



Issue 21 | August 2024

THE CHAMBER WAVE

Darien-McIntosh Chamber of Commerce's Monthly Newsletter

President | CEO NOTE

by Kat Hoyt



Happy August and Back to School Season!

We're weathering the hottest season of the year and sending our precious students back to school. Thank you to the incredible teachers, administrators and staff of the McIntosh County Schools for their dedication to our students. They are creating our future and educating the workforce that will continue to grow our community.

We are excited to be entering year two of our McIntosh GROWS program in partnership with the McIntosh County IDA. This program is focused on youth engagement and workforce development. We have programs launched in all three schools including guest reading, Junior Achievement, career exposure presentations and starting this year, a Junior Chamber. As a Chamber we feel workforce development is vital to the success of McIntosh County. If you're interested in participating, please reach out to us!

We're also in preparation mode for two wonderful events happening in September. As election day approaches, we will be hosting a Political Question and Answer Forum for the candidates, this allows them to answer questions submitted by the community in a neutral setting. Stay tuned for more updates! It's almost Marsh Madness time as well! That's right, our beloved Golf Tournament is back for another year. We will have 25 teams competing to see who will reign supreme. Our event partners are set and ready to go including, Coastal Electric, Endeavor Homes, Harris Ace Hardware, Seaboard Real Estate, Darien Telephone, and Spartina Real Estate with Ashley Miles PC. It's going to be a great day of networking and fun so be sure to register early!

We hope you will all join us for Business After Hours on August 15th, hosted by Darien Telephone. They will be completing their "Fill the Truck" school supply drive that night as well. If you would like to contribute, you can bring your donations to Darien Telephone, Southeastern Bank, Knotty's or the Chamber offices. Let's be sure to start our teachers off right with everything they need! Have a blessed month. We're here to support you and want to celebrate your wins!

Bird

OF THE MONTH



Yellow-rumped warblers

The yellow-rumped warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) is a common winter bird in Georgia, arriving in late October from its summer nesting grounds in Canada and Alaska. They are often seen in large flocks, particularly along the coast, and can be identified by the yellow patches on their sides and the base of their tail. In winter, they are paler brown with bright yellow rumps and sometimes yellow on their sides.

JULY CHAMBER EVENTS



Coffee & Connect at Southern Edge Apparel, HEIC



Happy Birthday and Farewell to the incredible Cindy Irwin



RIVERS July Business of the Month - Knotty's at Shellman Bluff



Meeting with Bulloch County Industrial Development, McIntosh IDA and Chamber to discuss Workforce development

JULY CHAMBER EVENTS

Savannah Film Alliance Meeting
- Coastal Entertainment Alliance Mixer



GACCE Leadership Conference - pictured Morgan Law from GA Chamber



Latitude North Ribbon Cutting

MCINTOSH GROWS

In partnership with the Darien–McIntosh County Chamber of Commerce and the McIntosh County Industrial Development Authority, McIntosh GROWS is dedicated to supporting and enhancing educational experiences for students at all levels, from elementary through high school. The program focuses on empowering youth through a variety of initiatives designed to foster personal growth, academic success, and community involvement.

Objectives:

Empowerment: Equip students with the skills and confidence to take active roles in their education and community.

Skill Development: Provide targeted training and resources to develop essential skills in communication, leadership, and problem–solving.

Educational Support: Enhance learning experiences through additional resources and connections with community leaders and business owners.

Community Engagement: Encourage students to participate in community service and local projects, building a stronger connection to their surroundings.

Activities:

Elementary School Programs: Includes guest reader sessions where community members and local leaders visit classrooms to read to students, share their experiences, and discuss the importance of literacy. These sessions aim to inspire a love of reading and provide diverse role models.

Middle School Programs and Competitions:

Academic Competitions: Host or participate in competitions such as Invention Creation, Civics Bee and more to foster academic excellence and enthusiasm.

Guest Speakers: Facilitate guest speakers to align with the current curriculum to enrich the students' knowledge and create real life connections.

Community Service Projects: Organize opportunities for students to engage in community service, enhancing their connection to local issues and needs.

High School Initiatives:

Career Exposure Programs: Provide students with opportunities to explore various careers through job shadowing, internships, and guest speaker events. These programs help students understand different career paths and make informed decisions about their futures.

Junior Chamber:

Establish a Junior Chamber that allows high school students to engage in leadership activities, community service, and networking opportunities. This program fosters civic responsibility and leadership skills.

Partnerships for Workforce Development: The Darien McIntosh County Chamber of Commerce and the Industrial Development Authority collaborate with the McIntosh GROWS committee and local schools to develop programs and initiatives that encourage a strong and informed future workforce. This partnership ensures that students gain relevant skills and experiences aligned with local industry needs.



Expected Outcomes:

- Increased student engagement and achievement across all educational levels.
- Enhanced literacy and a greater appreciation for reading among elementary students.
- Improved academic performance and skill development among middle school students through competitions and targeted programs.
- Greater career awareness and preparation for high school students through exposure programs and leadership opportunities.
- A well-prepared future workforce, thanks to strong partnerships between local organizations and schools.
-

Want to be engaged with this program? Contact Kat Hoyt at khoyt@mcintoshchamber.com or 912-580-0233

BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



You can nominate a local business to be next month's winner by clicking on the nomination form on the front page of our website DarienMcIntoshChamber.com

NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS

[Sapelo Straw Co LLC](#)

[Sand Gnat Golf Carts](#)



JOB POSTINGS



TRUCK DRIVER/WAREHOUSE WORKER

SEASONAL PARKS MAINTENANCE WORKER

MATERIAL HANDLER

STAKING APPRENTICE

GOLF COURSE - ALL POSITIONS

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

FRONT DESK POSITION

PAINT & BODY TECHNICIAN \$25-\$35 PER HOUR

YARD INVENTORY SPECIALIST \$20-\$24

WELDER \$22-\$28 AN HOUR

PRE-DELIVERY INSPECTION SPECIALIST

HEAVY EQUIPMENT DIESEL MECHANIC

MAINTENANCE FELLOWSHIP

TEACHER

TEACHER AIDE

JULY CHAMBER SOCIAL WAVE

Discover Darien & the Chamber



FACEBOOK REACH

186,669

FACEBOOK PAGE VISITS

3,670

NEW FACEBOOK PAGE LIKES

201



INSTAGRAM REACH

2,335

INSTAGRAM PROFILE VISITS

97

NEW INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

17



DARIEN-MCINTOSH
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE