

May 2025

Jackson County Chamber Happenings

I've decided to make great use of this space and share some wonderful things about Nick, the TDA and the Chamber's relationship with the TDA over the past 26 years. I don't know if anyone will read this, but I hope you will. As a board member, you sit on one of the most important and influential boards in this county. Please continue to serve and show up! Our TDA team works hard and is dedicated to the betterment of Jackson County. It would be impossible to list all the terrific things the TDA has been able to do over the past few decades. Nick's consistent positive leadership has been a guiding light when other regions were struggling to find their paths. The partnership between the TDA and the Chamber has proven to be one of the most effective in WNC. Through the transition from TTA to the TDA, Nick stayed focused on the big picture and ensured our board was on task and finding meaningful ways to impact our county. Our 'economic boat' lifted, with Captain Nick at the helm. He guided the boat through choppy waters and stormy seas, and we came out on the other end stronger and better having made the journey together. Nick has been a very helpful partner to the Chamber and to me personally. We have laughed over funny happenings, and we've sighed (and maybe cried) a bit during challenging times. Nick and the board have worked together to build a strong tourism engine in Jackson County, one that can jump a few hurdles when necessary while still contributing to the overall positive growth of our region. Together we have proven that character carries more weight than any title. I am so proud of our TDA, our TDA Director, our Board and all that has been accomplished over the past two+ decades. It has truly been the pleasure of my life to serve as your Chamber Director and as a board member of the TDA. Carry on, you are in GREAT hands!

Phone calls:
Guests Served:
741
Direct Inquiries:
1655

Visitor guides to welcome centers: 600

Fly Fishing requests: 96

Concerts on the Creek has started! Join us every Friday night from 7-9pm at the Bridge Park for great music!

Chamber golf tourney is

August 27th at Sequoyah

National Golf Course!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JACKSON COUNTY

For members of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, N.C.





Fireworks, Concert planned for July 4

The 11th annual Fireworks Festivities in Sylva will be held on Friday, July 4, 2025. There will be children's activities, live music by the band Gotcha Groove from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., food and drink vendors, and of course, **FIREWORKS** at dark. Click HERE for more info.



New TDA retail items available at Chamber

The chamber now has new Jackson County Tourism Development Authority items for sale in its lobby. These fun new branded items include totes, beanies, sunglasses, a blanket, hammocks, t-shirts and a journal. Stop by and pick one up for a friend, family member, visitor or yourself!



Makers Market in Dillsboro June 21

The Jackson County Green Energy Park's Makers Market will be held at 31 Front Street in Dillsboro on Saturday, June 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. These are held every third Saturday through November. Come enjoy regional arts, crafts and handmade goods.



Concerts on the Creek Schedule

The 16th annual season of Concerts on the Creek is underway and runs through Labor Day weekend. Please click <u>HERE</u> to see who is performing at Bridge Park in Sylva this summer. We hope to see you out there dancing the night away! It's going to be a fun season of music with food and beverage providers as well.

Come see us at Concerts on the Creek

Jackson County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Julie Spiro Donaldson & Assistant Director Kelly Donaldson are retiring on July 4, 2025. You can read a press release HERE, a letter to members HERE, Julie's resignation letter HERE, and Kelly's resignation HERE. A new director will be named very soon. Come see Kelly and Julie at one of the next five Concerts on the Creek events!





Happenings & Opportunities

- Summertime Arts and Crafts Show: The annual event is Friday, June 27 & Saturday, June 29 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Located in WCU's Ramsey Center in Cullowhee, N.C. Admission is \$5 for adults. Children under 12 free. Click HERE for more information.
- #WncOpenForBusiness: Let's all continue to help the economic recovery efforts throughout our region! Use this hashtag in your social media posts to garner collective attention for our area.
- The Front Street Arts & Crafts Show: in Dillsboro features regional artisans. There are over 40 booths, along with family entertainment and festival food. This festival is on Saturday, July 19.



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