

## **AVIA Savannah Hotel on Ellis Square Now Open**

### *TBR Staff Report*

AVIA Savannah, the first in a small, carefully developed collection of new-concept boutique hotels developed and managed by Wichita, Kansas-based hospitality company LodgeWorks, is now open.

With 151 rooms and suites, AVIA Savannah combines understated elegance with the enthusiasm of a local host, according to Pedro Perez, the hotel's general manager. In-room amenities include spa-inspired bathrooms with walk-in showers, fine linens, gourmet refreshment bars, 42-inch flat-panel televisions, alarm clock radios with MP3 docking stations, spacious working areas and complimentary wired and wireless Internet access.

The six-story AVIA Savannah overlooks the soon-to-be-restored Ellis Square, still under construction, and sits above the city's new parking garage opened in September.

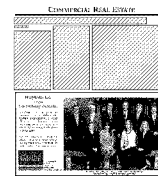
"At AVIA Savannah we believe our role is to play gracious host to a memorably

fascinating and exciting hospitality experience that could be found nowhere else but here," said Perez. "With the help of our tastemakers, our guests - both world travelers and local residents - will discover and be very pleasantly surprised by a very different kind of hotel, one that celebrates its surroundings in unique ways even as it provides unsurpassed comfort and service."

"Tastemakers" is an AVIA marketing concept of linking the hotel and its guests with interesting and personable residents of the city of their hotel.

Savannah's tipsters currently include people such as Bobby Deen, renowned chef and businessman; Joseph Marinelli, president of the Savannah Convention & Visitors Bureau; Stratton Leopold, Hollywood film producer and local ice cream mogul; and Walter Carson, a local business leader for 40 years.

Architecture and design were by Krehbiel Architecture of Wichita and J. Webb Design & Associates of Kansas City.





*The six-story AVIA Savannah overlooks the soon-to-be-restored Ellis Square in the heart of the historic district*