Chamber CONNECTION

CONNECTING BUSINESS, MILITARY & COMMUNITY

7th Annual Onslow County Public Safety Awards & Luncheon
Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Please Join us. See page 4 for more info.

2015 Winners: (l-to-r) Emergency Communications Professional of the Year, Public Safety Telecomunicator II Kristy Smith; Law Enforcement Professional of the Year, Sergeant Timothy Parker; Firefighter Professional of the Year Driver Operator II Mr. Thomas Shivar; Keynote Speaker Colonel Bill Grey, NC Highway Patrol (not pictured) Emergency Medical Services Professional of the Year Paramedic Cheryl Gant.

Our Chamber Staff

Chamber Officials:

Laurette Leagon, President
president@jacksonvilleonline.org

Jeff Clark, Chairman

Staff:

Janet Bowen
Director of Operations and Governmental Affairs
operations@jacksonvilleonline.org

Brenna Leger
Membership Manager
membership@jacksonvilleonline.org

Holly Montalvo
Military Affairs Manager
mac@jacksonvilleonline.org

Sabrina Thomas
Special Events Manager
specialevents@jacksonvilleonline.org

Kristen Loflin
Tourism Manager
tourd@jacksonvilleonline.org

Lisa Murabito
Business Services Manager
businessservices@jacksonvilleonline.org

Melissa Maloney
Administrative Services Manager
admin@jacksonvilleonline.org

Alexis Tate
Receptionist
receptionist@jacksonvilleonline.org

Raegan Kellum
Part-time Receptionist
receptionist@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 Jesse McDonald of Eastern Sky Photography-NC for her wonderful photos of our various Chamber events.

Eastern Sky Photography-NC
www.easternskyphotographync.com

Eastern Sky Photography - NC

New Members

Virtue Capital Management
1099 Gum Branch, Jacksonville, NC 28540
910-617-3543 • sonny@sonnyrains.com
www.virtuecapitalmanagement.com
Financial Planning

Legal Shield Craig Wilson
604 Savannah Drive, Jacksonville, NC 28546
910-554-6739 • mr.cewilson@yahoo.com
www.legalshield.com/hub/craig94
Legal Services

Organo Gold Coffee
Jacksonville, NC 28540
(812) 972-6909 • erinn.harp@worldbranch.com
www.organogold@worldbranch.com
Coffee Shops

Vidant Family Medicine
2145 Country Club Rd., Jacksonville, NC 28546
910-478-4000 • winkie.lassiter@vidanthealth.com
www.vidanthealth.com
Medical Office - Family Practice

Mr. Jason Harris
Washington, NC 28403
jharris@rountreelosee.com
Individuals

Curio City Exploration & Learing Center LLC.
154 Brynn Marr Rd., Jacksonville, NC 28540
910-353-0306 • curiocityeploreandlearn@gmail.com
www.Curiocitylearning.com
Children's Entertainment

L. Land Inspires Coaching & Training Group
5316 Andersen ct., Jacksonville, NC 28540
910-915-9373 • lamontland@johnmaxwellgroup.com
www.johnmaxwellgroup.com/lamontland
Motivational Speaker

Integrated Family Services, PLLC
3383 Henderson Dr., Jacksonville, NC 28546
910-393-6475 • ipsconnected@gmail.com
ww.integratedfamilyservices.net
Health and Wellness

Member Renewals

	Member Since
Achieve Medical Weight Loss	**December 3, 2013**
WITN-TV	**November 8, 1984**
Stevenson Mazda	**July 9, 2009**
Stevenson Toyota	**September 25, 1978**
The Accidental Artist	**June 2, 2015**
The Trophy Case of Jacksonville, Inc	**July 11, 1990**
Office Park Eye Center	**January 11, 1994**
Omega World Travel	**September 16, 1991**
Liberty Tax Service & Financial Group	**September 27, 1995**
Axis Physical Therapy	**September 12, 1986**

MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Our Service Member of the Month for July, 2016 is Sergeant Conner Fiero, USMC.

Sgt. Fiero is from Parma, Michigan This incredible Marine graduated from Springport High Scholl in 2007 and immediately joined the workforce in construction as a carpenter. Sgt. Fiero's family has a long & storied history of service to our country. There has been an active duty service member in his family consistently dating back to the Civil War. His brother had joined the Marine Corps & was in California. Sgt. Fiero & his lovely bride, Lauren, made the decision to scrape up what funds they could to head out to visit his brother & attend a Family Day. The call became intense upon him & his bride…two days later, they are both in the recruiter's office & seeking to take on the challenge of recruit training. Upon graduation from his basic training in 2012, Sgt. Fiero received orders to Marine Corps Combat Training where he graduated as Squad Leader. He then executed orders to his MOS school at Good Felloe AFB in San Angelo, TX as an Air rescue & Fire Fighting Specialist. Upon graduation, he then received PCS orders to MCAS New River where he began his tour as a turret operator. Excelling in his MOS & pretty much anything he was a part of, Sgt. Fiero's potential was being recognized & over the following year, he received his P-19 license, joined the Color Guard, won Marine of the Quarter (2nd Quarter 2013) & was meritoriously promoted to Corporal in June 2013. That same month, he was assigned as the Material NCO where he gained the billets Halon Systems Coordinator, Respiratory Protection Manager, Scott Air-Pack Technician, Marksmanship Coach, basic life saver instructor & Calibrations NCO. While serving in these billets, he received two (2) Commanding General Inspections with zero deficiencies. He was promoted to Sergeant in January 2015 and in February Sgt. Fiero was assigned as an Assistant Station Captain for Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting Additional recognition includes: Dept. of Defense Fire Fighter of the Year 2015 & MCI East NCO of the Quarter (2rd Quarter) 2016

Sgt. Fiero 's Awards include: National Defense Service Medal; Global War on Terrorism Medal, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal; Certificate of Commendation, 5 Letters of Appreciation & 1 Certificate of Appreciation.

I give 110% to my Chamber

A.D. Guy Insurance Co.
PO Box 340, Jacksonville, NC 28541
bhguy@embarqmail.com • September 1, 1979

Alpha Media
WRNS 95.1, BOB 93.3, ROCK105.5,
The Wolf 101.1 and 92.3
1361 Colony Drive, New Bern, NC 28562
tony.denton@digity.me • October 1, 2008

Arlington West
5049 Western Boulevard, Jacksonville, NC 28546
nhill@placeproperties.com • August 22, 2008

Armstrong & Tant General Dentistry
3160 Henderson Drive, Jacksonville, NC 28546
office@armstrong-dental.com • May 1, 1995

Beasley Broadcasting Group, Inc.
207 Glenburnie Drive, New Bern, NC 28560
john.sheftic@bbgi.com • February 26, 1998

Bob's Auto Center, Inc.
2150 N. Marine Blvd., Jacksonville, NC 28546
bobsauto@ec.rr.com • July 20, 2010

By His Design, LLC
624 New Bridge Street, Suite 600, Jacksonville, NC 28540
cindy@byhisdesign.com • August 1, 2005

Carolina Place Apartments
217 Carolina Forest Blvd, Jacksonville, NC 28546-9395
meganm@dthmanagement.com • July 22, 2011

Carriage House Furniture Co.
1120 Gum Branch Road, Jacksonville, NC 28540
dora.chfc@hotmail.com • February 7, 1995

CenturyLink- Public Relations
Market Development Manager - East Region
Wake Forest, NC 27587
dacia.h.labounty@centurylink.com • June 11, 1984

City of Jacksonville
815 New Bridge St., Jacksonville, NC 28540
rwoodruff@jacksonvillenc.gov • January 1, 1991

Coastal Bank & Trust
2414 N. Marine Boulevard, Jacksonville, NC 28546
rjefferson@coastalbanknc.com • September 23, 2008

Col Robert L. Hayes USMC, Ret • December 17, 2012

Col. Bruce A. Gombar • May 10, 2011

Coldwell Banker Fountain Realty
255 Williamsburg Parkway, Jacksonville, NC 28546
sandrafountain@ec.rr.com • April 29, 1998

Davis Heating & AC
1125 River Street, Jacksonville, NC 28540
davisheating_ac@yahoo.com • July 28, 2014

Extreme Holdings, LLC dba Extreme Outfitters
102 Western Blvd, Jacksonville, NC 28546
marion@extremeoutfitters.us • July 24, 2012

Fairway Outdoor Advertising
1530 S. College Road, Wilmington, NC 28403
angela.cooper@fairwayoutdoor.com • December 1, 1985

Family Foot Care
3701 Henderson Drive, Jacksonville, NC 28546
dhagan@bizec.rr.com • November 2, 1993

Gulfstream Steel and Supply, Inc.
301 US Hwy 17 S, Holly Ridge, NC 28445
tomrollins@gulfstreamsteel.com • August 10, 2005

High Point Furniture
2037 Lejeune Blvd., Jacksonville, NC 28546
April 30, 1993

Home Search Real Estate
129 Henderson Drive, Jacksonville, NC 28540
walter.whitehurst@gmail.com. • July 6, 2015

Jacksonville Onslow Economic Development
1099 Gum Branch Road, Jacksonville, NC 28540
spierce@onslowedc.com • July 9, 2002

Johnson Drug Store - New Bridge
P.O. Box 250, Jacksonville, NC 28541 • September 22, 1979

Jon Douglas Lesan, D.D.S., R.Ph, PA
Family and Cosmetic Dentistry, Jacksonville, NC 28546
jdlesan@ec.rr.com • June 1, 1990

Jones-Onslow EMC
259 Western Blvd., Jacksonville, NC 28546
sgoodson@joemc.com • September 22, 1978

Lamar Outdoor Advertising
P.O. Box 1837, Elizabethtown, NC 28337
lford@lamar.com • June 1, 2015

Law Offices of John Drew Warlick, P.A.
313 New Bridge St., Jacksonville, NC 28540
jdw@warlicklaw.com • January 1, 1979

Marine Federal Credit Union
PO Box 1551, Jacksonville, NC 28541
jclark@marinefederal.org • September 9, 1979

Martin Marietta Materials
PO Box 67, Richlands, NC 28574
greg.meadows@martinmarietta.com • August 22, 2007

The following Chamber members voluntarily added an extra 10% to their membership investment:

Mr. Dan T. Oliver • August 23, 2012

Naomi Thompson, Independent Beauty Consultant
113 Freeport Court, Hubert, NC 28539
narnold@ec.rr.com • October 12, 2007

New Beginnings Construction, Inc.
P.O. Box 397, Richlands, NC 28574
gina@nbkids.net • July 21, 2006

North Carolina Housing Finance Agency
3508 Bush Street, Raleigh, NC 27609
wphill@nchfa.com • June 25, 2015

Onslow County Schools
200 Broadhurst Rd., Jacksonville, NC 28540
jodie.ramsey@onslow.k12.nc.us • September 25, 1979

Onslow Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation INC.
PO Box 7325, Jacksonville, NC 28540
vietvetmemorial@yahoo.com • September 11, 2006

Sanders Ford, Inc.
1135 Lejeune Blvd., Jacksonville, NC 28540
matcraymond@yahoo.com • September 2, 1979

Sandoval Roofing, LLC
2444 Commerce Road, Suite 228/229
Jacksonville NC 28546
September 6, 2013

Sonic Drive In #3983
471 Western Blvd., Jacksonville, NC 28546
store3983@sonicpartnernet.com • July 8, 2015

Sound Bank
624 New Bridge Street, Suite 700, Jacksonville, NC 28540
mcarpenter@soundbanking.com • August 30, 2012

Tina Glover, State Farm
609 Richlands Hwy, Suite 7, Jacksonville, NC 28540
jglover3@ec.rr.com • July 24, 2012

Tom Mattison Septic Inspection Service
118 Woodbrook Drive, Midway Park, NC 28544
trminspections@ec.rr.com • July 15, 2009

University of Mount Olive at Jacksonville
2543 Onslow Drive, Jacksonville, NC 28540
Orodriguez@umo.edu • July 24, 2006

University of Phoenix
825 Stone Street, Room 125, Camp Lejeune, NC 28547
william.reynolds@phoenix.edu • March 1, 2012

Veterans United Home Loans
102 - B Elizabeth Street, Jacksonville, NC 28540
pgatlin@vu.com • May 10, 2012

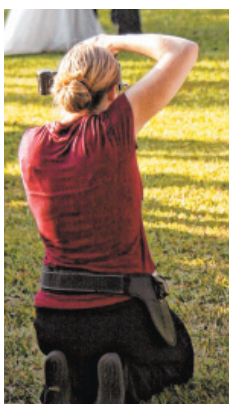

Photo by Paul C MacKenzie.

Thank you to Jesse McDonald of Eastern Sky Photography-NC for her wonderful photos of our various Chamber events. In addition to her talented eye catching our members in action, Jesse is well versed in food and product photography.

Jesse McDonald - Owner/Photographer
www.easternskyphotographync.com

Eastern Sky Photography - NC

Coming Soon! Jacksonville•Onslow Chamber Advantage Card!

Being a chamber member now means that you benefit from chamber businesses exclusive discounts. Discounts bring people through your companies doors and money in your cash drawers!

Want to add your business to the numerous businesses doing discounts?

Sign up today at jacksonvilleonline.org!

Join us this Friday, September 16...

LET'S PUT OUR CITIES ON THE MAP

with Google

MAKE SURE YOUR BUSINESS SHOWS UP ONLINE—FOR FREE

Help people in Onslow County and nationwide find you by updating your business online. Bring your laptop if you have one.

DATE **Friday, September 16, 2016**

LOCATION **Commerce Center, 1099 Gum Branch Rd.**

REGISTER **BusinessServices@jacksonvilleonline.org**
910-347-3141 x 251

Time **10 am — 4pm (one hour time slots)**

A limited number of spaces available each hour. RSVP's only.

Join the Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce for a FREE event to help you verify your business, make sure your information is complete and accurate, and review other FREE tools Google has available for increased visibility.

Jacksonville • Onslow CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

NCRMA EST. 1902 NC Retail Merchants Association

SBC Small Business Center Coastal Carolina Community College

CONNECTED BUSINESSES • STRONG LOCAL ECONOMIES • VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

HEROES RESPOND FIRST

Public Safety Awards

September 21, 2016

Onslow County Government Center
234 NW Corridor Blvd., Jacksonville, NC 28540

Jacksonville•Onslow Chamber of Commerce will be presenting the awards to four deserving public safety professionals from the fields of law enforcement, fire fighting, emergency medical services, and emergency communications.

- 11:30 - Lunch
- $15 - lunch plate by the Flame
- 12:00 - Award Ceremony

North Carolina Department of Public Safety Secretary Frank Perry will be the keynote speaker

RSVP to Sabrina Thomas at specialevents@jacksonvilleonline.org or
910-347-3141 ext. 235 by September 12
Lunch must be paid at the time of RSVP

SANDERS Ford Savings. Service. Sanders.

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A Touchstone Energy® Partner

Onslow County North Carolina 1734

Executive Sponsors:

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MARINE Chevrolet Cadillac

Marine Federal Credit Union

Jacksonville • Onslow CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Onslow Memorial Hospital Where People Care

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the Flame

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The BUG Stops Here Modern Exterminating Since 1952

Superior Home Improvement 910.467.1223

Coldwell Banker Fountain Realty 910.455.2977

Ribbon Cuttings

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

US Cellular

Sonic 903 Lejeune BLVD, Jacksonville NC

Skyport Aviation

Sonic 471 Western Blvd, Jacksonville NC 28546

Visual Awareness Technologies & Consulting, Inc.

Safe House Tactical

Excel Body Works

Ambassador of the Month

This ambassador has stepped up to the plate multiple times over the past few months to open her business to the ambassador meeting, and our Business After Hours Event. She was the go to person to orchestrate and ensure that this event made a positive impact in Onslow County, and our Chamber. Her upbeat attitude and participation epitomize what it means to be an ambassador. Our July Ambassador of the Month is Kenzie Moore.

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

14-15	Taxable Sales	15-16	Taxable Sales	% Change
Jul-14	$167,616,467	Jul-15	$168,845,706	.73%
Aug-14	$159,460,546	Aug-15	$165,312,504	3.67%
Sep-14	$162,896,557	Sep-15	$159,849,446	-1.87%
Oct-14	$158,677,454	Oct-15	$157,269,722	-0.89%
Nov-14	$153,156,220	Nov-15	$144,167,556	-5.87%
Dec-14	$154,649,563	Dec-15	$146,587,089	-5.21%
Jan-15	$173,899,975	Jan-16	$175,397,878	.86%
Feb-15	$133,012,350	Feb-16	$134,525,688	1.14%
Mar-15	$142,525,079	Mar-16	$146,002,613	2.44%
Apr-15	$157,747,714	Apr-16	$170,363,433	8.0%
May-15	*$158,395,749*	May-16		
Jun-15	*$154,133,023*	Jun-16		
YTD Total	**$1,876,170,697**	YTD Total	**$1,568,321,635**	**.50%**

*YTD Total does not include numbers in *Italic*

Occupancy Tax Report

	2014-2015	2015-2016	%
July	$341,648.89	$348,493.26	2.00%
August	$321,615.10	$301,788.91	-6.16%
September	$154,353.03	$164,132.88	6.22%
October	$118,837.82	$102,761.02	-13.5%
November	$77,271.84	$73,658.64	-5.0%
December	$63,808.96	$50,277.54	-21%
January	$64,940.02	$62,893.54	-3%
February	$64,117.12	$64,855.84	.1%
March	$83,749.64	$83,947.63	.002%
April	$96,836.95	$100,502.00	4%
May	$110,423.37	$125,805.86	12%
June	*$249,108.22*		
Total:	**$1,497,776.64**	**$1,479,117.12**	**-1.2%**

*YTD Total does not include numbers in *Italic*

Utilities

Utilities: Sources: City of Jacksonville & ONWASA

City of Jacksonville & ONWASA Water

	Connects		Disconnects	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
1st Qtr	5,896	4,538	3,161	3,074
2nd Qtr	*5,077*	5,297	*3,644*	3,768
3rd Qtr	*5,618*		*4,056*	
4th Qtr	*4,325*		*3,183*	
YTD Total	**10,973**	**9,835**	**6,805**	**6,842**

*YTD Total does not include numbers in *Italic*

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

	2015	2016
1st Quarter	15,041	15,193
2nd Quarter	15,247	15,279
3rd Quarter	*15,583*	
4th Quarter	*14,716*	
YTD Total	**30,288**	**30,472**

Onslow Memorial Hospital Live Births

	2015	2016
1st Quarter	412	343
2nd Quarter	375	379
3rd Quarter	*489*	
4th Quarter	*414*	
YTD Total	**787**	**722**

*YTD Total does not include numbers in *Italic*

Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune Emergency Room Visits

	2015	2016
1st Quarter	12,010	12,638
2nd Quarter	*12,417*	3,999
3rd Quarter	*12,419*	
4th Quarter	*11,061*	
YTD Total	**12,010**	**16,637**

Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune Live Births

	2015	2016
1st Quarter	476	467
2nd Quarter	*437*	168
3rd Quarter	*563*	
4th Quarter	*484*	
YTD Total	**476**	**635**

*YTD Total does not include numbers in *Italic*

Transportation

Public transportation: Source: OUTS, JTS
Onslow New Vech Sales: Source: Onslow County
Albert Ellis Airport: Source: Albert J Ellis Airport

Public Transportation Riders -2016

System	June	Fiscal YTD
Onslow United Transit System	7,530	87,050
Jacksonville Transit System	9,119	108,097
Military Express	972	17,872
Total	**17,621**	**213,019**

Onslow County New Vehicle Sales

	May 16	June 16
Cars	307	380
Trucks	413	488
Total	**720**	**868**
Year to Date		
Cars	1,694	2,074
Trucks	2,145	2,593
Total	**3,839**	**4,667**

Albert J Ellis Airport Total Passengers

	2015	2016	% Change
January	21,055	20,658	-1.8%
February	18,487	18,832	1.8%
March	23,998	23,287	-2%
April	25,620	24,827	-3%
May	28,519	26,584	-6%
June	28,110	27,668	-1.5%
July	*30,306*		
August	*28,839*		
September	*24,328*		
October	*24,406*		
November	*25,700*		
December	*23,550*		
YTD Total	**145,789**	**141,856**	**-2.7%**

*YTD Total does not include numbers in *Italic*

Housing

Onslow Absorption Rates: Source: Jacksonville NC Market Center

Onslow County Absorption Rates 2016

Information provided by Coldwell Banker Fountain Realty, William Sanders. As of 7/31/16, 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	431	61.57	444	7.21
$150,001 - $200,000	7	247	35.29	217	6.15
$200,001 - $250,000	7	128	18.29	112	6.13
$251,001 - $300,000	7	65	9.29	50	5.38
$300,001 +	7	70	10.00	197	19.70
TOTAL		**941**		**1020**	

New Construction Price	# of Months	# Sold	Sales Rate Per Month	# Currently Active*	# of Month's Of Inventory
≤ $150,000	7	27	3.86	14	3.63
$150,001 - $200,000	7	235	33.57	114	3.40
$200,001 - $250,000	7	165	23.57	109	4.62
$251,001 - $300,000	7	41	5.86	43	7.34
$300,001 +	7	14	2.00	28	14.00
TOTAL		**482**		**308**	

Business Stats

County Permits: Source: Onslow County
City Permits: Source: City of Jacksonville

City of Jacksonville Building Permits

June 2016	#	Value
Residential	14	$514,315
Commercial	55	$5,464,134
Other	198	$199,588
Total	**267**	**$6,178,037**

County Building Permits

FY2014-15	Res BPs	Com BPs	Total Value
1st Qtr Totals	483	126	$26,359,758
2nd Qtr Totals	381	89	$21,414,861
3rd Qtr Totals	411	83	$30,808,944
4th Qtr Totals	574	102	$34,069,962
FY Totals	**1,849**	**368**	**$112,653,525**

FY2015-16	Res BPs	Com BPs	Total Value
1st Qtr Totals	481	102	$27,485,456
2nd Qtr Totals	340	72	$74,356,186
3rd Qtr Totals	401	103	$32,447,965
4th Qtr Totals	481	117	$23,980,273
FY Totals	**1703**	**394**	**$158,269,880**

Camp Lejeune & MCAS

NR Government and External Relations (GER) Camp Lejeune, NC.

Camp Lejeune Area Active Duty USN/USMC Statistics

Location	04/15/2016	07/15/2016
Camp Lejeune	30,143	30,304
MARSOC	2,247	2,196
New River	7,080	6,869
TECOM Schools	4,264	3,997
Total	43,734	43,366
USMC Deployed Total	5,556	3,388

Unemployment Figures

Source: NC Dept of Commerce

Unemployment rates from Division of Employment Security - NC Dept of Commerce	
Area Name	Onslow County
Year	2016
Month	May
Labor Force	64,798
Employed	61,511
Unemployed	3,287
Unemployment Rates	5.1%

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	
2013	679	2013	710
2014	595	2014	751
2015	568	2015	786

Births		Marriages	
2013	3,980	2013	2,765
2014	3,948	2014	2,599
2015	3,718	2015	2,584

Education

Source: Onslow County Partnership for Children

Onslow County: Child Care Snapshot June 2016 (State Regulated for children birth to 12)

License Type	# facilities	# slots	# enrolled	Capacity	# staff
NC 5 star	26	3,210	2,875	90.0%	449
NC 4 star	14	537	385	72.0%	71
NC 3 star	22	496	410	83.0%	78
NC 2 star	4	126	122	97.0%	28
NC 1 star	14	107	94	88.0%	14
NC Religious	6	493	473	96.0%	82
NC Temporary					
Totals	**86**	**4,969**	**4,359**	**87.7%**	**722**

First Benefits Insurance Mutual, Inc.
North Carolina Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation That Supports Your Chamber

Your Chamber membership provides you access to First Benefits Insurance Mutual's competitive rates, responsive service, no-cost payment plans, and experienced claims management. For more information or to compare rates, call Peg at (888) 393-2667 or visit their website.

One Product. One State. Focused on You.

Dates to Remember:

Business After Hours
August 31, 2016
Coastal Bank & Trust Sports Hall of Fame, Commerce Center

Labor Day
September 5, 2016
Commerce Center Closed

Business After Hours
September 15, 2016
Vidant Medical

Public Safety Awards Ceremony
September 21, 2016
Onslow County Government Center

MED Week Awards Luncheon
October 10, 2016
Montford Point Marine Association Building

Member Welcome Reception
October 20, 2016
Commerce Center, 12-2pm

From the desk of Kristen Loflin

A common goal throughout the Tourism industry is striving to reach the millennial generation. With so many "distractions" in today's world, how do you make your product stand out? Who are these millennials anyway? According to PEW Research Center, millennials range from ages 18 to 34. However, there is no set chronological end point for this group. Why are they so popular amongst marketers? This generation recently passed Baby Boomers for the largest generation in America with a whopping 75.4 million members in the club! That's a lot of potential visitors!

Here in Onslow County, we have quite the military history. Of course, you have all the water recreation, museums, escape games, distilleries and more. However, many may never visit the site of Lejeune Memorial Gardens. Have you? Located in this beautifully landscaped garden, just outside of Camp Johnson, are memorials to those who have fought for our freedom throughout the years. How does this relate to millennials? Sure, there are those who know a lot about history. Though, there are even more who do not. While gathering content for our social media platforms, I noticed the unusual high traffic walking the gardens. It was easy to figure out why. With one simple game, I watched the number of millennial visitors double in this one location. Visitors who may have never gone to the gardens! You probably guessed it: yes, I am speaking of PokemonGo. As players are hunting for pokemon in this scavenger-like game, he or she will come across pokestops. These pokestops explain what business, marker, or memorial that these players have come across. Thus, educating each person about that landmark. At the very least, these "new" visitors are becoming aware of such locations.

And the fun doesn't just stop at the gardens. It's hard to not go to a public place and see the place crawling with children and parents trying to get that illusive pokemon. From parks to churches, businesses and attractions are creating "gyms" or dropping "lures" to drive traffic to their location. Some destinations have even created PokemonGo themed trails to highlight their best features. Others have restaurant partners who have created special beverages in homage to the game. Try driving the African American Heritage Trail. I bet you will come across a few gyms, plenty of pokestops and maybe even Pikachu. Have you given in to the craze? Have you discovered a new place you may not have visited before?

Service Rewards

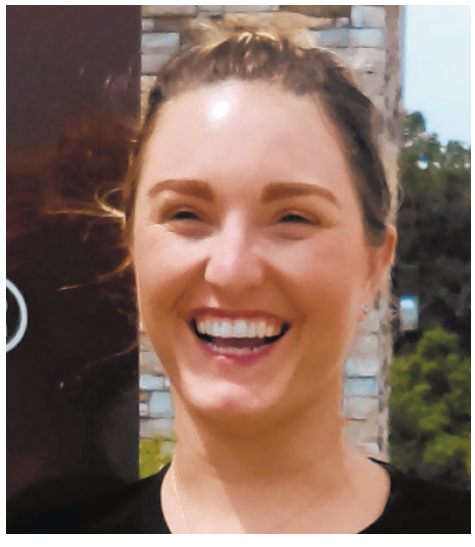
A community is only as good as the citizens that live and work within its borders. This month we celebrate the frontline employees that go the extra mile to make your visits an above average experience in Swansboro, Sneads Ferry, Richlands, and Jacksonville! The five individuals, representing five area 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!

Andrew Shillingburg
Panera Bread

Charles Wood Jr.
Best Buy

Bonnie McBane
Hardee's (Sneads Ferry)

Chad Velez
Denoia's Pizza (Sneads Ferry)



Aaron Kenzie Moore
Staybridge Suites