



April 16, 2020

TODAY: Georgia Chamber to Host Virtual Conference with President & CEO of the Fed Bank in Atlanta and the Regional Administrator for SBA

Today at 3 p.m., the Georgia Chamber will host Raphael Bostic, president & CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta and Ashley D. Bell, regional administrator for the SBA.

Moderated by the Georgia Chamber's president & CEO Chris Clark, this forum will highlight the programs and resources available to small and medium-sized businesses while providing key insight for working with local banks to access and leverage these funding sources.

Please remember that these calls and conferences are available to Savannah Chamber members because of the Savannah Chamber's membership in the Georgia Chamber. Access is a benefit of your membership and access information should not be shared with the general public as bandwidth is limited. The less widely-shared the access info is, the more members will be able to participate. Thank you for your cooperation.

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

<https://zoom.us/j/94428713555>

Or join by phone:

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

US: +1 646 558 8656

or +1 312 626 6799

or +1 301 715 8592

or +1 346 248 7799

or +1 669 900 9128

or +1 253 215 8782

Webinar ID: 944 2871 3555

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/j/94428713555>

HAPPENINGS

[America's Second Harvest, Savannah Chamber, TLC and City of Savannah Host Successful Mobile Food Pantry Event for Tourism and Hospitality Workers](#)



The Chamber, TLC, City of Savannah and others partnered with America's Second Harvest for a mobile food pantry event this morning on River Street for unemployed or furloughed tourism and hospitality workers. The first-come, first-served event began at 9 a.m. with cars lined up and waiting for distribution. Recipients remained in their cars while volunteers and National Guard troops helped to give each vehicle one box of non-perishable food items.

“We are targeting the hospitality and tourism industry that has been recently impacted by the COVID-19 and all the closings of hotels and restaurants. Wanting to reach out to them, they’ve always been supportive of Second Harvest, so we want to reach out to this community and try to make sure that they have access to food and that we’re helping them,” said Mary Jane Crouch, the Chief Executive with America’s Second Harvest.

The Chamber is grateful to America’s Second Harvest, the Georgia National Guard, TLC, the City and all other partners who helped to support Savannah’s friends and neighbors in the tourism community. [Click here to see photos from the event.](#)

America’s Second Harvest plans to hold more drive-through distributions in the coming weeks. [Visit their website to stay up to date on when and where events will be hosted.](#)

[Post-Crisis Planning Underway: Visit Savannah Prepares “Rediscover Our City” Campaign to Jump-Start Local Economy Post-Isolation](#)



Visit Savannah has prepared a marketing campaign directed at locals, encouraging them to “Rediscover Our City” as soon as it is deemed safe to do so by health and government officials. The campaign will include creative spots and social media assets with bucket list items for Savannah-area residents to check-off including ideas like “say hi to old friends at favorite restaurants,” and “grab a to-go lunch to enjoy in a square.”

According to Joe Marinelli, president of Visit Savannah, the DMO has hopes that the campaign will help the Savannah area come together as more than a place on a map, but as a community, filled with people who live and work together for common goals. “The ‘Rediscover Our City’ campaign provides a gentle reminder to those of us who live in the area to be supportive of our friends and neighbors who want to get their jobs and businesses back, and to enjoy all that our spectacular community has to offer.” [Click here to read more about the forthcoming campaign and see some sample ads.](#)

The ads and all of their design components will be posted to the [Partner Information](#) page at VisitSavannah.com on Monday.

[Upcoming Virtual Conference Calls with Attorney General Chris Carr and Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture Gary Black](#)



The Georgia Chamber's next conference call is scheduled for Tuesday, April 21 at 10 a.m. and will feature a COVID-19 update from Attorney General Chris Carr. Moderated by Georgia Chamber President & CEO Chris Clark, these COVID-19 virtual conferences are designed to provide relevant and timely updates, information and insight on statewide management of this global pandemic along with resources to assist Georgians in the road to recovery.

One week from today, Thursday, April 23 at 3 p.m., the Georgia Chamber will host a call with Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture Gary Black. Commissioner Black will be joined by other key leaders in the rural community to provide a COVID-19 update and outlook for this key market in Georgia's economy. Moderated by Georgia Chamber President & CEO Chris Clark, these COVID-19 virtual conferences are designed to provide relevant and timely updates, information and insight on statewide management of this global pandemic along with resources to assist Georgians in the road to recovery.

All questions should be submitted IN ADVANCE through sli.do using code #2957 to enter the forum. Please submit your questions for the call with Chris Carr by noon Monday, April 20, and for Gary Black by 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 22. Georgia Chamber staff will work through as many as they can over the call, and do appreciate your commitment to leadership as we all work toward economic recovery following this pandemic.

[Click here for the Zoom info for both calls.](#)

[IRS Releases Online Tool to Check Status of Stimulus Checks](#)



The Internal Revenue Service started sending out stimulus payments this week, and has released a portal to track the status of your Economic Impact Payment provided by the CARES Act. You can [check the status here](#).

You'll need to enter your Social Security number, date of birth and mailing address in order to track your payment. The IRS is first sending money to those for whom it has bank account information on file. That might not be you if you haven't received a tax refund over the past two years -- or if you received a refund by a check in the mail, rather than by a direct deposit.

But the [Get My Payment](#) tool, which launched Wednesday, also allows taxpayers to input their bank account information so that they can receive the money electronically rather than by a paper check, which will take longer. To do so, a taxpayer will need to submit their adjusted gross income from their most recent tax return, the refund or amount owed that year, as well as the account and routing numbers for their bank account.

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:

- Local Boys & Girls Club [finds alternative ways](#) to help children
- [Dunkin' of Savannah to offer free coffee](#) to frontline healthcare workers and first responders
- Savannah Bow Tie company [making face masks](#)

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.



2020 © Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce | Visit Savannah
101 E. Bay St. | Savannah, GA 31401 | SavannahChamber.com | VisitSavannah.com

If you would no longer like to receive our emails, please **unsubscribe**