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**Business of the Month- Overview and Criteria**

The Haywood Chamber of Commerce would like to recognize the accomplishments, hard work, and leadership from our local businesses. The Business of the Month is designated to a member business that demonstrates the following attributes:

* Length: Shows a history of being established in the Haywood County community by time and engagement
* Company Growth: Shows positive growth in revenues and workforce
* Creativity: Demonstrates different ideas regarding business expansion and future planning
* Engagement: Active as a civic partner, with representation at events
* Response to Adversity: Facing challenges with resiliency, hard work, and optimism.

The Business and Economic Development Committee reviews nominations on an annual, monthly, or quarterly basis. The winners are chosen by members of the committee based on information provided in the nomination form.

Winners are recognized in the E-weekly newsletter, Membership Directory, chamber social media, and Smoky Mountain News. The award is presented at the chamber’s monthly Issues and Eggs breakfast meeting.

Award Eligibility

* The business must be a member and in good standing with the Haywood Chamber
* The business must have been in operation for at least two years
* The business must have less than 50 full time employees
* The business must not have won the Business of the Month award in the past 5 years
* Implement sustainability and green practice
* Locally-operated franchises are eligible

Nomination Process

* Self Nominations are encouraged
* Chamber staff will check eligibility for each recipient
* Eligible nominees will be presented to the chamber’s Business and Economic Development Committee for a vote to determine the monthly winners