

Chamber Connection

Your source for business news and local happenings in Pierce!

In This Issue

Upcoming events

Member of the Month: Southern Grounds

Meet Vicki Knapp

Ribbon cuttings

Director's Note

Member survey



Stuart Forrester (right) explains the mineral separation process at Chemours (Southern Ionics) sand filtration plant in Offerman. - *The Blackshear Times photo*

Chemours announces apprenticeship prog.

Chemours GA Mining and Minerals Operations, operating as Southern Ionics Minerals in Nahunta, Offerman and Jesup, is recruiting now for its "New Miner Apprentice Program." Apprentices will train at the Offerman Plant.

The program will include paid training at \$17/hr - no experience required; opportunity to learn new skills; 3-month diverse training in mining and mineral processing. Successful completion of the apprentice program provides opportunity to extend apprentice training up to one year or to apply for operator positions, to include full benefits, subject to availability.

For more information, or to apply online, visit www.chemours.com/careers.

Pierce County Chamber of Commerce

912-449-7044 || 912-816-6209

piercechamberofcommerce@gmail.com

200 SW Central Ave. | PO Box 47 Blackshear, GA 31516

pcgeorgia.com





Spark! Places of Innovation series

The Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street (MoMS) wants your stories of innovation and invention for a new exhibition called Spark! Places of Innovation. Does your business have an interesting story to tell about environmental sustainability, economic revitalization, artistic energy, education, community transformation, historical preservation, technological invention, entrepreneurship, or reinvention? Spark! Places of Innovation will rely on stories gathered from rural communities across the nation - perhaps including yours! Find out more about this exciting opportunity [here](#). Story applications are due July 16th!

#SmallTownSpark

Our Members Matter

Pierce County Chamber of Commerce and Waycross-Ware County Chamber of Commerce value all of our members, including individual members who believe in the Chamber's mission and work hard to promote business and community collaboration. Mr. Charles Eames is one of those members. He is a member and faithful supporter of *both* Chambers, and has a unique connection to PC Chamber Director Sarah Gove and Waycross-Ware County Director Paige Taylor through his years of hosting children's story time with the local libraries. #weloveourmembers



UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 2021 CALENDAR

There are lots of activity in Pierce County this summer! From ribbon cuttings, to festivals, farmers markets and educational opportunities, you won't want to miss out!



FIREWORKS AT EMMANUEL BC

Emmanuel Baptist Church, located at 217 W. Carter Ave, will host a community fireworks show at dusk Sunday, July 4. The display will last 20-25 minutes.



NAVAL MUSEUM GRAND OPENING

Laura S. Walker State Park, located at 5653 Laura Walker Rd. Waycross, will hold a grand opening of the Naval Stores Museum from 8:30 a.m. - noon, Saturday, July 10, featuring chip and tap demonstrations.



PATTERSON FARMER'S MARKET

Eagle Station in Patterson is hosting a Farmer's Market from 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. every Tuesday and from 8:30 a.m. - noon every Wednesday.



NO COST
\$99 Value*

FINANCIAL FUNDAMENTALS FOR BUSINESS OWNERS

IMPROVE YOUR FINANCIAL DECISION MAKING!

This program is designed to educate business owners on the importance of good financial data and how to use that financial data for both tactical and strategic decision making. You will also gain a better understanding of how banks/lenders evaluate their businesses and capital requests.

COURSE OUTLINE:

- Accounting and Record Keeping Basics
- Understanding Financial Statements
- Analyzing Financial Statements
- Improving Cash Flow and Increasing Profits

- Establishing Financial Controls
- Forecasting
- Becoming Bank Ready and Financing Options

WEBINAR PART 1

July 12, 2021
9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

WEBINAR PART 2

July 14, 2021
9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

PROVIDED THROUGH THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF:



COASTAL AREA DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, INC.

REGISTER TODAY:
ugasbdc.training/bru/FinFund_CADD

For more information contact:
brunswick@georgiasbdc.org or (912) 264-7343

*The UGA SBDC is licensed through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Financial assistance for services with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance by contacting Sarah Phillips at brunswick@georgiasbdc.org or calling (912) 264-7343.

FREE BUSINESS FINANCIAL FUNDAMENTALS WEBINAR!

The Small Business Development Center is offering small business owners an opportunity to attend the Financial Fundamentals for Business Owners webinar at no-cost! Do you know how to make good tactical and strategic decisions for your small business? Learn how by joining the SBDC for a two-part no cost webinar on Financial Fundamentals for Business Owners. Register [here](https://ugasbdc.training/bru/FinFund_CADD).

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RELIABLE ROLL OFF RIBBON CUTTING

Reliable Rolloff, located at 3072 Rawhide Road in the Industrial Park, will hold a ribbon cutting at 11 a.m. Monday, July 19.



CHRISTMAS IN JULY FESTIVAL

Christmas in July will be held 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday, July 24, at Eagle Station in Patterson (3507 Williams Street). Come enjoy live music, antique cars, lots of vendors, good food, farmer's market and more!



CHRISTI'S DOWNSOUTH RIBBON CUTTING

Christi's Downsouth Living, located at 3437 Hwy. 84 in Blackshear, will hold a ribbon cutting at 4 p.m. Tuesday, July 27.



NO COST
See Value!

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Member of the Month: Southern Grounds Coffee House

Southern Grounds, owned by Annie and Clinton Banks, has been open since January 2021. They are located at 3525 Hwy. 84 (in Wall's Plaza), and have eight employees.

Southern Grounds is proud to support law enforcement. They offer all police officers a 20 percent discount.

"We offer the best coffee and chicken salad in town, and we strive to always give our customers the absolute best service and quality." - Annie Banks

Nominate someone for Member of the Month [here](#).

Meet Vicki Knapp

Vicki is the vice president and a former president of the Pierce County Chamber of Commerce. Vicki has served on the Chamber board for five years and been a Chamber member since 2011. She is the owner of The Sewing Bee, a children's boutique and embroidery service on Main Street.

Her favorite thing about Pierce County: The small town charm. Everyone is so friendly, helpful and welcoming which reminds me of the small town in Illinois where I lived when I was young.

A fun fact about Vicki: I can't relax on vacation. I last about two days and then I'm ready to get back in my usual routine!

Favorite Chamber event: The annual Chamber Gala when we honor local citizens for their outstanding contributions to this community.

Why do you serve on the Board? Being a board member gives me the opportunity to give back to this community. It's important that we do all we can to lift our community as a whole and I want to lend a hand in helping our community grow. As an ambassador for Pierce County, it gives me great pleasure to give back to the community. The Chamber plays a significant leadership role in the community, and serves as a community champion and advocate for businesses. I take the responsibility seriously and put forth my best effort.



Welcome to Pierce!

The Chamber of Commerce hosted four ribbon cuttings in June



We celebrated ...

[Sno Biz of Blackshear](#)

[Trackside Emporium](#)

[Everything's Glam](#)

[Carbaugh Coffee Company](#)



Director's Note

By Sarah Gove



It's been an exciting and busy month here at the Pierce County Chamber of Commerce. We welcomed several new businesses to town in June and have plans to welcome several more with ribbon cuttings and grand openings in July.

One of the primary issues I hear about from businesses these days is their need for employees and struggles with employee retention. We've now partnered with the City of Waycross to host a job fair 9 a.m. - noon, August 11, at the C.C. McCray City Auditorium in hopes of helping our members connect with potential employees! Email me at piercechamberofcommerce@gmail.com or give me a call at 912-816-6209 for more information on how to register for this FREE event.

