

# SPECIAL PARKING INSTRUCTIONS

## BLACKBERRY FESTIVAL VENDORS

Thank you for participating as a vendor at the 2010 NC Blackberry Festival. We are excited that more than 120 vendors and as many as 10,000 guests are expected to attend. Every effort is made by the Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce and the City of Lenoir, as partners, to make this event as enjoyable as possible and to anticipate any challenges that might hamper the festival day.

Unfortunately, one unavoidable issue will be factor impacting vendor and guest parking on festival day. A beloved community leader and friend, John Forlines, Jr., passed away earlier this week and his funeral will be held at First Presbyterian Church of Lenoir at 11 am. As CEO for 52 years Mr. Forlines received national acclaim in growing the Bank of Granite to a nationally recognized community institution. He also was a former chairman of the NC Bankers Association; a two-term trustee of Duke University and Trustee Emeritus; a former member of the Duke University Management Corporation; a member of the Duke University Athletics Advisory Board; a founder of Caldwell County Hospice and Palliative Care serving on the board of directors and as a treasurer; director of the Lenoir-Rhyne University Business Council; leadership in founding Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute and as a trustee; just to name a few of his community contributions. In addition, Mr. Forlines was a past president of the Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce and recipient of the L.A. Dysart Man of the Year Award. Because of his outstanding citizenship and service to this community and its many service organizations more than 500 are expected to attend his service and their parking needs coincide with our festival parking.

Since learning of the funeral plans for Mr. Forlines, the City of Lenoir Manager, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Chamber and representatives from the churches have been formulating a plan for maximizing parking for vendors, festival guests and funeral attendees. We believe we have established a workable plan, but your cooperation is needed. Vendor parking for the day has been located on the outskirts of the festival to allow maximum access to nearby parking for as many of your customers as possible. Please read the following instructions carefully and let one of our volunteers know if you have any questions.

VENDOR PARKING DIRECTIONS:

Once you have unloaded and are ready to move your car from the festival area please identify your current location on the attached map and follow the arrows to a vendor parking area. Most are in easy walking distance, but for your convenience we have arranged for shuttle pick-up if you prefer a ride back to the festival area. The shuttle service will run continuously between the vendor parking areas and the festival area until 10 am and throughout the day.

Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Sincerely,

Deborah Ashley, President/CEO

Melissa Eastman, Event Coordinator