



April 13, 2020

Governor Kemp to Hold Press Conference at 4 p.m. Today

At the Georgia State Capitol, Governor Kemp, Georgia Department of Public Health Commissioner Dr. Kathleen Toomey, Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency Director Homer Bryson, and Georgia National Guard Adjutant General Tom Carden will give a briefing on COVID-19 today at 4 p.m. The briefing will be live-streamed at facebook.com/GovKemp and gpb.org/coronavirus.

HAPPENINGS

[Congressman Buddy Carter Hosting Tele-Town Hall Tonight at 5:40 p.m.](#)



U.S. Representative Buddy Carter will be hosting a telephone town hall tonight to provide updates and answer questions about COVID-19 at approximately 5:40 p.m. [If you live in the First District, sign up to join the call here.](#)

Senator Loeffler's Office Provides Guidance on Federal Actions



Senator Kelly Loeffler would like to share the below updates on federal efforts that may be helpful to Georgia businesses and families:

- The IRS is urging all taxpayers to file their 2019 taxes electronically, as the IRS is practicing social distancing and is not processing paper tax returns or refunds. You can read more about their recommendations [here](#).
- The IRS has released [a web tool](#) for those who do not normally file a tax return to receive their Economic Impact Payment, provided by the CARES Act (reminder: Social Security beneficiaries do not have to file a tax return to get their Economic Impact Payment!) You can learn more about who should use this tool [here](#).
- The CARES Act allows employers to delay payment of their share social security taxes and those who are self-employed to delay payment of certain taxes. The IRS released a FAQ, [available here](#), to help employers navigate this relief.

As a businesswoman who has signed the front of a paycheck as well as the back, Sen. Loeffler says she knows the challenge uncertainty brings to any business and will do everything she can to help Georgia's small businesses and employees across the state during this COVID-19 pandemic.

Loeffler's Senate office is here to help you during this challenging time. If you have questions or suggestions about the federal response to COVID-19, do not hesitate to contact Senator Loeffler's office at (770) 661-0999, or at this email: CARESact@loeffler.senate.gov.

[Join the SBDC for an Emergency Loan Program Overview and Q&A Webinar Tomorrow at 11 a.m.](#)



In case you missed the first one, there's a second opportunity to join Valerie McElveen, area director of the University of Georgia SBDC at Georgia Southern University in partnership with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and the Georgia Department of Economic Development. On this webinar, you'll learn about the disaster loan programs most relevant for the Georgia small business owner, including "SBA Guaranteed Loan" Relief, the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), EIDL Advance and Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).

Join the Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/997960526>

Call-in Info: (646) 876-9923

Meeting ID: 997 960 526

Contact the UGA SBDC with questions at (912) 651-3200 or Savannah@GeorgiaSBDC.org

Mobile Food Pantry Event for Hospitality and Tourism Workers to be Held April 16



The Chamber, TLC, City of Savannah and others are partnering with America's Second Harvest for a mobile food pantry event next Thursday, April 16 from 9 a.m. until all food is distributed. The mobile food pantry event on River Street will benefit current and recently unemployed hospitality and tourism workers. The entry point will be at Bay and Warner Streets.

Date: Thursday, April 16

Time: 9 a.m. until all food is distributed

Location: Bay and Warner Streets in downtown Savannah

Good News



There's a lot going on in the world right now, but there are plenty of reasons to be positive about the future. Check out these good news stories:

- Spartina 449 [donating 20% of your purchase to another local retailer of your choice](#) April 13-30
- Savannah church [hosts drive-through Easter service](#)
- Savannah Chinese Heritage Group [purchases and donates 3,000 facemasks](#) to law enforcement
- [Downtown restaurant giving away free pizza lunches](#) for tips
- [Trinity Lutheran finds multiple ways to help](#) Savannah's homeless community members
- [Neighbors safely celebrate boy's 7th birthday](#) with parade
- Meals to Medical [feeds frontline healthcare workers](#) at all three Savannah hospitals
- Savannah Music Festival [takes music education programs online for local students](#)
- [Savannah church offers thank-you lunch](#) to first responders
- [Tybee Island bar owner's removal of cash from walls](#) to donate to frontline staff goes viral
- [Georgia hospitals to receive nearly \\$800 million in aid](#) to fight COVID-19
- Health Connect South [launches online portal to facilitate COVID-19 donations](#) to Southeast-based organizations
- [Georgia textile firms join forces and pivot operations](#) to produce personal protective equipment

Do you have any positive local stories to share? Send them to Info@SavannahChamber.com with the subject "Positive Stories" and we may choose yours to share with the community!

[Guidance and Resources](#)



We will update and add to the links below as new guidance and resources become available. Click here to visit the Chamber's resource page.

- [Coronavirus Digital Toolkit](#)
- [Coronavirus Guidance for Employers](#)
- [Coronavirus Workplace Tips for Employees](#)
- [Coronavirus Resource Hub for Small Businesses](#)
- [Coronavirus Local/State Policy Tracker](#)
- [Coronavirus Workplace Flyer](#)
- Dial 311 for City of Savannah information
- Dial 211 for help from the United Way of the Coastal Empire
- Dial 1-800-Georgia (436-7442) for State of Georgia information

For more info, please visit the [CDC's Guidance for Businesses page](#).

The Savannah Area Chamber is working hard to provide timely access to business resource information during the COVID-19 pandemic. The interpretation and recommendations of the information provided by the Chamber should not replace the consult of professional advisors familiar with your unique business situation. While it is believed that the content of external links is accurate and reliable, accuracy and completeness of information contained herein is not guaranteed. Users of this information accept all risks associated with the use of such information and agree that the Savannah Area Chamber has no liability to the user.



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