

Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce  
100 Coastline Street  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Rocky Mount, NC 27804  
[www.rockymountchamber.org](http://www.rockymountchamber.org)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce Celebrates Small Businesses

#### Rocky Mount, NC: Wednesday, July 13, 2022

Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce (RMACC) celebrated small businesses on Tuesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>.

The annual event was held at Nash Community College Brown Auditorium. Close to 200 people were on hand to recognize the “Best of the Best” when it comes to small businesses.

“This event is held to bring together the small business community. We allow plenty of time for attendees to network with their peers and to be introduced to other business owners so they can expand their list of contacts in order to increase their business.” Stated David Farris, RMACC President and CEO. “We have new members that are just wowed by the fact that they made very good connections that allow them to grow and succeed.”

In addition to networking, the event honors the businesses of the month and presents one of them as Business of the Year. The 2022 winner is First Carolina Bank.

Other winners are:

Desiree Dolberry: Boys & Girls Club of Tar River Region, Advocate of the Year

Neill Nelson: Davenport Autopark, Legacy Award

Dorothy Hinton: Communities in Schools, Downtown Small Business of the Year

Will Kornegay: Ripe Revival, Rising Star Award

Nina White: M&D Accounting, People's Choice Award for favorite minority-owned small business

“This is the best event for networking that the chamber puts on.” Stated Sam Bass, Membership Director for the RMACC. “Small businesses can meet each other and decide on deals that night on the spot.”

As guests mingled, several food vendors were giving samples of their best menu items.

- o Golden Corral
- o Barley & Burger

- o Blanche's Bistro
- o El Jimador
- o Trax Coffee
- o Paps Catering
- o Michael's Showside Grill
- o Around the Table
- o Aroma Bar & Bistro
- o Carolina Eagle

The night was full of chatter, friendship and celebrations. The 2023 even will be on June 6, so mark your calendars and invite friends.



**Small Business Celebration Award Winners  
Pictured L-R**

**Erin Gall:** Allegra Marketing Print Mail, Small Business Committee Chair

**David Farris:** RMACC President & CEO

**Dr. Gena Messer-Knode;** Eastern NC Center for Business & Entrepreneurship, Emcee

**Desiree Dolberry:** Boys & Girls Club of Tar River Region, Advocate of the Year

**Neill Nelson:** Davenport Autopark, Legacy Award

**Dorothy Hinton:** Communities in Schools, Downtown Small Business of the Year

**Ron Day:** First Carolina Bank, Small Business of the Year

**Will Kornegay:** Ripe Revival, Rising Star Award

**Nina White:** M&D Accounting, People's Choice Award for favorite minority-owned small business