

Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce
100 Coastline Street
2nd Floor
Rocky Mount, NC 27804
252-446-0323



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ROCKY MOUNT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNOUNCES DATE FOR ANNUAL MANUFACTURING DAY

ROCKY MOUNT, NC – August 15, 2022 – Today, the Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce announced they will partner with S.T.E.P. (Strategic Tri-Counties Education Partnership) and the Rocky Mount Event Center to bring Manufacturing Day to the city on Oct. 12, 2022.

“Middle School students from Nash and Edgecombe counties will be given exposure to various companies from in and around the greater Rocky Mount area.” Stated S.T.E.P. Executive Director, Pamela Gould. “They will have a chance to meet, talk with company representatives, and gain an awareness of not just what they manufacture, but also the type of skills needed to hold a job in the industry.”

Manufacturing Day is a national celebration of manufacturers that is dedicated to help educate and inspire our future generation of manufacturers. Throughout the month of October, the Chamber tries to bring awareness and celebrate the economic drivers of the Twin Counties region, the local manufacturers.

This year marks the 5th anniversary of the event and will play host to such companies as Cummins-Rocky Mount Engine Plant, Honeywell, Kaba Ilco Corporation, Pfizer, Nutkao and others.

“The opportunity this brings to the students is invaluable.” Stated Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce President, David Farris. “It’s doubtful they will have many opportunities like this one to visit as many manufacturers that will be represented here for our Manufacturing Day.”

Since Edgecombe Community College and Nash Community College, offer manufacturing courses, it just makes sense that they would be involved. They can advise students of the classes they can take that will assist them with getting jobs after graduation.

More about Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce:

The Rocky Mount Chamber of Commerce was founded on July 11, 1904, when "a mass meeting of citizens of the town of Rocky Mount was held in the mayor's office." From this, a committee was appointed to nominate a Board of Directors and to submit a constitution and bylaws. The first Chairman of the newly formed Chamber was Mr. J. C. Braswell. At that time, the population was 3,400 and staff was comprised solely of volunteers.

Many of the early Chamber programs were agriculturally oriented, but in 1940, the emphasis shifted to industrial development. A narrative by William E. Bobbitt dated August 1, 1949, described the goals and objectives of the Chamber in words that mirror today's Chamber Mission Statement: "**The Chamber of Commerce is constantly and continuously working for the agricultural, cultural, industrial, and civic development of Rocky Mount and its two adjoining counties of Nash and Edgecombe,**"... In keeping with that commitment to serve the broader geographic area, The Chamber changed its name to The Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce in August 1978.

In 2004, the Chamber celebrated its 100th year of service with a "**Night of Notables**" featuring several esteemed native sons and daughters. Today the Chamber is approximately 700 members strong and growing, representing the interest of over 145,000 residents in the Twin County region.

More about S.T.E.P:

S.T.E.P. was established in 2012 to bring together school districts, human services agencies and businesses on a regional basis to share resources focused on:

- Capacity-building
- Joint planning
- Process improvement focused on improving student achievement and family efficacy

STEP creates venues for education and business leaders to dialogue on the challenges; share stories of success; generate ideas for new initiatives; and leverage and connect resources.

Contact:

Pamela Gould, Executive Director
252-446-0113

steptwincounties@gmail.com

More about Manufacturing Day:

On National Manufacturing Day, we celebrate all that is made in America and recognize the importance of our Nation's manufacturers to every aspect of our lives. From the electronics we rely on, to the safely packaged foods we eat, to the clothing we wear, to the appliances and furniture in our homes, to the cars we drive — American manufacturing is essential to our economy. It employs over 12 million Americans directly and many more indirectly — providing high quality jobs to communities across the country and producing the highest quality goods in the world.

Contact:

North Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership
1005 Capability Dr
Suite 200 – Research III
Raleigh, NC 27606
919-513-6119

info@ncmep.org

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