



# Wallace Chamber of Commerce

## Your business is our business

### August 2011 Newsletter

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Chamber of Commerce  
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**This Newsletter is  
published monthly  
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Chamber of Com-  
merce.  
For Membership  
information,  
call 910.285.4044.**

**New Member  
Spotlight:**

# **Downtown Dining Returns**

*Onyx River  
Restaurant*

A consistent dining experience in a casual dining experience is the goal of the staff of the newly opened Onyx River Restaurant located at 110 West Main Street in downtown Wallace. Owners Robert Samuels and his wife, Gerri Smith Samuels and General Manager Karen Blaylock have brought their artistic sense of style to the building, their love of good food to the menu, and their enthusiasm for a comfortable gathering place together to create what we hope will be a stellar restaurant for downtown.

The dream began when the Stone Leaf Café closed almost two years ago. Karen had been to the Stone Leaf on a Tuesday, Robert Samuels, and his wife, Gerri Smith Samuels went on the following Saturday, and it was closed. Robert had always wanted to open a casual fine dining restaurant, but the building was not being offered at lease, so the plans were put on hold. Karen had been working on a business plan for a bar and grill. When Robert found out the the building was available for lease, the two, who work together during the day, started to work on plans to open the restaurant.

They have garnered the talent of Chef Gary Lloyd, who brings 13 years of culinary experience which includes the Bistro restaurant. He was invited to a "Master Chef" style interview where they were given food that the owners knew they wanted on the menu, and asked to create dishes using them. Karen said that the results were amazing! The food was full of youth, fresh and vibrant, and reflected the chef's personalities. The resulting menu is a representation of meals that Robert actually cooks at home as well as Chef Gary's and Karen's input.

The restaurant will feature Noni Bacca wines, and will also stock other popular wines. They will carry domestic and imported beers and have developed a signature black martini that will be offered in addition to a mixed drink menu.

Wallace Mayor Charley Farior is among those eagerly waiting the restaurant's opening for several reasons. "I am extremely excited to have a restaurant back on Main Street, the mayor said, Having learned about the Onyx River Restaurant on the internet, I believe that it will be a great asset to our downtown business district, to Wallace, and to our surrounding area. As we begin the process of revitalizing some of our older business areas, I can't think of a better way to start than with a great restaurant in this wonderful historic building. I look forward to enjoying many, many meals in our newest business in town, the Onyx River Restaurant, and wish them every possible success."

In addition to her day job and managing the restaurant, Karen is an accomplished photographer, and had a studio downtown several years ago. Much of her photography will serve as the art for the restaurant, and the walls are open to other local artists to use as a gallery for their work. The work displayed in the restaurant will be available for purchase, and Karen hopes that it will be a viable business opportunity for local talent.

The restaurant will be open for dinner Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 5-9 and Friday and Saturday fro 5-10. Sunday Brunch will be served from 11-4. A lunch menu has been developed, and will be added in the future. Dress is casual. Karen says, "Yes...that means jeans are just fine!"

# August Membership Meeting

The Wallace Chamber of Commerce August Membership meeting will be held Thursday, August 11 at 1:00 p.m. at the Del Rio Restaurant in Wallace. We have two speakers scheduled for this meeting. Jay Briley has recently been announced as the replacement for Hervey Chase as President of Duplin General Hospital by United Health Systems. Briley has been on staff at Duplin General for the past year as the Operations Manager. Chase has been promoted to a corporate position with United Health Systems. Learn what progress has been made on the new programs that are planned for Duplin General when Briley addresses the group.

We will also have the opportunity to meet Lacey Ekberg, the new Director of the Duplin Events Center. Ekberg has a colorful background which began in newspaper, and led to living in the Grand Canyon, marketing "The Simpsons" and coordinating two Superbowls for FOX Sports. She has a passion and a vision and an indefatigable supply of energy that is sure to propel the Events Center into the black. Learn her plans for bringing a diverse mix of entertainment to Duplin County.

## Christmas At Twilight Planning Meetings



We are fortunate this year to have SANTA himself as the Chairperson of the 2011 Wallace Chamber of Commerce Christmas at Twilight Committee. Davis Carr has volunteered to take on this most important responsibility, and is looking forward to infusing some new ideas into the celebration this year.

With the recent success of the Carolina Strawberry Festival, those people who have also worked in the planning of Christmas a Twilight saw opportunities to make some changes that would make Twilight fresh and even more appealing as a destination event.

Please consider becoming a volunteer this year, and bring your ideas and your enthusiasm to Santa's worktable. Even if you can't volunteer, if you have an idea or suggestion, please email that to Lou at [lou@wallacechamber.com](mailto:lou@wallacechamber.com).



The first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 2 at 5:30 p.m. in the Wallace Depot. The second meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 6 at 5:30 p.m. at the Wallace Depot.

**THURSDAY**  
**AUGUST 25**  
**5:00 PM**  
**WALLACE DEPOT**  
**MUSIC**  
**FOOD**  
**BEER & WINE GARDEN**



NORTH CAROLINA  
*Muscadine Festival*  
 KENANSVILLE, NC  
**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24**  
 10:00 a.m.- 10:00 p.m.  
*Entertainment:*  
 The Entertainers  
 The Castaways  
 The Fantastic Shakers  
*Tickets in advance: \$20*  
**910-290-0525**  
[www.muscadineharvestfestival.com](http://www.muscadineharvestfestival.com)

# Welcome Our New Chamber Members

## Capital Office Supply

111 Wall Street  
Clinton, NC  
910-592-9220- Phone  
910-592-9221- Fax  
www.capitalofficesupply.com  
Billy Hoffman- Local Office  
bshoff@embarqmail.com  
Office supplies and office furniture. Specializing in quick delivery.

## H. J. Page Builders, Inc.

PO Box 1099  
Wallace, NC  
910-284-1511- Phone  
910-285-7585- Fax  
www.hjbuilders.com  
Michael Page- Contact  
pagebuilders@riverlanding.net  
Residential and multi- construction services.

## Copy Pro, Inc

5509 Business Drive  
Wilmington, NC  
910-231-4087- Phone  
910-791-7848- Fax  
www.copypro.com  
William Holman-Local Office  
bholman@copypro.net  
Copiers, Fax machines, printers, office supplies, document management systems.

## JSCC Small Business-Fall Schedule

**Starting a Commercial Cleaning Business** - Tuesday, August 2, 6:00 – 9:00 If you are looking for a full-time or part-time business that is relatively inexpensive to start, residential and commercial cleaning may be a fit for you. Our presenter, Steve Carver, started and operated a cleaning business for 5 year. Learn about the benefits and pitfalls of this profession.

**Starting a Landscape or Grass Mowing Business** –Tuesday, August 9, 6:00 – 9:00 Explore the opportunities to complete high dollar landscape design and installations, and learn about eight other related profit centers including lawn maintenance. Get details of equipment needs, costs, giving estimates, financing, personnel, insurance, and more! Steve Carver

**Starting a Pressure Washing Business**-Tuesday, August 16, 6:00 – 9:00 Pressure washing is a service needed by homeowners and agribusinesses particularly in Duplin County. Gain insight on how to start this business from scratch, research the market, create a business plan, contracting and more! Steve Carver.

**How to Get the Most out of Your Blackberry or iPhone**-Tuesday, August 23, 6:00 – 9:00 Are you able to use all of the functions of your Blackberry or iPhone? This session will teach you about the wide range of functions available on these devices that can help you improve your productivity dramatically. User Friendly Technologies.

**How to Get Funding for Your Small Business** – Tuesday, August 30, 6:00 – 9:00 This course, provided by the Small Business Administration, will provide the steps required to successfully obtain a commercial credit loan, and how to approach your lender regarding an SBA loan guaranty. Don Spry, SBA

**Publishing & Promoting – Part I** – Tuesday, September 6, 6:00 – 9:00 Do you want to publish a book? Would a book enhance your professional status? Writer and marketing expert AlexSandra Lett, author of five books, can help your dream become a reality. Everything you need to know to get published will be included.

**Publishing & Promoting – Part II** – Tuesday, September 13, 6:00 – 9:00 So you have decided to publish a book! Topics include samples of book ideas that became success stories, brainstorming about your specific book ideas, marketing strategies for promoting and selling books, understanding the role of distributors, wholesalers, and retailers, and more! AlexSandra Lett.

# Wallace Chamber of Commerce Monthly Meeting Thursday, August 11, 2011 at Del Rio Restaurant

## *Chamber After Hours*

**Tuesday, August 16, 5:30-7:00pm  
New Hope Christian Academy - West Main St.**

**Thursday, September 22, at 5:30pm  
Cavanaugh's Gifts - 117 West Main Street**

***Grand Opening/Chamber After Hours*  
Saturday, October 22  
Bill Carone Chevrolet-GMC-Buick Ford**

### **Wallace Chamber of Commerce Newsletter Advertising Rates**

Reach 240 local businesses and individuals when you advertise in the Wallace Chamber of Commerce newsletter. All ads include color. Ad info must be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to running.

**Business card size ad**  
\$40.00

**1/3 page ad/coupon**  
\$50.00 (printed in newsletter)

**1/3 page ad/coupon flyer insert**  
\$55.00 if 240 copies provided or  
\$65.00 if Chamber runs 240 color copies.

**1/2-1 page flyer sheet insert**  
\$60.00 with 240 copies provided or  
\$70.00 if Chamber runs 240 color copies.

## **1-800-PACK-RAT**

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**Glenn Mobley**

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