

# The Savannah Area Chamber News



Rusty Ross  
2019 Chairman

April 15, 2019

## EVENTS

### [Coffee Chats at the Catholic Diocese | May 7](#)

Wake up and smell the coffee! At this first-thing-in-the-morning networking opportunity, participants will begin with 30 minutes of open networking, then spend 30 minutes listening to each attendee share a 10-15 second "elevator pitch" about who they are and what they do. After everyone has spoken, the group will spend another 30 minutes meeting and greeting their new acquaintances.

### [Savannah's Salute: Annual Military Appreciation Luncheon | May 15](#)

The Savannah Area Chamber's Military Affairs Council is proud to honor local service members at its annual Military Appreciation Luncheon Wednesday, May 15 from noon-1:30 p.m. at the Savannah Convention Center. We are also honored to receive remarks from Hunter Army Airfield Garrison Commander and Silver Star recipient Lieutenant Colonel Ken Dwyer. This will be one of LTC Dwyer's final addresses as Garrison Commander before bidding Savannah farewell.

### [18th Annual Taste of Downtown Business Connection | May 16](#)

It's our most-anticipated networking event of the year! Join the Chamber for its 18th annual Taste of Downtown Business Connection, presented by Bank of America, bringing more than 40 member restaurants to historic Johnson Square to share small bites and sips of menu item favorites. With around 2,000 expected attendees, Taste of Downtown is the Chamber's biggest (and most delicious) networking opportunity of the year!

### [2019 Chamber Business Awards Banquet | June 13](#)

Make plans to attend the 2019 Chamber Business Awards Banquet, to be held Thursday, June 13 at the Savannah Marriott Riverfront. This annual awards presentation and dinner will honor standout leaders from the Savannah area and recognize individuals and businesses that represent local economic drivers including hospitality, manufacturing and small business.

## CHAMBER & VISIT SAVANNAH NEWS

### [Vote for Savannah in the 2019 Condé Nast Traveler Readers Choice Awards!](#)

The world's longest-running travel awards program celebrates the best of the best in travel today. Winners are selected entirely by readers, and the best way to get the word out is by rallying Savannah's loyal fans!

### [Applications Open for 2019-2020 Leadership Savannah Class](#)

Applications for the 2019-2020 Leadership Savannah Class are currently being accepted for the one-year class, which will be limited to 42 people. The application period will be open through June 23.

### [Visit Savannah Board Chair Speaks to Tourism Conference](#)

Visit Savannah current board chair Dave Legasse was a featured panelist at the Coastal Georgia Tourism Conference, held April 12 at the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens. The conference highlighted issues important to our coastal communities including coastal tourism development, marketing, and planning and policy.

### [Digital Content Manager Selected by Destinations International's 30 Under 30](#)

Visit Savannah is thrilled to announce that its digital content manager Larissa Allen has been named one of Destinations International's 30 Under 30 recipients. The 30 individuals, 30 years of age and under, will have the opportunity to engage in professional development opportunities throughout 2019 and beyond.

### [Jenny Dent Honored with Community Star Award](#)

The Community Star Award celebrates distinguished men and women from all walks of life who make the community a better place to live and work. From dedicated employees, to elected officials, to longtime volunteers, to nonprofit leaders and visionaries, Savannah Technical College has celebrated more than 275 Stars over the years.

### [2019 Publix Savannah Women's Half & 5K Races A New Course](#)

Last weekend the Savannah Sports Council celebrated its fifth year of the Publix Savannah Women's Half Marathon & 5K. More than 2,800 runners and walkers participated, seeing a 13% increase in registrations from last year's race.

### [Netherlands Tour Operators Explore Savannah](#)

Eight top tour operators from the Netherlands had the opportunity to explore Savannah thanks to Brand USA, which promotes international visitation to America.

### [VIC Staff Presents Retirement Gift to "The Colonel"](#)

Recently, John Reed and Mava Byrd attended a retirement party at the American Prohibition Museum for Bob Hunter, better known as "the Colonel." Reed and Byrd had the honor of presenting Hunter with a gift on behalf of Visit Savannah to commemorate the Colonel's 17-plus years of exceptional service in the hospitality industry.

### [Video Coordinator Attends National Association of Broadcasters Show](#)

Last week, Tyler Edic, Visit Savannah's video production coordinator, attended the National Association of Broadcasters Show in Las Vegas, generally considered to be *the* annual event for those serious about storytelling.

### [Visit Savannah Vice President Attends U.S. Travel Meeting](#)

Jeremy Harvey, Visit Savannah's vice president of communications and marketing, attended a meeting of the U.S. Travel Destinations Council Board of Directors meeting in Washington, D.C. on April 9-10.

## TYBEE NEWS

### [22nd Annual Tybee Tour of Homes to Be Held May 4](#)

Tickets are \$45 per person and include admission into eight homes, a parking pass and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Lunch will be served at Tybee Island Maritime Academy and proceeds from this year's tour will benefit the school.

## MEMBER NEWS

### [Become a Summer 500 Employer](#)

Recruitment for the city of Savannah's annual Summer 500 student intern program is now underway! Local businesses have historically shown great support for the program and the city is once again seeking involvement from area businesses to provide hands-on summer work opportunities for high school students. The program will begin with a week of career skills training on June 3 followed by 8 weeks of employment.

### [New Georgia Quickstart Center Opens in Pooler](#)

The Georgia Advanced Manufacturing Training Center is the latest Quick Start training facility in the state and will help boost manufacturing in the coastal region.

### [Learn About New Market Tax Credits and Opportunity Zones](#)

Want to learn more about accessing New Market Tax Credits and Opportunity Zones? Join the Carver State Bank and Carver Development CDE to learn more about accessing these programs for your business or real estate development venture.

### [The Creative Coast's Geekend Scheduled for April 26 & 27](#)

A two-day program of presentations, panels and workshops on April 26 and 27 showcases Savannah's achievements in business, technology and arts innovation, discusses emerging trends and addresses our toughest challenges.

### [State of Small Business in Chatham County May 8](#)

The 7th Annual State of Small Business in Chatham County, presented by Best Business Brokers and Wells Fargo & Company, will be held Wednesday, May 8, at the Eckburg Auditorium at Savannah Technical College.

### [Workforce Development Spotlight for April 15](#)

With Savannah's economy rapidly growing and evolving, there has never been a more imperative time to invest in our local workforce. Numerous local programs are further bolstering our talent pipeline and providing skills needed for our workforce to thrive in a competitive economy.

### [Grand Openings & Member Discounts for April 15](#)

Please support your fellow Chamber members by attending these upcoming ribbon cutting and grand opening events, and congratulate these recipients of awards, accolades and those celebrating milestones!

### [New Members for April 15](#)

We are excited to welcome the newest members of the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce. Please remember to do business with your fellow Chamber members!

