

chamber connection



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Nancy Long, Virginia Cantaloupe Festival Chair
Edward Jones Investments

CHAMBER STAFF

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WELCOME TO THE CHAMBER

The Busy Bean
Anne Eakes
530 Wilborn Avenue
South Boston, VA 24592
Phone: (434) 272-2365
Coffee Shop/Restaurants

Edward Jones
Cameron Starke
57 Mountain Road
Halifax, VA 24558
Phone: (434) 476-1722
Financial Services

Racing for Heroes
Mike Evock
1025 Raceplex Road
Alton, VA 24520
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Non Profit Service

Southern Automotive
Tony Bomar
1100 Wilborn Avenue
South Boston, VA 24592
Phone: (434) 575-6800
Automotive-Alignment, Service, and Repairs

» FEBRUARY 2019 | HALIFAX COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VA. CANTALOUPE FESTIVAL OFFERS EXCITING CHANGES FOR ATTENDEES

From its inception at Wade Farm, to Halifax County Fairgrounds, and the last six years at Berry Hill Resort, the festival has been evolving for the last 38 years. The 39th Annual Virginia Cantaloupe Festival will be no different with the introduction of food trucks and other changes. Committee members worked hard to evaluate the future of the festival and considered issues from previous years expressed by attendees. The festival will be held on Friday, July 26, 2019 5:00 pm-10:00 pm at Berry Hill Resort and Conference Center.

"We want the Virginia Cantaloupe Festival to remain viable. Look around at other festivals and events that just aren't here any longer," stated committee member, Nick Long. "Providing a quality event for our attendees and offering an enjoyable experience is our focus. The addition of food trucks will create a better experience and eliminate the long lines folks have dealt with in the past."

The 2019 ticket price will remain at \$35.00 each and will cover your admission, unlimited domestic beverages, wine, ritas, and (5)



Pictured above: URW Community Federal Credit Union exhibiting at the 2018 festival.

craft beer samples, along with Sweet Halifax County Cantaloupes, ice cream, and local roasted corn. Craft beer will be available for purchase and food truck menus will be selected to ensure everything is affordable. The 2019 festival will also include a \$5.00 ticket for children 12 and under who attend.

The Chamber and VCF Committee members strive to provide a safe and responsible event for sponsors and attendees alike. "It is important that we take our responsibility in hosting the festival seriously. A safe environment and a great

event are two of our main priorities. When we looked at numbers, it was apparent that we experienced a higher percentage of craft beer consumption in 2018. We still want to have competitive ticket pricing and feel that keeping the price the same is the best way to do that, but with a few changes," stated Chamber President Mitzi McCormick.

Also, on tap at this year's prime summer event are three premium performers. Megan Doss will kick off the event. The Kameron Marlowe Band will open for Jim Quick and Coastline Band.

"We're very excited to offer three bands this year," stated chair Nancy Long. Kameron Marlowe most recently competed on the 2018 season of The Voice. He was able to advance to the live round of 24 in the singing competition. "I believe we'll see big things out of the band, and we're excited to host them at the festival," she continued.

Advanced tickets are now on sale online at www.valopfest.com. Tickets will be available at the Halifax County Chamber of Commerce office, and Halifax County-South Boston Visitor Center on March 1.

ANNUAL MEETING AND AWARDS CELEBRATION SET MARCH 28

The 64th Annual Meeting and Awards Celebration will be held Thursday, March 28, 2019, at the Prizery. The Annual Membership Meeting is a celebration of the Chamber's accomplishments and a look into the Chamber's upcoming year. It is one of the largest and most popular events of the year, bringing together Chamber Members, business leaders, elected officials and community stakeholders. Board members and volunteers are rec-

ognized celebrated for their commitment to the Chamber.

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott is this year's event sponsor, and Lawrence Distributing is the contributing sponsor. The event will kick off at 5:30 pm with a social and heavy hors d'oeuvres. Live music will be provided by the Rock-Steady Band.

At the call to order at 6:30 pm, the incoming Chairman of the Board will be introduced along with the installation of

incoming Board of Directors. Members that have had an exceptional influence on the community and economy will be recognized during a presentation of Business of the Year and Business Person of the Year.

Corporate sponsorships and individual tickets are available. For more information on the Chamber's Annual Meeting & Awards Celebration, call the Chamber office at 434-572-3085 or visit www.halifaxchamber.net.

LEADERSHIP HALIFAX COUNTY CONTINUES WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES EVENTS

Leadership Halifax County held its fifth session on Local Government and Public Services on Wednesday, January 16. The day began with presentations from the class on assigned non-profits. Elected officials, Dennis Witt and Joey Rogers, spoke to the group on leadership and ways to get involved in county government. Interim County Administrator, Dan Sleeper, spoke to the group on roles and responsibilities of the office and budgeting.

"This is important information for future community leaders," stated Chamber President Mitzi McCormick. "They are learning how everything works at the local level and they will visit with legislators at the state level next month."

Following lunch, the class visited with the Halifax County Sheriff's Department and Town Police Department.

Leadership Halifax County is spon-



Pictured first row left to right: South Boston Police Department Captain Dennis Barker; Trad Moore, Huber Engineered Woods; Melanie Saunders, Halifax County High School; Eric Morris, ABB; Steven Smith, Brooks Lyon Funeral Home; Denise Baird, Fairfield Inn & Suites; Virginia Byrd, Southern Virginia Higher Education Center; Meagan Owen, Southern Virginia Higher Education Center; DeAnna Leader, Team Nurse; Lauren Davis, Edward Jones; Jennifer Throckmorton, Benchmark Community Bank; Meredith Weddle, Sentara Halifax Regional Hospital; Brandee Lloyd, Halifax County Chamber of Commerce; and Sergeant Tim VanAernem.

sored by the Halifax County Chamber of Commerce and is an 8-month program designed to develop leadership skills of individuals within the community. Since 1989, the Chamber has graduated more

than 300 individuals from the program. They are now challenging themselves, serving their employers, and our community in active community-building efforts.

UPCOMING EVENTS

COFFEE & COMMERCE
February 6, 2019
8:00 - 9:00 am
Hosted by:
Gateway Health
to be held at the Fairfield Inn & Suites

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
February 21, 2019
5:30 - 7:00 pm
Hosted by:
Sentara Halifax Regional Hospital
Leggett Auditorium

ANNUAL MEETING & AWARDS CELEBRATION
March 28, 2019
5:30 pm
Prizery

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