

# CORDELE · CRISP

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

November 2016

### Ribbon Cuttings



Helena Industries Warehouse E Ribbon Cutting

### Ribbon Cutting held at Fritz Farm in conjunction with the Chamber Member Appreciation

Sponsored by: Edward Jones Investments, Ricky Smith & Jeff Whelchel, Fritz Farm and the Lake Blackshear Resort & Golf Club



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Thanks to Renay Adkins of Adkins Studio of Photography at 312 12th Avenue East in Cordele for the lovely photos.

## Rivers Alive & County Wide Cleanup Day



Shop Cordele-Crisp FIRST

## Contact Information

502 So. 2nd Street  
 P O Box 158  
 Cordele, Ga 31010  
 229-273-1668  
 229-273-5132 fax

[www.cordelecrispga.com](http://www.cordelecrispga.com)

[info@cordele-crisp-chamber.com](mailto:info@cordele-crisp-chamber.com)

## Mission Statement

"The Mission of the Cordele-Crisp Chamber of Commerce is to support, maintain, and promote members businesses and quality of life in our community."

## Connect with us!

We're social!!!



## Calendar

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 9:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
**Cordele-Crisp Christmas  
 Open House**  
 Flint River Pottery

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 10:00 - 5:30 p.m.



**Cordele-Crisp Christmas  
Open House**  
Kathy & Company

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
10:00 - 6:00 p.m.

**Cordele-Crisp Christmas  
Open House**  
Sakari & Company

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
10:00 - 6:00 p.m.

**Cordele-Crisp Christmas  
Open House**  
Three's Company

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>  
8:30 a.m.

**Chamber Board Retreat**  
Lake Blackshear Resort

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 - 6:00 p.m.

**Cordele-Crisp Christmas  
Open House**  
Flint River Pottery

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 - 4:00 p.m.

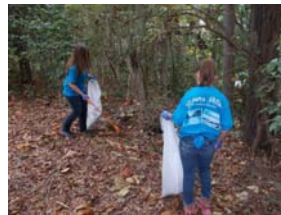
**Cordele-Crisp Christmas  
Open House**  
Kathy & Company

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 - 6:00 p.m.

**Cordele-Crisp Christmas  
Open House**  
Sakari & Company

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 - 6:00 p.m.

**Cordele-Crisp Christmas  
Open House**





**Rivers Alive & County-Wide Cleanup Day**

**24th Annual Public Safety Dinner**

Special thanks to the following for helping sponsor the 24th Annual Public Safety Dinner.

- Public Safety Sponsors 2016  
 1st Franklin Financial  
 Adams Drug Store  
 Ameris Bank  
 City of Cordele  
 Colony Bank  
 Community Coffee/Danny Watson  
 Cook Industrial Electric  
 Cordele Lions Club  
 Cordele Main Street/DBO  
 Cordele Metal Works  
 Cordele Rotary Club  
 Cotton Law Firm  
 Crisp Co. Board of Commissioners  
 Crumley's Construction  
 Fellowship Home at Cordelia Manor  
 Gene Ford  
 Harris Waste Management  
 Hurt & Associates  
 Keep Crisp Beautiful  
 Lawson & Reid Attorneys  
 Marvair Airxcel

Three's Company

Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>  
 1:00 - 5:30 p.m.

**Cordele-Crisp Christmas  
 Open House**  
 Flint River Pottery

Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>  
 10:00 - 5:00 p.m.

**Cordele-Crisp Christmas  
 Open House**  
 Sakari & Company

Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>  
 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

**Cordele-Crisp Christmas  
 Open House**  
 Three's Company

Nov. 7th  
 10:00 a.m.  
**Ribbon Cutting**  
 Southern Tranquility  
 Salon & Day Spa

Nov. 8th  
**Election Day**  
 Get Out & Vote

Nov. 9th  
 9:30 a.m.  
**Tourism Committee**  
 Chamber Boardroom

Nov. 11th  
**Veterans Day**  
 Chamber Office Closed

Nov 12th  
 10:30 a.m.  
**Veterans Day Celebration**  
 Georgia Veterans

Mike Fraser's Auto Repair  
Mobile Communications  
Phil Streetman  
Planters First Bank  
Rainey Family Funeral Home  
State Farm Insurance/Mike & Curt Browning  
South Georgia Banking Company  
South Georgia Technical College  
SummerCo Realty/Prime Location  
Wallace Mathis  
Wells Hardware & Supply  
Williams-Pitt Oil Company  
WoodmenLife

Memorial State Park

Nov. 16th  
9:00 a.m.

**Keep Crisp Beautiful**  
Chamber Boardroom

Nov. 18th

**Cordele-Crisp Christmas  
Open House**  
Adams Drug Store

Nov. 24th & 25th

**Thanksgiving Holidays**  
Chamber Office Closed

Nov. 26th

**Shop Small Saturday**  
**SHOP Cordele-Crisp FIRST**

Nov. 28th  
12:00 Noon

**Executive Committee**  
Chamber Boardroom

Nov. 29th  
8:30 a.m.

**Board of Directors**  
Crisp Regional Hospital

Nov. 29th  
10:00 a.m.

**Board of Director Pictures**  
Adkins Photography

## Red Ribbon Week



Red Ribbon key note speaker, Dereck McKinney with the Department of Corrections pictured with local law enforcement at the Red Ribbon Kick off

## New Members

John Shaw  
**Georgia Department  
of Labor**  
120 West Church Street  
Americus, GA 31709



Red Ribbon Week

Proclamation  
approved at Cordele City Commission

Red Ribbon Week  
Oct. 24-29th

The Red Ribbon Committee worked really hard to plan many activities during the annual Red Ribbon Week Celebration. This is just one of the projects that the schools and law enforcement participate in to make our youth aware of the dangers of drugs, gangs and bullying. The key note speaker, Dereck McKinney with the Department of Corrections kept the students attention and gave a very enlightening speech on the dangers of joining a gang, taking illegal drugs and bullying.

Special thanks to the committee members: Lisa Simpson, Lisa Odom, Amy Payne, Jeremy Taylor, Katrisha Williams, Annie Leggett, Monica Simmons and Randy West. And a very special thank you to Cheryl Newton who makes bows for us to place at the schools and around the community during Red Ribbon Week!! Thanks to the media The Cordele Dispatch, South Ga. News and WSST to covering all the events.

The theme for 2016 was "Good Choices, Good Character: No Drugs, Gangs & Bullying". We would like to thank the following who helped sponsor the event:

The Breeze Way  
Colony Bank  
Cordele Police Department  
Crisp Academy  
Crisp County Board of Education  
Crisp County Middle School

229-931-2520

## Renewals

**Agri-AFC, LLC/Cordele**

**Angus Campbell**

**Briley Edwards**

**Cleveland Lemmons**

**Fellowship Home @ Cordelia  
Manor**

**Crisp Academy**

**Crisp County  
Elementary School**

**Darton College**

**HILLTOP Apartments**

**Kathy & Company  
Boutique, LLC**

**Lake Blackshear Resort  
& Golf Club**

**Lime Creek Ag Transport**

**Rags to Riches Boutique**

**Riley's Deli LLC**

**Susan Barge**

**WoodmenLife**

**GET OUT & VOTE**

Crisp County Pre-K  
Crisp County Primary School  
Crisp County Sheriff's Office  
Griffin Lumber Company  
GTC Fitness Center  
Fellowship Home at Cordelia Manor  
Harris Waste Management  
Mike Fraser's Auto Repair  
Leger & Son  
State Farm Ins. (Mike & Curt Browning)  
Well's Hardware & Supply  
WoodmenLife

**vote early through Friday,  
Nov. 4th.**



**Election day is Nov. 8th.**

## Georgia Governor's Conference on Tourism



## Goodie Bag Items & New Comer Basket Items NEEDED

The chamber is in need of goodie bag items and new comer basket items for the many bags and basket that we make up monthly.

We will accept items or coupons. This is a great way to promote your business.



## Newsletter Guidelines



Monica Simmons, President of the Cordele-Crisp Chamber attended the annual Governor's Conference on Tourism. The event was held at the Georgia International Convention Center in College Park. There were many great speakers during the three-day conference. During the Governor's Luncheon & Awards Ceremony the Georgia Grown Trail 41 received the Partnership Champion Award. The award is given to a partner agency or individual for outstanding work in attracting capital investments for tourism projects. Larista Thompson, Ex. Director of Vienna Main Street serves as the President of the Trail 41 and Monica Simmons serves as Treasurer. The Ga. Grown 41 Trail has a membership of over 60 businesses and organizations. Brochures are available at the chamber.

## Georgia Grown Highway 280 Trail



We are excited to be part of the Ga. Grown Highway 280 Trail which starts on the east coast (Savannah) and runs along Hwy 280 to the Alabama line.

This group began meeting in 2015 to make decisions on how best to market the 280 corridor. Monica Simmons, President of the Cordele-Crisp Chamber of Commerce was elected Chairman of the organization. As we get further along in the planning process, we will invite businesses and organizations which are located in one of the counties along Hwy 280 to become members. We are really excited about the tourism opportunities that this will bring to our area.

## **PROGRAM OF WORK 2016 Update Oct. 31, 2016**

### **ORGANIZATIONAL IMPROVEMENT**

Amber Herrington, Vice Chair

Goal: To support and grow the chamber through activities that enhances and promotes chamber membership.

- Staff called every chamber member, updating member information as needed
- Update chamber web site, and continue to use social media communication platforms

In order to ensure the quality of our newsletter, the following guidelines have been compiled for those making a contribution.

To ensure quality we ask that all content be sent in via email only.

You may send to Catherine Harrell [cmays@cordele-crisp-chamber.com](mailto:cmays@cordele-crisp-chamber.com)

- Deadline to submit is the 25th of each month by 5:00 PM.
- Submissions are not to exceed 250 words.
- We ask that any documents be formatted in Times New Roman 12pt font, be single-spaced, and use 1-inch margins on all sides. This helps keep our newsletter looking more streamlined.
- We ask that any photos emailed in be in jpeg format to ensure the quality of the image.

## **Christmas Open House in Cordele-Crisp County**

Please call or email us your Holiday shopping hours and we'll help promote your business. Also, we will share and post your events on social media.

Several businesses have already



- Colony Bank hosted a Business After Hours and New Member Reception
- Young Professionals were invited to attend Business After Hours and Member Appreciation event
- Revamped Ambassador program to a committee format
- Sponsored Annual Dinner and Professional Administrative Day Luncheon
- Continued offering webinars and seminars of interest to membership
- Member profiles included in newsletter "Meet our Members"
- Increased communication to members on ribbon cutting and other events
- Held ground breakings and ribbon cuttings

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Vice Chair, Patti Deal

Goal: To generate awareness and outreach to sustain excellence in our community.

- Sponsored Leadercast, selling 200 tickets
- Improved communication, promote and focus on community pride using social media
- Continued to support Keep Crisp Beautiful, Darton College, South Georgia Technical College, Crisp Co. School System, Crisp Academy, Cordele Main Street, American Red Cross, Tri-County Employer Association, Civic Clubs, Local Church events, Crisp Area Habitat, OneBlood Blood Services, Crisp Area Arts Alliance, Crisp Co. Community Council & Care Awards
- Continued new comer program to promote local businesses, churches, and civic/social organizations and also to involve newcomers
- Supported and promoted the Ag community including the Farmers Market, Watermelon Days Festival, Hwy 41 Georgia Grown Trail, sponsor Farmers Appreciation Dinner and Ag Day
- Continued to seek, support and promote volunteer opportunities for chamber and other non-profits

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Vice Chair, Brian Bickhaus

Goal: To interact with government and the private sector to grow jobs

for Nov. 3rd - 6th.

#### **Flint River Pottery**

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> 9:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> 1:00 - 5:30 p.m.

#### **Kathy & Company**

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>

10:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> 10:00 - 4:00 p.m.

#### **Sakari & Company**

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> 10:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> 10:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> 10:00 - 5:00 p.m.

#### **Three's Company**

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> 10:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> 10:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

#### **Adams Drug Store**

Nov. 18th

### **Small Business Saturday**

**November 26th 2016**

**ALL DAY**

First there was Black Friday, then Cyber Monday. November 27, 2010 was the first ever Small Business Saturday. Small Business Saturday is the day we celebrate the Shop Small movement to drive shoppers to local merchants across the U.S.

More than 200 organizations have already joined American

- Lobby legislature on behalf of the Inland Port to acquire additional railroad track to move this project forward
- Supported funding to complete Darton-Cordele
- Supported installation of fiber optic internet line in the city and county
- Recruited participants for the Georgia Academy program
- Met with existing industry & Chairman attended Manufacturers Luncheon in Atlanta
- Research ways to educate our workforce with Crisp Co. School System, South Ga. Tech & Darton
- Participated with Locate South Georgia, economic development initiative
- Promoted business development in Cordele-Crisp County, including retail development, small business development, entrepreneurs and shop local
- Supported gas line between Crisp/Sumter and Hwy 280 4-lane
- Promoted need to renew Empowerment Zone Tax Credits, Gillespie-Selden revitalization and macro-site

#### PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Vice Chair, Anna Hurt

Goal: To interact with appropriate levels of government and the private sector to accomplish goals of the chamber and community.

- Supported SPLOST
- Supported collaboration of local "players", take ideas to Atlanta Legislative delegation
- Supported regional collaboration
- Supported creating a Land Bank Authority
- Continued to sponsor Atlanta Legislative Fish Fry
- Continued to sponsor Public Safety dinner and Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
- Continued to sponsor Quarterly CEO/Managers meetings
- Sponsored candidates forum and Get Out & Vote

#### TOURISM DIVISION

Vice Chair, Eli Tinsley

Goal: To expand and enhance our visitor base.

small business unit, in declaring the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday.

#### **New OVERTIME Rule to begin Dec. 1st, 2016**

Starting Dec 1, 2016 the US Department of Labor will implement "new standards of its overtime rule, impacting exceptions under the Fair Labor Standards Act and its regulations. As anticipated, it has raised the minimum annual salary threshold for salaried employees from \$455 to \$913 per week, or \$47,476 annually. This momentous ruling will affect thousands of Georgians.

If you need information on what this means to you and your business, please call the chamber. We have received information through the Georgia Chamber on this new rule and will be glad to share it.

#### **Drugs Don't Work New Regulation began August 2016**

On August 10, 2016 the Occupational Safety and Health Administration began enforcing its new regulation requiring employers (1) to have a "reasonable procedure" for employees to report work-related injuries and illnesses. The

- Rehabbed missile, including polishing and painting new signage, lighting and landscaping
- Assisting with funding the Gateway Project
- Researched engaging Retail Development consultant
- Supported Quiet Community Project
- Included funding of \$150,000 for the rail trail program in Tourism Budget
- Researching with the City and Main Street for entry signs for Hwy 280 and US Hwy 41
- Supported SAM Shortline Excursion Train (Day Out With Thomas & Touch A Train/Truck events)
- Supported Georgia Veterans Memorial State Park events & Friends of Georgia Vets
- Developing new tourism rack card/brochure
- Sponsored and supported 100 Mile Peanut Pickin' Yard Sale, Ga. Grown Hwy 41 Trail, Hwy 280 Tourism Corridor
- Continued billboard co-op program Lake Blackshear & Cordele Historic Museum & Downtown)
- Used Social Media to promote all tourism events
- Marketed sports to increase use of ball fields, golf courses, horseshoe venue, fishing and hunting
- Supported community park planning
- Supported and funded marketing plan for the Ag Technology/Show Barn project
- Provided breakfast for participants of Speedfest at Crisp Motor Sports
- Sponsored 12 fishing tournaments at Lake Blackshear

requirements is that employees should not be discouraged or punished in any way for exercising their right under the OSHA Act to report a work-related injury or illness. Any adverse action that is taken because an employee exercises this right to report is viewed by OSHA as a violation of S11(c) of the Act must be raised by the aggrieved employee within 30days of the adverse action. In sum, OSHA will soon be providing guidance, and we believe those guidance documents will allow post-accident drug testing under a Drug-Free Workplace policy, state laws that provide a workers' compensation benefit for the employer, or by agreement with an insurance carriers to implement such a policy. If your company does not have a Drug-Free Workplace policy, then you should still be able to conduct post-accident drug testing as long as you apply and support a reasonable suspicion approach

## HOLD THE DATE

Feb. 15, 2017 - 5:00 pm

For 28th Annual Atlanta Legislative Fish Fry

### Sponsorship Opportunities

PLATINUM SPONSORS: \$3400.00

Business name prominently displayed at Atlanta Fish Fry on a banner  
 Business receives 24 tickets to the event (submit names for name tags)  
 Business identified as PLATINUM sponsor at Atlanta Fish Fry  
 Business name is printed on goody items

If you are interested in becoming a Drug Free Workplace and receive 7-1/2 percent off your Worker's Compensation Insurance Policy annually, call Monica Simmons at the Cordele-Crisp Chamber and we can assist you.

**Back The Blue  
Shirts available!**

Business is interviewed by WSST at the Fish Fry for a sponsor moment  
Business can bring goody items to put on tables or hand out  
Business is recognized on WSST and in The Cordele Dispatch, the chambers web site and all social media  
Business name is listed on the web site, letter to the editor and on mass emails

#### **GOLD SPONSORS: \$1000**

Business name prominently displayed at the Fish fry on a banner  
Business receives 12 tickets to the event (submit names for name tags)  
Business identified as GOLD sponsor at the event  
Business name is listed on the web site, letter to the editor and on mass emails

**Silver Sponsors: \$500** Business name prominently displayed at Fish Fry  
Business receives 8 tickets to the event (submit names for name tags)  
Business identified as SILVER sponsor at Fish Fry  
Business name is listed on the web site, letter to the editor and on mass emails

#### **Bronze Sponsors \$ 250**

Business name prominently displayed at Fish Fry  
Business name is listed on the web site, letter to the editor and on mass emails  
Business receives 4 ticket to the event (submit name for name tags)

#### **Supporting Sponsor \$100**

Business name is prominently displayed at Fish Fry  
Business name is listed on the web site & letter to the editor



Shirts are \$15.00 and you may pick them up at the Chamber located at 502 South 2nd Street

### **Shop Cordele-Crisp FIRST**

We would like to urge everyone to "Shop Cordele-Crisp FIRST" all the time, but especially at Christmas. There are many reasons to "shop locally".

Here's what happens when you "shop local."

1. More of your money will be kept in your local economy. For every \$100 you spend at locally owned businesses, \$68 will stay in the community. What happens when you spend that same \$100 at a national chain? Only \$43 stays in the community.
2. You embrace what makes your community unique. You wouldn't want your house to look like everyone else's in the U.S. So why would you want your community to look that way?
3. You create local jobs. Local businesses are better at creating higher-paying jobs for your

locally, you help create jobs for teachers, firemen, police officers, and many other essential professions.

4. You help the environment. Buying from a locally owned business conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation and less packaging.

5. You nurture community. Local business owners know you, and you know them. Studies have shown that local businesses donate to community causes at more than twice the rate of chains.

6. You conserve your tax dollars Shopping in a local business district means less infrastructure, less maintenance, and more money available to beautify your community. Also, spending locally instead of online ensures that your sales taxes are reinvested where they belong- in your community!

7. You create more choice. Locally owned businesses pick the items and products they sell based on what they know you like and want. Local businesses carry a wider array of unique products because they buy for their own individual markets.

8. You took advantage of their

and neighbors, and locally owned businesses have a vested interest in knowing how to serve you. They're passionate about what they do. Why not take advantage of it?

9. You invested in entrepreneurship Creativity and entrepreneurship are what the American economy is founded upon. Nurturing local business ensures a strong community.

10. You made your community a destination. The more interesting and unique you community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors and guests. This benefits everyone

**Cordele-Crisp Chamber of Commerce**  
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**Cordele, GA 31010**