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Recognizing the state's top leadership

JANUARY 2022

40 Under 40

Recognizing the Best and Brightest future leadership around the state

OCTOBER 2022

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- Poster display at ceremony
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SILVER SPONSOR:

- Two seats at Awards Ceremony
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To confirm your sponsorship contact Amanda Patterson, 770.558.8701 or patterson@georgiatrend.com

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For more information, contact Amanda Patterson, 770.558.8701 or patterson@georgiatrend.com

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Albany Diversity EDC Names Jana Winkler Dye New President & CEO
 Jana Winkler Dye, CEO of Albany Diversity Economic Development Commission has been named as the new president and CEO of the public-private partnership. Dye, a Georgia Certified Economic Developer, has been leading economic development initiatives for the Wisconsin County Development Authority in southeast Georgia since 2017. Previous positions include director of Marketing and Development at Sylvester, a leader for Best Living Healthy Alternatives in Valdosta, and various roles with the Wilkes County Chamber of Commerce and Civic Chamber of Commerce, both in Florida. She started her career in economic development over twenty years ago as vice president of the Lee County Chamber of Commerce and Development Authority in Leesburg, Georgia. A graduate of Columbus Southern University, Dye currently serves as Georgia state director of the Southern Economic Development Council. Dye is also a member of the Georgia Economic Developers Association, member of the Leadership Georgia since 2020, and a member of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce. She is currently serving as a member of the Wilkes County Chamber of Commerce in southwest Georgia.

Christie Moore Selected to Serve as President & CEO Valdosta, Georgia
 Christie Moore, an experienced and proven non-profit professional, has been selected to serve as president and chief executive officer of the Valdosta Leadership Chamber of Commerce beginning in January 2021. Currently Moore serves as president and chief executive officer of the Wilkes County Chamber of Commerce in southwest Georgia. She is also a member of the Northwest Georgia Health System Advisory Council. She is a board member for the Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives and a member of the Rotary Club of Dawson County.

More to a graduate of the US Chamber's Institute of Organization Management and a Georgia Certified Chamber Executive. Other distinguished honors include Leadership Georgia, 2018 Miller Leadership Institute, Leadership Division and the Georgia Academy of Economic Development.

Moore is chair of the 2018 Miller Leadership Institute Advisory Board as well as the Northwest Georgia Health System Advisory Council. She is a board member for the Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives and a member of the Rotary Club of Dawson County.

Leadership Spotlight

A Conversation about Life and Business in the Golden Isles with **Ben Hartman**

Ben Hartman is a partner at CBH InterBusiness and currently serving as the 2020-2021 Chairman of the Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce. Ben can be reached at 912.282.2086 or benhartman@cbhinterbusiness.com

Tell us a little about yourself.

After growing up in Eastwood and attending Furman University and the University of Georgia School of Law, I moved to the Golden Isles with my wife, Leslie. My parents and grandparents were from here. The Laguna Club in Brunswick and Mar's Tug Store on St. Simons were family businesses. Leslie is the executive director for Gold Harbor Children's Center and I am a partner at InterBusiness's St. Simons office where I focus on estates & trusts and corporate law. Practicing law provides me the opportunity to build relationships and help individuals and families achieve their goals. It is a gift to work with multiple generations, and many of my clients are successful entrepreneurs who like great music.

The musicians faced multiple challenges during your term as Chairman of the Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce.

Initially, beyond the pandemic, we had other crises: a ship in our harbor and the tragic murder of Michael Johnson. The day the video went viral, local and business leaders all were gathered in my office. That group worked together and used their relationships to rally the community and help generate funding. These relationships often yield positive outcomes. Georgia signed a State Crime Bill championed by Don Hagan, the Citizen's Arrest Law has been repealed, and a morally and financially sound group of justice funds regular meetings to collaborate on community issues. Military General Chris Curt has been a strong and consistent presence in the efforts to see that justice is served. We are committed to not letting another tragedy occur.

What accomplishments from 2020 make you most proud?

We launched the Chamber's Resilience, with a focus to increase minority participation in Leadership Ghana. The business community exceeded our fundraising goal, providing overvaluing support for the long preservation of minority leadership.

The Chamber and the City of Coastal Georgia partnered to create 1000 Bricks for the benefit of the City of Brunswick and the County. The effort has enhanced the opportunity to dialogue and build relationships. Building down side and reimagining collaboration events that the Golden Isles has been our effort.

Chamber members benefited our support during 2020, affirming the value of our programming and work. I am proud that the Chamber is a source for information relating to PPP, grants, regulations, and help to support local business.

What are the best things about living and working in the Golden Isles?

The Golden Isles offers a small town feel with the amenities and business sophistication of a larger city. Whether it's the vibrant community, or the golf course, or at their child's kindergarten under the stars at Mulberry Park, teachers, entrepreneurs, and industry leaders are finding that they can't leave. From my perspective, it's the ability to be a part of the community and the ability of the long-held traditions, which are the heart of the world we live in. The beautiful beaches, light filled beaches, miles of scenic bike paths, and some of the world's best golf courses, but it is the people that make the Golden Isles a truly special place to live, work, and play.

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Georgia Ports: Brunswick Docks Open to Fanfare 60 Years Ago

It was a powerful statement. "I feel that we have a dual mission in operating our ports. One is to maintain Georgia's lead in out-pulling other Southeastern ports," Georgia Gov. Ernest Vandiver said on Aug. 25, 1960. "The second, and equally important, is to regain a great bulk of the markets lost to other countries. ... The door is there, inviting and profitable, but it has not been pushed wide open."

Vandiver made those remarks while he was in Brunswick for the dedication of the new \$2 million Georgia Ports Authority Docks — an important step in the ongoing planning and development that has helped keep the trade door open for the state since then. Vandiver's vision was clear. He cited the impact of the Georgia ports on every county in the state, and added that the ports are "powerfully and smoothly spreading the transition to a healthy, well-balanced economy."

Besides its new 500-foot docks, the GPA positioned a new transit shed, warehouse, railroad tracks and secure cranes, along with supporting facilities and cargo handling equipment, on a 30-acre tract that was decided to the state by the city of Brunswick and Glynn County. To illuminate all this, the state put together a two-day celebration.

The guest list was lengthy. The Savannah delegation included Mayor Malcolm Mackain and state representatives Frank S. Cheatham and Norman McGee. The Brunswick delegation was headed by Mayor Millard Copeland and Glynn County Commission Chairman James D. Gould. Hundreds of others made an appearance, including leaders in government, commerce, transportation and industry, and high-ranking US military officers.

The menu was likewise expensive. Dinner at the Cloister the night before. Breakfast at the King and Prince that morning. And, to cap it off, a "delightful" shipside luncheon that afternoon for some 1,500 people.

Amid the ceremonies, the US Liner freighter Southstar was tied up at the GPA docks, taking on 1,100 bales of chemical cellulose from the Rayonier plant at Jesup, and 700 tons of resin from the Hercules plant at Brunswick.

The overall theme for this new era, Vandiver emphasized, was "seaports ... ships ... soil ... and smokestacks." Speaking specifically about Glynn County, the governor added that "the Southeast is trailing your shipping surge ... and the world is waiting for more of mankind's goods sailing out from this estuarine harbor."

Sources: Savannah Morning News articles of Aug. 7, 1959; Aug. 25, 1960; and Aug. 26, 1960; New Georgia Encyclopedia.

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