

EMA teamwork and services recognized

By Carol A. Moore

Paul Brockington, District 1 Lanier County Board of Commissioners, chaired Tuesday's regular meeting, since Chairman Alex Lee was absent. Also attending were District 2 Commissioner Harold Simpson, District 3 Commissioner Susan Bowling and District 4 Commissioner Dennis Fender. Suzanne Mathis, attorney for the Commissioners, was absent.

Throughout the meeting, there were various discussions by county personnel over experiences during the county's response to Hurricane Irma as well as things to be considered for any future response to severe weather, based upon experiences during Hurricane Irma. Overall, Lanier County's Emergency Management Agency Director Randy Patten commended the team-

work that made up Lanier County's response to problems encountered by the severe storm.

Rachel Hubbard, County Extension Coordinator and FACS Agent, introduced Kim Kester, our new Agriculture & Natural Resources County Extension Agent for Lanier and Clinch Counties.

The commissioners discussed the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) which will upgrade its Health Department and Senior Center and help grow our economy.

Emergency contracting by the Lanier County Board of Commissioners was discussed. One example was the use of the Georgia Power's building during the storm. It was discussed that the size of the building was very good and that there was a need for an

EMS building for its use.

The Commissioners approved its regular meeting minutes for September 18. There was no old or new business. County Administrator Neil Ginty gave a report. He also mentioned that there had been an excellent series of article in the Valdosta Daily Times newspaper on the Sunshine or Open Records laws. He provided each commissioner with a copy.

Donna Studstill, County Clerk, gave a financial report. Department reports included those from District Commander Scott Fountain for EMS, Chief Gary Yeomans for Fire Department, Superintendent Bob Moore for the Road Department, and Director Randy Patten for the EMA. Neither Parks and Recreation Director Will Watson or Family Connections Coordinator

Amy Lollis were present to give their reports.

Chief Yeomans did discuss at length the problems with the Stockton Station 2 being in effect a "dead" station. It is not recognized by the State of Georgia. Without it being a fully operational station, there are two county residents whose fire insurance rate places them in the highest bracket. Commissioners discussed what it would take to get the station recognized. It was also discussed that our fire department is in need of the purchase of two fire trucks for use at the Teeterville Station. It was mentioned that Moody Air Force Base would be using the Lanier EMA bus during the Moody air show on October 28th-29th. Also discussed was the need to have all employees on the same page and putting out the same message.

VETERAN

As the 2017 Ms. Veteran America, Lindsay Gutierrez will be required to provide at least 100 hours of community service, during her 12 months as title holder. As Ms. Veteran America, she is required to attend speaking engagements and special events as the official spokeswoman of the Ms. Veteran America competition and

Final Salute Inc. She will continue to serve as an active advocate for Final Salute Inc. and their efforts to assist homeless women veterans and their children.

As the 2017 Ms. Veteran America winner, Lindsay received the official Ms. Veteran America Crown and Sash. She receives \$15,000 towards the

purchase of a vehicle or scholarship towards education or student loan repayment or starting their own business or down payment towards a home purchase or home repairs Gutierrez will be featured on Ms. Veteran America competition nationwide advertising campaign as well as round trip airfare and accommodations for

two to the 2017 Ms. Veteran America competition. In addition, Gutierrez receives a gown to the 2017 Ms. Veteran America competition along with many other prizes!

More information can be found at http://www.msveteranamerica.org/MsVeteranAmerica_Finalists/.

From Front

Lakeland/Lanier County Fire Calls

Oct. 2 - Fire units were called to an auto accident on Burnt Church Road. Units arrived to find that one vehicle left the roadway and struck a tree. Both occupants were out of the car and were transported by EMS. The

scene was left with law enforcement.

Oct. 5 - Fire units were called to an auto accident on Highway 37 West. First fireman on scene cancelled all other units advising that the vehicle had just run in the ditch and was al-

ready pulled out.

Oct. 7 - Fire units were called for EMS support on Bennett Road. Units arrived to find a subject having trouble breathing. Firemen monitored the patient until EMS arrived.

Law Enforcement Arrest Reports

- Lisa Margaret Harris, 41, was arrested Sept. 29 by the Lanier County Sheriff's Office and charged with probation violation (four counts).

ing the commission of a crime, possession of tools for the commission of a crime, and purchase, possession, manufacture, distribution, or sale of marijuana.

- Christian Malachi Calhoun, 24, was arrested Oct. 3 by the Lanier County Sheriff's Office and charged with brake lights and turn signals required violation, criminal use of article with altered ID mark, possession of firearm during commission of a crime, possession of tools for the commission of a crime, purchase, possession, manufacture, distri-

bution, or sale of marijuana, possession of firearm by a convicted felon, and windshield or windshield wipers violation.

- Thomas Alan Reed Sr., 68, was arrested Oct. 3 by the Georgia State Patrol and charged with DUI of alcohol and speeding (48 mph in 35-mph zone).
- Fidela Angeles-Mendoza, 38, was arrested Oct. 5 by the Lanier County Sheriff's Office and charged with driving without a valid license and speeding (72 mph in 55-mph zone).
- Franklin Edward

Cantey, 23, was arrested Oct. 6 by the Lanier County Sheriff's Office and charged with aggravated assault/family violence.

- Tommy Rodriguez Solomon, 32, was arrested Oct. 7 by the Lanier County Sheriff's Office and charged with battery/family violence, giving false information or false name to an officer, and probation violation.
- Vaughn Austyn Fitzgerald, 17, was arrested Oct. 8 by the Lanier County Sheriff's Office and charged with expired or no driver's license.
- Margaret Nicole Bailey, 31, was arrested Oct. 8 by the Lanier County Sheriff's Office and charged with driving while license suspended, possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute, and possession of tools for the commission of a crime.

- Henry Allen Davis, 31, was arrested Oct. 8 by the Lanier County Sheriff's Office for probation violation (three counts).

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

PROPOSED FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR THE MQ-9 OPERATIONS GROUP BEDDOWN AT AN INSTALLATION (BASE X) IN THE UNITED STATES

A Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and proposed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been prepared by the U.S. Air Force to analyze the impacts of the beddown of the MQ-9 Operations Group at an installation (Base X) in the United States.

The Proposed Action includes facilities construction and basing of 460 officers, enlisted, civilian personnel, and contractors for remotely piloted aircraft operations at one (1) of five (5) locations: Shaw Air Force Base (AFB), South Carolina (preferred alternative); Moody AFB, Georgia; Offutt AFB, Nebraska; Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona; or Mountain Home AFB, Idaho. The construction would occur in three phases: temporary, interim, and Military Construction (MILCON). The temporary phase would begin in December 2017 and the MILCON or permanent phase would be operational by September 2021.

The Draft EA and proposed FONSI are available for review at the following locations:

South Georgia Regional Library
300 Woodrow Wilson Dr.
Valdosta, Georgia 31602

Lanier County Library
124 South Valdosta Rd.
Lakeland, Georgia 31635

An electronic copy of the document can also be found on the Air Force Civil Engineering Center website under "Environmental Assessments" at: <http://www.afcec.af.mil/Home/Environment/>.

Please provide any comments by November 8, 2017. Comments should be mailed to Ms. Cynthia Pettit, PMP, Department of the Air Force, AFCEC/CZN, 2261 Hughes Ave, Ste 155, JBSA Lackland TX 78236-9853 or via email to AFCEC.CZN.mq9basexbeddown@us.af.mil.

PRIVACY ADVISORY NOTICE

This Draft EA is provided for public comment in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA Regulations (40 CFR §§1500-1508), and 32 CFR §898, Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP).

The EIAP provides an opportunity for public input on Air Force decision-making, allows the public to offer inputs on alternative ways for the Air Force to accomplish what it is proposing, and solicits comments on the Air Force's analysis of environmental effects.

Public commenting allows the Air Force to make better, informed decisions. Letters or other written or oral comments provided may be published in the EA. As required by law, comments provided will be addressed in the EA and made available to the public. Providing personal information is voluntary. Any personal information provided will be used only to identify your desire to make a statement during the public comment portion of any public meetings or hearings or to fulfill requests for copies of the EA or associated documents. Private addresses will be compiled to develop a mailing list for those requesting copies of EA. However, only the names of the individuals making comments and specific comments will be disclosed. Personal home addresses and phone numbers will not be published in the Final EA.

Bulletin Board

LANIER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

Lanier County Historical Society has fixed Thursday, October 12, 7 p.m. as its meeting time at the Lanier County Historical Society Museum, 103 E. Main St.

LAPS RIVER ROAD HAUNTED HOUSE

LAPS River Road Haunted House continues every Friday from 8-11 p.m. and Saturdays from 4-6 p.m. for younger children and 8-11 p.m. at 365 Old River Road. Admission is \$3 for children and \$7 for adults. Proceeds benefit LAPS (Lanier Animal Partnership and Support), a non-profit organization.

CLCP LITERACY TEAM MEETING

CLCP Literacy Team Meeting is confirmed for Thursday, October 12 at Miller Lakeland Library, 18 S. Valdosta Rd. For more information contact Amy Lollis at 229-585-1986.

PUSHING THE LIMITS OF CHANGE!

Pushing the Limits of CHANGE! Is the subject of a special library program. PLACE: Public Libraries Advancing Community Engagement which is Exploring Resilience and Adaptation for your community fixed Thursday, October 12 at Miller Lakeland Library, 18 S. Valdosta Rd. for its second in a series of four program on the effects of weather. Learn about extreme weather events and a changing climate in this new science cafe style reading, viewing and discussion series.

This program session is set for 4 p.m. and asks participants to consider how climate change and extreme weather may affect the local or regional economy and jobs, as well as to explore ways to develop innovative, solution-oriented ideas for resiliency-building. For more information contact 229-482-2904.

ART EXHIBIT RECEPTION

Art Exhibit Reception for Andrew Sabori's series of immigrant portraits has been set for Thursday, October 12 from 6-8 p.m. at the Colquitt County Arts Center, 401 7th Ave SW, Moultrie. A guest speaker presentation will be held at 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S MISSION PROGRAM

Women's Mission Program is set for Saturday, October 14 at St. Lewis Missionary Baptist Church, Hwy. GA-135 north about 3 miles of Burnt Church Rd. Monica Green of Valdosta will be their guest speaker. Contact Johnnie Mae Lamb for more information at 229-412-3016.

BOSTON BUTT COOKOUT SALE

Boston Butt Cookout Sale is scheduled for Saturday, October 14 at the Masonic Lodge, Main St. Meal will include Boston Butt steaks, corn, french fries and bread for \$6 a plate. Dine-in at the lodge or pick-up and/or delivery is available. Tickets can be purchased by calling Mose at 229-48-23318.

LAPS MEETING

LAPS (Lanier Animal Partnership Society) is set for Monday, October 16 at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at 365 Old River Rd.

DIABETES EDUCATION CLASS

Exercise and Diabetes is the subject of this month's Diabetes Education Class at Lakeland Drug Company, 42 W. Main at 10:30 a.m.

OLD LAKELAND ELEMENTARY AND HIGH UNITED SCHOOL REUNION

The Old Lakeland Elementary and High United School Reunion will not be held this year in November on the weekend after Thanksgiving. Instead, the committee will be meeting on Saturday, October 21, 6 p.m. at Austin's Cattle Company (Austin's Steakhouse), 2101 West Hill Ave. Valdosta, GA. Any former student that would like to come or participate is welcome. Everyone is responsible for purchasing their meals, which must be reserved by Thursday, October 19.

For reservations and questions, please call one of these committee members: President Milton Gloster, 229-482-2617, Vice President Ivynease Riley 229-244-9481, Secretary Juanita George 229-259-0561 or Teacher Emma Lou Oxford 229-482-9852. We are looking forward to seeing each of you.

COOKBOOKS BY THE WOMEN OF LAKELAND UMC

Cookbooks by the Women of Lakeland United Methodist Church are being sold to help raise money for a church project. The cost is \$15.00 per book and any checks need to be made out to: Lakeland United Methodist Women. Contact the Lakeland UMC office at 80 W. Main Street, P.O. Box 7, Lakeland, email lakelandumc1@gmail.com or call 229-482-3574 for more information.

NEW PROSPECT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

We the Usher Ministry of the New Prospect Missionary Baptist Church, 598 US Highway 84 East, Stockton, invite each of you to come and share with us on Saturday, October 21 at 6 p.m. Our topic this year is "The Beatitudes" with various speakers.

We also invite you to worship with us at anytime on the second and fourth Sunday's of each month beginning with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. and Morning Worship service at 11 a.m. Please join us. We plan on having a great time in the name of the Lord. If you need more information, please call our Usher President Sister Brenda Williams at 229-630-0100.

LIFT PROGRAM FOR YOUNG ADULTS

LIFT (Life Information for Teens) is a program for young adults who want to learn about emergency services from trained professionals in each field. For sign-up contact Randy Patten at 229-482-2595 or lanierema@windstream.net.

Submissions: The deadline for all submissions is noon on Tuesday. Submissions received after this time will be held until the following week's issue. For more information, please call us at 229-482-8230 or 229-896-2233.