



Celebrating Over 100 Years of Service to the People & Businesses of Beaufort County

1904-2017

Summer Festival June 9-10

Mark your calendars for a weekend of fun on the Pamlico! Live music, street fair, amusement rides, children's activities & more! Check out wbcchamber.com for a full schedule of events!



Thank You 2017 Summer Festival Sponsors!



Pamlico Level



Crab Level



Wave Level



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Not a Flounder Level

- Pamlico Properties
- Fair Electronics
- Beaufort County Community College-Small Business Center
- Wells Fargo Bank
- North Carolina Wesleyan College

New Members

AI Awards & Promotions

Tim Avery
132 W. 5th Street
Washington, NC 27889
(252)974-1099
www.aonepromo.com

Foundation Forward, Inc.

Ron Lewis
134 South Sterling Street
yourchartersforfreedom.com

Camfill USA, Inc.

Ryan Woolard
200 Creekside Drive
Washington, NC 27889
(252)975-1141
www.camfil.us

Old Ford Ruritan Club

Richard Noble
6003 US Hwy 17 North
Washington, NC 27889
(518)339-9919

Metropolitan Property Management

Tracie Ruther
327 N. Market Street
Washington, NC 27889
(252)946-0110
metroprop.org

Membership Renewals

Alligood's Garage
Beaufort County Traditional Music Association
A. McCray Jones, DDS
Wilson, Jones & Griffin PA
Park Boat Company
Start Right Learning Center
Beaufort County Development Center
Partnership for the Sounds
Lyons Custom Builders
Pungo Engineering Services
C.T. Partrick Jr., PA
Pamlico Animal Hospital
John B. Tate, III, Attorney
HES, Inc.
Boss Hog's BBQ
Edward Jones Investments-Rod Cantrell
Take 2 Computer Services
Morgan Printers
Evan Lewis Attorney
Cli-Co Storage
Tranter's Creek
Pruitt Health
Tom Robinson, CPA
Mid-East Commission
Beaufort County United Way
Edward Jones Investments-Kelly O. Crisp
Kids Cross
Pamlico Plantation Property Owners
Agape Community Health Center
Rutledge Mini Storage
Engraver's World
Evans Transport
The Belle of Washington
Elmwood 1820

Washington Assembly of God
Coldwell Banker/Coastal Rivers Realty-Thad Roberts
Cathy Waters-The Rich Company
Meherrin
Tar River Animal Hospital
P.C. Sound
Pugh's Tire & Service Center
East Side Bait & Tackle
AAA Glass Service, Inc.
Athletic Edge Sports & Fitness Center
Hillside Funeral Service
Vidant Health
Vidant Behavioral Health
Vidant Family Medicine-Aurora
Vidant Family Medicine-Chocowinity
Vidant Family Medicine-Washington
Vidant Gastroenterology
Vidant General Surgery
Vidant Internal Medicine
Vidant Orthopedics
Vidant Urology
Vidant Women's Care
Vidant Women's Care bardot
Alzheimer's NC-Beaufort County
Pair Electronics
Eastern Living Magazine
Little's Heating & Air Conditioning
Russell's
Art on Market/Kay G. Woolard Art Studio
Zeno Edwards, DDS



Calendar of Events

May

- 2 8:30am Chamber Executive Committee Meeting
- 4 5:30-7:pm Business After Hours at Washington Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram
- 9 8:30am Chamber Board of Directors Meeting
- 18 11:45am May Power Luncheon featuring Seth Edwards, District Attorney
- 18 5:30-7pm Business After Hours at United Country/Respress Real Estate
- 25 8:30am Bright Futures Advisory Board Meeting

June

- 6 8:30am Chamber Executive Committee Meeting
- 9-10 Summer Festival
- 13 8:30am Chamber Board of Directors Meeting
- 13 11:30am Chamber Ambassadors Meeting
- 22 8:30am Bright Futures Advisory Board Meeting

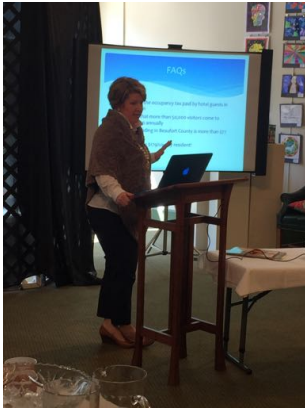
May Power Luncheon featuring Seth Edwards



Seth Edwards, District Attorney will be the featured speaker for May’s Chamber Power Luncheon. The District Attorneys’ Office in Prosecutorial District 2 encompasses all of Beaufort, Hyde, Martin, Tyrrell and Washington counties. It is the duty of this office to represent the State with integrity and professionalism, while protecting victims and their rights, in the pursuit of justice. Join us on May 18th at 11:45am at the Turnage Theatre. Tickets are \$15 for Chamber members and \$20 for non-members. Contact Robin McKeithan at 946-9168 or rmckeithan@wbcchamber.com to reserve your ticket.



Power Luncheon Update



The March Power Luncheon was entitled “What’s Happening in Washington” and featured 3 community leaders that informed the audience on the happenings in their organizations. Lynn Wingate, Director of Washington Tourism Development Authority; Debra Torrence, Director of Arts of the Pamlico; and Chris Furlough; Chairman of the Washington Harbor District Alliance each presented at the luncheon. In April, Dr. O’Halloran, Director of ECU’s Hospitality Leadership program, presented findings from his students regarding a Downtown Washington hotel. His students have worked on a project all semester where they could choose to use the Hotel Louise property or the Belk building property for a future hotel. A follow up presentation will take place at the Turnage Theatre on May 11th at 11:30am, which is free and open to the public.

Dueling Pianos a Hit



The Chamber and Arts of the Pamlico partnered to bring a new fundraiser to benefit both organizations- Dueling Pianos International. Over 250 people gathered at the Turnage Theatre to enjoy a night of live music in an all request format. The event was such a hit that we have already booked the show again for March of 2018. Stay tuned for details on this new favorite annual event!

Community Happenings



The Washington Beaufort County Chamber of Commerce recently held a ribbon cutting ceremony for AI Awards & Promotions. AI Awards & Promotions is located at 132 W. 5th Street in Washington. They are a leading distributor of awards, signs, promotional products, embroidery and screen printing. They have three locations to better serve your needs in Washington, Greenville and Winterville. For more information call 252-974-1099 or visit their website at www.aonepromo.com



First South Bank recently celebrated the grand opening of their newly renovated main branch, located at 1311 Carolina Avenue in Washington. Chamber members and the community were invited to a Business After Hours to tour the updated facility and enjoy refreshments. For all your banking needs, contact First South Bank at (252)946-4178 or visit their website at firstsouthnc.com.

Bright Futures at Work

Washington High School Junior, Mary Grace Wilder, partnered with Bright Futures Beaufort County to bring all Beaufort County School girls the Fashion Forward Prom Boutique. Donations of dresses, shoes and accessories were set up in a boutique fashion and all were invited to shop. Each dress was sold for \$5, and the money was donated back to Bright Futures for the future of the Prom Boutique.





Contact:
Lentz Stowe, Dir of Small Business Center
 Phone 252-940-6306
Sara Watson, Dir of Customized Training
 Phone 252-940-6311

Beaufort County Community College
 5337 US Why 264 East
 Washington, NC 27889
www.beaufortccc.edu/learned/contin.htm

We support small business in our area by providing high quality, readily accessible assistance to prospective and existing small business owners. We offer FREE seminars on subjects related to small business, work individually with entrepreneurs to help start and improve small business and offer specialized training to fit the needs of individual businesses & industry organizations.



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Member Benefits

The following benefits are included in your annual membership fee & come at no additional charge.

- **Free Listings:** Upon joining, we feature your business in our weekly Chambergram, on social media and on our website's homepage as our newest member. Your business will also be listed on our website's Membership Directory, which highlights Chamber businesses and also includes a link to your website. Our website, www.whochamber.com receives over 1 million hits per year.
- **Free TV Appearance:** The Chamber has its own TV Show, Beaufort County News & Views. This is a 21 minute interview between members and the Chamber director. Your appearance as a member is FREE, which is a \$2,000 advertising value for your business and more than pays for your annual membership! The show airs for 1 week in 3 counties: Beaufort, Pitt & Martin.
- **Ribbon Cuttings:** Let us help you host a successful ribbon cutting to celebrate your grand opening, remodel, or anniversary! The Chamber will design the invitation, promote the event to our members, provide the ribbon and big scissors and take the photo. We will also handle the publicity after the event including a press release in the Washington Daily News, Chamber Newsletter & Chambergram.
- **Information Distribution:** We send out a weekly email newsletter, The Chambergram, where you are encouraged to submit any information about your business (events, promotions, etc.), as often as you need. You can also provide printed materials about your business to be displayed in our lobby (which is also the Visitors Center). As many as 30 locals/tourists visit each day. Also, the Chamber only promotes its members! We makes hundreds of referrals through phone, email and our website each year.
- **Networking:** Members are invited to attend an array of networking events including ribbon cuttings, Business After Hours, monthly Power Luncheons and more. Member businesses can also choose to host a Business After Hours to promote products/ services and raise awareness of their business' presence.
- **Buy Local Campaign:** The Chamber's Buy Local Campaign is ongoing and community-wide. The largest piece of this campaign is the Buy Local Gift Certificate program designed to promote our businesses and ensure that more than \$35,000 stays within our community each year. Only Chamber members can participate in this program. The campaign also holds the Buy, Eat, Be Local Week in July and participates in Small Business Saturday the Saturday after Thanksgiving.
- **Other Opportunities:**
 - Members can utilize our board room at no cost. The room is equipped with a screen and projector for your meeting needs.
 - The Chamber partners with Beaufort County Community College's Small Business Center to provide free seminars and workshops for members.
 - The Chamber has several committees that assist in the Chamber's mission including Education, Ambassadors and Young Professionals.

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Washington Officially a Retire NC Community!



Washington, NC: The North Carolina Economic Development Partnership announced today that Washington, NC has been named as the latest certified retirement community as part of Retire NC. “Washington and Beaufort County have the assets that retirees are looking for when planning retirement in North Carolina,” said Andre Nabors director of Retire NC. “This will be a strong link in eastern North Carolina with the addition of Washington to the program. For more than six months a committee of community leaders worked to prepare the detailed application for inclusion as a Retire NC community. Research was conducted related to medical facilities, crime rate, housing costs, schools, senior programs, and more that relate to the livability of a community. “Retire NC certification is helping to put Washington

and Beaufort County on the map. And that map is specific to retirees looking for the quality of life we enjoy here,” touted Catherine Glover of the Washington-Beaufort County Chamber of Commerce. “Attracting new people to this area is a good thing, the community will reap the benefits for years to come.” A marketing program will be launched to enhance Washington’s presence within the retirement market. In addition to the statewide Retire NC marketing, local initiatives will include inquiry fulfillment pieces, e-newsletter, and a web presence at www.retirewashingtonnc.com. The program is expected to evolve over the course of the five year engagement with Retire NC. “This is a win for our community. People visit a community an average of three times before making the decision to purchase. And, we know that these visitors bring their families and spend money in our local economy so it makes good business sense,” said Lynn Wingate, tourism development director for the City of Washington.

Supporting partners of the Retire NC effort are the Washington Beaufort County Chamber of Commerce, Washington Tourism Development Authority, Washington Harbor District Alliance, First South Bank, Tideland EMC, Vidant Beaufort Hospital, City of Washington, Beaufort County, Cypress Landing, Pamlico Plantation, Coldwell Banker Coastal Rivers Realty, Rich Company, Arts of the Pamlico, and Wine & Words.



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