

Chamber CONNECTION

CONNECTING BUSINESS, MILITARY & COMMUNITY



*Everybody
Loves A
Parade!*



2017 Christmas Holiday Parade



Saturday, November 18th, 2017



Presenting Sponsor:



FULL DETAILS
ON PAGE
10

Our Chamber Staff

Chamber Officials:

Laurette Leagon, President
president@jacksonvilleonline.org

Anthony Harvey, Chairman

Staff:

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operations@jacksonvilleonline.org

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Tricia Purcell

Commerce Center Coordinator
coordinator@jacksonvilleonline.org



Jacksonville • Onslow

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

910.347.3141

1099 Gum Branch Road, Jacksonville NC 28540

The Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce's mission is to be the voice of business in collaborative partnership that work to build and enhance a healthy business climate and a vibrant quality of life.

The Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce's vision is to be recognized as a model in building collaborative partnerships that encourage business growth and sustainable community development.

Thank you to Lara E Photography for her wonderful photos of our various Chamber events.

www.laraephoto.com

Meet the Chamber's Commerce Center Coordinator

Tricia Purcell has joined the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce team in the newly created Commerce Center Coordinator position. Tricia brings valuable experience to the Commerce Center. She was a Property Manager for six years at Drucker and Falk Real Estate in Jacksonville and a Marketing Associate for two years at Texas Roadhouse. She is currently working on her Business Associates Degree at Coastal Carolina Community College.

Chamber President Laurette Leagon states, "Now that the offices in the Commerce Center are at 100% occupancy and our meeting facilities are being utilized more than ever, it was time to get a professional in place with the skills and knowledge that are vital to efficiently operate this component of the Commerce Center."

Commerce Center Coordinator Tricia Purcell said "I am honored to be a part of such an amazing team that loves what they do and is so involved in the community."



Member Renewals

AUGUST

Ainsley's Angels of Eastern Carolina	August 2, 2016	Mr. Dan T. Oliver	August 23, 2012
Alorica Jacksonville	February 14, 2006	Naomi Thompson, Independent Beauty Consultant	October 12, 2007
Alpha Media-WRNS 95.1, BOB 93.3, ROCK105.5, The Wolf 101.1 and 92.3	October 1, 2008	New Beginnings Construction, Inc.	July 21, 2006
Bank of America - Country Club	September 12, 1979	New River Pottery	August 23, 2000
Biotest Plasma Center	September 20, 1990	North Shore Country Club	April 23, 1996
Carla's Custom Carvings	July 14, 2014	Nu Asian Bistro	September 16, 2014
Carolina Orthopedic Sports Medicine and Physical Therapy	October 6, 2010	Outback Steakhouse	May 19, 1998
Charles F. Riggs & Associates, Inc.	May 11, 1988	Remember Everyone Deployed Inc.	June 13, 2016
Coastal Bank & Trust	September 23, 2008	River of Life Church	September 21, 2004
Coastal Carolina Community College	September 12, 1979	Sanders Ford, Inc.	September 2, 1979
Compass Insurance Company	August 15, 2012	Sneads Ferry Community Council	January 28, 2003
Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott	August 15, 2000	STEJ Unlimited LLC, dba Party Suppliers	April 14, 1994
First National Bank	September 12, 2012	Stevenson Mazda	July 9, 2009
Hadley Family Chiropractic	August 1, 2001	Stevenson Toyota	September 25, 1978
Holiday City	March 9, 2014	The Bear 97.9 & 98.9 Classic Country	February 7, 2006
Home2 Suites by Hilton	June 11, 2012	Tideline Marine, Inc.	August 1, 1985
Jacksonville Kiwanis Club	September 19, 2012	Time Warner Cable	September 25, 1979
Lanvermeier & Jarman, P.A.	July 24, 2007	Under Construction Safety, LLC	November 2, 2015
Marrakesh Mediterranean Cuisine	April 8, 2015	Viamark Advertising	September 6, 2013
MCAS New River Commanding Officer	August 1, 1986	Ward and Smith, PA	October 14, 1997
Mike's Farm, Inc.	September 27, 2000		

New Members

AUGUST

Stout's House of Pain

1411 N. Marine Boulevard
Ms. Lisa Stout @ (910) 333-8204
stoutshouseofpain@hotmail.com
Tattooing/Piercing

Veterans Thrift Store of America/ American Heroes of Valor

2005 Lejeune Blvd.
Mr. Myron @ (813) 650-7620
verteranthriftusa@yahoo.com
Retail Sales

MIA Corp, DBA Pollos Tete

222 Brynn Marr Rd.
Mr. Yalmar Guzman @ (910) 915-9879
yalmarg@hotmail.com
Restaurants

T. Bledsoe Enterprises Inc. (DBA Empire Pizza)

521 Yopp Rd. Suite #200
Mr. Taylor Bledsoe @ (910) 346-3100
taylor.bledsoe1@gmail.com
Restaurants

Paparazzi Accessories Independent Consultant Tammy Pointe

114 Greenbriar Ct.
Ms. Tammy Pointe @ (910) 539-5509
tammypointe@gmail.com
Jewelry

H & R Block

1154 Western Blvd.
Ms. Nancy Fleming @ (910) 353-1573
nfleming@hrblock.com
Tax Preparation

Outback Steakhouse

1045 Western Blvd.
Ms. Nicole Stevens @ (910) 938-8900
obs3457@outback.com
Restaurants

LeBron and Associates, LLC

P.O. Box 1022
Ms. Marjorie E. R. LeBron @ (910) 939-8000
disability@lebronrep.com
Legal Services

August Ambassador of the Month- JoAnne Strickland DeRosset

Congratulations to our very own JoAnne Strickland DeRossett for August Ambassador of the Month! This young lady joined us last year in search for more clientele. Little did she know that she found friends and supporters along with those clients. JoAnne gives so much of herself to others and has a huge heart. Please join us in congratulating her on her achievement!



Public Safety Awards

HEROES RESPOND FIRST



September 26th, 2017

Jacksonville • Onslow Chamber of Commerce will be presenting the awards to five deserving public safety professionals from the fields of law enforcement, emergency medical services, emergency communications, fire fighting, and volunteer fire fighting. North Carolina Senator Harry Brown will be the keynote speaker.

Onslow County Government Center
234 NW Corridor Blvd.,
Jacksonville, NC 28540
\$15 /plate paid at time of RSVP
11:30am: Lunch
Provided by: Mission BBQ
12:00pm: Award Ceremony

RSVP to Sabrina Thomas at
speialevents@jacksonvilleonline.org or
910-347-3141 ext. 235
by September 15th, 2017



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Vidant Family Medicine— Jacksonville

MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Committee's purpose is to maintain and continually improve the relationship between the military and civilian communities.

August Service Member of the Month Petty Officer Second Class (PO2) Matthew K. Chapman

Petty Officer Second Class (PO2) Matthew K. Chapman son of Kelly Shenk of Knoxville, PA and Keith Chapman of Knoxville, PA distinguished as the Service Member of the Month (SMOM) for the month of August by the Jacksonville•Onslow Chamber of Commerce.

PO2 Chapman demonstrated exceptional leadership, superb technical skills, and a strong commitment to mission accomplishment within Special Mission Training Center's (SMTTC) Boat Tactics Branch. Serving as an evaluator on SMTTC's Ready For Operation (RFO) Team, he assisted Deployable Specialized Forces) Operational Commanders with assessing the material conditions and operational readiness of 35 assets including 5 boats, 12 support trailers, 18 towing vehicles, and administrative records for 5 Coast Guard DSF units.

During, an RFO inspection of a Post Security Unit (PSU) – a deployable Coast Guard unit that provides waterborne security and point defense force protection in support of the Naval Coastal Warfare Harbor Defense/Port Security operations and preparing to deploy to the SOUTHCOM AOR – he discovered cracks in the framing of a 32-foot Transportable Port Security Boat (TPSB). His thoroughness prevented a potentially catastrophic casualty that would have adversely impacted the unit's readiness. Additionally, it shed light on an issue possibly affecting all PSU TPSBs and helped initiate a fleet-wide Time Compliance Technical Order.

PO2 Chapman married his high school sweetheart, Melissa. Together they live with their pit-bull Nala. He enjoys kayaking in the New River, fitness training, deer hunting, and riding his Dyna Superglide Harley Davidson.

PO2 Chapman future plans in include leaving SMTTC as an E-6, then becoming an Engineering Petty Officer, perhaps one day retiring as a Chief.



August 23, 2017 – African American Heritage Trail Tour

On Wednesday, August 23, the Minority Business Services Committee invited membership and community to join them on an African American Heritage Trail Familiarization Tour. The sites that they toured where: Belgrade Community Action Association site at the Belgrade Community Center, Hammocks Beach State Park, Little Zion African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in Sneads Ferry, Ocean City Beach in North Topsail Beach. Thank you to the kind people who made time in their day to share the stories of each site.



August 11, 2017 – Stuff The Bus

On August 11- 12 2017 the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber Ambassadors volunteered for the United Way of Onslow County's "Stuff the Bus" event. This event collected school supplies for our Onslow County School children that are currently in need, and are homeless staying in shelters or on the streets. This 24-hour event raised four times more than in 2016 and supplied Onslow County social workers with supplies they need to provide for our Onslow County schoolchildren. A special Thank You to our Chamber Members who helped participate in this event and to the public for their generous donations and tokens of human kindness.



Economic Indicators & Other Charts

How to read the Charts:
The Airport Passengers Chart, Tax Reports, Healthcare Stats and Utilities Connect and Disconnects are shown as monthly or quarterly comparisons on the specific rows. The totals shown at the bottom are the Year to Date totals for each year and does not include the numbers shown in Italics.

TAX REPORTS				
MONTHLY TAXABLE SALES: SOURCE: NC DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE				
OCCUPANCY TAX: SOURCE: ONSLOW COUNTY				
Monthly Report of Taxable Sales				
15-16	Taxable Sales	16-17	Taxable Sales	% Change
Jul-15	\$168,845,706	Jul-16	\$173,654,795	2.85%
Aug-15	\$165,312,504	Aug-16	\$171,787,640	3.92%
Sep-15	\$159,849,446	Sep-16	\$172,438,330	7.88%
Oct-15	\$157,269,722	Oct-16	\$157,979,134	.45%
Nov-15	\$144,167,556	Nov-16	\$149,558,400	3.74%
Dec-15	\$146,587,089	Dec-16	\$159,084,149	8.53%
Jan-16	\$175,397,878	Jan-17	\$188,820,250	7.65%
Feb-16	\$134,525,688	Feb-17	\$142,931,810	6.25%
Mar-16	\$146,002,613	Mar-17	\$152,227,168	4.26%
Apr-16	\$170,363,433	Apr-17	\$183,028,780	7.43%
May-16	\$156,324,629	May-17	\$167,072,441	6.88%
Jun-16	\$159,961,445	Jun-17	\$163,332,351	2.11%
YTD Total	\$1,884,607,709	YTD Total	\$1,981,915,248	5.16%
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>				

Occupancy Tax Report			
	2015-2016	2016-2017	%
July	\$348,493.26	\$402,706.74	13.4%
August	\$301,788.91	\$284,130.83	-5.8%
September	\$164,132.88	\$157,461.88	-4%
October	\$102,761.02	\$120,219.03	14.5%
November	\$73,658.64	\$83,262.30	11.5%
December	\$50,277.54	\$64,805.58	22.4%
January	\$62,893.54	\$67,525.27	6.8%
February	\$64,855.84	\$71,982.00	9.8%
March	\$83,947.63	\$92,556.64	9.3%
April	\$100,502.00	\$110,117.39	8.73%
May	\$125,805.86	154,642.07	18%
June	\$241,690.37	\$247,486.99	18.6%
Total:	\$1,604,922.98	\$1,856,895.85	13.5%
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>			

UTILITIES				
UTILITIES: SOURCES: CITY OF JACKSONVILLE & ONWASA				
City of Jacksonville & ONWASA Water				
	Connects		Disconnects	
	2016	2017	2016	2017
1st Qtr	4,538	4,753	3,074	3,193
2nd Qtr	5,297	5,185	3,768	3,456
3rd Qtr	5,397	1,832	3692	1,300
4th Qtr	3,696		3,003	
YTD Total	9,835	11,770	6,842	7,949
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>				

HEALTHCARE		
OMH ER: SOURCE: ONSLOW MEMORIAL HOSPITAL		
OMH BIRTH: SOURCE: ONSLOW MEMORIAL HOSPITAL		
NAVAL HOSPITAL ER: SOURCE: NAVAL HOSPITAL, CAMP LEJEUNE		
NAVAL HOSP BIRTHS: SOURCE: NAVAL HOSPITAL CAMP LEJEUNE		
Onslow Memorial Hospital Emergency Room Visits		
	2016	2017
1 st Quarter	15,173	15,609
2 nd Quarter	15,279	14,779
3 rd Quarter	15,616	5,092
4 th Quarter	15,160	
YTD Total	30,452	35,480
Onslow Memorial Hospital Live Births		
	2016	2017
1 st Quarter	363	365
2 nd Quarter	379	325
3 rd Quarter	412	111
4 th Quarter	384	
YTD Total	742	801
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>		

Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune Emergency Room Visits		
	2016	2017
1 st Quarter	12,638	13,326
2 nd Quarter	12,039	11,538
3 rd Quarter	12,840	
4 th Quarter	8,938	
YTD Total	24,677	24,864
Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune Live Births		
	2016	2017
1 st Quarter	467	514
2 nd Quarter	522	483
3 rd Quarter	485	
4 th Quarter	313	
YTD Total	989	997
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>		

TRANSPORTATION			
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: SOURCE: OUTS, JTS			
ONSLow NEW VECh SALES: SOURCE: ONSLOW COUNTY			
ALBERT ELLIS AIRPORT: SOURCE: ALBERT J ELLIS AIRPORT			
Public Transportation Riders - 2017-18			Onslow County New Vehicle Sales
System	July	Fiscal YTD	
Onslow United Transit System	7,289	7,289	
Jacksonville Transit System	9,238	9,238	
Military Express	1,468	1,571	
Total	17,995	17,995	
			Jun 17
			Jul 17
			Cars
			Trucks
			Total
			Year to Date
			Cars
			Trucks
			Total

Albert J Ellis Airport Total Passengers			
	2016	2017	% Change
January	20,658	22,039	-6.2%
February	18,832	22,607	16.6%
March	23,295	25,629	9.1%
April	24,831	26,552	6.4%
May	26,584	28,701	7.3%
June	27,482	27,385	-0.3%
July	29,374	28,753	-2.1%
August	27,962		
September	25,765		
October	25,164		
November	26,296		
December	26,530		
YTD Total	171,056	181,666	5.8%
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>			

HOUSING					
ONSLow ABSORPTION RATES: SOURCE: JACKSONVILLE NC MARKET CENTER					
Onslow County Absorption Rates 2017					
Information provided by Coldwell Banker Fountain Realty, William Sanders. As of 4/30/17, info obtained from the Jacksonville Board of Realtors MLS. These numbers do not include: REO, Short Sales, & Townhomes.					
Price of Home	# of Months	# Sold	Sales Rate Per Month	# Currently Active*	# of Month's Of Inventory
≤ \$150,000	7	502	71.71	302	4.21
\$150,001 - \$200,000	7	342	48.86	201	4.11
\$200,001 - \$250,000	7	159	22.71	121	5.33
\$251,001 - \$300,000	7	68	9.71	48	4.94
\$300,001 +	7	102	14.57	156	10.71
TOTAL		1173		826	
New Construction Price	# of Months	# Sold	Sales Rate Per Month	# Currently Active*	# of Month's Of Inventory
≤ \$150,000	7	6	0.86	5	5.83
\$150,001 - \$200,000	7	198	28.29	111	3.92
\$200,001 - \$250,000	7	127	18.14	119	6.56
\$251,001 - \$300,000	7	39	5.57	50	8.97
\$300,001 +	7	26	3.71	42	11.31
TOTAL		396		327	

BUSINESS STATS

COUNTY PERMITS: SOURCE: ONSLOW COUNTY
CITY PERMITS: SOURCE: CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

City of Jacksonville Building Permits

July 2017	#	Value
Residential	15	\$867,340
Commercial	50	\$3,132,947
Other	265	\$244,650
Total	330	\$4,244,937

County Building Permits

FY2016-17	Res BPs	Com BPs	Total Value
1st Qtr Totals	457	88	\$23,999,727
2nd Qtr Totals	439	92	\$59,968,234
3rd Qtr Totals	595	163	\$31,527,943
4th Qtr Totals	687	146	\$6,756,608
FY Totals	2,178	489	\$140,061,313

FY2017-18	Res BPs	Com BPs	Total Value
1st Qtr Totals	215	78	\$11,463,768
2nd Qtr Totals			
3rd Qtr Totals			
4th Qtr Totals			
FY Totals	215	78	\$11,463,768

CAMP LEJEUNE & MCAS

NR GOVERNMENT AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS (GER) CAMP LEJEUNE, NC.

**Camp Lejeune Area Active Duty
USN/USMC Statistics**

Location	10/20/2016	1/15/2017
Camp Lejeune	29,356	29,426
MARSOC	2,215	2,209
New River	6,725	6,728
TECOM Schools	4,315	6,412
Total	42,611	44,775
USMC Deployed Total	5,454	3,021

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**Unemployment rates from NC Works
- NC Dept of Commerce**

Area Name	Onslow County
Year	2017
Month	June
Labor Force	63,601
Employed	60,675
Unemployed	2,926
Unemployment Rates	4.6%

ONSLOW COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS

ASSUMED BUSINESS NAMES, DEATHS, BIRTHS AND MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES FOR THE PREVIOUS 3 YEARS. SOURCE: ONSLOW COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS

Register of Deeds

Assumed Names		Deaths	
2014	595	2014	751
2015	568	2015	786
2016	560	2016	812

Births		Marriages	
2014	3,948	2014	2,599
2015	3,718	2015	2,584
2016	3,519	2016	2,677

EDUCATION

SOURCE: ONSLOW COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN

**Onslow County: Child Care Snapshot
July 2017 (State Regulated for children birth to 12)**

License Type	# facilities	# slots	# enrolled	Capacity	# staff
NC 5 star	21	2,715	2,396	88%	403
NC 4 star	11	494	420	85%	57
NC 3 star	19	549	478	87%	78
NC 2 star	2	13	10	77%	2
NC 1 star	11	131	117	89%	17
NC Religious	5	459	415	90%	66
NC Temporary	1	12	0	0.0%	3
NC Provisional	-	-	-	-	-
NC Probationary	2	158	119	75%	25
Totals	72	4,531	3,955	73.9%	651

COLDWELL BANKER

FOUNTAIN REALTY

910.455.2977

PREMIER OFFICE

Save The Date**Ribbon Cutting**

Thursday, September 21st @1:00pm

Bodi Barr

1133 Gum Branch Rd, Jacksonville, NC 28540

Public Safety Awards

Tuesday, September 26th @11:30am

Onslow County Government Center

234 NW Corridor Blvd., Jacksonville NC

The Public Safety Awards Ceremony formally recognizes a deserving public safety professional from the fields of law enforcement, firefighting, volunteer firefighting, emergency medical services and emergency communications.

Small Business Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 27th

Breakfast @8:30am; Meeting @9:00am to 10:00am

Commerce Center

1099 Gum Branch Road, Jacksonville NC

Speaker Lower Cape Fear HR Association

"Attorney Panel on Employment Law"

Ambassador Meeting

Followed by Ambassadors New Bridge Adopt-A-Street

Wednesday, September 27th @12:00pm

Woodmen of the World

204 E. Bayshore Blvd., Jacksonville NC

Speaker Brian Kennedy Global

"Are you a Sales Leader or a Sales Person?"

Jacksonville • Onslow
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(910) 347-3361 | www.jacksonvilleonline.org
1006 Gum Branch Rd. Jacksonville, NC 28540

Member Referral Program

Your Referrals = New Chamber Members + New Chamber Connections

The Member Referral Program is a continuous campaign to grow the Chamber and provide business and recognition opportunities to participants who forward proposals to the Chamber that result in member sign-ups.

Help Your Chamber Grow...Refer a Member!

How Does It Work?

- Identify a business, member or organization that you feel would benefit from membership in the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce.
- Fill out the form below.
- We will contact the referred business and member your company on the referring business.
- Upon receipt of payment, you will receive a special invitation.
- Your company will be recognized in the Chamber Connection Newsletter along with the new member announcement.

Referred member must be a new member to the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber

Onslow County, growing one business at a time

YOUR INFORMATION:
(limited for paper and to be given)

Name: _____
Business Name: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____
How has your company benefited from chamber membership?

REFERRED BUSINESS INFORMATION:

Contact Person: _____
Title: _____
Business Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

ABA

RENTAL PROPERTIES INC.

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*When you care about
where you live*



Minority Enterprise Development Week **October 23-27, 2017**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Tuesday, October 24, 4:00-7:00pm

MED Week Mingle

Legends of Onslow recognition begins at 5:30pm.
Mix, mingle and consider a donation to the African-American Heritage Trail Restoration!

Where: Commerce Center, 1099 Gum Branch Road

Wednesday, October 25, 12:00-1:00pm

MED Week Award Luncheon

Join us as we present the Minority Entrepreneur of the Year and the Linda L. Richardson Minority Business Advocate of the Year Awards. Luncheon tickets: \$10/person

Where: Montford Point Marine Association, 148 Brynn Marr Road

Congratulations to this year's winners:

2017 Minority Entrepreneur of the Year: Katrina Carrington of Katrina Carrington, CPA

2017 Linda L. Richardson Minority Business Advocate of the Year: Diana King Barnes



Modern Exterminating

Alorica



**Ray Properties
and ABA Rental Properties**

Buy Tickets at www.JacksonvilleOnline.org

or contact Lisa Murabito at (910) 347-3141 ext. 226, MAC@jacksonvilleonline.org



Ribbon Cuttings



For more information, please call 910-347-3141
or visit us online at www.jacksonvilleonline.org



August 12

Head Styles Barbershop & Salon Ribbon Cutting



August 15

Dixon Middle School



August 25

Neverland and Main Travel



August 30

Onslow Literacy Council

Organization Name: _____

 Contact Person: _____
 Phone Number : _____
 Fax Number: _____
 Address: _____
 Email: _____

Parade Contact Name and Email if different from above:
 Parade Contact: _____
 Email: _____



Deadline October 27, 2017

Quantity	Float Category	Entry Fee
	Motor vehicle only - passenger car or pickup truck (one per entry), no company logo on vehicle	\$100.00
	Walking unit only - up to 100 walkers	\$100.00
	Equestrian units - must clean up after horse and provide appropriate clean up crew (discounts do not apply)	\$35.00/animal
	Vehicle oriented group - minimum of 5 passenger vehicles	\$50.00 per vehicle
	Motorcycle oriented group - minimum of 10 motorcycles	\$30.00 per motorcycle
	Commercial vehicle or vehicle with business advertisement (additional commercial vehicle \$40.00 each)	\$130.00
	Amateur float - float or trailer decorated by an individual, business or organization. Provide own vehicle to pull	\$100.00
	* Amateur float dimensions must be no more than 9 feet wide and 40 feet long*	
	** Additional walkers with an entry (up to 50 walkers)	\$40.00
	Refundable Animal Deposit	\$100.00
	Chamber Member Discount	-\$10.00
	Professional float - beautiful, professional decorated float with tow vehicle (discounts do not apply)	\$515.00
	Total enclosed	

1. Do you want your Amateur or Professional float to be judged? YES NO
2. All entries MUST have holiday theme decorations. Plaques and honorable mentions will be awarded to 1st, 2nd & 3rd place in both Amateur and Professional categories.
Will your float/entry have music? YES NO
3. Please provide a "20 word narrative" about your entry no later than October 27th. The narratives MUST be submitted by email **ONLY** to specialevents@jacksonvilleonline.org and will be used by the television and radio station for live broadcast of the parade.
4. A photo or drawing must accompany all entry forms. Please provide specifications of your entry: emphasis on holiday theme, colors, type of music, size and number of riders.
5. **AMATEUR float participants only:** provide the following information for staging purposes: size of float (approx. dimensions), type of vehicle (i.e. tractor trailer, pick-up truck with hitches, etc) Tractor trailers will not be permitted for any amateur floats wishing to be judged.
6. **All entries must meet the approval of the Holiday Parade Committee.** Fees accompanying rejected applications will be returned promptly. Incomplete applications will not be considered for entry and will be returned.
7. No one dressed as Santa is allowed on floats except for the Chamber of Commerce float.
8. Walkers must be at least 12 or older. Anybody under 12 years old must ride on a float or in a vehicle.
9. No hand-outs or candy is permitted to be distributed by any parade participants. **Must be in your area, on your float by 8:00am**
10. Registrations will not be accepted without full payment. **All entry fees are not refundable.**

Bring this entry form and fee no later than Oct 27, 2017:

Jacksonville•Onslow Chamber of Commerce — Attention: Holiday Parade
 1099 Gum Branch Rd., Jacksonville, NC 28540
 Phone: (910) 347-3141 ext.235 Fax: (910) 347-4705
 Email: specialevents@jacksonvilleonline.org



Presenting Sponsor:



Jacksonville Onslow Leadership 2017-2018

Congratulations to the participants of the Jacksonville Onslow Leadership 2017 – 2018 program: Autumn Bishop, Dave Bradford, Clay Calhoun, Whitney Cantrell, Jen Fletcher, Amy Hoffman, Sandra Janssen, Sanita Laddie, Brenna Leger, Virginia March, Michael Onifer, Jennifer Pearce, Scott Prevatte, Erica Rogers and Scott Smith. Junie Christian kicked off the first session with a presentation on Leadership. Junie is a John Maxwell certified speaker. Will Brooks a Grassroots Initiative & Civic Engagement Associate with the North Carolina League of Municipalities presented in the afternoon. Thank you to both of our informative speakers.



Columbus, GA Military Reunion Tour

In August, the Jacksonville•Onslow Chamber representatives and the Jacksonville Tourism Development Authority representatives traveled to Columbus, GA. To learn more about how to best facilitate and recruit Military Reunions to Jacksonville and Onslow County. Military Reunions are already coming to the area based on the vicinity to Camp Lejeune and other nearby bases. The representatives wanted to learn how to make the experience for those visiting the best and most relaxing it can be. While there, they meet with the Columbus, GA. Convention and Visitors Bureau, which is well known as a leader in Military Reunion Recruitment. They also met with the local hoteliers and meeting place representatives to understand the conveniences reunion attendees want. The trip was extremely beneficial and generated great ideas that will be implemented for our reunion recruitment efforts.



Thank you to our Sponsor:



The Jacksonville.Onslow Chamber of Commerce will facilitate three Forums in October 2017

October 4, 2017, 5:30 – 7:00, Candidates for Jacksonville City Council -
Sponsored by:



October 10, 2017 Tuesday, 10:30 – 11:00, Economic Impact of Hospitals
& Health Systems in NC” – Sponsored by:



October 10, 2017, Tuesday, 5:30 – 7:30, Forum Onslow on Opioid Abuse
– Sponsored by:



Both Forums will be held in the City Council Chambers, Jacksonville City Hall, 815 New Bridge Street, Jacksonville.

If you have questions please call Janet Bowen at the Chamber office 347-3141 ext 224 or email operations@jacksonvilleonline.org

From the desk of Kristen Loflin

I am often asked if and why Onslow County has tourism. My short answer? Of course we have tourism! The long answer? You may think of it as traffic jams going toward the beach or the wait at some of our favorite local restaurants. However, we look at tourism from an economic impact view. Did you know that visitors spend millions of dollars in our county?

Every August and September, the Onslow County Tourism office receives the economic impact numbers from the previous year from Visit NC, the state's tourism office. It's important to note that it take months to gather this research. Thus, why we use the previous year's numbers in economic development discussions. So, how does tourism bring economic value to an area and the state? Let 2016 numbers explain:

\$222 Million Visitor Impact for Jacksonville Onslow County

County Spending by Domestic Visitors Increases by nearly 3 Percent

Visit North Carolina (visitnc.com) has announced that domestic visitors to and within Jacksonville and Onslow County spent \$222 million in 2016, a 2.71% increase from 2015.

"Tourism continues to be an economic driver throughout Onslow County bringing business to our hospitality partners and local businesses as well as employing our residents," said Kristin Loflin, Tourism Manager for the Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce.

The industry contributed enough tax revenues to offset more than a hundred dollars per resident for 2016 that would have been needed in local taxes.

For Jacksonville, tourism represents more than \$150 million in business," said Glenn Hargett, Jacksonville Assistant City Manager and staff to the Jacksonville Tourism Development Authority. "This has enabled expenditures that improve our quality of life and come from persons who visit our community because of that quality of life."

Tourism impact highlights for 2016:

- The travel and tourism industry directly employees more than 1,780 persons within Onslow County.
- Total payroll generated by the tourism industry in Onslow was \$42.34 million.
- State tax revenue generated in Onslow County totaled \$11.76 million through state sales and excise taxes, and taxes on personal and corporate income. About \$8.39 million in local taxes were generated from sales and property tax revenue from travel-generated and travel-supported businesses
- Because of the taxes paid by tourism, City and County taxpayers would

have been required to pay \$102.36 more per person for the same value in City and County taxes. The value increased from \$100.33 per person for 2015.

Gov. Roy Cooper announced in May that visitors to North Carolina set a record for spending in 2016. The \$22.9 billion in total spending represented an increase of 4.4 percent from 2015.

These statistics are from the "Economic Impact of Travel on North Carolina Counties 2016," which can be accessed at partners.visitnc.com/economic-impact-studies. The study was prepared for Visit North Carolina by the US Travel Association.

"All eight economic development regions of the state had spending growth of 3 percent or more, and 96 percent of the state's counties saw direct tourism employment growth from 2015 to 2016," said Wit Tuttell, executive director of Visit North Carolina. "Tourism continues to be major driver of economic development across North Carolina, which is the sixth most-visited state in the country."

"We continue to see expansive growth in our communities directly related to visitors spending and are encouraged to see the occupancy tax collections continue to increase," said Loflin. "This positive growth creates excitement as our team pushes to increase tourism even further over the next year."

Statewide highlights include:

- State tax receipts as a result of visitor spending rose 5.1 percent to nearly \$1.2 billion in 2016.
- Visitors spend more than \$62 million per day in North Carolina. That spending adds more than \$5.1 million per day to state and local tax revenues (about \$3.2 million in state taxes and \$1.9 million in local taxes).
- The travel and tourism industry directly employees more than 219,000 North Carolinians.
- Each North Carolina household saves \$497 in state and local taxes as a direct result of visitor spending in the state.

Service Rewards

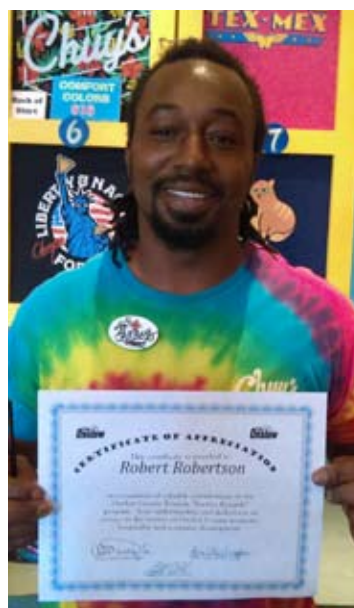
A community is only as good as the citizens that live and work within its borders. This month we celebrate the frontline employees that go the extra mile to make your visits an above average experience in Swansboro, Sneads Ferry, Richlands, and Jacksonville! The five individuals, representing five area businesses; have performed their duties with a positive outlook, a kind word, and valued information for our visitors and citizens - they went the extra mile! Onslow County Tourism and the Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce want to thank them for their efforts and encourage you to do the same. Good service is good business!



Andres Javier Agrait
Courtyard of Marriott



Ryan Hansen
North Shore Country Club,
Sneads Ferry



Robert Roberson
Chuy's



Gladys Edith
NU Asian Bistro



Courtland Blanding
Best Buy