



Chatham County Connection

May 27, 2018



Albert J. Scott
Chairman



Helen L. Stone
District 1



James J. Holmes
District 2



Bobby Lockett
District 3



Patrick K. 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:

www.chathamcountygga.gov



Al Scott, Chairman

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The 2018 Hurricane Season begins on June 1st. Experts are predicting that the 2018 season will be more active than previous years. In fact, they are projecting 14 named storms this season. Over the last two years, Chatham County has seen an unprecedented amount of severe weather. Tropical storms, hurricanes, tornadoes, and snow storms have devastated our community. With the increasing frequency of hazardous weather, there is no greater time than the present for Chatham residents to prepare. The Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) and I strongly encourage everyone that lives, works and visits Chatham County to take time now to create or update your family's emergency plan. A family emergency plan does not need to be overly complex. Often, the best emergency plans are created when a family sits down together and discusses three main topics: emergency notifications, evacuation procedures and communication strategies.

To begin, families should decide how they will receive emergency alerts and warnings. Awareness of hazards in your area is an essential element of preparedness. Staying informed before, during and after an event is critical. One way to receive emergency warnings would be to follow CEMA on social media. CEMA's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram will provide you with accurate and timely notifications when you need them most. You can find CEMA by searching @ChathamEMA on each social media site.

The second component of a successful family emergency plan is developing evacuation procedures. At the beginning of each hurricane season, discuss the best evacuation destination and determine the most efficient route to take for your family. Making plans with friends and family out of Chatham County may be the best decision; or, perhaps your family would rather stay in a hotel room. Either way, establishing the destination and routes ahead of an emergency will save time and energy when a storm approaches. For family members with functional, access or medical needs, evacuation assistance may be available through the Hurricane Registry. However, residents with these needs must apply to be on the list. For more information on the registry or to apply, please call 1-833-CHD-REGISTER.

The final element of an emergency plan involves a family communications strategy. During an emergency event, cell phones and computers may be limited or unreliable. Creating a family communications strategy will help ensure that all members in your household know where and how to reach one another during an emergency. To start, create a paper copy of contact information for family members and other important people or offices such as medical facilities or service providers. Then, ensure that everyone carries a copy in his or her book bag, purse or wallet and also keep a copy in a central location in your home.

By knowing what actions you and your family can take before the start of the 2018 Hurricane Season, you can increase your level of preparedness and ensure the safety of your loved ones. Take the time now to familiarize yourself with CEMA's emergency notifications, make your evacuation plans and develop your family communication strategy- it will make a significant impact when disaster strikes.



National Safety Month

June

- Roadway work zones aren't always stationary. Slow-moving work zones conduct maintenance like litter pickup, mowing and sweeping, and may stop intermittently.
- As you approach a work zone - slow down, pay attention and watch for workers. Don't speed or tailgate. Obey flaggers. And expect the unexpected.
- Georgia's Move Over Law (the Spencer Pass Law) requires drivers to move over one lane if possible when approaching stationary highway maintenance and construction workers, HERO and CHAMP operators, law enforcement or emergency vehicles, firefighters, paramedics, tow truck drivers and utility service vehicles in the roadway or on the shoulder and displaying flashing emergency lights. If traffic is too heavy to move over safely, slow down below the posted speed limit and be prepared to stop.
- Whenever and wherever you drive, always Drive Alert Arrive Alive. That means buckle up; stay off the phone and no texting; drive alert; and do not drive too fast for conditions.

June is National Safety Month! Chatham County Government has partnered with the National Safety Council and other private and public organizations across the country in support of National Safety Month. The goal of National Safety Month is to focus on reducing leading causes of injury and death at work, on the road and in our homes and communities. Chatham County strives to provide Team Chatham with an exemplary workplace that is safe and injury free. Safe workplaces are a responsibility we all share. From work zone flagging, aerial lifts, trenching and excavation, confined spaces and even chainsaw operator certifications, Chatham County is committed to providing a safety-knowledgeable workforce. However, we cannot accomplish this alone. Oftentimes our work places us in dangerous conditions. Since 2014, Georgia has seen a 58% increase in work zone fatalities. In 2017, there were 20,834 crashes in work zones with 7,276 injuries and 55 fatalities. The Georgia Department of

Transportation (GDOT) offers a few important reminders about work zone safety:

- Roadway work zones are not only for construction. They are also for maintenance crews, HERO and CHAMP operators, law enforcement, first responders, tow trucks and utility service vehicles.

5 CLASSIC MYTHS ABOUT INTERNAL AUDITING

May Is Internal Auditors Month

each of us needs to take stock of how we are perceived in our own organizations. Do we do things to reinforce these myths? Or, do we need to do a better job of creating awareness of how the profession has changed? You be the judge.

Myth #1:

Internal auditors are accountants by training.

One of the most common misperceptions about internal auditing is that the auditors are all "bean counters" who focus solely on their companies' financial records. There is an obvious grain of truth in this internal audit myth: A solid audit or accounting background can be helpful for a career in internal audit. But internal auditors commonly address fraud risks, compliance issues, and a myriad of operational issues that are unrelated to accounting, and the auditors' backgrounds are likely to be as diverse as the operations they audit. An accounting degree is not the only path for career success, and these days it's not even the most common path: A recent survey by The IIA's Audit Executive Center indicates that audit executives are now recruiting job applicants with analytical/critical thinking ability, data mining skills, business acumen, and IT skills more often than they seek applicants with accounting training.

Myth #2:

Auditors are nitpickers and fault-finders.

At the heart of several jokes about internal auditors is the misperception that we are dead set on picking apart processes and ruining the reputations of the people who do the "real work." According to the myth, the auditors are viewed as the group who "bayonets the wounded after the battle is over," distracting management from more important responsibilities.

In reality, of course, internal audit's focus is on major risks rather than on nit-picking details. Audit resources are limited, and when auditors focus too much attention on minor issues, they are limiting the time available for addressing the major risks and controls that are at the heart of internal audit. Any auditor would rather report on a \$6 million cost savings than on a \$6 error!

Myth #3:
It's best not to tell the auditors anything unless they specifically ask.

This myth can be actively damaging, so it is unfortunate the advice has made its way into more than one “How to Survive an Audit” article. Audit clients are sometimes given this advice by well-meaning friends, but it results in less efficient audits and wastes everyone’s time. If auditors believe their clients are purposefully hiding information, whether by omission or commission, they normally will increase the scope of the audit to determine whether other important information has gone unreported. The purpose of internal auditing is to add value and improve an organization’s operations, and hiding information is against everyone’s best interests.

Myth #4:
Internal auditors follow a cycle in selecting their audit “targets” and use standard checklists so they can audit the same things the same way each time.

This myth is less true with each passing year. Our professional standards require risk-based plans to determine our priorities, both in developing audit plans and schedules and in planning individual audits. Obviously some risks justify repeat audits on a regular basis, and there are some types of audits — for example, certain compliance reviews required by regulators — where audit programs and checklists are unlikely to see major changes from year to year. But in general, internal auditing has become a dynamic profession that can change any time an organization’s risks change.

Myth #5:
Internal audit is the corporate “police function.”

As Lord Justice Topes once said, “The auditor is a watchdog and not a bloodhound.” In my experience, the best auditors are almost always those who create a rapport with audit customers. When an auditor’s behavior is accusing or aggressive, they are far more likely to be met with resistance than when they treat findings as an opportunity to help accomplish objectives and facilitate improvement. Breaking down this stereotype is so important that most internal audit groups actively encourage clients to think of internal audit as a coach, not a cop.

Author: Richard Chambers, CEO, Institute of Internal Auditors, June 20, 2012



Crawford Square Café
Opens at Henderson Golf Club



Savannah’s greatest players.

The Café has a simple but delicious menu planned for breakfast and lunch served daily. Grab a quick sandwich or burger on the go. Or stay a while and enjoy your lunch with a beautiful view. We hope the combination of play on the golf course and food and drinks at Crawford Square Café can mirror the many parks we have in the county that act as a central focal point for the area, providing a gathering place for recreation and enjoyment, and fostering a sense of community pride.

Department has been working to reopen the café to be able to serve golfers, as well as, the community and local visitors. We are pleased that a local businessman has decided to partner with us in this endeavor to revitalize the café.

Why the name? Crawford Square, where the owner of the café grew up, is the only square in downtown Savannah with recreational equipment. The square houses a basketball court, won by the neighborhood team after a 1946 city wide tournament. It has a rich history of playground basketball which is responsible for producing some of

As you walk into the Henderson Golf Course Clubhouse, you now will be welcomed by the smells of bacon on the grill and fresh coffee brewing in the morning. Or between 9s, a quick hot dog or freshly popped popcorn awaits. Since taking over operations of Henderson Golf Club in September 2016, Chatham County Parks and Recreation



Table &
Swings

We’re at it again! We are continually making improvements to our Parks and Recreation properties in Chatham County to make them as accessible as possible for all of our citizens. In April, we added a wheelchair accessible picnic table to the pavilion at King’s Landing at the request of a family that frequents the boat landing. The new table is extended at both ends allowing a wheelchair user room to pull up under it.

We are also installing two accessible swings at the Lake Mayer playground. One is a Bucket Tot Seat for smaller children ages 2 to 5 years. The other is a little bit larger Inclusive Swing Seat for children 2 to 12 years of age. Both are snug, supportive seats offering children a fun ride while helping them coordinate head and eye movements, and stay upright against gravity. The installation of the swings should be complete in June.



If you need an accommodation to access any of Chatham County’s buildings or services, or know someone who does, please contact

James Aberson
ADA Coordinator

He can be reached by phone at
(912) 652-7937 during business hours,

or by email at
JEABERSON@CHATHAMCOUNTY.ORG



Prevent Suicide Today

Above all, these trainings teach that suicide is preventable, and that we as a community have the power to save lives.

Register at: <https://www.chathamsafetynet.org/asist-registration/>
SuicideTALKS is a free suicide awareness talk. The information provided in these discussions helps participants:

- Understand how personal and community beliefs affect suicide stigma
- Appreciate how talking openly about suicide can help prevent it
- Contribute to suicide safety by protecting and promoting life in their communities

Request a scholarship, schedule a FREE SuicideTALK, or contact us with questions:
ASIST@chlink.org Facebook @PreventSuicideTODAY (912) 661-1456

It's not easy to start a conversation about suicide, but it is effective: speaking openly about suicide is one of the most effective ways to prevent it.

This is why Prevent Suicide Today offers SuicideTALK and ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Training) workshops in Chatham County. These trainings empower participants to start talking about suicide and, in the case of the ASIST workshops, to recognize and respond to suicidal thoughts by connecting individuals to life-saving resources.

Upcoming 2018 ASIST Workshops

June 18-19	Chatham County Health Dept
June 27-28	Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens
July 20-21	St. Joseph’s Hospital
July 24-25	Union Mission
Aug 14-15	Chatham County Health Dept
Aug 30-21	Demere Center, Hospice Savannah
Sept 12-13	St. Mary’s Community Center
Sept 27-28	Juvenile Court
Oct 11-12	Chatham County Health Dept
Oct 15-16	Demere Center, Hospice Savannah
Nov 1-2	St. Joseph’s Hospital
Dec 6-7	St. Mary’s Community Center

\$125 Scholarships Available!



We are here to help you enroll or renew your child into Medicaid or PeachCare for Kids!

Income eligibility limits changed March 1, 2018! Do you qualify for free or very low cost comprehensive health coverage for you kids?

Remember: If parents qualify by income and household size, they can put their children on Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids as primary insurance or Medicaid as a secondary insurance even if they have private insurance.

For more information, go to www.coastalcampaign.org. Please call one of our enrollment assistance specialists today!



LaToya Brannen
Chatham County
Health Department
(1395 Eisenhower Dr., Savannah)
Enrollment Specialist
912.356.2887
latoya.brannen@dph.ga.gov



Yaritza Figueroa
Curtis V. Cooper
Primary Health Care
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Enrollment Specialist
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Yahira Heraldez
Coastal Campaign
for Healthy Kids
Mobile Outreach and
Enrollment Specialist
912-661-1290
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Juwana Hightower
SJCHS St. Mary's
Community Center
(812 W 36th St., Savannah)
Public Benefits Specialist
912.447.0578
hightowerj@sjchs.org



Anabel Perez
Step Up Savannah at
First Hispanic Baptist Church
(1 Gamble Rd., Savannah)
Bilingual (Spanish)
Enrollment Specialist
Walk-in Only
Mon. 3-7pm & Thurs 4-7pm



Erika Riley
Curtis V Cooper
Primary Health Care
(106 E. Broad St., Savannah)
Enrollment Specialist
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Tamara Solomon
Coastal Campaign
for Healthy Kids
Mobile Outreach and
Enrollment Specialist
912-661-1272
tamarasolomon@chlink.org



Robyn Wainner
Step Up Savannah
(428 Bull St., Suite# 208, Savannah)
Public Benefits Specialist
912.232.6747
rwainner@stepupsavannah.org

What you will need to apply:

- Birth certificate (Georgia-born residents do not have to have a copy to apply)
- Form of Government-issued Photo ID: e.g. Driver's License, Passport (US or foreign) State issued identification card, consular identification card.
- Social Security number for each child or proof that a card has been applied for.
- Income documents (for one month- i.e. one month's worth of paystubs or Form 809 for cash-only income from one employer or Form 126 – 3 months for cash-only self-employed income.

Please consult with your enrollment assistor on your particular situation and for any forms needed.

ENROLLMENT ASSISTORS ARE AVAILABLE AT THESE LOCATIONS

Accepting Walk-ins

BULL STREET PUBLIC LIBRARY • 2002 Bull Street • Savannah, GA 31401

2nd Tuesday of each month, 4pm-7pm

OGLETHORPE MALL PUBLIC LIBRARY • 7 Mall Annex • Savannah, GA 31406

3rd Monday of each month, 4pm-7pm

SAVANNAH COUNSELING CENTER • 800 E. 70th Street • Savannah, GA 31404

Every Wednesday 8:30am-11:30am

STEP UP SAVANNAH AT FIRST HISPANIC BAPTIST CHURCH (SE HABLA ESPAÑOL) • 1 Gamble Road • Savannah, GA 31405

Mondays 3pm-7pm & Thursdays 4pm-7pm

Locations Accepting Walk-ins and Appointments

ST. MARY'S COMMUNITY CENTER • 812 W. 36th Street • Savannah, GA 31415 • 912-447-0578

Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm

LOCATIONS ACCEPTING APPOINTMENTS ONLY

CURTIS V COOPER PRIMARY HEALTH CENTER • 106 E. Broad Street • Savannah, GA 31401 • 912-527-1000

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8am-5pm, Tuesday & Thursday 8am-7pm, Saturday 9am-2pm

CURTIS V COOPER PRIMARY HEALTH CENTER (SE HABLA ESPAÑOL) • 2 Roberts Street • Savannah, GA 31408 • 912-527-2729

Monday-Friday 8am-5pm

CHATHAM COUNTY SAFETY NET PLANNING COUNCIL (CHATHAM COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT) • 1395 Eisenhower Drive • Savannah, GA 31406 • 912-356-2887

Monday-Friday 9am-4pm

STEP UP SAVANNAH • 428 Bull Street • Savannah, GA 31401 • 912-232-6747

Monday-Friday 9am-4pm

Chatham County Youth Commission Rethinks Poverty



On Saturday, April 7th, Step Up Savannah and the Economic Opportunity Authority (EOA) hosted a poverty simulation for community members and members of the Chatham County Youth Commission (CCYC) interested in developing a deeper understanding of poverty.

Step Up's poverty simulation is a tool used to help community members rethink the challenges that 18% of Chatham County residents must face each and every day as they live in poverty. Alderman Van Johnson asks all CCYC members to participate because he believes that in order to effectively lead a community, the complexities of poverty must be understood.

The simulation, created by the Missouri Community Action Network, requires groups of 35 to 75 people to assume the roles of families in poverty. The goal of each family is to survive for one month, which takes place in four 15-minute "weeks." In this time, participants must maintain secure shelter, feed their families, make loan payments, meet living expenses, handle unexpected emergencies, and keep their children in school – all while subsisting at or below the poverty level.

Each CCYC student took on the identity of someone else. For two hours, they acted as family members to fellow youth commissioners and community members as they navigated difficult life circumstances. Many participants faced eviction, school suspension, run-ins with law enforcement, or childcare issues. A few of the lucky ones were able to retain employment while others faced unemployment early.



Following the simulation, participants discussed their experience. Many voiced the frustrations of not being able to do enough or the "right thing" to pay their bills. Many shared the hopelessness they felt. Nearly every participant ended the simulation committed to doing something about addressing poverty in our community. CCYC members were no exception. In fact, many sought Step Up staff to discuss ways they could personally get more engaged.

Kate Blair, director of communications and development with Step Up Savannah, praised the maturity and focus of CCYC. "I've hosted many simulations with students throughout Savannah and each time I work with the Chatham County's Youth Commission I am in awe of their level of engagement and passion. None match it. They are eager to learn, participate, and discuss the complexities of poverty. There is no doubt in my mind that Savannah will be a more equitable and just community when these students become our leaders."

For more information about Step Up's poverty simulations, email kblair@stepupsavannah.org.



A Call for Collaboration: Savannah Votes

At the center of Step Up's work is the belief that all community members should be represented in community decision-making. Throughout history, systems have marginalized populations by reducing or preventing their participation in economic, social, and political life. Over the last ten years, the Neighborhood Leadership Academy (NLA) at Savannah State University has been Step Up's primary method of promoting civic engagement and grassroots community organizing within low-wealth communities. The

NLA brings together established and emerging leaders from diverse segments of the community to enhance their leadership skills with a focus on advocacy, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

In 2017, Step Up's "Savannah Votes" initiative was created by the NLA Alumni Network. The network consists of 119 alumni, each member representing their own circles of influence and neighborhoods. Step Up secured additional funding to support a part-time voter engagement coordinator and Cierra Selby was hired to fill this role.

As a non-partisan initiative, Savannah Votes wants to ensure all Chatham County residents have the opportunity to fully exercise their political power through voting. Savannah Votes builds on the success of community organizing and offers the public grassroots voter engagement and registration drives.

Savannah Votes will build upon Step Up's model of collaboration as the foundation of its efforts. At the nucleus of Savannah Votes is the volunteer. Collaborating with volunteers adds value, credibility and community buy-in to this kind of civic participation. In addition to the NLA Alumni Network volunteers, Savannah Votes will train community members to move the program towards its goal. Step Up will collaborate with its myriad of nonprofit and business partners at events, schools, faith communities, and businesses to meet unregistered residents where they are.

Step Up Savannah works to engage all sectors of the community to improve the economic mobility and financial stability of families in Savannah and Chatham County. In order to be successful at this, all members of our community must be at the table. Step Up is excited to expand their civic engagement efforts, starting with one voter registration card at a time.

If you would like to volunteer with Step Up's voter engagement project, call 912-232-6747 or email savannahvotes@stepupsavannah.org.

Chatham County Commissioner District News & Events



DISTRICT 1 HELEN L. STONE

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

- Memorial Stadium
- Jennifer Ross Soccer Complex Expansion
- Truman Linear Park Trail, Phase 2-A
- Ferguson-Winterberry outfall drainage improvements



DISTRICT 2 JAMES J. HOLMES

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

- Truman Linear Park Trail, Phase 2-A



DISTRICT 3 BOBBY LOCKETT

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

- Perry Cove Drainage improvements
- SR 25 at Pipemakers Canal bridge replacement
- Lathrop Avenue Road improvements



DISTRICT 4 PATRICK K. FARRELL

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

- Concord Road drainage improvements
- Charlie Brooks Park expansion
- Bradley Point sidewalk improvements
- Johnny Mercer corridor improvements



DISTRICT 5 TABITHA ODELL

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

- Henderson drainage improvement
- Westlake - Red Gate drainage improvements
- Quacco Road widening project & intersection at HWY 17



DISTRICT 6 JAMES "JAY" JONES

EVENT: Jay Day at the Southwest Library
June 2, 2018, 11am - 4pm

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

- Children's Garden at the Coastal Botanical Gardens
- Canebreak Road improvements



DISTRICT 7 DEAN KICKLIGHTER

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

- Willow Lakes drainage improvements
- Quacco Road widening project & intersection at HWY 17
- Interstate 16 & SR 307 bridge and intersection improvements



DISTRICT 8 CHESTER A. ELLIS

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

- Little Hurst Canal drainage improvement
- Interstate 16 & SR 307 bridge and intersection improvements
- Benton Blvd road extension to SR 30

Do You Know Your Neighbor?

The Power of Community Relations in Hurricane Response.

real first responder is YOU. Professional first responders could be hours, days, or weeks from arriving. This means, if you are in an affected area, you may be on your own for a while. By knowing your neighbors, you can end the isolation.

Neighbors helping neighbors is a common sight following a hurricane, but the process should start well in advance. Just like having a personal preparedness plan in place, you should ask your community leaders/HOA/neighbors if your neighborhood has a plan. If they don't, consider hosting a neighborhood meeting to create one. Neighborhood plans are not complicated and should be easy to execute. Examples of things that could be included are: the creation of a neighborhood Facebook page where preparedness and emergency hazard updates can be shared, the creation of a phone-to-phone or door-to-door phone tree for evacuation/post disaster information sharing, and a list of those who may need assistance during an evacuation or during re-entry. This way when something happens, your neighborhood is informed, connected, and ready to act.

Another strength to neighborhood readiness is the opportunity to learn the skills and resources within your neighborhood. Perhaps you have individuals with medical training, utility skills, or construction experience just within your block. Maybe you don't have a ladder, but Ms. Smith down the street has an extra. Think about what skills and/or resources you have that could help your neighbors. By working together, we are able to make a greater impact than we can alone. So, take a moment, reach out to your neighborhood and develop a plan.



For emergency updates specific to Chatham County visit the Chatham Emergency Management Agency website. Shareable updates can also be found on the Chatham County Facebook and Twitter pages.

<https://www.chathamemergency.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/ChathamEMA/>

The Cone of Uncertainty

the Cone of Error, the Cone of Death; this cone is known by many names, but is often misunderstood. Before the 2018 Hurricane Season, which begins on June 1st, the Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) would like to explain the National Hurricane Center's Track Forecast Cone. The cone's size is not determined by any given storm's size, but instead by forecast errors over a 5-year sample. Therefore, the 2018 Forecast Cone will be based on error statistics from 2013-2017 hurricane seasons.

Approximately two-thirds of the time, the center of the storm will likely fall in the cone. However, impacts can be seen far outside of the cone itself. So, what does this mean for you? This means that you should not base your evacuation or planning decisions solely on this cone! The cone does not give you any information on the size of the storm, intensity of the storm, potential wind speeds, or any impacts to our area. Its only purpose is to track the center of the storm as it moves along a projected path. National Hurricane Center staff predict that the size of the cone will continue to shrink over the next few years as forecast errors grow smaller and smaller.

When a storm is approaching our area and you begin making critical decisions for your family, we suggest that instead of looking at the Track Forecast Cone, you look at the potential impacts to Chatham County. These impacts may include projected storm surge, wind speeds and potential rainfall amounts. For up to date and accurate information on a storm's impact to our community, visit

CEMA's website, www.chathamemergency.org, download CEMA's phone app- Chatham EMA, or follow @ChathamEMA on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

