and can meet parents/guardians at locations convenient for them. Evening and Saturday morning appointments available if needed.

**NEW ENROLLMENT SITE**

**Locations Accepting Walk-ins**

- **St. Mary’s Community Center**
  - **Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm**
  - **912-661-1272**
  - **912-527-1100**
  - **Savannah, GA 31408**
  - **2 Roberts St.**

- **Coastal Campaign for Healthy Kids**
  - **Monday-Friday 9am-4pm**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Weekdays</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 16-17, 2017</td>
<td>Monday/Tuesday</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Mission</td>
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<td>November 19-20, 2017</td>
<td>Saturday/Sunday</td>
<td>St. Joseph’s Hospital</td>
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<td>December 6-7, 2017</td>
<td>Wednesday/Thursday</td>
<td>Sheriff’s Office</td>
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<td>December 15-16, 2017</td>
<td>Friday/Saturday</td>
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<td>January 13-14, 2018</td>
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<td>Coastal Health District</td>
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<td>January 17-18, 2018</td>
<td>Thursday/Friday</td>
<td>St. Joseph’s Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 5-6, 2018</td>
<td>Monday/Tuesday</td>
<td>Coastal Health District</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 14-15, 2018</td>
<td>Wednesday/Thursday</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Community Center</td>
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**UPCOMING WORKSHOPS DATES AND LOCATIONS:**

**Cost:** $125 per participant. This $250 course will only cost $125 thanks to the generous support of the Chatham County Commissioners and community sponsors. Need based scholarships available.

**Registration:** To register for a workshop, visit https://www.chatwithchatham.org/assist-registration/, call 912-661-0577, or email ASIST@chlink.org.
Chatham County New Skateboard Park

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners and staff recently held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new skateboard park at Lake Mayer. The new park is a 7,000 square foot concrete facility that includes ramps, bowl corners, handrails, banks, flatbars, and ledges. It is the first of its kind in the County. The project was funded 100% by the Chatham County Skate Park Supporters who contributed $22,000, the Tony Hawk Foundation who contributed $20,000 and Chatham County who provided the land for the project. The Skateboard park was designed and built by Orlando, FL based company, Team Pain Skate Parks. The skate park features a concrete facility that includes ramps, bowl corners, handrails, banks, flatbars, and ledges. It is the first of its kind in the County. The project was funded 100% by the Chatham County Skate Park Supporters who contributed $22,000, the Tony Hawk Foundation who contributed $20,000 and Chatham County who provided the land for the project. The Skateboard park was designed and built by Orlando, FL based company, Team Pain Skate Parks. The skate park features a

Tee Time, Anyone?

Owned by Chatham County, Henderson Golf Club is a challenging 18-hole championship course conveniently situated off I-95 and Highway 204 on Old4 Henderson Drive. It has breathtaking views of centurian-old live oaks, draped with Spanish moss, pristine wetlands, towering pines and magnolia trees. The front nine holes are open and rolling like a traditional links course, while the back nine offers two-lined fairways in a natural setting. The par 71 layout covers 6,700 acres of playing area. Henderson is one of the many alluring attractions within the Chatham County Parks and Recreation Department. On September 3, 2016, Chatham County Parks and Recreation assumed responsibility for the day-to-day management and upkeep of the golf course. They have spent the past year rehabilitating the property to make it a beautiful place to play golf. The club has undergone many changes in the past year. Not only has the County restored the physical property to its former glory, many professional services and incentives are now offered. One such enhancement is the addition of golf professional Gordon Gnann. “We’re at real good shape and it’s a great time to come out here. We offer memberships for a great value. We also have golf lessons and re-gripping, and soon we will offer golf fitness. – Gordon Gnann While Henderson’s eye catching scenery alone is enough to attract tourists from all over, the complexity of the course itself is the real standout feature for the passionate golfer. It is a course where accuracy and finesse are paramount over length. Significant undulations combined with generous collars require a delicate touch at each green. While the course may be challenging, that shouldn’t be a deterrent for those who have never played the sport. “I’m not much of a golfer, but I’ve played this course. There’s definitely some challenges to it, but it’s also beginner friendly. Play it and didn’t lose too many golf balls!” – Holly Holloworth The Parks and Recreation Department recently held a Re-Grand Opening of the golf course. This gave current members and local residents a chance to see firsthand how much hard work the County has put into bettering the club. If you’re looking for an enjoyable and unique playing experience, Henderson Golf Club just might be the hole in one for you.

For more information on Henderson Golf Club or to set up your tee time visit hendersongolfclub.com or call (912)920-4653.

NEW BEACH WHEELCHAIR FOR PUBLIC USE

On August 9th, 2017 Chatham County’s Occupational Safety and Risk Management Department, which includes the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, presented forty beach wheelchairs for use by the public. The chairs are available for use at the Green Resume beach near the Tybee Island Pier and Pavilion along with the two existing chairs belonging to the City of Tybee Island. There is no charge to use any of the chairs. Although reservations are not taken, they are available by calling Green Resume at 912-780-9972.

If you have any questions about The Americans with Disabilities Act the Chatham County ADA Coordinator can be reached at 912-780-7837 or via email at jeaberson@chathamcounty.org.

2017-2018 Chatham County Youth Commission Sworn In

Friday, September 22, 2017, during the Chatham County Commission meeting, the Honorable Al Scott, Chairman of the Chatham County Commission, gave the oath of office to 37 Chatham County Youth Commissioners, thereby appointing them to serve as representatives of youth in Chatham County. Twenty-two of these young people are new candidates and 15 are returning for another term. Summer activities for 2017 included tours of the Savannah College of Art and Design, Chatham County Fire Station Center, Memorial Health, Chatham Area Transit and attendance at the Chatham County Commission and Savannah City Council meetings.

POST STORM PERMIT ISSUANCE PROCEDURE

The Department of Building Safety and Regulatory Services has been granted permission from the building permit and submittal requirements after a high-wind event. These procedures are applicable to emergency response for dwellings, accessory and commercial buildings, whether for manually or electronically issued permits.

No Required Permit

- Roof repair
- Exterior painting
- Place tarpaulin over roof

Permit Required/No Drawings Needed

- Repair of accessory buildings
- Board up windows
- Window replacement
- Non-structural repair
- Yard cleanup

Permit Required/Drawings Needed

- New structures
- Repair of structural damage
- Replacement of structural seal
- Drawings for Commercial buildings require a Georgia Architect or Engineer seal
- All contractors and subcontractors doing repair, replacement, or new work requiring a permit must have a State license

State License/Occupational Tax Certificate

- State license required for all plumbing, electrical heater/air contractor for repairs and replacement work requiring a permit
- Repair, replacement, or new work requiring a permit must have a State license
- Permit Required/Drawings Needed
- Plumbing, Electrical, heat/air repairs
- Demolition

About the Chatham County Youth Commission

The Chatham County Youth Commission was established in 1992 by Chatham County Commissioners Patrice H. Thomas and Benny Maher. The program is directed by Vida Johnson. In the past 25 years, over 600 Chatham County youth have graduated from the program and many of them are doing positive things and are active in the community in which they live. Similar programs can be found in Savannah, GA (Savannah Youth Council), Tybee Island, GA (Tybee Island Youth Council), and many other programs in development phases.

For more information on the Chatham County Youth Commission, visit their website at www.chathamcounty.org.
Chatham County Commissioner District News & Events

District 1: Helen Stone
A Community Conversations District Meeting will be held on November 15th from 6:00 – 7:30 PM at Jewish Educational Alliance (5111 Abercorn Street).

District 2: James J. Holmes
Community Conversations District Meetings were held on October 12th and October 17th. Citizens are encouraged to attend any future meetings held in other districts.

District 3: Bobby Lockett
Community Conversations District Meetings were held on October 10th, October 16th, and October 17th. Citizens are encouraged to attend any future meetings held in other districts.

District 4: Patrick K. Farrell
Community Conversations District Meetings were held on October 12th and October 17th. Citizens are encouraged to attend any future meetings held in other districts.

District 6: James “Jay” Jones
A Community Conversations District Meeting will be held on November 14th from 6:00 – 7:30 PM at Georgetown Elementary (1516 King George Blvd).

District 7: Dean Kicklighter
Community Conversations District Meetings will be held on October 30th from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM at Savannah Tech – Academic Commons (5717 White Bluff Road) and on November 1st from 6:00 – 7:30 PM at West Chatham Middle School (800 Pine Barren Road).

District 8: Chester A. Ellis
Community Conversations District Meetings will be held on November 13th from 6:00 – 7:30 PM at Mercer Middle School (201 Rommel Ave) and on November 14th from 1:00 – 2:30 PM at Port Wentworth Gym (101 Turnberry Street).

Saturday, October 14th, marked the first annual Barktoberfest for Chatham County Animal Services. This event helped raise awareness of Animal Services and all the animals available for adoption. Families and pets attended in costume and enjoyed many carnival style games for both humans and four-legged friends. Local vendors offered tasty food, inspiring crafts, and vital pet care information.

The highlight of Barktoberfest was the pet parade and pet costume contest. Owners proudly walked their costumed pets in the parade in hopes of winning first place. Dogs dressed as sea animals, food items, flying creatures, and more made it difficult for the judges to pick, but in the end matching Heidi pups took home the prize. With an estimated 300 in attendance and many pets finding their new forever homes, this was certainly a successful event! Chatham County Animal Services plans to host Barktoberfest once a year, but will have other events throughout the coming months. Follow them on Facebook for all their event and pet adoption announcements.