

CHATHAM COUNTY CONNECTION



January 25, 2015



Al Scott
Chairman



Helen Stone
District 1



James Holmes -
District 2



Tony Center
District 3



Patrick Farrell
District 4



Yusuf Shabazz
District 5



Lori Brady
District 6



Dean Kicklighter
District 7



Priscilla Thomas
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

A Happy and Healthy 2015 to the citizens of Chatham County!

There were many things accomplished by your county government in 2014.

Plans for ways in which your county government can better serve you in 2015 are in place, one of which has already been

implemented: **Chatham County Emergency Management's (CEMA) new outdoor warning system.** This sophisticated storm and tornado warning system was funded entirely by a federal grant awarded to the County and is activated to specific times and places within the County.

Planning for transportation infrastructure improvements are laid out in the **Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization's Total Mobility Plan.** This plan addresses the mobility needs of Chatham County and is required in order to receive any federal funding for transportation projects. This plan is designed to serve the mobility needs of autos, freight, bicycles and pedestrians.

Congratulations to the seven new members of the

Chatham County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post 876 and to the six that were recently promoted. The mission of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post is to educate young men and women who are interested in a career in the law enforcement field and to enhance their future by mentoring, motivating, and preparing them for their roles as productive citizens in the Coastal Empire.

Chatham County is holding its **3rd Annual Fitness Festival** on Saturday, February 28, 2015 from 10:00AM until 1:00 PM. The event will be held at Lake Mayer and is free and open to the public. As several groups of County employees are already doing, work on making 2015 a healthy year for you!

The health of our children is also very important to our County and the **Healthy Kids Program** will continue this year. The aim of Healthy Kids is to enroll uninsured children into free or low cost health care programs.

Other **EXCITING NEWS** for 2015 is the formation of a **LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL** program which is sponsored by Chatham County Park Services.

Additional information on these and other things that make the Coastal Empire a great place to live and work can be found in this publication. ■

CEMA's Outdoor Warning Sirens

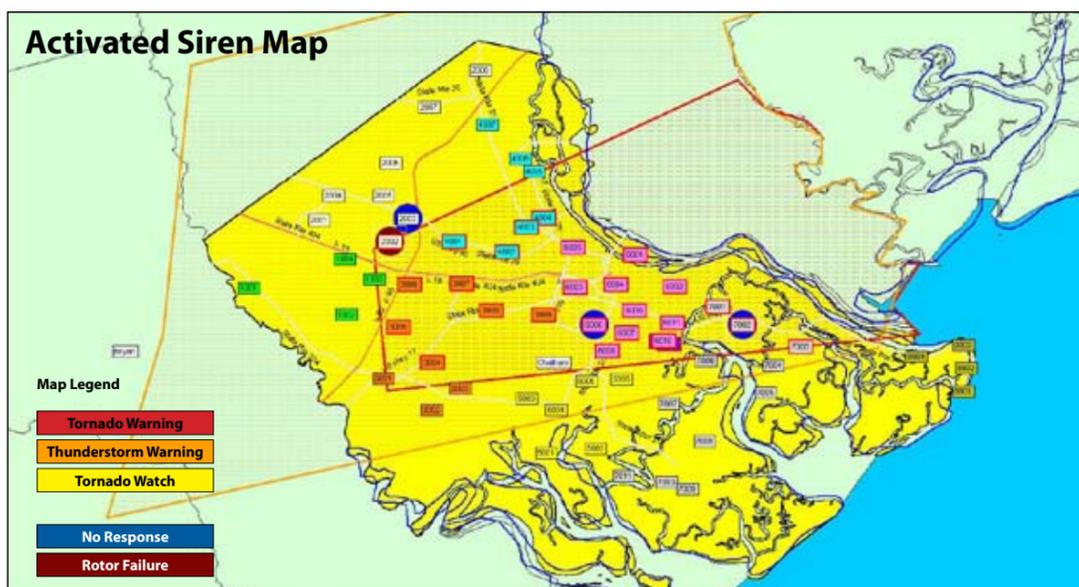
On Sunday, January 4 at 11:36 AM, the National Weather Service in Charleston placed Chatham County under a Tornado Watch. The Watch was elevated to a Tornado Warning for parts of the county based on weather radar of the storm system, thus simultaneously activating CEMA's Outdoor Warning Sirens. The sirens are linked to a system called WeatherWarn, which was purchased entirely through a federal grant in 2013. WeatherWarn is linked to NWS warning products based on radar

to activate sirens and notify the public at the exact moment a storm changes, saving valuable time when seconds count. To eliminate confusion, CEMA moved from an all-county warning notification system to a polygon notification pattern, only activating sirens in the path of a storm based on live radar data. The first siren was activated at 3:04 PM, ran for three minutes and then ran again at 3:19 PM. WeatherWarn is designed to move siren activation patterns with the storm in real time. The program is

so sophisticated; it will deactivate sirens once the threat has passed. This would be why some county residents did not hear the warning sirens. While a tornado watch was issued for the entire county, only those areas within the warning pattern were issued sirens. It is important to remember that the warning sirens are designed to be heard outside. This was the first automatic siren activation due to a tornado warning with the new WeatherWarn Program. ■



Chatham Emergency Management Agency
124 Bull Street, Savannah
201-4500



Map of the activated sirens and the warning polygon. As you will see, the yellow indicates that the entire county is in a watch. The boxes represent siren sites and those outlined in red were activated in the warning.

Volunteers Needed:

On the first Wednesday of the month at noon, Chatham County residents will hear a one minute emergency tone from sirens located throughout the county. This monthly test is necessary to ensure that the Emergency Outdoor Warning Siren System is functioning properly.

CEMA welcomes the help of the community to make sure all sirens activate. When you hear a siren tone, they want to know.

Call the office at 912-201-4500, tweet @ChathamEMA or email CEMA@chathamcounty.org.

Chatham County Employees get "Thin-spired" to get lean in 2015



Team – Southside Slimmers, pictured here, has declared that they are in it to win it.

Chatham County employees are ready to kick start 2015 by kicking off a few pounds. We are partnering with Memorial Health and HealthyWage in the "Get Lean in 2015 Challenge." Over 100 inspired Chatham County employees have signed up for the challenge are "thin-spired" to shed the pounds and get "Lean in 2015". To paraphrase the late John

Candy, they will become "lean mean fit machines."

There was a Kickoff Event for the "Get Lean 2015 Challenge" on Friday, January 9th in the Commission Meeting Room, 124 Bull Street. Representatives from the County Human Resources Department along with Memorial Health and the Employee Health Center

will introduce the 26 teams, provided private weigh-ins, and went over the incentives involved in the challenge.

By the end of the challenge on April 2nd, you'll see a much smaller county staff that won by losing. The winning team will be presented in the April edition of the Chatham County Connection.



\$31,339,402 Thank You

We would like to thank the following individuals and organizations. Due to your efforts, we were able to collect \$31,339,402 in 2014 for the Children of Chatham County.

- SCMPD
- Chatham County Sheriff's Dept.
- Tax Commissioner's Office
- U.S. Attorney's Office
- Chatham County Commission
- Danny Powers, Tax Commissioner
- CrimeStoppers
- The Police Departments of
 - Tybee Island
 - Bloomingdale
 - Thunderbolt
 - Pooler
 - Pt. Wentworth
 - Garden City
- Pete Nichols – "The Producer"

Facts

In 2014, The Chatham County Child Support Office Accomplished The Following:

- Collected \$31,339,402
- Received 912 New Applications
- Established 809 Child Support Orders
- Conducted 328 Paternity Tests
- Determined Paternity for 1,350 Children
- Arrested 411 Non-Paying Parents
- Jailed 45 Non-Paying Parents via Court
- Seized \$73,305.82 From Bank Accounts
- Seized \$130,651.85 From Christmas Bonuses
- Filed 4323 Contempt Actions

"A Helping Hand for Chatham County's Children"

Staff Reductions Due To Budget Cuts:

Staff of Chatham County Child Support in 2005: 52
Staff of Chatham County Child Support in 2013: 39

Chatham County Comprises 2.6% of the Population of Georgia.

In 2014, the Chatham County Child Support Office Collected 4.16% of the Child Support Collected in Georgia.

*-Thank You
Child Support Services
Meg Daly Heap, District Attorney*

THE TOTAL MOBILITY PLAN

What is the Total Mobility Plan?

The Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission and the Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (CORE MPO) are responsible for developing a long range transportation plan to address the mobility needs of Chatham County and its jurisdictions. This plan, which is updated every four years, is required in order to receive any federal funding for transportation projects and is required to include only projects that are financially feasible over the next 25 years.



The CORE MPO has a long-standing commitment to developing transportation plans in coordination with the local jurisdictions. In addition to this cooperative plan development, the process includes a focus on developing transportation solutions that fit within the character of the community, serve the mobility needs of autos, bicycles and pedestrians, and freight, as well as meeting all of the federal and state plan requirements.

The foundation for the Total Mobility Plan was laid in 2003 when the MPO first adopted policies to protect existing historic and canopied roadways, while requiring context sensitive designs on new facilities. The resulting Transportation Amenities Plan served as a guide to future transportation development by designating constrained corridors, largely historic and canopied roadways, for conservation. At the same time, additional landscaping, bicycle and pedestrian accommodations were called for on new facilities. That same year, the MPO began developing a Congestion Management Process to better understand

where and when congestion occurs and to identify the best solutions to address that congestion. Through the Congestion Management

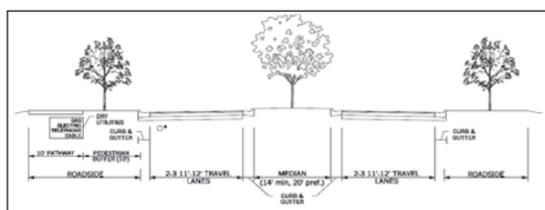


Process, it was apparent that much of our existing congestion was directly related to intersection bottlenecks and the need to update signal timing.

In recent years, the CORE MPO has conducted and participated in numerous studies to address the most pressing transportation needs of the community including Connecting Savannah/Project DeRenne, Non-motorized Transportation Plan; the Transit Mobility Vision Plan, the Park and Ride Lot Study, the MPO Freight Study, the Traffic Management Center Study, the US 80 Bridges Study, the SR 204 Corridor Study and the SR 21 Corridor Study.

Fast forward to 2015, these previous and ongoing planning efforts have laid the ground work for the current Total Mobility Plan. The Total Mobility Plan builds on each of these previous planning efforts and prioritizes the identified needs to make the best use of available funding. While the Total Mobility Plan is based upon the policy framework established by previous transportation plans and advances existing transportation project development, it provides a far more comprehensive assessment of transportation needs and recommended improvements.

In addition the results of special studies, and the travel demand model, which has typically been used to identify and define existing and future transportation needs, the



Total Mobility Plan process included the development of a Thoroughfare Plan in order to address transportation needs in a comprehensive, multimodal way. The Plan was also developed with significant public input and participation through workshops, public meetings, and on-line surveys.



In developing the Thoroughfare Plan, the CORE MPO worked closely with the staff of local government to identify the roadway characteristics that were important for the type of facility and to develop typical sections

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3rd Annual Fitness Festival

Saturday, February 28, 2015

at

Lake Mayer!!

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Bring the family out to the Festival

and experience all that

Chatham County Parks have to offer!!

Fun fitness "mini" classes for all ages and levels!

Cooking Demos - Free Classes - Healthy Snacks & More!!

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Lake Mayer is located at 1850 E. Montgomery Crossroads Savannah, GA 31406

Sponsored by Chatham County Park Services. For more info, please call (912) 652-6784 or (912) 898-3320



African Dance



Karate & Self Defense



Tai Chi



Yoga



Looking for help enrolling your children in health insurance?

Call the Campaign for Healthy Kids & Families today to sign up or renew children now in Medicaid and PeachCare

CALL 311

2,279: That's our goal.

The Campaign for Healthy Kids and Families seeks to sign up 2,279 eligible children in free and low-cost health insurance programs by the end of this year—because too many of our kids in Chatham County remain uninsured.

The Campaign is a network of community organizations that have come together to help get children enrolled or renew their coverage in Right from the Start Medicaid or PeachCare for Kids. More than 80% of Chatham County children qualify for one of these comprehensive programs yet many parents don't know these programs are an option for their family. Income eligibility for a family of three is \$48,912; a family of four is \$58,932, and a family of five, up to \$68,952.

For any parent who hasn't had the opportunity or doesn't know where to turn for help getting their children signed up for public health insurance, Campaign staff and partners offer the perfect answer. Enrollment assistance partners provide free, personal enrollment assistance for families.

In the last few months the Campaign has been hard at work reaching out to Savannah-Chatham County Public School System staff—and parents—to connect them to health insurance resources for children.

Public school nurses, counselors, social workers and parent facilitators have been trained by Campaign staff and can now connect parents with enrollment assistants. School staff also can work with PTAs or other groups to organize an enrollment fair or simply invite an enrollment assistant to a school event to help families sign up.

The Campaign seeks to connect with parents of children up to 19 years old wherever they are; staff and enrollment assistants can speak at schools, faith-based organizations, civic or community groups.

HOW TO FIND HELP

Call 311 to find enrollment assistance or contact the Campaign Manager, Eva Elmer, directly at evaelmer@chlink.org

FIND SOME PEACE OF MIND:

Is your child playing sports this spring? Did you know that if you get your sports physical from Curtis V Cooper Primary Health Center or the Chatham County Health Department? You can also get help signing up your child for Medicaid or PeachCare for Kids.



Enrollment Locations Open to General Public

St. Mary's Community Center

812 W. 36th Street, Savannah
912.447.0578, option 4

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:20am-5pm

Details: Accepts walk-ins. Spanish interpretation available.

Hours: By appointment

Salvation Army

3100 Montgomery Street, Savannah

Hours: Tues. 4:00pm - 7:00pm

Social Apostolate

502 East Liberty Street, Savannah

Hours: Tues. 9:00am - 11am

Union Mission Employment & Training Center

711 East Broad St., Savannah

Hours: Thurs. 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council

1395 Eisenhower Drive, Savannah

(located within Chatham County Health Department)

912.356.2887

Hours: Monday, 9-1pm & Wednesday 1-5pm. By appointment only

FOR PREGNANT WOMEN ONLY:

Chatham County Health Department

1395 Eisenhower Drive, Savannah, GA 31406

(912) 356-2157 or (912) 356-2048

Details: Processing for Pregnant Women Medicaid is a walk-in service Monday through Friday. Walk In clients are asked to come in at 8 AM and/or 1 PM for service. Planning for Healthy Babies applications are also available.

Midtown Health Clinic

1602 Drayton Street, Savannah, GA 31401

(912) 651-3378 or (912) 651-2023

Details: Processing for Pregnant Women Medicaid is a walk-in service Monday through Friday. Walk In clients are asked to come in at 8 AM and/or 1 PM for service. Planning for Healthy Babies (Family Planning Medicaid) applications are also available.

Available at these locations by appointment only:

• **Eastside Concerned Citizens**
WW Law Center, 909 E. Bolton Street, Savannah
Hours: Tues. 11:30am - 1:30pm

• **Interfaith Hospitality Network**
126 Horizon Park Drive, Savannah

Chatham County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post 876 Promotes Six Explorers

On September 19th, 2014, Chatham County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post 876 was afforded the opportunity to take part in the Chatham County Sheriff's Office Quarterly Award Ceremony. During this ceremony, several members of the explorer post were promoted and recognized for their outstanding "Attendance and Community Service" achievements.

Explorer Promotees included- Andrea Stokes (Captain), William Carlson (lieutenant), Jonathan Norman (Sergeant), William Vaughan (Sergeant), Jamari Barton (Corporal) and Darrell McMillan (Corporal).

Explorer Post 876 also welcomed new explorers- Cole Barefield, Diajion Foxworth, Tyler Jones, William Newbold, Reid Russell, Ezra Stokes and Rebecca Williams.

Explorer Zachary Brooks was also presented with a plaque during the ceremony for his hard work, dedication and leadership. Brooks has been the Captain of the explorer post since 2011, but he will soon be leaving to start his career with the United States Coast Guard.

The mission of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post is to educate young men and women who are interested in a career in the law enforcement field and to enhance their future by mentoring, motivating

and preparing them for their roles as productive citizens in the Coastal Empire.

To become a law enforcement explorer, you must:

- Have interest in the law enforcement field.
- Obtain parental consent.
- Be between the ages of 14-20 years old
- Maintain a "C" average in school.
- Written referrals from two teachers.
- Pass a background check (no felony record or crimes involving moral turpitude).
- Attend regularly scheduled meetings.
- Participate in regularly scheduled training and events.
- Explorers will be required to pay \$16 for yearly dues and \$20 for the annual charter fee to the Boy Scouts of America

Interested candidates may contact Explorer Post 876 Coordinator Cpl. R. Bryant-Elleby at the Chatham County Sheriff's Office. Phone (912) 651-3743 or email: rlbryant@chathamcounty.org

The mission of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post is to educate young men and women who are interested in a career in the law enforcement field and to enhance their future by mentoring, motivating and preparing them for their roles as productive citizens in the Coastal Empire.



NAME	SCHOOL	GRADE
Cole Barefield	New Hampstead High	9th
Jamari Barton	Woodville Tompkins High	10th
Zachary Brooks	USCG	December 2014
Jessica Byrd	Islands High School	11th
William Carlson	Savannah Christian Preparatory	12th
Jada Cooper	New Hampstead	12th
Kwanza Cooper	New Hampstead	12th
Diajion Foxworth	Windsor Forest High	9th
Tyler Jones	Early College	9th
Anthony Lafieulle	Islands High School	10th
Darrell McMillan	New Hampstead	11th
William Newbold	Richmond Hill	12th
Jonathan Norman	Savannah Tech	January 2015
Reid Russell	Home School	11th
Andrea Stokes	Johnson High	12th
Erza Stokes	Woodville Tompkins	9th
Mary Margret Tarsitano	Calvary Day School	12th
William Vaughan	Savannah Christian Preparatory	12th
Rebecca Williams	Memorial Day School	9th

Total Mobility Plan

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that incorporated each of these elements. These desired typical sections provide the framework for identifying deficiencies and a guideline for future infrastructure improvements. The Non-Motorized Plan serves as the update to the 2000 Bikeway Plan and identifies needed improvements for the non-motorized modes and is fully coordinated with the Thoroughfare Plan.



The Freight Transportation Plan documents the existing freight assets and identifies the associated needs to improve the freight infrastructure and to support economic development.

The Total Mobility Plan builds on each of these efforts, as well as those of other studies, and includes the following projects, identified by the Thoroughfare Plan facility type.

Major Arterial: Suburban	
Jimmy DeLoach Parkway Extension	SR 26/Ogeechee Road Widening
Montgomery Crossroads Bridge Replacement	East and West DeRenne Avenue Improvements
I-516 at DeRenne Improvements	US 80 Bridges at Bull River and Lazaretto Creek
Effingham Parkway	President Street/Truman Pkwy Interchange Improvements
Major Arterial: Urban	
SR 25/West Bay Street Widening	US 80/Victory Drive Improvements
Minor Arterial: Suburban	Collector: Suburban
West Gwinnett Street Widening	Grange Road Reconstruction Crossgate Road Reconstruction Brampton Road Connector

There are a number of projects that are not classified by thoroughfare type. These projects include interstate and interchange projects, as well as culvert replacements. It is important to note that the cross sections of the facilities that cross interstates have been identified and will be incorporated into the projects.

No Thoroughfare Classification	
I-516 Widening	Interstate
I-95/SR 21 Interchange Reconstruction	Interstate/Interchange
Jimmy DeLoach Parkway Interchange	Interstate/Interchange
Traffic Control Center Study and Construction	Non-Roadway
SR 21 and SR 25	Culvert Replacement at Pipemakers Canal
I-95/I-16 Interchange Reconstruction	Interstate/Interchange
I-16 Exit Ramp Removal	Interstate/Interchange



The remaining projects that were identified in the planning effort, but not included in the financially feasible list are incorporated into the longer range Vision and Needs Plan.

More information regarding these plans and the planning process may be found at www.thempc.org.

2015 Chatham County Park Services

LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL®

REGISTRATION

Chatham County Park Services
7226 Varnedoe Drive,
Right next to Memorial Stadium, 2nd floor of the building

DATES / TIMES

Saturday, February 14th
9am – 12pm
Saturday, February 21th
9am – 12pm
@ Ambuc Park on Sallie Mood Drive

REGISTRATION FEES

\$20 Per Child

DIVISIONS / AGES

Tee Ball: 4-5yrs
Minors: 6-8yrs
Challenger: 4-18yrs
(Age control date: January 1st of current year)

WHAT TO BRING

All Parents/Guardians must bring participant's birth certificate and three documents proving residency or one document supporting school enrollment.

CONTACT

Cameron Chastain | Recreation Supervisor
912-652-6782 | cjchasta@chathamcounty.org

Forms available: parks.chathamcounty.org/Sports-Leagues
Forms Needed: Youth Accident Insurance Waiver & Youth Participation Form

Getting Started in GENEALOGY

Genealogist, speaker and author Charlie Bourland will teach this FREE comprehensive 9-hour program. Mr. Bourland will provide the skills needed to create a step-by-step work plan to research family history and leave a lasting legacy for descendants.

Southwest Chatham Library

Thurs., Jan. 22, 10 a.m.
Thurs., Jan. 29, 10 a.m.
Thurs., Feb. 5, 10 a.m.
Thurs., Feb. 12, 10 a.m.
Thurs., Feb. 19, 10 a.m.
Thurs., Feb. 26, 10 a.m.

Advance registration required. To sign up stop by the S.W. Chatham Library or call 925-8305.

www.liveoakpl.org