



Proclamation



SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

WHEREAS, in 1963, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation declaring the first observance of National Small Business Week (NSBW); since then, with the sponsorship of the U.S. Small Business Administration, the critical contributions of America's entrepreneurs and small business owners have been recognized nationally every year since; and

WHEREAS, more than half of Americans either own or work for a small business, and they create nearly two out of every three new jobs in the U.S. each year; and

WHEREAS, this past year has been unlike any year before, but American small businesses have adapted, and continue to play a central role in building a strong country; and

WHEREAS, small businesses have met the challenge of the COVID19 pandemic with innovation and fortitude; many have transitioned from focusing on brick and mortar sales to online sales, and many have joined forces to face the challenge together, as was illustrated by Carrboro United, a joint effort by local small businesses with the goal of protecting and stimulating Carrboro's economy during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, many still dream of starting their own business; for those who do, there are numerous sources of assistance: the Small Business Administration provides loans and free business counseling; in North Carolina, organizations and programs such as Business Link Carolina, the Carolina Small Business Development Fund, the Small Business Center Network of the North Carolina Community College System, the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina, and many others can help prospective business owners learn how to start a business in our state; and

WHEREAS, National Small Business Week is usually observed in early May, but was postponed until September this year due to the pandemic; in observance, the Small Business Administration will hold a virtual conference from September 13th through September 15th with the theme **Celebrating Resilience and Renewal**; attendance is free, and registration is available on the Small Business Administration website (<https://www.sba.gov/national-small-business-week>).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the week of September 13th through September 19th as "**Small Business Week**" in the Town of Carrboro. I encourage all residents to support the small businesses in our community, appreciating and celebrating the personal touches and unique expertise that small businesses offer.

This, the 14th day of September 2021.



Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor