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The Savannah Chamber Weekly Digest
Everything You Need to Know From the Chamber



A Note from Chamber Board of Directors Chair Jon Pannell

Dear Chamber Members,

Thank you for your continued membership and support of the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce.

Historically, this time of year in Savannah are some of the busiest months on our calendar. Early summer is usually filled with residents and visitors enjoying local festivals, sporting events and the many charms our community has to offer.

This year however, our spring has been dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic and a shutdown of local business and economy. Instead of cheering on your favorite sports team or celebrating your newest graduate,

our attentions have been focused on what the future holds next. Today, our attention and gratitude turn to our leaders on the frontlines, those working tirelessly to treat the sick, search for a vaccine and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

And while the nation still mourns the loss of life from this deadly virus, another problem in America has reopened fresh wounds. The killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis has dominated headlines across the world. Communities have taken to the streets to honor the life of Floyd and demand change from a system that lessens the value of Black lives.

Last Sunday, I along with members of your Chamber's board of directors and other representatives of the business community, joined Mayor Van Johnson, community activists and Savannah's faith leaders in a demonstration calling for change.

Thanks to Mayor Johnson's compassionate and firm leadership and the unwavering support of Governor Brian Kemp, our community did not suffer the destruction and chaos caused by individuals whose sole intention is to tear communities apart. Instead Savannahians came together in the name of unity, compassion and peace.

Thank you to area and state law enforcement who protected our citizens, our businesses, and our freedoms. Savannah's display of leadership, unity and community is a model for cities around the country. Our deepest sympathies are with the communities that are unfortunately dealing with the devastation and lawlessness caused by individuals, with no sincere intent for change. But are tearing down the good that is trying to be done.

As members of the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce and members of our business community, I hope you too will join in supporting unity and peace.

We hope that you will continue to stay safe in the coming weeks and make the best decisions for your business and your employees as the Savannah economy begins to reopen. If you have not done so already, please consider making the "Savannah Safe Pledge" and joining over 650 area businesses that have already taken the pledge to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in Savannah.

Again, thank you for your membership in the Chamber and please let us know if there is anything, we can do to help support you and your business in the days and weeks ahead.

Jon Pannell
Chairman,
Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce

[Visit Savannah Encourages Individuals to Take Savannah Safe Personal Pledge as Tourism Returns to Savannah](#)



Officials at Visit Savannah are asking individuals including visitors and residents to join the business community in taking the “Savannah Safe Personal Pledge.” The Personal Pledge is designed to encourage shared responsibility in following safety protocols laid out by the CDC, to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in Savannah and Tybee Island.

[Read more >](#)

[Kemp, State Officials Give Press Briefing](#)



At the State Operations Center in Atlanta on Tuesday, Governor Brian Kemp and state officials gave a media briefing on issues including the state's efforts regarding COVID-19.

[Read more >](#)

[Georgia Lawmakers will Return June 15 to Complete Legislative Session](#)



Source: [Atlanta Journal Constitution](#)

Legislators' main task will be passing the state budget, which will be vastly different than the one they approved before the coronavirus pandemic slowed Georgia's economy nearly to a halt.

[Read more >](#)

[Upcoming Resiliency & Recovery Town Hall Series Hosted by Georgia Chamber](#)



Source: [Georgia Chamber](#)

When: Today, June 4 at 2 p.m.

Topic: Morning Consult Co-Founder and Chief Research Officer Kyle Dropp as well as Economist John Leer will talk about COVID-19 and Consumer Confidence in this post-COVID economy. Morning Consult will offer insights and key data points around consumer spending and highlight key factors all businesses should consider when reopening and adjusting their business plans for the future.

Please [click this link](#) to join the webinar.

Password is required upon entry: 776140

Or iPhone one-tap:

US: +16465588656,,85995308215#,,1#,776140#

or +13017158592,,85995308215#,,1#,776140#

Or Telephone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 646 558 8656

or +1 301 715 8592

or +1 312 626 6799

or +1 669 900 9128

or +1 253 215 8782

or +1 346 248 7799

Webinar ID: 859 9530 8215

Password: 776140

[Chatham Area Transit Hires New Executive Director](#)



Chatham Area Transit announced that Bacarra Sanderson Mauldin, who currently works with the New Orleans RTA, has been hired to be the public transportation agency's new CEO/executive director, according to a CAT press release issued Tuesday, June 2.

[Read more >](#)

[Celebrate 30 Years of Enmarket Bridge Run with 30 Days of Lower Prices](#)



2020 marks 30 years since the first Enmarket Savannah Bridge Run. The race consists of three events: a 5K, 10K and the Double Pump. In honor of its 30th year and Global Running Day, the Savannah Sports Council is rolling the prices back. For the next 30 days, prices will be \$25 for 5K registration, \$30 for 10K registration and \$35 for Double Pump registration. Sign up by midnight on July 2 to receive your discounted registration.

[Read more >](#)

[Explore Georgia and Georgia Department of Community Affairs Host Tourism's Road to Recovery Webinar](#)



Source: [Georgia Department of Economic Development](#)

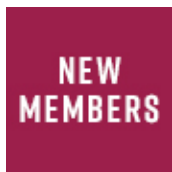
Please join Explore Georgia, the tourism division of the Georgia Department of Economic Development and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs in a joint webinar to discuss "Tourism's Road to Recovery."

When: Today, June 4 at 10 a.m.

Topic: The goal for the meeting is to answer questions about the hotel/motel tax, share recovery resources and new programs available for tourism industry partners, and discuss other ways to stay engaged with your state agencies.

Register for the call [here](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

[New Members for the Week of June 1](#)



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!

[Read more >](#)

[Chamber Offers Members Flexible Dues Renewal Plans](#)



As the business community begins the process of “re-entry” into a more normal business routine, the Savannah Area Chamber is cognizant of the disruption and economic loss endured during COVID-19. Your continued membership is essential for us to execute our role of business advocacy, guidance and marketing. We hope soon to return with the events that so many of our member businesses rely on for marketing exposure. We know how critical this is, especially as we all try to recover. During this time, we would like to offer dues flexibility.

[Read more >](#)

[Advertise Your Business in the 2020-21 Annual Relocation Guide](#)



Savannah magazine, the official publisher of the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce Relocation Resource Guide, is currently offering display advertising options in the 2020-21 guide. Advertising in this guide will enable you to reach a targeted audience of 15,000 newcomers who are looking to make purchases with credible businesses and establish lifelong buying relationships.

[Read more >](#)

[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](#)
- [Money Magazine's Best Loans of 2020](#)
- [Worksource Georgia Provides Guide for Employment Assistance](#) - For companies and individuals looking for employment and training resources due to COVID-19, Worksource a program offered through the Technical Schools of Georgia had produced a new guide
- 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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