

Chamber CONNECTION

CONNECTING BUSINESS, MILITARY & COMMUNITY

2019 Administrative Professional of the Year



SEE PAGE
4
For Details

Our Chamber Staff

Chamber Officials:

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president@jacksonvilleonline.org

Tiffany Choice, Chair

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operations@jacksonvilleonline.org

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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.

Chamber names Lashea Cavers as Membership Manager

Lashea was a Service Member in the United States Marine Corps from February 1996 - February 2016. She serves on the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce Ambassador, Small Business, and Event Committees and Business Diversity Council. Lashea was honored as a Business Legend of Onslow County, in 2018. She is currently working on her Master of Arts, Industrial and Organizational Psychology, holds a Bachelor of Science degree, Major- Psychology and Minor in-Business Administration and an Associate of Arts Degree, General Studies. In addition to her role as the chamber's membership manager, she also is the owner of a small business named Synergy Innovative Solutions, LLC. Please send a note of welcome to Lashea at membership@jacksonvilleonline.org





-  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, May 31, 2019 | 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	Handicap
1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____
3. _____	3. _____
4. _____	4. _____

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

Team Name/Company _____ Phone Number _____

Email Address _____



Hole~in~One Contest for a chance to win a Rolex.

**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
 or fax it to (910) 347-4705

The Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce Administrative Professionals' Celebration

Chamber selects, Ms. Denyse Lewis the Accounts' and Membership Manager at the Jacksonville Country Club as the 2019 Administrative Professional of the Year. Denyse Lewis is known as the "go to" person when information is needed regarding the operations of the office, and if some tough decisions need to be made, this person is the one to provide the historical background necessary for others to make an informed decision. Country Club Board member Pam Thomas stated, "Denyse never hesitates to mentor and train fellow

staff members while handling many "attention to details" to make the business better, and making our clients feel they are important to our success." Other adjectives used to describe Denyse are endearing, joyful, pleasant, priceless, supportive, and dedicated. Congratulations Denyse Lewis who has been the Accounts' and Membership Manager for 20 years at the Jacksonville Country Club on being selected as the 2019 Administrative Professional of the Year.



l-to-r Chamber's Special Events Manager Sabrina Thomas, 2019 Administrative Professional of the Year Denyse Lewis and Breakfast Keynote speaker Anissa Starnes, owner of Swingbridge Partners.



2019 Administrative Professional Nominees

Jessica Anderson

Administrative Professional for MCCS/
Semper Fit/SMP

Nominated by: Susan Goodrich,
Branch Head, MCCS

Valerie D. Cox

Administrative Professional for Navy
Medical Center

Nominated by: Darryl Roberson, Clinic
Manager

Donna Crumpler

Administrative Professional for Coastal
Carolina Community College

Nominated by: Ginger Tuton, VP for
Instruction

Lizbeth Deam

Administrative Professional for MCCS/
Behavior Health/New Parent Support
Program

Nominated by: Mary Caldwell, Branch
Manager/NPSP

Jeremy Denny

Administrative Professional for Animal
House

Nominated by: Diana Comer, Kennel
Manager

Sara Diaz

Administrative Professional for Onslow
County Clerk of Superior Court

Nominated by: Lisa Brown, Clerk of
Superior Court

Michel Flores

Administrative Professional for Navy
Medical Center

Nominated by: Calvin Leatherwood,
Performance Improvement Manger,
Navy Medical Center, Camp Lejeune

Walter Flores

Administrative Professional for MCCS
Camp Lejeune-New River

Nominated by: Julie Fulton, School
Liaison Officer

Jenna Friday

Administrative Professional for Coastal
Carolina Community College

Nominated by: Sharon McGinnis, VP
for Institutional Effectiveness

Jackie Jones

Administrative Professional for First
Citizens Bank

Nominated by: Amanda Cox, Financial
Service Manager & Kristian Capps,
Operations Supervisor

Denyse Lewis

Administrative Professional for
Jacksonville Country Club

Nominated by: Jerry Allen, President
and Board member Pam Thomas
Jacksonville Country Club

Marissa Ann McCloskey

Administrative Professional for Century
21 Champion

Nominated by: Art Furtney, Broker

Marcia McLaurin

Administrative Professional for MCCS,
Fitness Branch, Semper Fit Division

Nominated by: Mary Troja, Fitness
Branch Head

Tonya Morton

Administrative Professional for Coastal
Carolina Community College

Nominated by: Anonymous Fan

Heather Norris

Administrative Professional for
ONWASA

Nominated by: Jeff Hudson, CEO

Christy Shupe

Administrative Professional for MCCS,
Semper Fit Division

Nominated by: Angela Rodier,
Community Recreation Program
Manager

Latrisha (Trish) Spivey

Administrative Professional for MCCS

Nominated by: Gwendoline O'Brien,
Chief Financial Officer

Sara Walsh

Administrative Professional for MCCS/
Semper Fit/SMP

Nominated by: Susan Goodrich,
Branch Head, MCCS. Single Marine
Program

Holly Worrell

Administrative Professional for Onslow
County

Nominated by: Glenn Hasteadt, ITS
Director, Onslow County

Thank you to our sponsors:



New Members

My Mechanic Automotive
2502 Onslow Drive, Jacksonville NC
Mr. Gary Potter @ 910-353-1692
Automobile - Repairs/Body Repairs

SCI Restoration Services, Inc.
2805 Richlands Hwy Suite 200, Jacksonville NC
Mr. Luke Woodruff @ 866-WET-MOLD
Fire & Water Damage/Restoration

JCMC (Sick Clinic - Pediatrics)
118 Memorial Drive, Jacksonville NC
910-353-0581
Pediatric

JCMC (Well Clinic - Pediatrics)
120 Memorial Drive, Jacksonville NC
910-219-8326
Pediatric

JCMC (Jacksonville - Family Care Clinic)
114 C Memorial Drive, Jacksonville NC
910-353-9688
Healthcare Provider

JCMC (Jacksonville - Urgent Care)
114 A Memorial Drive, Jacksonville NC
910-353-0700
Urgent Care

JCMC (Jacksonville - Gastroenterology Clinic)
152 Memorial Ct., Jacksonville NC
910-353-3200
Gastroenterology

JCMC (Jacksonville - Allergy Asthma & Sinus Clinic)
152 Memorial Ct., Jacksonville NC
910-219-8373
Healthcare Provider

JCMC (Jacksonville/Wilmington - Behavioral and Mental Health Clinic)
154 Memoral Ct., Jacksonville NC
910-353-0680
Mental Health Services

JCMC (Cape Carteret - Family Care Clinic)
319 WB Mclean Blvd., Cape Carteret NC
252-424-0004
Healthcare Provider

JCMC (Richlands - Family Care Clinic)
107 S. Wilmington St., Richlands NC
910-324-7268
Healthcare Provider

APRIL

JCMC (Swansboro - Family Care Clinic)
1106 Main Street Ext., Swansboro NC
910-325-0581
Healthcare Provider

JCMC (Sneads Ferry - Family Care Clinic)
108 Lakeside Dr., Sneads Ferry NC
910-327-5437
Healthcare Provider

JCMC (Wilmington - Family Care Clinic)
5710 Oleander Dr. Suite 200, Wilmington NC
910-799-1810
Healthcare Provider

Wireless Express LLC
215 Western Blvd Suite 200, Jacksonville NC
Mr. Zach Mohn @ 910-219-0041
Cellular Sales and Service

NC Guardian ad Litem, District 4
220 Georgetown Rd , Jacksonville NC
Mr. James Webb @ 910-478-3621
NonProfit

Southeastern Medical Oncolgy Center
239 Station St , Jacksonville NC
Ms. Donna Vause @ 910-353-0819
Oncology



Jacksonville • Onslow
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Marketing Report April 2019

Social

Between April 2-28, 9,639 people were reached through Facebook posts on the Chamber’s page.

A total of 58 new people “liked” the page in April, and 59 people followed the page.

Post engagement (clicks or actions on posts) totaled 3,980 in April. Just this week, top posts reached over 700 people.

This past week, The Chamber’s Facebook page ranked just below the Onslow County Partnership for Children page, with 30 posts and 1.8K engagements. The Chamber ranked No. 2 out of five local pages with similar interests, including the United Way.

Profile visits to the Chamber’s Twitter page were up 20 percent this month. Tweet impressions totaled 5,023 in April.

This is based on organic engagement statistics from Facebook, without paid promotions.

Website

According to Google analytics, approximately 2,000 users visited the Chamber website in April. On average, 476 people visit the website each week. Almost 60 percent of website users are visiting the website on a desktop computer, while 34 percent use a mobile device. Only 5 percent of our visitors are using a tablet to research the Chamber of Commerce.

Popular pages on the website include Pink Trash’s profile and the Service Member of the Month page.

These numbers are based on organic visitors to the site, without paid promotions.

Member Renewals

APRIL

	Member Since		Member Since
Alorica Jacksonville	2/14/2006	LeBleu Bottled Water	6/12/1998
Angry Ginger Irish Pub	5/12/2015	Longhorn Steakhouse	3/12/2013
Budget Blinds of Jacksonville	9/23/2004	Marrakesh Mediterranean Cuisine	4/8/2015
Cabin Creek Campground Inc.	3/19/2008	Montessori Children’s School, Inc.	4/26/1996
Cleveland Enterprises	4/22/1997	Neverland and Main Travel	5/22/2017
CPR Cell Phone & Computer Repair	4/10/2017	Ocean’s Edge	2/13/2017
Dairy Queen	4/8/2014	Onslow Fitness Center Inc.	8/19/1981
Eastern North Carolina Chapter Alzheimer’s Association	5/13/2016	Onslow Shrine Club	2/28/2002
Huffman Landscape & Lawn Professionals	1/1/2001	Onward to Opportunity - VCTP, IVMF Syracuse University	3/13/2018
J E Thomas and Sons Moving	4/21/2010	Rock Creek Golf & Country Club	4/15/2002
Jacksonville (NC) Alumnae Chapter-Delta Sigma Theta	1/31/2011	Servpro of Pender/West Onslow	4/17/2012
Jacksonville Conference Center	10/5/1999	Special Events Catering	3/23/2004
Jacksonville Rotary Club South	5/14/2014	The Sue Cruddas Real Estate Team	5/26/2006
JFG Inc.	4/27/2011	Valencia Park Executive Offices	8/20/2003
Lashea Cavers - LegalShield Independent Associate	4/21/2016		



- Local Radio is the largest Reach Advertising Medium.
- Talking to more Jacksonville business customers, weekdays 6A-7P, than any other media!
- If you want to grow your business, for pennies on the dollar, just give us a call and we'll get you the facts, and a free demo commercial.
- Call 1-877-ENC-RADIO (1-877-362-7234)

 **Curtis Media Group**

Julie Keoho & Brittany Kortman
Jacksonville Office



Ribbon Cuttings



April 11

True Justice International
825 Gum Branch Road



April 13

Discovery Gardens Gazebo
4024 Richlands Highway

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				
17-18	Taxable Sales	17-18	Taxable Sales	% Change
Jul-17	\$176,001,283	Jul-18	\$194,582,338	10.56%
Aug-17	\$175,923,030	Aug-18	\$191,474,148	8.84%
Sep-17	\$170,773,046	Sep-18	\$179,899,105	5.34%
Oct-17	\$166,205,341	Oct-18	\$162,662,167	-2.31%
Nov-17	\$158,839,850	Nov-18	\$205,477,971	29.36%
Dec-17	\$166,147,995	Dec-18	\$209,559,140	26.13%
Jan-18	\$190,951,446	Jan-19	\$221,950,803	16.23%
Feb-18	\$145,494,737	Feb-19	\$183,143,879	25.88%
Mar-18	<i>\$157,865,496</i>			
Apr-18	<i>\$184,676,634</i>			
May-18	<i>\$172,895,493</i>			
Jun-18	<i>\$177,433,672</i>			
YTD Total	\$1,184,188,733	YTD Total	1,548,749,551	14.69%
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>				

Occupancy Tax Report			
	<u>2017-2018</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>	%
July	\$391,718.29	\$462,461.06	18.06%
August	\$345,186.90	\$353,283.12	2.35%
September	\$184,118.54	\$203,610.20	10.59%
October	\$123,496.32	\$196,372.41	37.11%
November	\$96,428.37	\$179,777.01	86.41%
December	\$69,491.16	\$151,254.46	117.66%
January	\$81,254.97	\$139,425.68	41.72%
February	\$85,695.58	\$139,912.25	63.26%
March	\$110,256.28	\$164,033.48	32.79%
April	<i>\$120,142.13</i>		%
May	<i>\$150,439.80</i>		%
June	<i>\$324,830.51</i>		%
Total:	\$1,401,950.83	\$1,847,936.97	33.77%

UTILITIES				
UTILITIES: SOURCES: CITY OF JACKSONVILLE & ONWASA				
City of Jacksonville & ONWASA Water				
	Connects		Disconnects	
	2018	2019	2018	2019
1st Qtr	4,953	4,550	3,821	4,513
2nd Qtr	<i>4,953</i>		<i>4,983</i>	
3rd Qtr	<i>3,800</i>		<i>4,058</i>	
4th Qtr	<i>1,775</i>		<i>1,911</i>	
YTD Total	4,953*	4,550	3,821*	4,513
*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		
	2018	2019
1 st Quarter	15,280	13,547
2 nd Quarter	<i>15,462</i>	
3 rd Quarter	<i>14,824</i>	
4 th Quarter	<i>14,731</i>	
YTD Total	15,280	13,547
Onslow Memorial Hospital Live Births		
	2018	2019
1 st Quarter	307	313
2 nd Quarter	<i>303</i>	
3 rd Quarter	<i>357</i>	
4 th Quarter	<i>348</i>	
YTD Total	307	313
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>		

Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune Emergency Room Visits		
	2018	2019
1 st Quarter	13,134	13,036
2 nd Quarter	<i>13,393</i>	
3 rd Quarter	<i>11,582</i>	
4 th Quarter	<i>11,909</i>	
YTD Total	13,134	13,036
Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune Live Births		
	2018	2019
1 st Quarter	480	458
2 nd Quarter	<i>459</i>	
3 rd Quarter	<i>499</i>	
4 th Quarter	<i>449</i>	
YTD Total	480	458

TRANSPORTATION		
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: SOURCE: OUTS, JTS		
ALBERT ELLIS AIRPORT: SOURCE: ALBERT J ELLIS AIRPORT		
Public Transportation Riders - 2019-20		
System	March	Fiscal YTD
Onslow United Transit System	7,590	64,141
Jacksonville Transit System	9,783	83,023
Military Express	2,435	11,838
Total	19,808	159,002

Albert J Ellis Airport Total Passengers			
	2018	2019	% Change
January	19,905	23,549	18%
February	21,064	22,739	8%
March	27,481		%
April	26,425		%
May	28,587		%
June	26,867		%
July	29,082		%
August	30,838		%
September	18,324		%
October	26,168		%
November	27,468		%
December	26,451		%
YTD Total	308,660	46,288	11%
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>			

HOUSING	
ONSLOW ABSORPTION RATES: SOURCE: JACKSONVILLE NC MARKET CENTER	

Onslow County Absorption Rates 2019					
Information provided by Coldwell Banker Fountain Realty, William Sanders. As of 2/28/19, 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	274	91.33	67	0.73
\$150,001 - \$200,000	3	257	85.67	76	0.89
\$200,001 - \$250,000	3	125	41.67	76	1.82
\$251,001 - \$300,000	3	27	9.00	33	3.67
\$300,001 +	3	35	11.67	82	7.03
TOTAL		718		334	

New Construction Price	# of Months	# Sold	Sales Rate Per Month	# Currently Active*	# of Month's Of Inventory
≤ \$150,000	3	0	0.00	0	12.00
\$150,001 - \$200,000	3	48	16.00	45	2.81
\$200,001 - \$250,000	3	74	24.67	99	4.01
\$251,001 - \$300,000	3	33	11.00	36	3.27
\$300,001 +	3	28	9.33	40	4.29
TOTAL		183		220	

BUSINESS STATS

COUNTY PERMITS: SOURCE: ONSLOW COUNTY

CITY PERMITS: SOURCE: CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

City of Jacksonville Building Permits		
March 2019	#	Value
Residential	27	\$692,393
Commercial	95	\$2,287,659
Other	208	\$280,615
Total	330	\$3,260,667

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	889	181	\$34,853,330
FY Totals	2,977	621	\$140,297,183

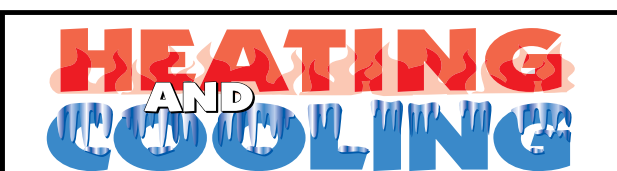
FY2018-19	Res BPs	Com BPs	Total Value
1st Qtr Totals	779	135	\$26,959,313
2nd Qtr Totals	1,257	163	\$40,163,911
3rd Qtr Totals	1078	164	\$44,634,113
4th Qtr Totals			
FY Totals	3,114	462	\$111,757,337

CAMP LEJEUNE & MCAS

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

Camp Lejeune Area Active Duty USN/USMC Statistics

Location	10/15/2018	04/15/2019
Camp Lejeune	31,172	31,374
MARSOC	2,258	2,330
New River	6,374	6,325
TECOM Schools	4,817	6,010
Total	44,621	46,039
USMC Deployed Total	4,914	


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UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES

SOURCE: NC DEPT OF COMMERCE

Unemployment rates from NC Works - NC Dept of Commerce	
Area Name	Onslow County
Year	2019
Month	February
Labor Force	64,942
Employed	61,676
Unemployed	3,266
Unemployment Rates	5.0%

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	
2016	560	2016	812
2017	580	2017	804
2018	556	2018	863

Births		Marriages	
2016	3,519	2016	2,677
2017	3,535	2017	2,629
2018	3,267	2018	2,698

EDUCATION

SOURCE: ONSLOW COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN

Onslow County: Child Care Snapshot Feb 2019 (State Regulated for children birth to 12)					
License Type	# facilities	# slots	# enrolled	Capacity	# staff
NC 5 star	22	2,894	2,841	98%	435
NC 4 star	11	376	316	84%	53
NC 3 star	19	544	488	90%	95
NC 2 star	1	8	8	100%	1
NC 1 star	7	133	133	100%	16
NC Religious	6	460	440	96%	71
NC Temporary					
NC Provisional					
NC Probationary					
Totals	66	4,415	4,226	96.0%	671



Save The Date

Blood Drive

Friday, May 17th 10:00am-2:00pm
American Red Cross
Commerce Center Conference Room
1099 Gum Branch Rd.

Ribbon Cutting

Wednesday, May 22nd @12:00pm
Jacksonville Country Club
2201 Country Club Rd.

Come out and show your support! The ribbon cutting will kick off the Country Club's membership drive! The evening of the re-opening the Country Club will have an open to the public family night to show case some of the special things they do at the club! Don't miss out!

Free Lunch & Learn

Thursday, May 23rd @12:00pm
Surviving The Work Place
Junie Christian & Brian Kennedy
Commerce Center – 1099 Gum Branch Rd
Limited Seats/Register @ bit.ly/SurviveWorkPlace

Ribbon Cutting

Thursday, May 23rd @3:00pm
Runyon Photography
Commerce Center-1099 Gum Branch Rd.

Memorial Day

May 27th
Commerce Center Closed

Education Golf Tournament

May 31st
Jacksonville Country Club
Questions? Contact Sabrina Thomas
specialevents@jacksonvilleonline.org



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 Sergeant Benjamin J. Wazny, USMC

Sgt Benjamin Wazny 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.

Benjamin Wazny enlisted into the Marine Corps in January of 2011 and attended Recruit Training at Parris Island, South Carolina, graduating in April 2011. Pvt Wazny attended Infantry Training Battalion (ITB), School of Infantry-East (SOI-E), Camp Geiger, North Carolina, where he became an Infantry Assaultman in July of 2011. Immediately upon graduating, he was assigned to Company E, 2nd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2d Marine Division for duty as a Gunner in the company assault section.

In November 2011, PFC Wazny was deployed to Treknawa, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. After his return, he was assigned as Squad Leader for the Assault Section. In October 2012, LCpl Wazny attended Advanced Assaultman Course (AAC) at Advanced Infantry Training Battalion (AITB), SOI-E.

In August of 2013, he was deployed to Okinawa, Japan, as part of a Unit Deployment Program (UDP). After his return, he was promoted to Corporal on April 1, 2014. Cpl Wazny attended Marine Corps Martial Art Program (MCMAP) at AITB, SOI-E, and graduated October 28, 2014. In November of 2014, he was assigned as Section Leader for the Assault section.

In September of 2015, he was promoted to Sergeant and soon after deployed on the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) in support of Operations Inherent Resolve (OIR). Upon his return from deployment, he was assigned as Platoon Sergeant for Weapons Platoon. In March 2017, Sgt Wazny received orders to report to Marine Combat Instructor School (MCIS) at SOI-E.

On June 7, 2017, Sgt Wazny graduated MCIS and was assigned to Infantry Training Battalion (ITB), Company C. While in Company C, Sgt Wazny's primary assignment was the Assault Marine Squad Instructor. He also was the Lead Instructor for the Physical Training package in the 0300 Program of Instruction.

In August 2018, Sgt Wazny was assigned to Advanced Infantry Training Battalion (AITB) as the lead Assault Marine Combat Instructor as well as an assistant instructor for Advanced Anti-Tank Missile Gunner Course.

While at AITB, Sgt Wazny attended Infantry Small Unit Leader Course and received a Certificate of Commendation for outstanding leadership, voted on by his peers and instructors.

Sgt Wazny's leadership states that he is the consummate professional and exemplary leader. His dedication to his students, follow Combat Instructors, and the accomplishment of the Advanced Infantry Training Battalion's mission is apparent. They continue to state that as the lead instructor of several critical periods of instruction in the Advanced Assault Marine Course (AAMC) and Advanced Anti-Tank Missile Gunner Course (AATMGC), his performance has driven company efforts to maintain and increase efficacy so that students can continue to be training to the highest standards despite personnel and resource shortfalls.

Sgt Wazny's short-term goals include attending career development course in order to better prepare and influence Marines in his charge, peers, and senior leaders alike. He would like to continue to personal development through off duty self-education and to build lasting relationships inside and outside the work place. Sgt Wazny's long-term goals include retiring from the Marine Corps and to gain a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management.

Congratulations to the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee April Service Member of the Month, Sgt Benjamin Wazny, USMC.





STURGEON CITY INSTITUTES FREE

PROGRAM

Science Institute, Science
Academy (Marine Biology
or Engineering), New
Generation Leaders, Public
Safety, Art



HANDS-ON
LEARNING

June 24th-June 28th



To learn more contact:

Sturgeon City (910) 938-5079

Lower Cape Fear Hospice Named a 2019 Hospice Honors Elite Recipient

Lower Cape Fear Hospice received the 2019 Hospice Honors Elite recognition from HEALTHCAREfirst yesterday at the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's Leadership and Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C.

Each year, HEALTHCAREfirst conducts a review of the Hospice Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) survey results, which ask hospice patients' caregivers and families about their satisfaction with hospice services and other feedback. Hospices receive a score on 24 quality indicator measures, and the review compares each individual hospice's performance score for each measure to the national performance score based on all hospice information available.

Hospice organizations which score above the national HEALTHCAREfirst performance score on 20 of the 24 evaluation questions receive the Hospice Honors designation. Organizations which score above the national HEALTHCAREfirst performance score on all 24 of the evaluated questions receive the prestigious Hospice Honors Elite recognition.

Lower Cape Fear Hospice (LCFH) has received the 2019 Hospice Honors Elite recognition, meaning it scored above the national performance score on all evaluation questions during the October 2017 to September 2018 evaluation period.

LCFH is the only local hospice provider to have received the Hospice Honors Elite recognition.

"This is wonderful news," said Gwen Whitley, President and CEO of Lower Cape Fear Hospice. "Our team works hard every day to provide the highest level of care and

support to patients and their families. It is rewarding to see that so many of our patients' families and caregivers were pleased with the care they received, and to see the hard work of our team members recognized."

LCFH serves more than 700 hospice and palliative patients a day, and more than 6,000 families per year. Thanks to the generosity of donors, LCFH provides \$1 million in care and services not covered by a reimbursement source each year. No one is ever refused care based on ability to pay.

LCFH is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing the highest level of care and comfort to patients with life-limiting illness; support and counseling to families; and education to the community. For more information, visit lcfh.org.



Director of Patient Care Services Michelle King, Clinical Education Nurse Manager April Blizzard and Director of Patient Access Simeone Frost accepting the award at the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization National Leadership and Advocacy Conference.

Conference Room Rental Information



Jacksonville • Onslow
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sports Hall of Fame Room

1-4 hours Member Rate: \$75

Non-member Rate: \$150

5-8 hours Member Rate: \$150

Non-member Rate: \$300

Seats: 28-68



Executive Room

1-4 hours Member Rate: \$50

Non-member Rate: \$110

5-8 hours Member Rate: \$100

Non-member Rate: \$220

Seats: 20-40



Virtual Office

Member Rate: \$7 per hour

Non-member Rate: \$14

Complementary beverages are not included

Seats: 4



Past Chairman's Room

1-4 hours Member Rate: \$30

Non-member Rate: \$65

5-8 hours Member Rate: \$60

Non-member Rate: \$130

Seats: 8



Storm Room

1-4 hours Member Rate: \$40

Non-member Rate: \$90

5-8 hours Member Rate: \$80

Non-member Rate: \$175

Seats: 16



Need a room?

The Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce has rentable rooms that can provide a comfortable environment to fit your business needs.

Almost every room is customizable. We have conference, classroom, and theater style set up available.

Each room comes with free Wi-Fi. Complementary soda, coffee, and ice vary by room.

For more information or to reserve a room, please contact the Commerce Center Coordinator at (910) 347-3141 ext. 221 or coordinator@jacksonvilleonline.org



One car accident victim can use as many as **100 units** of blood.

Blood Drive@ Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce

In the Conference Room

**Friday, May 17, 2019
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

To schedule an appointment visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800 RED CROSS
(1-800-733-2767)



You can help by donating blood. Schedule today! Support trauma victims and get a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card* via email when you come to give May 1–June 10, 2019.** Download the Blood Donor App | 1-800-RED CROSS

© 2019 The American Red Cross | 035901 *Restrictions apply, see amazon.com/gc-legal. **Terms and conditions apply; visit rcblood.org/together.

The Leadership group visited MCAS New River and MCB Camp Lejeune in March. Thank you to Col Burton and his staff at the Air Station and BGen Watson and his staff at Camp Lejeune. They provided valuable information and excellent tours.

Thank you to our Leadership program sponsor:



MCAS pic: L-R front row: Jennifer Kellum, Amanda Humphrey, Terri Campbell, Amanda Garrett, and Sabrina Thomas. Middle: Paula Webb, L – R Back row: Jessica Coston, Janis Steele, Teresa Miller, Rosh Foskey, Joe Duane and Col Burton.



Camp Lejeune pic. Rosh Foskey, Amanda Humphrey, Sabrina Thomas, Teresa Miller, Jennifer Kellum, Janis Steele, Amanda Garrett, Jessica Coston, Jeb Brown, Paula Webb, Joe Duane and Time McCurry.

The City of Jacksonville gave an update on the 2020 Census and the Complete Count Committee.



In March Luke Woodruff, outgoing Chairman passed the gavel to Jeff Wilke, 2019 Chairman of the Governmental Affairs Committee.



L to R: Kevin Reopelle, Jeff Wilke, Glenn Hargett and Ron Massey.

From the desk of Donna Hammonds



Purpose & Mission of Onslow County Tourism

Often, I'm asked what exactly does Onslow County Tourism do and how do we do it? My answer provides many layers starting with ensuring that our visitors are made aware of all that we have to offer in our unique coastal destination that includes our local attractions, amazing restaurants and nightlife, historic sites as well as our outdoor activities, festivals & events throughout the county. Many times, our visitors are here to visit their military families serving aboard our local bases. As a military community, we want them to receive the heartfelt hero's welcome we are known for.

More specifically, here is an insider's view of what we do as a Destination Marketing Organization:

- Create, develop and implement marketing strategies and tactics that are designed to bring value directly to our tourism partners.
- Collaborate with community leaders and stakeholders and co-develop/implement effective marketing strategies that support overall visitation to Onslow County – i.e. sporting events, group tours, festivals, military reunions, bridal expo, etc.
- Design, build and maintain the digital gateway to Onslow County - our website.
- Develop stories in the form of written content,

photography and video that visually convey all that Onslow County has to offer - via our website, social media pages, print marketing collateral and our Visitors Guide.

- Create and deploy digital and social media marketing campaigns to drive traffic to our website.
 - Generate relationships with media outlets – Examples: Our State Magazine, Carolina Heritage Guide, UNC TV, Travel Writers, etc. to garner interest in Onslow County. Cultivate story ideas through in-depth knowledge of Onslow County.
 - Liaise with the State of North Carolina Tourism organization – Visit NC
 - Attend conferences and shows that are aligned to the strategy in generating awareness and leads to bringing visitors and groups to Onslow County.
 - Develop and oversee Destination Management Organization (DMO) activities in the form of hospitality training, our Hospitality Service Rewards Program and familiarization tours.
 - Nurture and maintain good working relationships with our tourism partners (Onslow's small business owners).
- Onslow County Tourism is contracted out by the county and is managed by the Jacksonville/Onslow Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber exists as a voice for business in Jacksonville and Onslow County, and together we share the same vision in vigilant and focused efforts in generating economic impact and connecting local business, military and community; for the benefit of our residents as well as our visitors.
- Onslow County Tourism's economic impact report card is an important consideration in state, regional, community planning and economic development. Our

County's economic impacts are also important factors in marketing and management decisions. I feel that our community therefore needs to understand the relative importance of tourism to our region, including tourism's contribution to economic activity in the area.

Visit North Carolina announced in August 2018 that domestic visitors to and within Onslow County spent \$231 million in 2017, a 3.78% increase from 2016. This spending captures sales and occupancy tax collection by visitors and the value of our employees within the industry. Onslow's travel and tourism industry directly employs more than 1,800 personnel with a payroll generating \$45.8 million in Onslow County.

State tax revenue generated in Onslow County totaled \$12 million through state sales and excise taxes, and taxes on personal and corporate income. About \$8.83 million in local taxes were generated from sales and property tax revenue from travel-generated and travel-supported businesses.

Community support is important for tourism, as it's an activity that affects the entire population. Tourism businesses depend considerably on each other as well as on other businesses, government and residents of the local community. Economic benefits and costs of tourism reach virtually everyone in the region in one way or another.

Together, the Jacksonville Onslow County Chamber and Onslow County Tourism has great relationships with our tourism partners that support putting Onslow's best foot forward. It's been an incredible experience promoting Onslow County's tourism partners...as our fiscal year ends I look forward to, with enthusiasm, the support we seek to support a prosperous 2019/2020 fiscal year.

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!



Carol Lassard
Roses Express, Sneads Ferry



Megan Box
Taco Bell, Gum Branch



Sarah Rochelle
Food Lion, Gum Branch Rd.