



Chamber FOCUS

121 South Court Square P.O. Box 368 Franklin, GA 30217

Chamber Upgrades Website

HCCOC has updated it's website with new technology to better serve our members.

With these improvements, members can update their own information, link us to your own pages or sites, post job opportunities, hot deals, register for Chamber events, search our member database and request information from the Chamber or other members. The site even has mapping capabilities to show a customer how to find your location!

The site fully integrates with our accounting system so registering for an event online automatically generates invoices and posts to our receivables.

We recently mailed members a login ID and password for the user section of the site. If you did not receive your information, please feel free to contact us at 706-675-0560 or online at www.heardchamber.com.

We encourage you to check your listings to be sure all contact information is correct. This will enable us to provide your latest information to callers and potential customers.

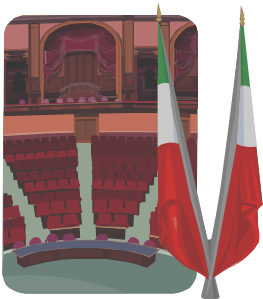
With the new technology, we will continue to develop content and improve the usefulness of the site for the county.

We welcome your comments on our recent improvements and how we can better serve you.

Please join us!

Tuesday, October 19, 2010
for the Chamber's
Fall

Legislative Luncheon
Captain Billy's
Fish House
Court Sq., Franklin



www.heardchamber.com for more info or to register.



Chamber of Commerce

www.heardchamber.com

October 2010

Heard County Chamber of Commerce,
Heard County Cattlemen's Association,
and
Heard County Extension Service and 4H
invite you to
attend the

14th Annual Farm/City Breakfast

November 16th, 2010

7:30 AM

Franklin Community Center
2484 Franklin Parkway

Please RSVP by Nov. 12
By calling 706-675-0560
Or register online at
www.heardchamber.com



Complimentary Breakfast
Provided By :



OglethorpePower

Heard County Cuts Ribbon on Wastewater Treatment Plant

(September 30, 2010)

Heard County and City of Franklin officials and residents gathered today with representatives from USDA Rural Development to cut the ribbon on the new wastewater treatment plant. Plant construction was funded through a USDA Rural Development loan and grant totaling \$4.07 million.

"This new plant is a wonderful community achievement," said Donnie Thomas, acting state director for USDA Rural Development. "It is good for the environment and it also provides capacity for growth."

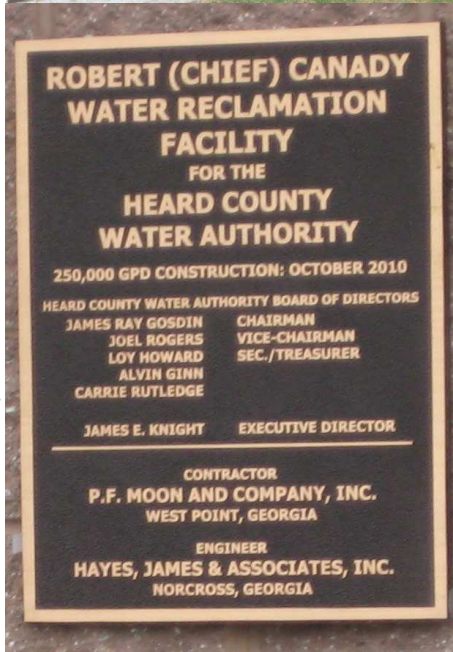
The new design replaced the existing 160,000 gallon per day (g.p.d.) wastewater treatment plant with a 250,000 g.p.d. activated sludge plant. It can accommodate up to 2.5 times the average daily flow, which allows for growth and complications from high water. The new plant is also 20 feet higher than the old plant and is out of the 100 year flood elevation. A new pump station was constructed at the old plant to transfer the waste water to the new site. Some of the piping was also rehabilitated.

The old plant was built in 1960 and capacity was expanded in 1980. Two problems necessitated construction of a new plant. During wet weather, the flow exceeded treatment capabilities. The plant was also located in a flood plain and during high water, the plant discharged untreated wastewater into the Chattahoochee River.

The new plant serves the City of Franklin, population 902, which is designated as a Tier 2 county by the state of Georgia.

"The citizens of Franklin, Georgia, with the assistance of USDA Rural Development, now have on line a modern, energy efficient water reclamation facility," said James E. Knight, executive director of the Heard County Water Authority. "This facility will serve Franklin for many years and enable growth and community development. Without the assistance from USDA Rural Development, this project would not have been completed"

Funds represent a loan for \$1,078,000 and a grant of \$2,992,000. The loan is repayable with 4.5% interest over 40 years. USDA Rural Development has loan and grant programs to improve the quality of life in and economic health of rural communities. More information is available on the website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ga>.

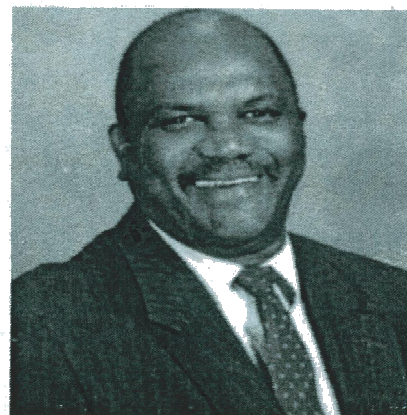


In recognition of Mr. Canady's service and dedication to the citizens of Franklin and Heard County Water Authority Board.

Since 1984, Mr. Canady has held numerous offices with the HCWA Board of Director, including many years as Chairman. Mr. Canady's service to all citizens is an example of living as Dr. Martin King Jr.

stated:

"We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools."



Millenium Members 2010



Leadership Heard 2010 Participating In DCA's Economic Development Academy

Developing Leaders for Heard's Future

Leadership Heard 2010 Participants:

Chris Cumbie, Heard Fire and EMA
Hayley Dodd, Indulge Salon and Spa
Trina Ord, Profitable Promos
Charles Barron, Southern Company
Tim Holtzclaw, Southern Company
Emily Rogers, Three Rivers Regional Commission
Frances Oubre, West Ga Technical College
Marion Boyd, City of Franklin
Shea Carlisle

Gail Long, Georgia Dept. of Labor,
Leadership Committee Chair
Noel Forrester, Franklin Church of God,
Leadership Committee Co-Chair



The Leadership Heard 2010 program continues developing leaders for Heard through DCA's

Over a period of four months, the members have been involved in learning about economic development strategies, leadership challenges and skills, and our region - plus meeting other regional leaders and building great networks for the future.

The Georgia Academy program is a combination of skilled and expert speakers, class exercises, homework and presentations. For the first day, the featured presentations included *Essentials of Economic Development*, *Consensus Building*, and *Collaborative Leadership*.

The 2010 Leadership Heard program kicked off on Thursday, March 25, 2010 at The Lodge at Banning Mills where the participants enjoyed a day of team building exercises. This was the first of nine sessions the group will participate in this year. Other Included components were a trip to the State Capital for a tour and discussions with our district legislators, tour of the Georgia Power Economic Development Center in Atlanta, Georgia, tour of local government facilities, presentations from local governments on intergovernmental correlations, SPLOST, tax digest and mil rates process, planning and zoning, 20 year city/county planning, the economic development process, Heard County historical tour, leadership skills and developmental trainings. This Chamber-driven event is sponsored by the Chamber Millennium members as well as Carroll EMC and Georgia Power.

Heard Chamber of Commerce wishes to thank our *Leadership* sponsors!



JOB FAIR IN FRANKLIN

West Central Georgia Workforce



Development Corporation

**The jobs will be for
Walmart.com in Carrollton, GA**

Monday, October 18, 2010 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

**Franklin Community Center,
2484 Franklin Parkway, Franklin, GA**



Positions Available:

- General Labor - Picking, Packing, Load, unload, Shipping, Rcvg., Restock, Equipment Operators.
- WH positions that must be computer literate - QA, Exceptions clerk.
- General Labor - packing, sorting, inspection, palletizing, load, unload, (there are some positions that require some data entry and computer knowledge).

Shifts:

Warehouse Positions:

1A 7am-5pm. Tuesday- Friday. \$9.00 hr. (10 hrs. shift)
2A 5pm-3am. Tuesday- Friday. \$9.50 hr. (10 hrs. shift)
1B 6am-6:30pm. Saturday, Sunday and Monday. \$10.00. (12 hrs. shift)
2B 6pm-6:30am. Saturday, Sunday and Monday. \$10.00. (12 hrs. shift).

Custodial/ Maintenance:

\$10.00 hr for Day Shift. \$10.50 hr for Night Shift. \$11.00 hr for Weekends.

Forklifts with Certification:

Same amount as warehouse plus additional \$1.50 more per hour.

Background Requirements:

NO Misdemeanors within the last 3 years. NO Felonies within the last 7 years.

****Unfortunately we can't hire anybody with FRAUD, THEFT, ROBBERY and/or any VIOLENCE.**

Heard County Chamber of Commerce FY11 Action Plan



Mission:

Our mission as a volunteer business advocacy organization is to represent and advance the economic interests of the commercial, industrial and civic communities.

Vision:

The Chamber seeks to provide value by maintaining and enhancing a prosperous business climate for businesses, both existing and new, through support, promotion and collaboration while respecting the regions character, culture and diversity.

Values:

Pride, Progress, Promotion & Partnership

Results of SWOT Analysis conducted at Annual Board Retreat

Strengths:

- Stable bank balance
- Events
- Dedicated board, members, and affiliates
- Staff
- Community support
- Government support
- History
- Cooperation
- Visionary
- Evolving / adaptable

Opportunities

- Growth for county
- Seek grants for education/ tourism
- Develop Brush Creek and Historical Sites
- Shop at home program
- Expand business hours
- Develop downtown presence
- Establish presence as movie location
- Educational opportunities
- KIA- manufacturers/ supplies
- Hwy 27 signage

Weaknesses:

- Turnover of staff members and board
- Member retention
- Lack of focus
- Lack of dedication
- Lack of image in community
- Value to the member/ member development
- Lack of leadership in the past
- Lack of organization
- Community buy-in
- Visible results
- Lack of brand/ presence/ marketing
- Lack of professionalism / staff and board

Threats

- Other communities
- Lack of industry
- Bedroom community
- Workforce
- Fear of change
- Losing our history
- Perception in community
- Lack of positive presence in community
- Economy/ loss of members

One Year Goals:

- Maintain and increase membership
- Promote and support current members
- Increase organization's value to members

Three Year Goals:

- Promote/increase public confidence in organization
- Increase buy-in participation
- Improve quality of life in county

Franklin Police Chief Hannah: Traffic Changes Will Speed Things Up!

The Georgia Department of Transportation began erecting new speed limit signs on U.S. Highway 27, during the morning hours on Friday, September 24th. The speed limit changed from 55 miles per hour to 65 miles per hour for the entire roadway in Heard County. This change was part of the original plan when the roadway was built, but local officials were informed that it could be several years before this change would occur.

In addition to the speed limit change on U.S. Highway 27, the Georgia DOT changed the speed limit on Georgia Highway 34, near Newnan Street, to the city limit of Franklin. The change made this area a 45 mile per hour zone, instead of 35 miles per hour. This area was a 45 miles per hour zone before the construction of U.S. Highway 27, but was lowered due to the on/off ramp connecting the two roadways. Upon review of this area by Traffic Operations Engineer, Scott Parker, of Georgia DOT, he determined that it was safe to increase the speed limit back to its original maximum limit.

"There are numerous reasons why motorists should not exceed maximum speed limits and should obey traffic laws, but most importantly is safety. A traffic citation can be paid, driver's license can be reinstated, vehicles can be repaired/replaced, but motor vehicle crashes take human lives each day across our country. Although the speed limit on these roadways have increased, we would like to remind motorists to please drive safely", stated Chief Kevin Hannah of the Franklin Police Department.

Free Exposure for Your Business

Help us keep chamber members
and the community
informed about your business
or organization!

Send press releases,
announcements & photos to
info@heardchamber.com

Keep up with the latest news & upcoming Chamber events!

Go to
www.heardchamber.com
or

**Become a FAN of the
Heard County Chamber
On FACEBOOK**



Watch the Times-Journal
For 'Focus Local' Ad Campaigns
and spotlights on members.

HCCOC Urges You to Support Our Newest Members



J. Michael Arrington
Attorney At Law

Darlene Turner
Jiffy Glass Inc.

Marcina Cash
Main Street Diner

Aaron McWhorter
North Georgia Turf

Dr. Grant MacDonald
Coweta Eye Care

Mack Lipford
Mack's Coin Laundry

Stacy Copeland
Indulge Salon & Spa

Lorraine Tavel
Kids Place Daycare

Regenia Barninger
31 Gifts

Brian Smedley
Pro Design Airbrush

Yvette Abrahamson
WOW Advertising

Cecil Davis
Rainbow Awards

Dudley Bryan
Jama St. John
Heard County
Saddle Club

SKD Diversified
Self Storage

Steve Boggus
Advanced
Environmental
Systems

For more information on members -
go to

www.heardchamber.com

Heard County Chamber of Commerce

***Acknowledges
With Appreciation***

**Heard County
Development Authority**

***for their continued support
of the Chamber
and Heard County!***

Terry Harper, Chairman
Emmett Harrod, Vice-Chair
Mark Adams, Secretary
Charles E. Stephens, Treasurer
Charles "Skip" Jones
Grady Woodruff
Judy Miller
Morris Long

**The Mission of the
Development Authority of Heard County
is to facilitate industrial, commercial and
service development opportunities
for Heard County.**

GLIMPSES



Helping Businesses.....
From Start To Flourish



www.heardchamber.com

*The Chamber
thanks our
2010
Board of
Directors.*



EXECUTIVE BOARD

Keri Denney, Chair
State Farm Insurance

Noel Forrester, 1st Vice-Chair
Franklin Church of God

Ashley Awbrey, 2nd Vice-Chair
Harper Realty

Gail Long, Secretary
Georgia Dept of Labor, LaGrange

Cutine Barber, Harry Barber Trucking

Kevin Hayes, Hayes Computers

Kevin Hannah, City of Franklin Police Dept.

James Kingston, Jaxon Filtration

Shane Manders, Budget Paint and Body Works

June Jackson, Heard County Board of Commissioners

Frances Oubre, West Ga. Technical College

Nikki Pike Barnes, First Georgia Bank

Staff:

Kathy Knowles, President
kk@heardchamber.com

Our MISSION: To represent and advance the economic interests of the commercial, industrial and civic community.

Our VISION: The Chamber seeks to provide value by maintaining and enhancing a prosperous business climate for businesses, both existing and new, through support, promotion and collaboration while respecting the regions character, culture and diversity.

Our VALUES: Pride, Progress, Promotion and Partnership

Unemployment Statistics

County: **Heard**

August 2010

1	Statewide Trust Fund Balance	9/22/10	\$95,699,538
2	Unemployment Rate	August 2010	12.5 %
3	Number of Workers in Labor Force	August 2010	4,800
4	Number of Insured Employees	QE 03/31/10	2,752
5	Total Covered Wages	YE 03/31/10	\$126,776,807
6	Average Annual Wages (all industries) Average Weekly Wages (all industries)	YE 03/31/10	\$49,146 \$945
7	Initial Claims *	August 2010 Year to Date	76 785
8	Benefits Paid	August 2010 Year to Date CY 2009	\$92,357 \$996,548 \$2,385,742
9	First Payments	August 2010 Year to Date CY 2009	20 287 640
10	Average Weekly Benefit Amount	August 2010	\$224
11	Average Duration of Benefits (in weeks)	August 2010	15.3

* Includes intrastate initial and additional claims, as well as agent state initial and additional claims for regular UI only (no FE or X).

Please note that all of the above data are collected by place of residence except # 4-6, which are collected by place of work.

Georgia Department of Labor, Workforce Information and Analysis - (404) 232-3875

Hire Work Ready

Small businesses will be eligible for \$250 per certified Work Ready individual hired

To help Georgia small businesses defray the cost of on-the-job training, the Governor's Office of Workforce Development (GOWD) and the Georgia Chamber of Commerce launched a new outreach program called Hire Work Ready. Utilizing American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) support, the program is designed to provide funding to small businesses – those employing 50 or fewer – that hire Work Ready Certified people to assist with costs associated with hiring and training of new workers.

Benefits of Hire Work Ready include:

- ☐ Supporting Georgia's small businesses by defraying hiring and training costs
- ☐ Creating demand among job seekers for earning a Work Ready Certificate
- ☐ Showcasing the benefits of hiring Work Ready Certified employees

Operations

Small businesses can apply for Hire Work Ready funding at the Georgia Work Ready Web site (www.gaworkready.org). Approved business owners will be provided with information on using Georgia Work Ready in their hiring process and be given access to an exclusive database of Work Ready Certified job seekers.

Small businesses will be eligible for \$250 per certified Work Ready individual hired up to \$1,250. GOWD estimates Hire Work Ready will encourage the hiring of 1,000 Work Ready Certified workers by as many as 400 firms.



Georgia Launches Work Ready Connect

*New Online Employment Marketplace for
Georgia Work Ready People, Employers*



Governor Sonny Perdue today announced the launch of Work Ready Connect, the state's new online employment marketplace. The website - www.workreadyconnect.org - brings together Work Ready Certified people and employers to ensure the right person is placed in the right job to drive success.

"Georgia Work Ready has transformed our state's workforce and made our people our number one competitive advantage," said Governor Perdue. "Work Ready Connect will take us to a new level. It will help our citizens find high-quality jobs, help our companies connect with the right talent and help our communities drive economic growth."

Work Ready Connect is free to individuals holding Work Ready Certificates and companies that either prefer or require certificates as part of their hiring process. It is being launched in a partnership between the Governor's Office of Workforce Development and the Georgia Chamber of Commerce.

For job seekers, Work Ready Connect helps them use their certificate to find the best job for their talents. Users can build a personalized employment profile, see recommended job opportunities, search for open positions and communicate with Georgia employers actively seeking candidates.

Companies can use Work Ready Connect to find job candidates with verified skills. Employers can create company profiles, post open jobs and invite qualified, Work Ready Certified candidates to interview for their jobs. Companies including Atlanta Gas Light, Georgia Power, Manpower and YKK have already posted profiles on the website.

"Work Ready Connect is helping us find the right talent for the right positions," said Suzanne Sitherwood, president of Atlanta Gas Light and 2010 chair of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce. "It is also helping our state demonstrate we are home to a world-class workforce."

To date, more than 150,000 Georgians have earned Work Ready Certificates and more than 540 companies are listed on the Georgia Work Ready website as preferring or requiring the certificate as part of their hiring process.

"Better jobs. Better workers. That's what Work Ready Connect delivers," said Governor Perdue. "No other state in the country can offer such an innovative service."

Georgia's Work Ready initiative is based on a skills assessment and certification for job seekers and a job profiling system for businesses. By identifying both the needs of business and the available skills of Georgia's workforce, the state can more effectively generate the right talent for the right jobs. The Certified Work Ready Community initiative builds on the assessments and job profiling system to create opportunities for greater economic development.

Chamber Announces LUNCH & LEARN Series

Beginning
January, 2011

Heard County Chamber is collaborating with The University of West Georgia Small Business Development Center in providing the following series of courses for Heard County businesses. We will begin with the **Maximum Marketing** course in January, 2011.

If you are interested in participating in these courses to help you maximize your business's potential, please contact the Chamber office at 706-675-0560 to pre-register for the course(s) of your choice.

Offerings will be based on interest.

There will be a nominal charge of \$25 per course for lunches & training materials.

MAXIMUM Impact
Moving Your Business Forward Series

MAXIMUM **Contact**
MAXIMUM **Marketing**
MAXIMUM **Money**
MAXIMUM **People**
MAXIMUM **Retail**

www.georgiasbdc.org

Maximum Impact is a series of courses created by the Georgia SBDC Network that is designed to help move your business forward. Included in the Maximum Impact Series are five different courses that put your business on the right track for success. Each course is five weeks long and meets one day a week for two hours per day. The courses are taught by Georgia SBDC Network business consultants who have expertise in their fields and have a desire to further your company and have it grow stronger.

MAXIMUM **Marketing**

During this interactive marketing course participants will understand what marketing is, how to identify their customers, traditional and new ways to market, as well as sales techniques. Developing a true marketing plan will be within reach after attending this course.

Week 1: Pass or Fail—Marketing for Success

Week 2: Fish Where the Fish Are

Week 3: Big Marketing for Small Budgets

Week 4: Polish Your Plan

Week 5: Grand Finale

Focus Local

Heard Chamber is looking for local businesses who would like to host a Focus Local networking opportunity.

The gathering can be held at your place of business to allow you to highlight your products or services to local citizens and customers, at the Chamber office, or any other location.

If interested, please contact Kathy Knowles at 706-675-0560.

Send us your news to share with your fellow members. Articles and photos are welcome by submitting to info@heardchamber.com

Ways your chamber is working to promote your business!

This series of fifteen color, tri-fold brochures is now available to walk-ins and in newcomer packets at the Chamber office!



Apartments & Rentals

Helping Businesses...
From Start To Flourish



www.heardchamber.org



Helping Businesses...
From Start To Flourish

Heard County
Chamber of Commerce

www.heardgeorgia.org
121 So. Court Sq.
P.O. Box 368 Franklin, GA 30217

On _____, we
referred the following
() caller () walk-in
to your business.

To:



In addition, referral cards
will be mailed to you to show you
we're sending customers your way!

A Message From: **GEORGIA**CHAMBER

Vote **YES** for Business on November 2

Ballot measures will stimulate job creation, improve safety, and benefit all Georgians.

- ✓ **AMENDMENT ONE – Employment Covenants** (www.jobsoftomorrow.org)
 - Ensures that Georgia employers and employees enjoy the same certainty regarding employment agreements as in other states.
 - If passed, this constitutional amendment will allow judges to modify existing employment contracts as needed to reflect their original intent when they are contested in a court of law.
- ✓ **AMENDMENT TWO – Trauma Care Funding** (www.yes2savelives.com)
 - Establishes a comprehensive, statewide trauma care network through the creation of a \$10 vehicle tag fee that will provide funding for critically needed trauma services throughout the state.
 - Today, our state has only 16 designated trauma centers, putting many Georgians at risk of being too far away from the specialized care they need to survive an accident at work, at home, or on the road.
- ✓ **AMENDMENT THREE – DOT Accounting**
 - Allows the Georgia Department of Transportation to change its accounting practices from a cash basis to a system of accrual, letting GDOT award multi-year construction contracts on the expectation of future revenues.
- ✓ **AMENDMENT FOUR – Performance Contracting** (www.yestoamendment4.com)
 - Authorizes Georgia state government to enter into multi-year performance contracts for energy-efficient retrofits of state buildings that would be paid for by utility bill savings.
- ✓ **AMENDMENT FIVE – Industrial Property Annexation**
 - Allows owners of industrial property in unincorporated areas to have that property annexed by a city that currently provides municipal services to the property in order to ensure continuation of those services.
- ✓ **REFERENDUM A – State Inventory Tax**
 - Eliminates the state portion of the ad valorem tax on business inventories, which costs retailers and other businesses millions of dollars a year and discourages companies from locating their warehousing and distribution facilities in Georgia.

State Law Mandates

5 - 10%

Discount

**on worker's compensation
premiums for certified drug free
workplaces in Georgia
and many other states!**

**Is your company taking
advantage of this
"pro-employer" law?**

Learn More



What is a "Drug Free Workplace?"

It is an employment setting where all employees adhere to a program of policies and activities designed to provide a safe workplace, discourage alcohol and drug abuse and encourage treatment, recovery and the return to work of those employees with such abuse problems. The intent of the program is to educate adults on the problems relating to substance abuse. The one place where there can be mandated adult education is the workplace. This empowers the individual and the family, resulting in stronger communities.



Why Should An Employer Establish a Comprehensive DrugFree Workplace Program?

Current research indicates that nearly 77% of illegal drug users are employed in full and part-time jobs. Consequently, when the effects of alcohol abuse are added, the result is a large impaired portion of the national workforce. For the typical employer, that means unhealthy employees, unsafe working conditions, loss of productivity, smaller profits, more accidents, higher medical claims expenses, and a host of other negative effects for the employer and the employees.

Small and medium-sized firms employ 80% of the U.S. workforce where drug testing policies & programs are not in place. Absenteeism, increased healthcare costs and decreased productivity due to alcohol and other substance abuse costs your company \$1,000 per employee per year!

You can minimize the chance of having to deal with a serious job performance problem in the workplace, and in the process support a better quality of life for your employees, by implementing a drug free workplace program in your company.

Cont'd next page.

Drugs Don't Work (Cont'd from previous page)

It will reinforce the message to your employees and customers that a positive work environment is a high priority. The Council on Alcohol and Drugs: www.LiveDrugFree.org can provide you and your company with information and support to ensure your certification as a drug free workplace.

All aspects of society are harmed by illicit drug use; however, the American workplace is especially impacted. Business owners lose an estimated \$160 billion per year because of drug use. Business owners can expect to pay thousands of dollars more per year to employ a worker who uses illicit drugs than to employ a worker who is drug free.

What Are the Components of a Comprehensive Drug Free Work Place Program?

The "Drug Free Workplace" is a more recent term and concept introduced by the Federal government's policy for its employees in 1986 and promulgated in the private sector by the President's Drug Advisory Council. A comprehensive approach to having a drug free workplace would include:

- A written policy
- Access to assistance
- Employee education
- Supervisor training
- Drug testing



Supported by public opinion, legislation and regulation of safety-sensitive industries in the late 1980s and early 1990s, the drug free workplace concept was adopted and promoted by national, state and local organizations of employers and business executives. Some unions adopted it as well and undertook drug testing of their members and provided "drug free worker" identification. Written policies assure that all employees have the same understanding of their rights and responsibilities under the program, and that employers administer the program uniformly among all employees.

The workers surveyed suggested several ways in which employers could help, such as implementing a drug free workplace program, offering counseling for family members of addicted individuals (73%), providing better health insurance coverage (67%) and providing a more flexible work schedule or time off work (65%).

Why Should I Implement A Drug Free Workplace?

Because Family Members' Substance Abuse Affects Workers!!

Slightly more than one-fourth (26%) of employed adults report that there has been substance abuse or addiction within their family and 42% of these workers report that they have been distracted or less productive at work because of it, according to a recent national telephone survey.

Having their mind drift away from work tasks to thoughts of the problem was the most frequently reported work-related problem (89%), followed by missing a deadline or work/attendance suffering (57%) and errors in judgment (46%).

The workers surveyed suggested several ways in which employers could help, such as implementing a drug free workplace program, offering counseling for family members of addicted individuals (73%), providing better health insurance coverage (67%) and providing a more flexible work schedule or time off work (65%). For more information, go to www.livedrugfree.org or contact HCCOC.

If we don't have an accurate email address for you, you may be missing important information from the Chamber.

Please contact us at info@heardchamber.com or update your information at www.heardchamber.com.

A G Propane Is Moving To New Location

Our new office will be at 329 Pearce Street - the corner of Pearce Street and Hwy 27 North Centrahatchee).

We should be in the new office by Monday, October 4th.

Phone numbers will remain the same as will the mailing address.

P.O. Box 623
329 Pearce Street
Franklin, GA 30217
770-854-8695

The Heard County CERT & MRC of West GA is offering a Moulage class.

Moulage techniques is the art of applying makeup and appliances to create the appearance of multiple trauma, open wounds, lacerations, broken bones, avulsions, bruising, shock, death, and other medical conditions.

Moulage is realistic injury simulation that will prompt better response to training and exercises for Paramedics, EMT, Fire services, and Community Emergency Response Teams and Medical Reserve Corps volunteers.

Moulage can be applied just for fun activities too!

Moulage kits can be created with minimal investment.

Wednesday, October 20, 2010
Heard County Fire &
Emergency Services Training Center
11816 Hwy. 100, Franklin GA. 30217
6:30 - 8:00 pm

Please RSVP by October 18, 2010 to Vicky Chapman vachapman@dhr.state.ga.us or call 706-302-8037 or Steve Wirth chiefwirth@heardfire.com 706-675-6186.

Vicky A. Chapman, SEM
Office of Emergency Preparedness
Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator
Logistics Inventory Control

Job Search Assistance Available Locally

Georgia Dept of Labor and WIA representatives are available in Franklin at the DFACS office on Franklin Parkway on the second and fourth Fridays of each month from 12:30 – 4:00.

Dept of Labor and Vocational Rehab will provide job search assistance and WIA can provide financial assistance to qualified persons for job-related training.

Please share this information with your family and friends!

Member's Posts

Health Seekers LLC
Mike Farris, Certified DPA Technician
165 Hillabahatchee Drive
Franklin, GA 30217
706-675-6957
Email: HealthSeekersLLC@gmail.com

PRESS RELEASE * PRESS RELEASE * PRESS RELEASE

Mike Farris, President/CEO of Health Seekers LLC, located in Alpharetta, Georgia, is making an effort to wipe out heart disease as America's #1 killer.

Farris uses the Digital Pulsewave Analyzer (DPA for short) to provide clients with information on arterial wall stiffness, heart rate, left ventricle ejection level, hydration, and peripheral circulatory disturbance.

The DPA device is FDA approved to screen for potential problems before symptoms occur. The test is very simple, does not produce any risk or discomfort for clients, and can be done in a matter of minutes.

The beauty of the Digital Pulsewave Analyzer is that it is portable (about the size of a laptop computer) so screenings can be done at the client's location making it easy for busy people to get tested. Unfortunately, DPA testing is not covered by insurance because it is considered preventive rather than diagnostic. However, the DPA test is only \$30 per person (\$25 for groups of 10 or more), and is a real bargain considering similar tests are advertised for \$179 or more. West Georgia residents can make an appointment for a DPA test in Carrollton by calling the HEALTH & HAPPINESS CENTER, 770-832-2812, after 10AM, Monday thru Friday.

Health Seekers LLC also offers an educational DVD, *The Cardio Cure, a natural approach to preventing and reversing heart disease*, for \$10 with free shipping. Send check or money order payable to Mike Farris, P.O. Box 56. Alpharetta, GA 30009.

Get more information at: www.HealthSeekers.4TGL.com .

SAVE THE DATE!

Heard County Chamber of Commerce **45th Annual Dinner**

January 28, 2011

Heard County Middle School

6:00 PM

*****OPEN DOORS*****

GET YOUR GED FREE

**FREE GED classes
available in Franklin, GA
West Ga Tech Bldg.
13107 GA Highway 34 East
Morning & Evening Classes**

**Call 706-675-0095
or 706-756-4587
for information⁸**

GET STARTED TODAY!

Heard County Community Partnership, Inc.

P.O. Box 92
Franklin, GA 30217
Email: kck@heardccp.org ~ Phone: 706.302.9776



Partnership Meetings Held The 2nd Wednesday of Every Month
City of Franklin Community Center Meeting Room Franklin, Georgia
Public Invited To Attend. Contact Us To Be Placed On Email Invitation List



*The University of Georgia
Small Business Development Center
& The Greater Columbus Georgia Chamber of Commerce
invites you to the*

5th Annual Professional Women's Luncheon

October 14, 2010

Location: Cunningham Center

3100 Gentian Blvd., Columbus, GA 31907

Reserve your seat today!

Call 706-569-2651 or visit www.georgiasbdc.org



Lipstick Lessons – Rules of the Game

LUNCHEON PROGRAM:

11:00 am - 1:00 pm \$40.00 per person

Featuring:

Jane Nichols, President and CEO of Goodwill Industries of the Southern Rivers

From Poverty to Professional: helping women overcome barriers and reach their full potential

Keynote Speaker:

Monica Cornetti, renowned author, speaker, trainer and entrepreneur

Lipstick Lessons: Rules of the Game

Somewhere along the way a man came up with yet another sports analogy and started calling success a game. And like any game there are rules for playing the game. In most situations, the rules for success are different for men and women, says renowned author, speaker and trainer **Monica Cornetti**, who will provide straight forward **Lipstick Lessons** that empower women to make their own choices and bend or even break the rules where necessary on their journey to success.

****Interested in showcasing your business? Exhibitor tables are available during the luncheon!*****

There's More!

Target Your Sweet Spot Workshop

1:30 pm - 4:00 pm \$50.00 per person

You will not want to miss this dynamic marketing workshop by one of America's premier small business experts, **Monica Cornetti**! Are you currently:

- Trying to jazz up your company's marketing efforts?
 - Struggling to brand your business?
 - Experiencing stagnant or declining sales?
 - Working to stand out in a sea of competitors?



If you answered YES to any of the questions above, then this workshop is for you! "Target Your Sweet Spot" provides an overview of marketing strategies for business owners in today's tough business environment.

For reservations, call 706-569-2651 or you can register on-line at www.georgiasbdc.org

The Small Business Development Center is funded by the University of Georgia and the U. S. Small Business Administration. SBA's funding is not an endorsement of any products, opinions, or services. All SBA funded programs are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities can be made if requested in advance by calling (706) 569-2651.

Business Success Luncheon

Generational Impacts on Your Business

presented by
Georgia Power Company

Wednesday, October 20

11:30am—1:00pm

The Burson Center

500 Old Bremen Rd., Carrollton

\$10.00 includes lunch

Registration is required (non-attending registrants will be invoiced)

Call 770-832-2446 or register online at www.westga.edu/~sbdc/

**THE BURSON
CENTER**



**Carroll County
Chamber of Commerce**

Small Business/Entrepreneur Committee



****OPEN DOORS****

GET YOUR GED FREE

**FREE GED classes
available in Franklin, GA
West Ga Tech Bldg.
13107 GA Highway 34 East
Morning & Evening Classes**

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or 706-756-4587
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City of Franklin Community Center Meeting Room Franklin, Georgia**

Trauma Care Amendment In Critical Condition

This is part of a series of surveys about important state constitutional amendments on this year's November ballot in Georgia.

By Gary Reese

(10/5/10) It's more than unfair when someone, or a collective group of government employees, takes a well-intended constitutional amendment and creates a caption for it that reads as follows: "Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to impose a \$10 trauma charge on certain passenger vehicles in this state for the purpose of funding trauma care?"

The result of this, according to an InsiderAdvantage survey conducted last week, is disastrous for those supporting the amendment effort.

Forty-eight percent of all Georgians are against the proposed amendment. Only 26 percent support it, with the rest undecided. In virtually every demographic in the survey, the amendment is being crushed.

For example, for every age group from 30 years old and older, the numbers are nearly two to one against the proposed amendment. Among Republicans, 57 percent oppose. Among the critical independent swing vote, 47 percent oppose. And amazingly, even among Democrats, the measure trails 41 percent to 33 percent, with both African Americans and white voters against it.

For years, a cooperative of business and healthcare organizations has sought to deal with Georgia's disparate and precarious distribution of trauma care centers. But after running TV ads showing a desperate mother concerned over the time it will take for her child to reach a trauma center, the numbers for "Amendment 2" suggest the effort is on life support.

Said Matt Towery of InsiderAdvantage:

"The only way this amendment could pass - given the current political mindset of economic fear and opposition to paying even a dollar more for government - would be for those who are touting the amendment to completely recast their campaign by contrasting the current hidden embedded costs of Georgia's lack of trauma centers with the comparative good deal of paying a simple \$10-a-year fee.

"The best argument for the proposed \$10 fee is to make the point that's it's a bargain in the long run.

"However, the caption that was written for this particular piece of legislation is so negative - with the words "impose" and "trauma charge" appearing in the first sentence - that it may prove impossible to rescue the effort to pass the amendment.

"It might have been more effective to have avoided mass media such as TV ads, and instead to have used household identification and selective direct mail and automated phone calls to give this amendment a chance of passing.

"The groups supporting this put Republican legislators in harm's way, but unintentionally. The legislature creates the language for the full amendment, but the caption, so important in these amendments, is later created by a handful of individuals. In this case, it would take a fortune of money and a complete reversal in strategy for Amendment 2 to have even a prayer of passing. Even female voters, who are the most sympathetic on issues such as this, and many of whom have doubtless seen the TV ad campaign, oppose the amendment 43 percent to 26 percent.

"The need for additional trauma centers in Georgia is well known by civic leaders, but unless something drastic takes place with four weeks to go, Amendment 2 may well be the biggest failure of this election season," Towery said.

He added that from his experience in working on amendments and ballot referendums that it is critical to have the ballot language phrased in the most positive manner possible. "I'm sure these groups will mount a valiant effort, but they are fighting language that puts their effort on the critical care list," he said.



VOTEforBUSINESS

A Project of the US Chamber of Commerce

U. S. Chamber continues it's VOTEforBUSINESS Campaign

Voter resources available online
at www.voteforbusiness.com

Vote for Business
daily escape

50 Giveaways in 50 Days
– Honoring 50 States.



As we look toward Election Day, November 2, 2010, the business community will play a critical role in engaging citizens from across the country in the legislative and political process.

Eight years ago, the U.S. Chamber launched VoteForBusiness (VFB) – the Chamber's advocacy program aimed at equipping the business community with the tools necessary to inform voters during the election season.

Since then, the U.S. Chamber's grassroots network has grown into a formidable force said to "rival those of the major political parties" and "to be a major force on the issues and elections it focuses on each year."

As we launch the largest election effort in our nearly 100 year history, we need to make sure the pro-business vote is present at the ballot box this November, and in doing so, make it our most successful effort to date.

Following one of the toughest legislative landscapes in recent history – and one of the harshest economic environments to date, the 2010 midterm elections are our chance to weigh in and support American jobs and recovery. If legislation will hurt jobs, we'll find officials who will protect them.

Whether you're an [individual](#), [employer](#) or [chamber or association](#), we have the tools you need to help turn out the business vote this November.

Please e-mail yfb@uschamber.com for more information.

We appreciate your efforts this election season.

Sincerely,

Bill Miller
Senior Vice President & National Political Director
U.S. Chamber of Commerce



Candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General to Participate in Conference Calls

The Georgia Chamber will host three (3) conference calls with candidates in the state's top November races throughout the next few weeks.

Don't miss the chance to hear from the candidates themselves on issues that impact the business community! Each candidate will speak and answer questions during specific time slots.

Wednesday, October 13: Gubernatorial Candidates

3:00 - 3:30 p.m. Roy Barnes

3:30 - 4:00 p.m. Nathan Deal

Wednesday, October 20: Attorney General Candidates

2:30 - 3:00 p.m. Ken Hodges

3:00 - 3:30 p.m. Sam Olens

Friday, October 22: Lieutenant Governor Candidates

10:00 - 10:30 a.m. Carol Porter

10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Casey Cagle

How to RSVP: Send your name, e-mail, and **which call(s) you will participate in** to Sally Clark at govtaffairs@gachamber.com. *You must register to participate in the conference calls.*

Dial-in information will be provided to participants closer to the date of the call. Contact Sally Clark at 404.223.2491 with questions about the candidate conference calls.

Growth by Association!



- **Business Promotion** through networking, automatic direct referrals, newcomer guides and website listings, newspaper 'spotlight' ads provided by Chamber, Local Links promotion
- **On Staff Marketing Specialist** to assist you in marketing your business.
- **Group Health Insurance** at low costs designed for small businesses
- **Workers Comp Discounts** as a certified **DRUGS DON'T WORK** business
- **Business News** from our quarterly newsletter, '*Chamber Focus*'
- **Legislative Updates** on issues affecting your business and community
- **Leadership Development** for your employees through *Leadership Heard*
- **Small Business Outreach** providing new and expanding business and entrepreneur programs in co-op with SBDC
- **Action Committees** to become involved in community issues and opportunities

Invest in the Future of Your Business
By Investing In Your Community!
Join The Chamber!

Heard County Chamber of Commerce, Inc.
121 South Court Square P.O. Box 368
Franklin, Georgia 30217
Tel: 706.675.0560

Investment Levels And Application

___ Millennium Club	\$2,500.00
___ Diamond	\$1,750.00
___ Platinum	\$1,250.00
___ Gold	\$600.00
___ Silver	\$300.00
___ Bronze	\$150.00
___ Patron	\$75.00

Business Name

Contact Person

Title

Address

City, ST and Zip

Telephone

Fax:

Email (Our preferred method to communicate with you)

Number of Full Time Employees

Part Time

Website

Type of Business / Categories

Please review our website and tell us what categories you wish to be included in. You may choose all that apply.

Please provide on a separate sheet up to 50 words of information or advertising about your business that we may include on the Chamber website.

Please email us your company logo and promotional materials.

Thank you for your investment in Heard County!

Signature

Date

LOVE LOUD FREE YARD SALE

Saturday, October 16th from 11 am-2 pm

Donations are being accepted NOW at all churches!

DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Mtn. View Baptist Church

1928 Highpoint Rd.; Bowdon

Rev. Scott Estes

770-550-6532 or 770-258-3028

www.mtviewbc.org

Email: scott.estes@carrollcountyschools.com

Bethesda Baptist Church

1539 Bethesda Church Rd.; Carrollton

Rev. Carlton Rivers

770-854-8532

www.bbchurch.net

Email: preacher@bbchurch.net

Smyrna Baptist Church

81 County Rd. 421; Newell, AL

Rev. Keith Rivers

256-363-2236

Email: kriverspreacher@gmail.com

Discovery Church

1831 Carrollton-Villa Rica Hwy,

Villa Rica-- Rev. Alan Trippe

404-583-6337

www.thediscoverychurch.org

Email: alan@thediscoverychurch.org

Centralhatchee Elementary School

Centralhatchee Baptist Church & Glenloch Baptist Church

Rev. Mark Williams

770 854-4724

Email: revdmarkwilliams@aol.com

Rev. Neil Awbrey

770-854-5346

www.glenlochbaptist.org

Email: Neilawbrey@yahoo.com

EXTRA Giveaways!!!

For Utilities giveaways, please bring a copy of your power/gas bill to qualify.

\$1000 in Groceries and Utilities

Bethesda Baptist Church
Mountain View Baptist Church
Smyrna Baptist Church

\$1,000 in Groceries, Walmart Gift Cards

Centralhatchee Elementary School Location

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

Comparative Net Revenue Collections

(unaudited - 000's)

	For the Month Ended		\$ Change	% Change
	September 2009 (FY 2010)	September 2010 (FY 2011)		
Tax Revenues:				
Income Tax - Individual:	\$ 750,642	\$ 796,165	\$ 45,523	6.1%
Sales and Use Tax - General: (Footnote 1)				
Sales and Use Tax - Gross	\$ 754,787	\$ 797,887	\$ 43,100	5.7%
Local Sales Tax Distribution	\$ (400,571)	\$ (376,973)	\$ 23,598	5.9%
Sales Tax Refunds/Adjustments	\$ (8,429)	\$ (4,348)	\$ 4,081	48.4%
Net Sales and Use Tax - General	\$ 345,787	\$ 416,566	\$ 70,779	20.5%
Motor Fuel Taxes:				
Pre Paid Motor Fuel Sales Tax	\$ 32,138	\$ 42,512	\$ 10,374	32.3%
Motor Fuel Excise Tax	\$ 38,990	\$ 40,118	\$ 1,128	2.9%
Total Motor Fuel Taxes	\$ 71,128	\$ 82,630	\$ 11,502	16.2%
Income Tax - Corporate	\$ 139,892	\$ 108,452	\$ (31,440)	-22.5%
Tobacco Taxes	\$ 18,492	\$ 19,184	\$ 692	3.7%
Alcohol Beverages Tax	\$ 13,370	\$ 13,724	\$ 354	2.6%
Estate Tax	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Property Tax	\$ 5,154	\$ 1,784	\$ (3,370)	-65.4%
Motor Vehicle - Tag, Title & Fees (Footnote 2)	\$ 23,749	\$ 25,842	\$ 2,093	8.8%
Total Tax Revenues	\$ 1,368,214	\$ 1,464,347	\$ 96,133	7.0%
Other Revenues:				
Other Fees and Sales (Footnote 3)	\$ 3,742	\$ (14,522)	\$ (18,264)	-488.1%
Total Taxes/Other Revenues	\$ 1,371,956	\$ 1,449,825	\$ 77,869	5.7%

	Year-to-date		\$ Change	% Change
	FY 2010	FY 2011		
GENERAL FUND				
Tax Revenues:				
Income Tax - Individual	\$ 1,778,607	\$ 1,964,831	\$ 186,224	10.5%
Sales and Use Tax - General: (Footnote 1)				
Sales and Use Tax - Gross	\$ 2,326,020	\$ 2,418,479	\$ 92,459	4.0%
Local Sales Tax Distribution	\$ (1,113,762)	\$ (1,111,047)	\$ 2,715	0.2%
Sales Tax Refunds/Adjustments	\$ (19,363)	\$ (13,421)	\$ 5,942	30.7%
Net Sales and Use Tax - General	\$ 1,192,895	\$ 1,294,011	\$ 101,116	8.5%
Motor Fuel Taxes:				
Pre Paid Motor Fuel Sales Tax	\$ 88,166	\$ 124,031	\$ 35,865	40.7%
Motor Fuel Excise Tax	\$ 113,982	\$ 120,406	\$ 6,424	5.6%
Total Motor Fuel Taxes	\$ 202,148	\$ 244,437	\$ 42,289	20.9%
Income Tax - Corporate	\$ 170,916	\$ 117,950	\$ (52,966)	-31.0%
Tobacco Taxes	\$ 47,655	\$ 47,178	\$ (477)	-1.0%
Alcohol Beverages Tax	\$ 44,043	\$ 43,519	\$ (524)	-1.2%
Estate Tax	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Property Tax	\$ 9,015	\$ 4,132	\$ (4,883)	-54.2%
Motor Vehicle - Tag, Title & Fees (Footnote 2)	\$ 70,261	\$ 76,644	\$ 6,383	9.1%
Total Tax Revenues	\$ 3,515,540	\$ 3,792,702	\$ 277,162	7.9%
Other Revenues:				
Other Fees and Sales (Footnote 3)	\$ 5,120	\$ (9,768)	\$ (14,888)	-290.8%
Total Taxes/Other Revenues	\$ 3,520,660	\$ 3,782,934	\$ 262,274	7.4%

Footnotes:

1. As of FY2009, the local sales tax distribution changed to reflect exact cash distributions for the current month based upon total sales tax collections.
2. The Motor Vehicle Division began collecting Auto Sales Tax funds in January 2006. An adjustment was made to reclassify Sales Tax collections from Motor Vehicle to Other Fees and Sales, to reflect the transaction in September FY2011. Revenue is then reclassified to Sales Tax in the following month.
3. Other Fees and Sales include taxes and fees that have been deposited in the bank, but the returns have not been processed. The undistributed amounts, as processed, are reclassified to the proper accounts. It also includes unclaimed property collections.