

The Caldwell Chamber  
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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **The Caldwell Chamber Celebrates Community Excellence at A Toast to Caldwell**

**Lenoir, NC** — The Caldwell Chamber proudly hosted its inaugural **A Toast to Caldwell**, a signature awards celebration recognizing outstanding businesses, organizations, and individuals who make a lasting impact on Caldwell County. The event brought together community leaders, business owners, and residents for an evening dedicated to honoring those who exemplify leadership, service, and innovation.

Throughout the evening, the Chamber recognized several remarkable organizations and individuals whose contributions continue to strengthen the local community and economy.

#### **Award Recipients Included:**

- **Small Business of the Year:** 1841 Cafe
- **Outstanding Non-Profit of the Year:** Shepherds for Sheepdogs
- **Legacy Leadership Award of Excellence:** Dr. Mark Poarch
- **Community Impact Award of the Year:** Communities in Schools

The Chamber also presented the **Torch Bearer Awards**, recognizing individuals who demonstrate leadership, service, and dedication to the continued growth and success of Caldwell County. This year's recipients included:

Carl Beardsworth, Andrew Walker, Kim Anderson, Makayla Pannell, Felicia Stewart, Dr. Jason Chaffin, and Ashley Clopton.

“A Toast to Caldwell was created to celebrate the people and organizations that make our community exceptional,” said the Caldwell Chamber. “These award recipients represent the heart of Caldwell County through their commitment to service, leadership, and community impact.”

The Chamber extends its sincere congratulations to all award winners and nominees and thanks the sponsors, partners, and attendees who made the evening a tremendous success.

The Caldwell Chamber looks forward to continuing this tradition of celebrating the individuals and organizations that help Caldwell County thrive.

For more information about the Caldwell Chamber and upcoming events, visit [thecaldwellchamber.com](http://thecaldwellchamber.com)

