

# Chamber CONNECTION

CONNECTING BUSINESS, MILITARY & COMMUNITY

## *Celebrating Diversity in Onslow County*



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For Details



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**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.

# Fair Winds and Following Seas to a True Patriot and Volunteer

JACKSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

(October 25, 2018)

Marine Federal Credit Union mourns the passing of Chairman C. M. "Marty" Goldman. He will forever be remembered as a person who embodied the esprit de corps of what it means to be a volunteer.

On February 3, 1964, he voluntarily chose to serve his country by joining the United States Navy. In 1992, after 28 ½ years of dedicated service, which included two tours in Vietnam, he retired as a Command Master Chief of the Naval Hospital aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune and made his home in Jacksonville, North Carolina.

*"He used to come in to our Camp Lejeune branch and was always very nice and so happy. He will be missed."*  
 – Jessica Cordova, Marine FCU employee

Marty or Mr. G, as he was known, transitioned from serving his country to serving his community. In 1990, he became a volunteer on Marine FCU's Supervisory Committee, later holding the position of the Chairman from 1992 to 1999. In 1993, he was elected to the Board of Directors and in 2005, became Chairman of the Board, where he honorably served until his passing.

*"Not only did Marine Federal lose a leader with 28 years volunteer experience, half of which was as our Chairman, but our community lost a champion. May God rest his soul!"* – Chuck Collins, Vice Chairman, Marine FCU Board of Directors

His long list of community involvement included the Military Order of World Wars General Westmoreland-Charleston SC Chapter (Hereditary Member); the City of Jacksonville Board of Adjustment; the National Association of Credit Union Chairman (Chairman); the Onslow County Hospital Authority Board; Jacksonville/Onslow Chamber of Commerce (prior Vice President); Fleet Reserve Association Branch 208; New River Rotary/Military Affairs Committee; Sturgeon City Education Center Board; Onslow Memorial Hospital Foundation (prior Chairman); Local Precinct Worker; and Marine Federal Credit Union Board of Directors (Chairman).

In 2007, his dedication to the credit union movement was recognized with the honor of North Carolina Credit Union League Volunteer of the Year.

*"We lost a great man in Marty Goldman. A loss that will not only be felt deeply in the Marine Federal family, but one felt all across the Credit Union Movement."* – Jeff Clark, Marine FCU President/CEO

He is survived by his wife, Brenda Pepper Goldman; children Bryan Goldman and Amanda d'Adesky; son-in-law John d'Adesky; and grandchildren Dresden and Penny.





# *Chamber's Oyster Fest at Marina Café was a great success!*



**Thank you for your generous sponsorship of the Chamber's Oyster Fest.**

Sanders Ford, First Citizens Bank, Sam's Club, Dunkin' Donuts, Hungry Howie's Pizza, Smithfield's, Longhorn Steakhouse, Logan's Roadhouse, The Flame, Golden Corral, Texas Roadhouse, Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakburger, Bogue Sound Distillery, Angry Ginger, Empire Pizza, and the Marina Café. The Results Companies, Laurette Leagon, and Brown Properties.



# *Rev. Joel Churchwell named Minority Advocate of the Year*

## **Rev. Joel Churchwell named Minority Advocate of the Year**

As part of the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce celebration of National Minority Enterprise Development Week (MED Week), a community figure is recognized for his or her dedication to the diverse business population in the community.

The 2019 Fairfield Inn Minority Advocate of the Year is Rev. Joel Churchwell. He is a retired Marine Corps Master Sergeant and currently serves as the Senior Pastor of Sandy Run Missionary Baptist Church.

His training includes a Master of Theological Studies and a Master of Divinity from Liberty University. He is also a certified instructor for the Congress of Christian Education National Baptist, Inc.

Rev. Churchwell has been an active member of the Jacksonville community for many years, serving in the following capacity:

- Onslow County Board Education from 2014-2018
- The Onslow County Consolidated Human Services Advisory Board
- The Juvenile Crime Prevention Council; Onslow- Carteret Crisis Continuum Project
- New River YMCA Founder's Committee
- Jacksonville Public Safety Explorer Post
- Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors



**Dr. Ron Lingle, the Chamber's Division Chair of Partnerships presents Rev. Joel Churchwell with the Linda L. Richardson Minority Advocate of the Year Award**

# *Green Clean Auto Spa named Fairfield Inn and Suites Minority Entrepreneur of the Year*



**Tina Glover, the Chamber's Chair-Elect presents John and Ciara Hunter the Fairfield Inn and Suites Minority Entrepreneur of the Year Award**

John Hunter has been a Marine for more than twenty years, but now proudly claims ownership with his wife of Green Clean Auto Spas. His entrepreneurial journey began while studying construction at Auburn. He drove through a car wash and was suddenly struck by the technology and robotics, and how few employees were necessary for the operations. The Hunter family opened first the Green Clean Auto Spa on Gum Branch Rd and now they have expanded to 4 locations aboard Camp Lejeune, one at New River Air Station and lucky number seven will be coming soon to Richlands Highway. Congratulations to John and Ciarra Hunter.



# *Legends of Onslow*



**Lillie Gray** - Director of Community Engagement for the City of Jacksonville Realtor with Century 21 Champion Realty, member of Abundant Life International Baptist Cathedral, Board member of Abundant Life Community Outreach: a faith-based 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization whose mission is changing lives and building communities, member of Excelsior Chapter #305 Order of the Eastern Star and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

**Belgrade Community Action Association-BCAA** is located in Maysville, NC. Their mission is to improve the community's health and social conditions through education, training and motivation enabling them to transcend their past and current conditions. For nearly 50 years now they have strived and succeeded in developing a better community and providing programs and recreational activities for the benefit of the community's youth and senior citizens.



**Lakesha Cole** is an author, advocacy influencer, retail entrepreneur, and self-proclaimed chaos coordinator. She is the owner of the She Swank Marketplace franchise. Lakesha is also the co-founder of makeHer Milspouse, the official premier working retreat for military spouse entrepreneurs and creatives aimed to bridge the gap between where they are now and where they need to be to build successful businesses.



New Members

SEPTEMBER

**Aspen Dental**  
1280 Western Blvd, Jacksonville NC  
Kristen  
Dentists/Dental Care

**Sweet Waters Homecare, LLC**  
130 Stonemark Ct, Jacksonville NC  
Mr. M. Leonard  
Home Health Care

**Angie Glinsky Photography**  
1915 Gum Branch Rd, Jacksonville NC  
Ms. Angela  
Photoraphy

**David Lantos The Meridian Foundation**  
112 Sterling Ave, Sneads Ferry  
Mr. David  
Credit Card Services

**Sleep Number**  
1280 Western Blvd, Jacksonville NC  
Mr. Rich  
Bedding/Furniture

Member Renewals

SEPTEMBER

	Member Since		Member Since
Affordable Suites of America	9/4/2008	Kiwanis of Onslow County	10/3/2013
Bell's Appliance Service Inc.	9/20/2017	Lazzara's Pizza	10/13/1993
Blue Arbor	7/31/1996	LeBron and Associates, LLC	7/31/2017
Booz Allen Hamilton	10/21/2009	Liz Honeycutt Advertising & Marketing	10/3/1996
Brown Properties of North Carolina, Inc.	11/7/2014	Lower Cape Fear Hospice	12/20/2012
Clean Force One	10/2/2009	Melinda Tyre & Associates, LLC	10/26/2001
Coldwell Banker Sea Coast Advantage	1/24/2008	MISSION BBQ	7/22/2014
Compass Insurance Company	8/15/2012	Sandy Run Missionary Baptist Church	10/13/2011
Duke Energy	1/1/1979	Shaun's Lawn Service	11/7/2012
Eastern Carolina Human Services Agency	9/26/2013	Sherman & Miller, PA	11/23/2010
Executive Personnel Group, LLC	10/19/2018	Sparks Chiropractic	11/3/2017
First Command Financial Planning	9/12/1996	Sutton's Tree Service, Inc.	5/6/1994
Floors Galore	9/21/2017	Texas Roadhouse	10/18/2007
GEICO	8/11/2004	The Barry Robinson Center	9/7/2018
Green Clean Auto Spa	9/25/2015	The Frame Game	11/1/1990
Hope For The Warriors	10/6/2006	Under Construction Safety, LLC	11/2/2015
Industry One Janitorial	9/8/1998	Vital Signs	10/1/1999
Katrina Carrington, CPA, PLLC	9/23/2013	Waymor, Inc.	11/22/2005

OCTOBER

**Coastal Event Reflections**  
2308 Knollwood Lane, Midway Park NC  
Mr. Charles Torman  
Photo Booth

**Atlantic Mulch and Stone, INC**  
**Atlantic Coast Trucking, INC**  
234 LLoyd St, Holly Ridge NC  
Ms. Wendy Fletcher-Hardee  
Mulch,Stone, Fill Dirt, Crush Concrete, Cargo and Freight Company

**Advance Auto Parts- Store**  
**#4109, #4112, #4420, #6148, #7462, #7583, #8018**  
2980 Richlands Hwy  
203 Wern Blvd - Mr. Aaron Shaw  
201 Freedom Way - Ms. Lisa Hedgcorth  
6945 Western Blvd - Mr. Chris Alford  
610 North Marine Boulevard - Mr. George Rechcygl  
8205 Richlands Highway - Mr. Miles Shannon  
782 W Corbett Ave - Ms. Theresa Johnson  
Auto Parts

**Art & Soul Expressions**  
205 S. Academy St. Ste C, Richlands NC  
Manica Walker  
Arts & Craft Studio

**High Tide Creative**  
208 Bridge Street, Bridgeton NC  
Mr. Todd Willis  
Advertising & Promotions

OCTOBER

	Member Since		Member Since
17blue Digital Marketing	8/1/2005	Johnston Pain Management	10/24/2008
American Cancer Society- Relay for Life of Onslow County	4/21/1999	Jones Pest Control	10/31/2014
American Red Cross Onslow County Chapter	8/1/1991	Kitchen & Lighting Design	5/9/1988
Angry Ginger Irish Pub	5/12/2015	Lowe's Yopp Road	8/25/2011
BB&T-Jacksonville	11/5/1990	Onslow Weight Loss and Wellness	10/18/2018
Biz Tools One Website Design	9/28/2018	Orkin	10/26/2015
Carolina Psychological Health Services	7/1/1993	Paparazzi Accessories- Independent Consultant Tammy Pointe	8/14/2017
Clinton's Body Shop Inc.	12/11/2000	Platinum Corral, LLC	10/1/2003
Coastal Diagnostic Imaging	9/13/2002	Pools Patios and Spas, LLC	3/5/1997
Continuum Home Care & Hospice	3/3/2000	Promotions Plus	11/12/2002
D&J Distributors	3/21/2016	Quality Inn	2/25/2005
Davis Heating & AC	7/28/2014	SgtMaj Scott T. Booth, USMC (Ret)	4/7/2015
Doyle Evans Realty, Inc.	10/11/2001	Southern Touch Painting	3/9/2014
East Carolina Community Development, Inc. (Longbourne Apts.)	9/9/2008	The Flower Shoppe	12/1/1997
Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board	3/26/2008	Virtue Capital Management	7/6/2016
Express Employment Professionals	10/13/2017	Vocational Rehabilitation Services	10/2/2002
Head Styles Barbershop & Salon	6/8/2017	Ward and Smith, PA	10/14/1997
Jacksonville Kiwanis Club	9/19/2012		



# *The BASES Program*

## (Businesses Assisting Schools in Educating Students)

recognizes businesses, community agencies civic organizations and volunteers for their donations, in-kind gifts and volunteer hours freely given to Onslow County Schools. Awards were presented to many of the donors at the 2019 BASES Awards Reception last month at Northside High School.

### Major League Supporters



### All Star Supporters



### Hall of Fame Supporters



**Jacksonville • Onslow**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



# 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				
18-19	Taxable Sales	18-19	Taxable Sales	% Change
Jul-18	\$194,582,338	Jul-19	\$219,273,246	12.69%
Aug-18	\$191,474,148	Aug-19	\$213,234,146	11.36%
Sep-18	\$179,899,105	Sep-19	\$	%
Oct-18	\$162,662,167	Oct-19	\$	%
Nov-18	\$205,477,971	Nov-19	\$	%
Dec-18	\$209,559,140	Dec-19	\$	%
Jan-19	\$221,950,803	Jan-20	\$	%
Feb-19	\$183,143,879	Feb-20	\$	%
Mar-19	\$185,838,020	Mar-20	\$	%
Apr-19	\$223,668,086	Apr-20	\$	%
May-19	\$208,840,729	May-20	\$	%
Jun-19	\$211,682,639	Jun-20	\$	%
YTD Total	\$386,056,486	YTD Total	\$432,507,392	12.03%
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>				

Occupancy Tax Report			
	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	%
July	\$462,461.06	\$461,147.13	-0.002%
August	\$353,283.12	\$360,198.41	1.92%
September	\$203,610.20	\$212,547.26	4.2%
October	\$196,372.41		
November	\$179,777.01		
December	\$151,254.46		
January	\$139,425.68		
February	\$139,912.25		
March	\$169,653.98		
April	\$171,338.39		
May	\$206,013.03		
June	\$337,169.01		
Total:	\$1,019,354.38	\$1,033,892.80	1.4%

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	5,378	5,242	4,983	4,983
3rd Qtr	3,800	5,956	4,058	5,629
4th Qtr	1,775		1,911	
YTD Total	14,131	15,748	12,862	15,125
*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 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	15,280	13,547
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	15,462	13,497
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	14,824	12,444
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	14,731	
YTD Total	35,566	39,488
Onslow Memorial Hospital Live Births		
	2018	2019
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	307	313
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	303	333
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	357	357
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	348	
YTD Total	967	1,003
*YTD Total does not include numbers in <i>Italic</i>		

Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune Emergency Room Visits		
	2018	2019
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	13,134	13,036
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	13,393	12,326
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	11,582	11,203
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	11,909	
YTD Total	38,109	36,595
Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune Live Births		
	2018	2019
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	480	458
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	459	390
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	499	483
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	449	
YTD Total	1,438	1,331

TRANSPORTATION		
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: SOURCE: OUTS, JTS		
ALBERT ELLIS AIRPORT: SOURCE: ALBERT J ELLIS AIRPORT		
Public Transportation Riders - 2019-20		
System	September	Fiscal YTD
Onslow United Transit System	6,513	22,092
Jacksonville Transit System	7,878	25,764
Military Express	945	3,175
Total	15,336	51,031

Albert J Ellis Airport Total Passengers			
	2018	2019	% Change
January	19,905	23,549	18%
February	21,064	22,739	8%
March	27,481	28,582	4%
April	26,425	28,667	8%
May	28,587	29,202	2%
June	26,867	29,217	8%
July	29,082	31,802	8.5%
August	30,838	30,171	-2.21%
September	18,324	24,735	25.9%
October	26,168		%
November	27,468		%
December	26,451		%
YTD Total	228,573	248,664	8%
*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 9/3/19, 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	9	869	96.56	164	1.68
\$150,001 - \$200,000	9	1137	126.33	154	1.22
\$200,001 - \$250,000	9	573	63.67	108	1.80
\$251,001 - \$300,000	9	187	20.78	38	2.40
\$300,001 +	9	166	18.44	136	7.40
TOTAL		2932		600	

New Construction Price	# of Months	# Sold	Sales Rate Per Month	# Currently Active*	# of Month's Of Inventory
≤ \$150,000	9	6	0.67	0	0.00
\$150,001 - \$200,000	9	148	16.44	63	3.83
\$200,001 - \$250,000	9	252	28.00	123	4.39
\$251,001 - \$300,000	9	105	11.67	69	5.91
\$300,001 +	9	87	9.67	72	7.45
TOTAL		598		327	



Business Stats		
County Permits: Source: Onslow County		
City Permits: Source: City of Jacksonville		
City of Jacksonville Building Permits		
September 2019	#	Value
Residential	20	\$1,415,285
Commercial	48	\$973,606
Other	401	\$115,800
Total	401	\$2,504,691

County Building Permits			
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	1,078	164	\$44,634,113
4th Qtr Totals	1,094	220	\$50,139,085
FY Totals	4,208	682	\$161,896,422
FY2019-20	Res BPs	Com BPs	Total Value
1st Qtr Totals	1,185	210	\$73,453,318
2nd Qtr Totals			
3rd Qtr Totals			
4th Qtr Totals			
FY Totals	1,185	210	\$73,453,318

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	September
Labor Force	64,819
Employed	62,153
Unemployed	2,666
Unemployment Rates	4.1%

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	
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 Sept. 2019 (State Regulated for children birth to 12)					
License Type	# facilities	# slots	# enrolled	Capacity	# staff
NC 5 star	19	2,448	2,271	93%	379
NC 4 star	9	500	430	86%	73
NC 3 star	17	495	465	94%	90
NC 2 star	0	0	0	0%	0
NC 1 star	6	125	118	94%	15
NC Religious	6	450	422	94%	70
NC Temporary	3	59	56	95%	18
NC Provisional					
NC Probationary					
Totals	60	4,077	3,762	92.0%	645

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Marketing Division Report	
Source: Facebook Analytics	
Social	
Facebook (57 new likes)	4,447
Followers on Instagram	369
People reached through video post	530
Average post reach average on Facebook (the number of people who see our content on their news feed)	867
People reached on high-performing posts (Vocational Rehabilitation Open House)	2.2K

From Oct. 1- Oct. 29, 12,047 people were reached through the chamber’s Facebook page. This is up 36% from last month’s post engagement statistics. The page received 4,139 engagements, which is a 12% increase compared to last month. There were 2,184 3-second video views this month, which is up 16%. We have had some help from ambassadors getting our videos of ribbon cuttings posted online and it is much appreciated. The chamber page continues to rank No. 2 against other non-profit pages in the area, with the Onslow County Partnership for Children at No. 1.

Goals hit: Over 50 new followers this month!  
Goals for next month: Be consistent with video form posts and welcome messages to new members and page followers.  
*\* These numbers are based on organic visitors to the chamber’s Facebook page and website, without the use of paid promotions.*

Website	
Page views from Oct. 1-29 (1% decrease)	6057
New Visitors	74%
Returning Visitors	26%

A total of 2,076 (8% increase) website sessions were reported by Monster Insights for jacksonvilleonline.org in October. Popular pages this month include our home page, Christmas parade page and Business Directory. Recent improvements included tweaks to the home page design and resizing work on our member banner ads.

Goals for next month: Promote website through other channels and continue updates on new information with goal of getting page views out of the red.

PRESS

Press coverage of October events included articles on Minority Enterprise Development Week (MED Week) winners, The Military Construction Overview forum, the mayor candidates Forum and photo coverage of our annual Oyster Fest in The Daily News. Channel 7 and Channel 12 provided video coverage of the military construction overview forum, and both forums appeared live on G-10 TV.

Members in the press:

- New River YMCA (grand opening)
- Onslow Oktoberfest





# Ribbon Cuttings



*August 19th*

**Eastern Carolina Regional Skills Center**  
261 Northwest Corridor Blvd



*September 14th*

**Parkway Subaru/Volkswagen  
of Jacksonville**



*October 8th*

**Carolina's Center of Surgery**



*October 12th*

**Angie Glinsky Photography**



*October 16th*

**Carobell's Journey Center**



*October 17th*

**The Results Companies**  
1291 Hargett St. Jacksonville, NC





# Ribbon Cuttings



*September 26th*

**Hog Wild Howard Farms**



*September 28th*

**Mike's Farm,  
North Carolina Products Barn**



*October 21st*

**Jones Onslow EMC  
259 Western Blvd.**



*October 23rd*

**Apsen Dental  
1280 Western Blvd. Jacksonville NC**



*October 23rd*

**Well Care Home Care  
1715 Country Club Rd. Jacksonville, NC**



*October 24th*

**New River YMCA  
159 Chaney Ave. Jacksonville, NC**



# MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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

## September's Service Member of the Month Corporal Miguel A. Toro

Corporal Miguel A. Toro is from Oakland, California. Miguel describes himself as being a quiet kid in high school, "not very book smart, but a 'history guy,'" nonetheless spending a lot of time in the public library. He ran cross-country for his school and ultimately graduated from Oakdale High School in 2013.

He is married to his high school sweetheart, Sofia Lynn.

After high school graduation, he worked as a produce clerk at a local grocery store, but knew he wanted more. One of the things that has stuck with him over the years is the influence of an Army veteran teacher from high school who was very stern but inspirational with his military stories. That, along with hearing from his cousin who was a Staff Sergeant in the USMC on what a positive experience it was, led him to the San Diego Recruit Depot and he enlisted in November of 2015.

Upon completion of his recruit training, it was on to the Personnel Administration School at Camp Johnson. Orders to Camp Lejeune in June of 2016 assigned the Private First Class as an administration clerk with 1st Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment. While there, he served as the primary Defense Travel Systems Administrator and successfully oversaw the completion of over 70 travel authorizations and 70 travel vouchers. In addition, he served as the Battalion Mailroom Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) and played a vital role in the distribution of mail upon the return of Task Force 9.7, along with other multiple Unit Deployment Programs. He was promoted to Lance Corporal in January 2017.

In July of 2018, he was assigned to the Marine Raider Training Center at Stone Bay, where he was promoted to the rank of Corporal in September 2018. While there, he served as the unit's Student Personnel Section NCOIC and administratively oversaw the successful completion of multiple Special Operations Force Courses, which resulted in over 300 students to graduate without error while also serving multiple duties including NCOIC for the unit mailroom, student pay, files/directories, and student promotions. Since being assigned to Stone Bay, he has been twice and consecutively selected as the Training Center's NCO of the Quarter. He has received the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal and three Certificates of Commendation

(two at 2nd Unit, and one at 1st Unit, 1st Battalion).

In his spare time, he enjoys restoring his old GMC Sierra which he has owned since he was 18, fishing, hanging out in his room at MARSOC, and watching horror films.

The Corporal tells me that his experience in the Marine Corps has resulted in a great deal of personal and professional growth. With the appropriate call sign of "Bull," he has evolved from a stubborn, hard-headed kid to a Marine of confidence and outstanding leadership skills. When describing him, his Commanding Officer, Colonel Homiak, wrote, "This Corporal has demonstrated the characteristics equal and exceeding that of a Non-Commissioned Officer, a top performer among his peers, the backbone for the S-1." He adds that our honoree "has unlimited potential and will only go on to grow in value and effectiveness as he has demonstrated a focus on becoming the best Marine he can be."

Congratulations to our Service Member of the Month for September 2019: Corporal Miguel A. Toro.





# MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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

## October's Service Member of the Month HM2 Petty Officer Sabrina Tyson

Our Service Member of the Month for October is hospital corpsman second class (HM2) petty officer Sabrina Tyson with the United States Navy. Tyson was born in Manhattan, New York and grew up in Miami Florida.

It was fifteen years ago that she graduated from Miami Killian High School and immediately entered the private sector in a management position with a hair salon franchise in Florida when she was eighteen years of age.

It wasn't long before it became clear to her that the challenge she needed just wasn't there. With an uncle who retired as a warrant officer in the US Army, and a cousin in the Navy, there were many days that she drove by the Navy recruitment office asking herself, "Why not?" So, one day she stopped by and after three days she was signed, enlisting in November of 2005, and graduated from Recruit Training Command at Great Lakes, Illinois, in January 2006.

She then attended Naval Hospital Corpsman "A" School in Great Lakes and Naval Dental Technician "C" School in Chicago. Once that training was completed, she reported to her first duty station here at Camp Lejeune with the 2nd Dental Battalion from 2006 to 2008, serving as Dental Liaison, Medical Readiness Coordinator, and civilian timekeeper representative. It was in May of 2008 that she was promoted to Hospital Corpsman Third Class Petty Officer.

For the next four years (2009-2013), she was stationed at Sewells Point Dental Clinic in Norfolk, Virginia, serving as the Assistant Leading Petty Officer for the Dental Residency Program and Prosthetic Department, civilian timekeeper, Hazardous Waste Petty Officer, Supply Petty Officer, and Infection Control Petty Officer. It was there that she deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with the Joint Medical Group in Guantanamo Bay, conducting over 90 dental cleanings, and assisting in 140 endodontic surgery and oral surgery evaluations. Upon returning from deployment it was on to San Antonio, Texas, where she attended Preventative Medicine Technical C-school, graduating in October of 2013. She then reported to Marine Aircraft Group (MAG) 26 at New River and one year later to what was then the Camp Lejeune Naval Hospital. A temporary assignment took her to Portsmouth

Naval Medical Center for six months in 2015 where she facilitated the establishment of the command's HIV pre-exposure and post-exposure prophylaxis program.

It has been two years since this Petty Officer reported to Field Medical Training Battalion East here at Camp Lejeune, where she has served as the Warehouse Chief, maintaining \$4M of training supplies and gear, and currently serves as the Leading Petty Officer for Students Awaiting Training or Transfer (SAT/T) Platoon.

Her awards include three Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, four Good Conduct Medals, and various unit and campaign awards.

Our Service Member for this month holds an Associate Degree in Health Science from American Military University and is currently seeking her Baccalaureate Degree in Health Science from Campbell University.

Congratulations to our Service Member of the Month, Hospital Corpsman (HM2) Petty Officer Sabrina Tyson.







# Annual Membership Celebration

Now Accepting Nominations for the Chamber’s Annual Meeting Awards

## About the Awards



### Jacksonville•Onslow Woman of the Year

This award is presented to a female who has demonstrated excellence in her profession and has devoted time and energy to the community. This award is sponsored by Marine Chevrolet.



### Jacksonville•Onslow Golden Eagle Man of the Year

This award is presented to a male who has demonstrated excellence in his profession and has devoted time and energy to the community. This award is sponsored by Sanders Ford.



### 2020 Nomination Form

Please check the award you are choosing for the honoree.

- ☐ Jacksonville•Onslow Woman of the Year
- ☐ Jacksonville•Onslow Golden Eagle Man of the Year

### Nominee:

Mrs. / Ms. /Mr.: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Title or Position: \_\_\_\_\_

### Nominator:

Mrs. / Ms. /Mr.: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Telephone :(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone :(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the information below.

- 1. Community Service:**  
Please include local, county and state level participation.
- 2. Chamber of Commerce Involvement:**  
Local community work, special assignments, seminar activity, involvement via sponsorship, time and/or service donated.
- 3. Business Accomplishments**  
Please indicate special recognition or special projects with nominee’s business/organization. Include business-related affiliations, professional associations, directorships, trusteeships, or other designations and the dates of services associated with each.
- 4. Other Memberships, Achievements & Awards**  
Indicate memberships, achievements and awards not already covered in previous categories.

**THE DEADLINE FOR THIS NOMINATION FORM IS JANUARY 6, 2020**  
Email or fax completed nomination form and supporting materials to:  
Jacksonville•Onslow Chamber of Commerce, 1099 Gum Branch Road  
Jacksonville, NC 28540  
Attn: Selection Committee  
Fax: (910) 347-4705  
Email: [specialevents@jacksonvilleonline.org](mailto:specialevents@jacksonvilleonline.org)



# Community Leaders fry up fish and French fries for Marines at Courthouse Bay



## LEADERSHIP

In October the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce Leadership in Action Class took a tour of various city facilities and offices including the Public Safety Center.

Jacksonville Police Department officers gave them a tour of some of the various tactical equipment used by the department.



Front Row Left-to-right Reva Sullivan, Mary Avery, Melissa Maloney, Alice Ellis, Wendy O'Brien, Vic Reyes  
Back Row left-to-Right Kelly Glass, Jeff Pittman, Mitch Sprungler, Tondrea Leach, Kelly Cannon



# From the desk of Donna Hammonds

## Fallin' for Onslow's Great Outdoors



October was a busy month of press trips, photo shoots and FAM Tours for Onslow County Tourism!

We hosted two journalists, Karon Warren from Atlanta GA, and Deborah Thompson from Cadillac MI, in addition to having four staff members from the NC Welcome Centers.

A private sunset cruise aboard the Lady Swan in Swansboro was the perfect experience to begin their stay with us, as the beautiful fall sunset could not have been more spectacular...with dolphins included. The ladies went on a shrimping excursion with Reel Livin' Fishing Charters in Sneads Ferry, had an amazing shelling excursion with Marsh Cruises, visited Hammocks Beach State Park and North Topsail Beach, sampled some moonshine at Walton's Distillery, discovered how much fun horseback riding the trails of Equine Country can be and kayaked the White Oak River with Pogie's paddle guide and owner Ethan Johnson.

And, what would a visit to Onslow County be without a trip to Mike's Farm? The ladies loved the family-style dining and atmosphere of the farm as it was bustling with ongoing fall activities during our visit. A tour of the Lejeune Memorial Gardens at dusk ended our journey. It was a very moving patriotic experience as both of our visiting journalists have family members that have served our country in the military.

I've hosted quite a press trips few over the past year and a half and I must say, this one tops the chart. Very positive feedback and compliments by the journalists about Onslow County's tourism assets and partners. Everyone involved rolled out the red-carpet treatment for them. I'm looking forward to the wonderful things Deb and Karon will share about our beautiful home.

As the fall season comes to an end so begins the holidays. Below are a few of the signature events and happenings for you to enjoy during November and December. For more information visit our website [OnlyInOnslow.com](http://OnlyInOnslow.com) or check out our Facebook page.

November 16 & 17 | Annual Festival of Trees, American Legion Bldg. in Jacksonville

November 23 | Annual Jacksonville/Onslow Holiday Christmas Parade

November 29 | Annual Swansboro Christmas Flotilla

November 21 thru December 23 | Mike's Farm Festival of Lights

December 7 | Jacksonville Winterfest at Riverwalk Crossing Park

December 14 | Richlands Christmas Parade

December 14 | Wreaths Across America, Coastal Carolina Veterans Cemetery in Jacksonville



## Service Awards

A community is only as good as the citizens that live and work within its borders. Each 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 three individuals, representing three 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!



**Tammie Wiles**  
CVS Sneads Ferry



**Mary Shifflett**  
Hammocks Beach State Park,  
Swansboro



**Alyssa Rodney**  
Hampton Inn & Suites,  
Swansboro