

Chamber CONNECTION

CONNECTING BUSINESS, MILITARY & COMMUNITY



*Congratulations
to the 2018
Administrative
Professional of
the year!*

Jenn Dukes - Administrative Assistant, Human Resources office MCCS with her Supervisor Pat Turner

Our Chamber Staff

Chamber Officials:

Laurette Leagon, President
president@jacksonvilleonline.org

Cindy Edwards, Chair

Staff:

Janet Bowen

Director of Operations and Governmental Affairs
operations@jacksonvilleonline.org

Tricia Purcell

Membership Manager
membership@jacksonvilleonline.org

Lisa Murabito

Military Affairs Manager
mac@jacksonvilleonline.org

Sabrina Thomas

Special Events Manager
specialevents@jacksonvilleonline.org

Donna Hammonds

Tourism Manager
tourd@jacksonvilleonline.org

Melissa Maloney

Administrative Services Manager
admin@jacksonvilleonline.org

Caitlin Diaz

Business Services Manager
businessservices@jacksonvilleonline.org

Rebecca Gamboa

Commerce Center Coordinator
coordinator@jacksonvilleonline.org



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.



The Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce welcomes Donna Hammonds as the New Tourism Manager

Donna Hammonds is the New Onslow County Tourism Manager. She replaces Kristen Loflin who is moving to Louisiana with her her Marine husband, Staff Sergeant Josh Loflin. Chamber President Laurette Leagon states, "I am absolutely thrilled to have Donna join our Chamber team. Her years at the Swansboro Chamber made her the ideal candidate for the position."

Read more about Donna Hammonds' plans in her new role as Onslow County Tourism Director in her article on page 16.

April Ambassador of the Month: Tydrea Russell

Congratulations to Tydrea Russell, our April Ambassador of the Month. Not only has she shown exceptional dedication by her support at Ribbon Cuttings and Operation Thank You, but she also showed the core value of KINDNESS to our fellow ambassadors, members, and just people in general. She is always the ray of sunshine no matter how rainy of a day it may be! Keep up the great work Tydrea!



New Members

APRIL

True Justice International

3113 Trent Road, New Bern
Ms. Traci Klein @ 252-631-5111
Non-Profit Organizations

East Carolina Council, Boy Scouts of America

313 Boy Scout Blvd, Kinston
Mr. Martin Clemmer @ 252-522-9707
Non-Profit Organizations

International Building Solutions LLC

6257 Wrightsville Ave., Wilmington
Mr. Juan Melendez @ 910-398-1171
Painting Contractors

BlueTeamAssess LLC

162 Thomas Holland Road, Stella
Mr. Mike Parsons @ 252-656-6502
Security - Products & Services

Steak and Shake #2061

1006 Hampton Inn Way
Mr. Frank Brinkley @ 910-939-2104
Restaurants

Final Refuge Non-Demoninational Church

P.O. Box 12292
Ms. LaQuesha Cadwallader @ 910-467-6367
Churches

Motivations with Gloria Taylor Radio Show

P.O. Box 12272
Ms. Gloria Taylor @ 910-526-1873
Motivational Speaker

Just Teasin' Hair and Nail Studio

1002 Henderson Dr.
Ms. Debbie Flores @ 910-353-8396
Hair Salon

Member Renewals

APRIL

Beyond Business Tools & Services for Processing Needs	Member Since 6/6/2016
Brian Kennedy Global	4/18/2017
Budget Blinds of Jacksonville	9/23/2004
Col Michael Williams, USMC (Ret)	5/18/2010
Continuum Home Care & Hospice	3/3/2000
J E Thomas and Sons Moving	4/21/2010
JFG Inc.	4/27/2011
Kinetico Advanced Water Systems	2/22/2006
Lashea Cavers - LegalShield Independent Associate	4/21/2016
Lendmark Financial Services	6/11/2013
Margolis Men's Store	9/29/1944
Miller-Motte College	7/2/2010
Montessori Children's School, Inc.	4/26/1996
Mr. Jason Harris	7/21/2016
New River Harmony Barbershop Chorus	6/20/2005
North Carolina Housing Finance Agency	6/25/2015
Planet Fitness	11/15/2013
Possumwood Acres Wildlife Sanctuary	4/18/2017
Rock Creek Golf & Country Club	4/15/2002
Sanders Ford/Swansboro	7/16/1987
Southern Leisure Builders, Inc.	3/7/2005
The Marshall Group	4/27/2015
The Sue Cruddas Real Estate Team	5/26/2006
Twin Peaks Restaurant Jacksonville	4/10/2015
Valencia Park Executive Offices	8/20/2003
Walmart	3/1/2003
WAVQ Radio	1/16/2013
Webster University	3/9/2014



Ribbon Cuttings



April 5th

Hilton Garden Inn & Mad Boar Restaurant
1016 Jacksonville Parkway



April 16th

DoTerra
1099 Gum Branch Rd.



April 20th

Weichert, REALTORS-The Devine Group
209 Henderson Dr.



Ribbon Cuttings



April 27th

McDonalds #8104
1731 Lejeune Blvd.



April 28th

Finders Keepers Thrift Store
1241 Hargett St.



April 30th

Ribeye's of Jacksonville
2109 N. Marine Blvd.

Administrative Professionals Celebration Speakers and Presenters



left to right: Bob Dupuis, Chamber's Division Chair Military Affairs, Lashea Cavers, LegalShield, Laurette Leagon, President Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce, Mr. David Heatherly, President Coastal Carolina Community College, Heather Macy, East Carolina University Women's Head Basketball Coach, Col Scott A. Baldwin Inspector-General, MCIEAST

2018 Administrative Professional of the Year nominees



Bob Dupuis and Laurette Leagon with the 2018 Administrative Professional of the Year nominees:, Shakeria Williams - Coastal Carolina Community College, Angela Wilkins - County of Onslow, Sara Walsh - MCCS, Semper Fit, Single Marine Program, Christy Shupe - MCCS, Semper Fit Division, Nerissa Newsome - Schilsky Chiropractic, Marcia McLaurin - MCCS, Semper Fit Division, Stephanie Hurley - Coastal Carolina Community College, Christy Fisher - Coastal Carolina Community College, Jennifer Dukes - MCCS, Jessica Dresang - MCCS, Semper Fit Division

Administrative Professional of the Year



Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce Administrative Professional of the Year Jenn Dukes, the Administrative Assistant in the Human Resources office at Marine Corps Community Services

Thank you to our Sponsors

GOLD SPONSOR:

SANDERS 
Savings. Service. Sanders.

SILVER SPONSOR:

JOEMC
Jones-Onslow Electric
Membership Corporation
A Touchstone Energy® Partner 

 **First
Citizens
Bank**

 **TAPSNAP™**
PHOTOTAINTMENT

BRONZE SPONSOR:





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				
16-17	Taxable Sales	17-18	Taxable Sales	% Change
Jul-16	\$173,654,795	Jul-17	\$176,001,283	1.35%
Aug-16	\$171,787,640	Aug-17	\$175,923,030	2.41%
Sep-16	\$172,438,330	Sep-17	\$170,773,046	-0.97%
Oct-16	\$157,979,134	Oct-17	\$166,205,341	5.21%
Nov-16	\$149,558,400	Nov-17	\$158,839,850	6.21%
Dec-16	\$159,084,149	Dec-17	\$166,147,995	4.44%
Jan-17	\$188,820,250	Jan-18	\$190,951,446	1.13%
Feb-17	\$142,931,810	Feb-18	\$145,494,737	1.79%
Mar-17	\$152,227,168	Mar-18		4.26%
Apr-17	\$183,028,780	Apr-18		7.43%
May-17	\$167,072,441	May-18		6.88%
Jun-17	\$163,332,351	Jun-18		2.11%
YTD Total	\$1,316,254,508	YTD Total	\$1,350,336,728	2.59%
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>				

Occupancy Tax Report			
	2016-2017	2017-2018	%
July	\$402,706.74	\$391,718.29	-2.7%
August	\$284,130.83	\$345,186.90	17.6%
September	\$157,461.01	\$184,118.54	14.4%
October	\$120,219.03	\$121,179.13	.7%
November	\$83,262.30	\$95,052.77	14.4%
December	\$64,805.58	\$69,237.21	6.4%
January	\$67,525.27	\$81,149.42	16.7%
February	\$71,982.00	\$85,629.52	15.9%
March	\$92,556.64	\$109,978.86	15.8%
April	\$110,117.39		
May	\$154,642.07		
June	\$247,486.99		
Total:	\$1,344,649.40	\$1,483,250.64	9.3%
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>			

UTILITIES				
UTILITIES: SOURCES: CITY OF JACKSONVILLE & ONWASA				
City of Jacksonville & ONWASA Water				
	Connects		Disconnects	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
1st Qtr	4,753	4,953	3,193	3,821
2nd Qtr	5,185		3,194	
3rd Qtr	5,311		4,713	
4th Qtr	4,284		4,077	
YTD Total	4,753	4,953	3,193	3,821
*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		
	2017	2018
1 st Quarter	15,609	15,280
2 nd Quarter	14,779	
3 rd Quarter	15,124	
4 th Quarter	15,124	
YTD Total	15,609	15,280
Onslow Memorial Hospital Live Births		
	2017	2018
1 st Quarter	365	307
2 nd Quarter	325	
3 rd Quarter	388	
4 th Quarter	358	
YTD Total	365	307
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>		

Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune Emergency Room Visits		
	2017	2018
1 st Quarter	13,326	13,134
2 nd Quarter	11,538	
3 rd Quarter	13,686	
4 th Quarter	13,925	
YTD Total	13,326	13,134
Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune Live Births		
	2017	2018
1 st Quarter	514	480
2 nd Quarter	483	
3 rd Quarter	542	
4 th Quarter	350	
YTD Total	514	480
*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		
System	March	Fiscal YTD
Onslow United Transit System	7,994	67,068
Jacksonville Transit System	9,612	90,108
Military Express	1,609	10,733
Total	19,215	167,909
Onslow County New Vehicle Sales		
	FEB 18	MAR 18
Cars	242	256
Trucks	388	435
Total	630	691
Year to Date		
Cars	620	876
Trucks	954	1,389
Total	1,574	2,265

Albert J Ellis Airport Total Passengers			
	2017	2018	% Change
January	22,039	19,905	-9.6%
February	22,607	21,064	-6.8%
March	25,629	27,481	6.7%
April	26,552		%
May	28,701		%
June	27,385		%
July	28,753		%
August	29,818		%
September	25,210		%
October	27,400		%
November	25,138		%
December	24,586		%
YTD Total	70,275	68,450	2.5%
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>			

HOUSING	
ONSLow ABSORPTION RATES: SOURCE: JACKSONVILLE NC MARKET CENTER	

Onslow County Absorption Rates 2018					
Information provided by Coldwell Banker Fountain Realty, William Sanders. As of 3/31/18, 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	3	203	67.67	203	3.00
\$150,001 - \$200,000	3	145	48.33	168	3.48
\$200,001 - \$250,000	3	57	19.00	101	5.32
\$251,001 - \$300,000	3	20	6.67	42	6.30
\$300,001 +	3	35	11.67	120	10.29
TOTAL		460		634	
New Construction Price	# of Months	# Sold	Sales Rate Per Month	# Currently Active*	# of Month's Of Inventory
≤ \$150,000	3	4	1.33	6	4.50
\$150,001 - \$200,000	3	57	19.00	105	5.53
\$200,001 - \$250,000	3	59	19.67	107	5.44
\$251,001 - \$300,000	3	24	8.00	51	6.38
\$300,001 +	3	9	3.00	36	12.00
TOTAL		153		305	

BUSINESS STATS

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

City of Jacksonville Building Permits		
March 2018	#	Value
Residential	20	\$545,822
Commercial	73	\$3,370,127
Other	270	\$484,809
Total	363	\$4,400,758

County Building Permits			
FY2017-18	Res BPs	Com BPs	Total Value
1st Qtr Totals	678	174	\$31,124,290
2nd Qtr Totals	697	123	\$40,257,582
3rd Qtr Totals	713	143	\$34,061,981
4th Qtr Totals	268	66	\$10,802,787
FY Totals	2,356	506	\$116,246,640

FY2018-19	Res BPs	Com BPs	Total Value
1st Qtr Totals			
2nd Qtr Totals			
3rd Qtr Totals			
4th Qtr Totals			
FY Totals			

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

Camp Lejeune Area Active Duty USN/USMC Statistics		
Location	1/15/2017	10/15/2017
Camp Lejeune	29,426	29,896
MARSOC	2,209	2,255
New River	6,728	6,454
TECOM Schools	6,412	4,748
Total	44,775	43,353
USMC Deployed Total	3,021	4,338



HEATING AND COOLING
IS OUR SPECIALTY....



Jacksonville Area 910-347-7133
Wilmington Area 910-686-4442

www.humphreyheating.com

Unemployment rates from NC Works - NC Dept of Commerce	
Area Name	Onslow County
Year	2018
Month	February
Labor Force	64,831
Employed	61,544
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	
2015	568	2015	786
2016	560	2016	812
2017	580	2017	804

Births		Marriages	
2015	3,718	2015	2,584
2016	3,519	2016	2,677
2017	3,535	2017	2,629

EDUCATION
SOURCE: ONSLOW COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN

Onslow County: Child Care Snapshot Mar 2018 (State Regulated for children birth to 12)					
License Type	# facilities	# slots	# enrolled	Capacity	# staff
NC 5 star	21	2,715	2,602	96%	403
NC 4 star	8	218	181	83%	28
NC 3 star	21	569	528	93%	82
NC 2 star	2	13	6	46%	2
NC 1 star	10	123	105	85%	16
NC Religious	5	459	422	92%	66
NC Temporary	2	207	52	25%	10
NC Provisional					
NC Probationary					
Totals	69	4,304	3,896	91.0%	607

The Swansboro Area Chamber of Commerce's Military Affairs Committee & Hammocks Beach State Park Present:

SATURDAY, JUNE 2ND | 10AM - 4PM

MILITARY Appreciation Day



Hammocks Beach State Park ★ Swansboro

Ferry Rides ★ Food ★ Fun Park
Exhibits ★ Entertainment
& Tons of Kids Activities!

Active/Retired Service Members & Family Welcome!

Swansborochamber.org ★ (910) 326-1174



COLDWELL BANKER

FOUNTAIN REALTY

910.455.2977





ABA
RENTAL PROPERTIES INC.

910-347-4049 | Jacksonville, NC

When you care about where you live

2018 Meet the Candidates



Onslow County Commissioner Candidates

left to right: TIM FOSTER, JACKSON HAWLEY,
WILLIAM SHANAHAN, REVA R. SULLIVAN



Onslow County Sheriff Candidates

left to right: WALTER J. SCOTT, HANS J. MILLER,
BOYD BROWN



Onslow County Board of Education Candidates

left to right: JEFF HUDSON, BILL LANIER, KEN REDDIC,
BOB WILLIAMS



N. C. House District 14 Candidates

left to right: GEORGE CLEVELAND, JOE MCLAUGHLIN

**Jacksonville•Onslow Chamber of Commerce
Governmental Affairs Committee**

Application for Membership

Name _____
 Business Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____ Fax _____
 E-mail _____

1. Why would you like to be a member of the Chamber's Governmental Affairs Committee?

2. What talents/expertise can you bring to the committee?

3. What has been your involvement in legislative issues/Chamber legislative functions during the past year?

4. Please list three (3) references from the current Governmental Affairs Committee membership:

I understand that if approved as a member of the Jacksonville•Onslow Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs Committee, my annual dues will be \$100, payable in July each year, and that my initial payment of dues will be made immediately upon receipt of invoice.

I further understand that along with invoice for dues, I will receive a copy of the committee's bylaws and that payment of dues constitutes my understanding and agreement to participate in the committee, adhering to all rules and policies as set forth in the bylaws.

Signature _____ Date _____



Governmental Affairs Committee

Jonathan Kappler, Executive Director, North Carolina Free Enterprise Foundation was the guest speaker for the April GAC meeting. Members of the 2017-2018 Leadership program attended the meeting. Pictured Ralph Leeds, Cindy Edwards, Jonathan Kappler, Clay Calhoun, Michael Onifer, Scott Smith, Virginia March and Scott Prevatte.

If you want to stay well informed on what's going on in government locally, statewide and nationally, consider becoming a member of the Chamber's Governmental Affairs Committee.

Onslow County Commissioner Conducts Youth Activities Survey

During the month of May, Commissioner Royce Bennett will be conducting a survey of youth activities available in Onslow County this summer. It will be known as the 2018 Youth Activities Survey. We frequently hear that “there is nothing for kids to do in Onslow County.” In fact, there are tons of activities available for the youth in Onslow County! The Commissioner will focus on NEW activities and FREE activities for children under 16 years of age and their families. On May 31, 2018, the Commissioner intends to visit several locations to highlight some of the many FUN activities to do in Onslow County. Businesses and Agencies who offer FUN things for kids to do are encouraged to contact Commissioner Bennett by email at: bennett@onslowcountync.gov. Please provide your contact information so that the Commissioner can follow up with you and perhaps pay a visit to your business.



left to right: Back row left to right: Virginia March, Dave Bradford, Clay Calhoun, Scott Prevatte, Amy Hoffman, Melissa Huffman. Front row left to right: Sandra Janssen, Autumn Bishop, Whitney Cantrell, Jennifer Pearce

In April the 2017-2018 Jacksonville Onslow Leadership participants held their Healthcare and Agriculture session. Dr. Deal, CEO of Onslow Memorial Hospital welcomed them and gave an update on the hospital and healthcare in our area. They also toured parts of the Hospital. They then visited Cooperative Extension, the Discovery Gardens and Melissa Huffman led them on a farm tour. Agriculture is one of the top industries in North Carolina.



Dr. Penney Burlingame Deal, CEO of Onslow Memorial Hospital

2018 Only in Onslow Now Available!

Stop by the Commerce Center at 1099 Gum Branch Road to pick up copies of the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce 2018 Only in Onslow Membership Magazine.

Corrections

Try as we might, we still had a few errors/omissions in the year's membership magazine:

The following business was not listed



910-455-8686 Office

910-389-1949 Cell

910-455-8668 Fax

shurst@hometeampropmgmt.com

www.hometeampropmgmt.com


HomeTeam Property Management helps homeowners and investors market residential rental properties to individuals, working professionals, military members and families in the cities of Jacksonville, Hubert, Camp Lejeune, MCAS New River, Richlands, Sneads Ferry, Swansboro, and Holly Ridge. They also provide listing and real estate services to homeowners looking to sell their home. In business for over 41 years, HomeTeam Property Management offers comprehensive services tailored to your particular needs. If you have residential single-family homes, duplexes, triplexes or four-plexes you need to rent or have professionally managed, let them help you.



The phone number for King Law firm was incorrect. It should be 910-455-4065





1st Place.....\$800

2nd Place.....\$600

3rd Place.....\$400

**1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes will each be split: 1/2 to foursome, 1/2 to Onslow County School of foursome's choice*

Format: Four Man Captain's Choice

Friday, June 1st, 2018 | Jacksonville Country Club | Tee-off: 1:00pm

Sponsored By:



Hole Sponsorship	Four Person Team	Four Person Team & Hole Sponsorship	Tee Buster & one mulligan (per player)
\$160	\$320	\$470	\$10

**Fee covers: Green fees, cart, beverages, lunch & goody bags*

Players

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Handicap

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

**Minimum combined four person Handicap of 36 one player with a Handicap of 9 or less.*

Team Name/Company _____ Phone Number _____

Email Address _____



For more information, contact Sabrina Thomas
(910) 347-3141, ext. 235
SpecialEvents@jacksonvilleonline.org
Mail this entry form and fee to:
Chamber of Commerce - 1099 Gum Branch Road, Jacksonville, NC 28540

MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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

April's Service Member of the Month Lance Corporal Shemar R. Chambers

LCpl Shemar R. Chambers is distinguished as the Service Member of the Month (SMOM) for the month of April by the Jacksonville•Onslow Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee.

LCpl Chambers was born and raised in Queens, New York and graduated Hillcrest High School. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in October of 2015 and attended Marine Combat Training at Camp Geiger, NC. After completing MCT, in 2015, LCpl Chambers reported to the Personnel Administration School at Camp Johnson, NC where he was assigned the MOS 0111. November of 2016, PFC Chambers, was assigned to the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Academy Camp Lejeune. April 2017, LCpl Chamber was promoted to his current Rank.

LCpl Chambers currently serves as the Academics Chief for the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Academy (SNCOA) and is directly responsible for the administration of grading and maintenance of academic materials for three different schools, and he ensures the administrative processing of over 1,500 Staff Noncommissioned Officers annually. His ability to tactfully communicate with the very senior staff at the SNCOA has set him apart from his peers, and has earned him the trust of faculty and instructors. LCPL Chambers is also aggressively training in the Marine Corps Martial Arts program, seeking advancement in the program so that he can attend the Martial Arts Instructor Course to give back by training his fellow Marines.

LCpl Chambers' leadership explained that they nominated him for the SMOM because he has a level of maturity and self-motivation that are seldom seen in such a young Marine. LCpl Chambers consistently produces quality results with little to no supervision. He performs his primary duties very well, and has taken on additional duties and responsibilities as a Single Marine Program representative. LCpl Chambers has provided over 50 hours of Community Service, is attending college, and is rapidly progressing in the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program.

LCpl Chambers is married to Taneysha Guerrido who resides in Queens Village, New York and attends John Jay College of Criminal Justice. LCpl Chambers future plans include meritorious promotions, deploying overseas, and attending Martial Arts Instructor Course. He would like to make a lasting impression on everybody he works with thorough out his career and learn from him or her as well. After retiring from the Marine Corp, he would like to start a second career. He would like to become a First Line Supervisor in the NYPD. He feels he can make the most impact due to the demographic design and his relatable experiences.

Congratulations to the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee April Service Member of the Month, LCpl Shemar R. Chambers, USMC.



From the desk of Danna Hammonds



Hello Onslow County!

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did? Throw off the bowlines and sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sail, Explore, Dream and Discover...- Mark Twain

That's exactly what I hope to achieve, inspire not only visitors, but residents of Onslow County as well to set sail and embrace our County's tourism assets on their next coastal adventure. Onslow's rich patriotic history, agritourism endeavors, distilleries, historic townships, beaches

and waterways, state park, museums and military memorials all boast our County's heritage while giving life for its future.

I'm very honored to have been chosen as the County's new Tourism Manger. Many thanks to the Jacksonville/Onslow Chamber of Commerce President, Laurette Leagon and its Board of Directors for having confidence in my abilities and affording me this wonderful opportunity. For the past fourteen years I've worked at the Swansboro Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center, serving as a front door to Onslow County. During

that time I served on the Onslow Tourism Advisory Committee (TAC) as a liaison on behalf of Swansboro working side by side with many hoteliers, attractions and key community representatives. I look forward to rekindling those partnerships on a whole new level for the betterment of Onslow County.

Past tourism manager Kristen Loflin set the bar high during her tenure as she brought a whole new perspective for promoting Onslow County through various media outlets. She may only have a size five "cowboy boot" but I'll strive to do my best at filling her boots. I wish Kristen and her husband, Josh, all the best as they embark on a new adventure in New Orleans for their next duty station.

May will be a busy month for tourism hosting travel writers, attending conferences & events and laying out the marketing plan for 2018-2019. I'm excited to get started and will most definitely be jumping in with both feet!

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!



Anita Afify
Access Realty Group



Glenda Milam
Franklin Bread



Julieta O'Kelley
Home 2 Suites



Tarnisha Robinson
Fairfield Inn



Tesree Thompson
Red Roof Inn