# The Savannah Area Chamber News



April 8, 2019

2019 Chairman

#### **EVENTS**

#### Business Connection at Savannah Country Club | April 11

Meet with your fellow Chamber members at April Business Connection at the Savannah Country Club! Bring a stack of business cards to exchange while you're networking at one of Savannah's most historic golf venues.

#### 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**

#### Allegiant Announces Aircraft Base in Savannah

State and local officials joined executives from Allegiant Travel Company last week as the company announced plans to establish a two-aircraft base at Savannah/ Hilton Head International Airport. Allegiant's growth plans in the state include creating at least 66 new, high-wage jobs.

#### 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.

#### Group Tour Manager Makes Alabama Sales Calls

This past week, Visit Savannah's Group Tour & Film Entertainment Sales Manager Anjuli Derien and partners performed a mini sales mission to the Birmingham, Alabama meetings market with more than 20 appointments over three days.

#### Vendor Opportunities Available for Taste of Downtown

More than 40 member restaurants and caterers participate in one of the Savannah Area Chamber's largest annual business connection events: the Taste of Downtown Business Connection. Held in beautiful Johnson Square, this event attracts more than 3,000 Chamber members and their guests. Reserve your booth now!

#### Front Porch Improv Brings New Twist to Power Hour Lunch

Last week, the Chamber hosted a Power Hour lunch-and-learn and networking event at The Grand Lake Club at Southbridge, featuring Front Porch Improv and their take on how lessons learned when practicing improvisational comedy can help sharpen skills in a business environment by delving into the art of saying yes, active listening, and fostering creativity in the workplace.

#### Visit Savannah and Partner Attend Global Meetings Week

Kellie Linder and Curry Epley with the Savannah Convention Center attended receptions in Minneapolis and Kansas City last week to connect with clients for Global Meetings Week. The trip was part of several annual missions that Visit Savannah and its partners embark on each year.

### Bahama Joe's Hosts April Business on the Move

Last week, Bahama Joe's invited Chamber members and guests to an after-hours networking opportunity to celebrate the success of their new corporate offices, sales team, showroom displays and onsite production facilities in Garden City.

# Freelance Travel Journalist Explores Savannah

Last week, the Visit Savannah and Visit Tybee media relations team spent time with David Perry, a freelance journalist working on material for several travel publications.

# Couple from Switzerland Visits Main Visitor Center

Switzerland's Claudia and Tom Dill are touring the eastern United States. Last week, the staff of the main Visitor Center on MLK were pleased to welcome them to Savannah during one of the most beautiful times to visit.

# **TYBEE NEWS**

# <u>Travel Journalist Enjoys Spring Day on Tybee</u>

Last week, travel journalist David Perry spent a few days exploring Savannah and Tybee Island.

# **MEMBER NEWS**

# Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Air Field Win Top Installation Honors for 2019

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley has announced that Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia was selected as the gold winner in the 2019 Army Communities of Excellence competition for Regular Army installations.

# 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.

# SCORE's Business Launchpad Event Set for April 13

What do you need to know to create a successful business? Whether you are an aspiring entrepreneur or a small business owner, you need real-world tools, knowledge and insights in order to succeed. The Business Launchpad: How to Start, Manage, and Grow A Successful Business workshop offers exactly that.

# 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.

# Workforce Development Spotlight for April 8

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.

# Member Discounts for the Week of April 8

Offer a special discount for Chamber members only, and your business or event might get a special call-out!

#### New Members for the Week of April 8 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!





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