



PRESS OFFICE

Release Date: November 21, 2019

Release Number: RI20-08

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SBA, RI Foundation, & Ocean Community Chamber to Celebrate 10th Anniversary of Small Business Saturday with Walking Tour of Westerly Small Businesses

WESTERLY, RI— SBA Regional Administrator Wendell G. Davis and District Director Mark S. Hayward will be on High Street in Westerly on Tuesday, November 26th to host a “Small Business Saturday” walking tour in conjunction with the Rhode Island Foundation and the Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce. The SBA is holding the event to spread awareness of the impact of small business within the local community and to encourage people to get out and “Shop Small” on Small Business Saturday.

Celebrated each year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, Small Business Saturday allows consumers to make a big impact in their communities by supporting local shops and restaurants. In the nine prior years that Small Business Saturday has been celebrated, an estimated \$103 billion has been spent nationwide in those nine days alone.

WHAT: A walking tour of High Street in Westerly, featuring stops at eight small businesses. The event will kick off with a brief speaking program in front of the U.S. Post Office, with remarks from Senators Jack Reed and Sheldon Whitehouse, Representative Jim Langevin, SBA representatives Wendell Davis and Mark Hayward, RI Foundation President Neil Steinberg, and Ocean Community Chamber President, Lisa Konicki. Upon conclusion of the speaking program, the group will begin the walking tour beginning with Miceli’s Furniture. The tour will continue to Nigrelli’s Jewelry, Vintage Cigar Lounge, The Malted Barley, Melissa Ashley Brides, Bella Vita Salon, Rhode Island Surf Company, and end at Westerly Jewelry Company.

WHEN: Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: U.S. Post Office, 5 High Street, Westerly RI 02891

WHO: Attendees will include:

- The Honorable Jack Reed, U.S. Senator for Rhode Island
- The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse, U.S. Senator for Rhode Island
- The Honorable Jim Langevin, U.S. House of Representatives (RI-02)
- Wendell G. Davis, SBA Regional Administrator
- Mark S. Hayward, SBA District Director
- Neil D. Steinberg, President/CEO, Rhode Island Foundation
- Lisa Konicki, President, Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce

Small businesses are the engine of our national economy. Today there over 30 million small businesses nationwide and almost 100,000 small business in Rhode Island. This year marks the tenth anniversary celebration of Small Business Saturday. For more information on Small Business Saturday visit www.sba.gov/saturday.

Co-sponsorship Authorization # 19-2050-93. SBA's participation in this cosponsored activity is not an endorsement of the views, opinions, products or services of any cosponsor or other person or entity. All SBA programs and services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis.

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About the U.S. Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration makes the American dream of business ownership a reality. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and support they need to start, grow or expand their businesses, or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov.