

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2018 Ann DeBock Leadership Award Presented to Colonel Howard D. Barnard III

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. – The 2018 Ann DeBock Leadership Award was presented to Colonel Howard D. Barnard III last night at the Ann DeBock Leadership Award Alumni Association Social. Presented by *Leadership Grand Strand (LGS)*, a 9-month leadership program of the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, the annual award honors one alumnus who has exhibited outstanding leadership and service. The recipient must volunteer in service or civic roles, serve on appointed boards or commissions, and exhibit an overall demonstration of effective leadership skills.

“I am so pleased to present this award to Howard,” said Ashley Setzer, Chairwoman of the LGS Board of Regents. “His LGS class estimates that his hard work and selfless dedication to public service has positively impacted more than five million people around the world. His efforts benefit us all and will continue to benefit the region for years to come. His is a lasting legacy, and we are so fortunate to have him in our community.”

Colonel Barnard earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Georgia and two masters’ degrees-- one from the University of Oklahoma and one the U.S. Army War College. Howard is an Air Force veteran of the Vietnam conflict and Desert Storm. He served his country for 28 years as a fighter pilot and paratrooper and earned several medals, including two Distinguished Flying Crosses.

After retiring, Howard settled in Horry County and focused on helping his community. He faithfully served his church for more than 30 years, spent eight years on the Horry County Council, served on the board for Habitat for Humanity and volunteered for several groups including the Horry County Literacy Council and the Carolina Trust Supervisory Board. Howard was also a member of the Surfside Rotary Club, and he has been instrumental in serving over 10,000 meals per year through New Directions Men’s Shelter. Howard also participated in disaster relief efforts around the world, helping in the Bahamas, New Orleans, Honduras, Mexico, Haiti and other regions.

The Ann DeBock Leadership Award was commissioned and started by Class XIX in memory of Ann DeBock, the executive director of Leadership Grand Strand from its inception in 1979 until her death in 1998. For more information, visit www.LeadershipGrandStrand.com or call (843) 916-7222.

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About Leadership Grand Strand

The goal of Leadership Grand Strand, a program of the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, is to develop a corps of informed, committed and qualified individuals capable of providing dynamic leadership for the Grand Strand. Over the years, Leadership Grand Strand has created a cadre of leaders who guide the direction of change throughout the Grand Strand.

About the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce:

Since 1938 the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce has stood as the unified voice of the Grand Strand's business community. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has awarded the MBACC its five-star accreditation, one of only a few chambers in South Carolina to earn this distinction. The MBACC serves Myrtle Beach, North Myrtle Beach, Surfside Beach, Little River, Atlantic Beach, Garden City Beach, Loris, Conway, Aynor, Murrells Inlet, Litchfield Beach, Pawleys Island, Socastee, and Carolina Forest. For more information, visit MyrtleBeachAreaChamber.com.