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Cornelius Business Factory set to open in March in Cornelius, NC

Cornelius, North Carolina – 1-12-10 – Dale Tweedy and Jeff Wakeman are two local entrepreneurs who have started The Cornelius Business Factory to address the needs of small and early stage businesses that are interested in taking their business to the next level. Dale Tweedy started this initiative as a way to share his passion regarding creating new business opportunities and to share his experience as a lifelong entrepreneur and former business consultant.

When asked to explain what The Cornelius Business Factory was, Dale Tweedy stated that “Unlike a business incubator that focuses on people who are thinking about starting a business and helps write business plans, our focus is on growing existing small and early stage companies.” He continued “This will be a fairly exclusive membership. The group will review potential businesses interested in being involved, focusing on the benefit to the group as well as to each individual business.”

Mr. Tweedy further explained, “The way we approach this is through a monthly knowledge workshop where participants can have access to various speakers on topics such as marketing via social media, angel funding, or something very basic such as finance and legal angles pertaining to small business. Additionally and most importantly, there will be the Peer Strategy Session. These sessions will occur once a month as well and will combine the presidents/ceo's from each company who will be grouped with 5 other CBF participants. The group will brainstorm on two business issues that will be submitted from two companies in the group. The group will recommend possible strategies to solve these presented problems. The companies who presented the issues win, but all of the participants become more knowledgeable and experienced in understanding a business problem and its' solution. All members will sign a non-disclosure agreement and there will be no competitive companies placed together in these groups. This will encourage full candid discussions.”

“We're excited to see The Cornelius Business Factory provide resources that meet a definite need in our community,” says Craig Norfolk, Board Chairman, Lake Norman Regional Economic Development Corporation (LNREDC). “Several of the small, growing companies we serve through Lake Norman Regional EDC's existing industry program will likely find this program very beneficial,” he adds. According to Norfolk, LNREDC visits companies in Cornelius-Davidson-Huntersville through its existing industry program throughout the year to provide resources to foster growth. LNREDC is actively working with 50 companies and continues reaching out to newcomer companies. The Cornelius Business Factory will be an asset to the list of resources we're able to provide companies already. We're happy to have The Cornelius Business Factory as a LNREDC partner,” he adds.

The Cornelius Business Factory will be located in the Champions Pointe office building at 16930 West Catawba Avenue, Cornelius. Requirements for participating in this venture are to have an existing business that wants to grow and add employees, and to be present for 80% of the monthly meetings throughout the year. Also, it will be a requirement that the participant rent at least one office space within the office building where The Cornelius Business Factory will be based. Rates are very reasonable and there are various sized office spaces ranging from a single person office up to 1500sf. Monthly rates for offices start at \$400.00 per month which is all inclusive.

The Cornelius Business Factory (www.corneliusbusinessfactory.com) is a not for profit entity that focuses on knowledge transfer and business strategy for small but fast growing companies.