

AUGUST 11, 2016 PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Coffee Call – Evercore Insurance. This month's coffee call will be at Evercore Insurance. 7:30-8:30 on August 18, 2016. (Forsyth Street – on the Square)

Ribbon Cutting – Monticello Personal Care Home. Agape Hospice on Eatonton Street is now OPEN. They will receive their first resident on Friday, August 12. I have talked to Julie West and we have set a RIBBON CUTTING/OPEN HOUSE for Thursday, September 1st and Noon.

Mercer Medical Student – 'Windshield Tour'. The annual windshield tour for the Mercer Medical Students is Tuesday, August 16. We will give them a tour of the community at Noon (Pam will be the tour guide) and have lunch for them from 12:30 to 1:30 in the Visitors' Center – Council Room. There are 11 students, one faculty member and the driver. Several people in the community have been invited to come and have lunch with them. We will have a discussion on why we chose to live and work in a small rural community.

Bennett Cove - Pam and Skip met with Mike Benton and Gene Trammell about Bennett Cove. We would like to show support of this event venue/lodge. This is a huge need for us as it is a tourism and agri-tourism related business. We would like to work with the county so we can get the county ordinance updated so they can be approved for business. (Also Danridge Farm, and Ocmulgee Adventures)

Leadership Jasper 2017 Class - Pam has the outline ready to give to Jeff Greeson (chair of the Leadership Class) to critique and add notes to. Once this is done, we will start working on our invitation list.

Deer Festival Update - Applications – 23 have 39 vendors so far this year

Grand Marshals – we have the list of the charter Jaycees

Parade – we have the application ready

Pageant – we have the venue reserved, date set, applications ready

Deer Dash – we have the applications ready and on my desk ready to mail August 15th.

Entertainment – we have the application ready and have received several requests

Costume – this will be ordered when we get the credit card

Dance -

Farmer's Market Update - Our vendor turn out has been slow in July and August because of the heat and drought. We are calling vendors weekly encouraging them to come. The market ends the last week in September.

Social Network/Marketing – Deer Festival best post this month was about our Cheese vendor, it reached 1,000 people, Market on the Square best post this month was about the Food Bank, it reached 918 people, the best post on the Chamber page was a tourism trail that begins/ends here in Monticello and it reached 2,100 people.

Facebook:

Monticello-Jasper County Chamber page has 1,282 LIKES

Deer Festival of Jasper County has 1,853 LIKES

Monticello Market on the Square has 687 LIKES

Website:

Top searched pages are Jackson Lake, Community Calendar, Deer Festival Market on Square, and Seven Islands Road. In 30 days we had 2,767 visits on our website and it came up in searches 112,435 times.

Notes -

Elected Official Collaborative Meeting (waiting to set date)

Dog waste station (approved – waiting on credit card to make purchase)