



U.S. Small Business
Administration

NEWS RELEASE

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Lena Dirck of The Aspen House Restaurant Selected as Small Business Person of the Year for Wyoming by U.S. Small Business Administration

Dirck will be honored during May 4 National Small Business Week Event in Rawlins

CASPER, WY – Ahead of National Small Business Week, the U.S. Small Business Administration has announced this year’s Small Business Person of the Year winners – over 50 outstanding small business owners and entrepreneurs from across the United States, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Lena Dirck, owner of The Aspen House Restaurant, has been selected as Wyoming Small Business Person of the Year for 2022.

The SBA Wyoming District Office, in partnership with the Wyoming Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Network, will conduct an awards ceremony and National Small Business Week celebration at The Aspen House Restaurant in Rawlins, Wyo. on May 4 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. MT. City of Rawlins Mayor Terry Weickum is scheduled to attend and present remarks.

Dirck will also be honored during the National Small Business Week Virtual Summit, “Building a Better America Through Entrepreneurship,” to be held May 2-5.

“It’s an honor to be selected as Small Business Person of the Year, and I’m very thankful for the SBA, the SBDC, my husband and our wonderful team here,” Dirck said. “We’ve been through a lot over the past few years, but we continue to work hard and are proud to have the support of the Rawlins community and patrons from across the country.”

Each year, the SBA celebrates National Small Business Week by recognizing the achievements of outstanding small business owners and entrepreneurs across the United States. All NSBW winners will be recognized during a virtual event on May 5, 2022.

The SBA, along with SCORE, will co-host a free virtual conference featuring educational workshops and networking. Additionally, recognition and educational seminars throughout SBA's 10 Regions and 68 Districts will be held throughout the week. To get involved in the National Small Business Week activities and see all the 2022 awardees, visit www.sba.gov/nsbw.

The SBA Wyoming District Office and its resource partners will also hold free, educational events throughout the week which feature tips for starting your own business, veteran-focused resources and more. To learn more, please visit the calendar of events at www.sba.gov/wy.

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.