



Carteret County News-Times General Election Guide 2020

Important dates

Oct. 15 - One-Stop Voting Begins

Oct. 27 - Last Day to Request an Absentee Ballot by Mail

Oct. 31 - One-Stop Voting Ends

Nov. 3 - PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION DAY

Follow along for election night coverage at [carolinacoastonline.com](https://www.carolinacoastonline.com)



WHERE TO VOTE

Precincts - A voter is registered in the county election precinct that contains the voter's address

Where can I vote? Voters in Carteret County must vote in the district in which they live

Visit <https://www.carteret-countync.gov/493/One-Stop-Early-Voting> to see a full list of one-stop voting locations.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DISTRICT 3

INCUMBENT



Bob Cavanaugh

- ▶ **Age:** 72
- ▶ **Address:** N/A
- ▶ **Phone No:** N/A
- ▶ **Website:** N/A

I am 72 years old, married for 36 years and retired from the U.S. Marine Corps in 1988 after serving 21 years, where I worked in the avionics field. Joining in 1967 as a private, I earned 11 promotions and retired with the rank of captain. I am also a Vietnam veteran having served at Da Nang and Chu Lai.

I am seeking reelection and currently represent the county on the hospital board, East Carolina Council of Governments, East Carolina Workforce Development Board, Allies for Cherry Point Tomorrow Board, Juvenile Crime Prevention Board, Carteret Transportation Committee and the Carteret County Animal Shelter.

I am active in the Republican Party and past chairman of the Crystal Coast Republican Men's Club. I have been the chairman of the Crystal Coast Tea Party since 2009.



Kathleen Colbert

- ▶ **Age:** 58
- ▶ **Address:** 3300 Country Club Road, Morehead City
- ▶ **Phone No:** N/A
- ▶ **Email address:** colbertcares4carteret@gmail.com

I am a mental health therapist serving clients in Carteret county. I have a MA in counseling and psychological services from St. Mary's University of Minnesota. Throughout my career, I have been an advocate for my clients ensuring that they have access to the resources they need to have the quality of life that they desire. Mental health services, including addiction, play a key role in quality of life, especially during this unprecedented time. The impact of COVID-10 has hit us hard. Access quality to mental health services can turn this around.

I am also committed to investing in education and employment opportunities for the young residents in our county. Providing a pathway to further education for high school students interested in pursuing trade professions will grow the economy in the county.

The bottom line: if our residents have quality of life, they will become involved, committed and productive citizens. Suicide, addiction and crime will decrease. It is a win-win for all of us. Vote for me for county commissioner and be part of the growth that happens when we take care of each other.

DISTRICT 4

INCUMBENT



Jimmy Farrington

- ▶ **Age:** 50
- ▶ **Address:** P.O. Box 4923, Emerald Isle
- ▶ **Phone No:** N/A
- ▶ **Website:** N/A

Education: Graduated West Carteret High School 1988, N.C. landscape contractor, N.C. irrigation contractor

President: Yardworks Inc., established in 1988.

Serve on the beach commission, Trillium Mental Health Board and the Carteret County Peer Recovery board.

Over the past eight years it has been an honor to serve the 4 district and all the citizens of Carteret County. I am amazed at the changes this county has gone through since my childhood. The people are what make us great and the spirit that lifts us up from what is sent our way, like COVID-19, hurricanes, tornadoes, have all truly made us stronger.

A good part of my focus since I started as a commissioner has been mental health and substance abuse. This to me is a top issue affecting our community and the entire country. There is "Never Enough" that we can do, our board as a team has made improvements like the Peer Recovery Center, Dix Crisis Center and working with young school students to stay away from drugs and the triggers that lead them down that path. Also working with inmates to get them into recovery while incarcerated.

I hope you will allow me to serve four more years. Thank you



Rosalie T. Ruegg

- ▶ **Age:** 78
- ▶ **Address:** 111 Pine-wood Place, Emerald Isle
- ▶ **Phone No:** 252-269-1131
- ▶ **Email address:** ruegg@ec.rr.com

Since 2000, I have lived in Emerald Isle, where I've run an economics consulting company and enjoyed the local community. I grew up on a family farm in eastern North Carolina, and after being a farmworker, I became an economist. This followed graduating from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and going to the University of Maryland (MA), The American University (MBA) and receiving certificates from MIT, Georgetown University and Harvard University.

I served as director of the economics assessment office of the Advanced Technology Program, senior economist at NIST, financial economist at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors and college instructor in economics. I've published, received awards and served on local, national and international boards. In short, I have had a long and enjoyable career, with 35 years of public service and 20 years in private business, bringing me to the age of 78 last week.

In retirement, I continue service on a National Academies of Science and Engineering Committee and enjoy bicycling, horseback riding, snorkeling and dog walking. Now I'm having a go at writing a book of short stories. If elected, I would like the opportunity to contribute more to District 4.

DISTRICT 5



Liz Ponder

- ▶ **Age:** 38
- ▶ **Address:** 3110 Arendell St., Suite 0, Morehead City
- ▶ **Phone No:** N/A
- ▶ **Website:** onder4carteret@gmail.com

Education: Bachelor of Arts: History; Bachelor of Arts: Peace, War, and Defense (UNC Chapel Hill); Juris Doctor (Suffolk University Law School, cum laude).

Liz Ponder is running to tackle the hard issues that have plagued Carteret County. She responds to the needs of the community and will zealously advocate for those who feel that their voices are silenced. While a student at UNC, she met her husband Steven, a U.S. Army soldier stationed at Ft. Bragg. Liz attended law school in Massachusetts and was privileged to return to North Carolina in 2017. Liz operates her solo law firm in Morehead City.

When Hurricane Florence hit our county in 2018, Liz felt compelled to help hurricane victims find temporary housing. She helped host a housing fair at Ann Street Methodist Church, which led to her involvement as the vice chair of the Carteret Long Term Recovery Alliance. Liz helps residents with FEMA appeals, increase insurance payouts and locating housing. Liz is also actively involved in the Beaufort Middle School PTO. Liz and Steven have been married for 15 years. They have two wonderful children, Jacob and Leah.



Eddie Bo Wheatly

- ▶ **Age:** 68
- ▶ **Address:** N/A
- ▶ **Phone No:** N/A
- ▶ **Website:** N/A

I have lived in Beaufort my entire life of 68 years, except for four years at The Citadel, where I obtained a BA in history. After graduation, I went to work helping one of my three brothers in the petroleum business. Today, I am still helping and he has retired. I've expanded that business into a tire business, convenience stores, boat storage rentals, as well as commercial and residential rentals.

I know the system in Carteret County well because I have at some point dealt with practically every department in county and municipal government in my 45 years of experience. For the past 3.5 years I have served as your county commissioner from District 5.

I love my job and if you will look at our record, you will see that I along with the other commissioners have done it well. I am proud to serve you. The taxpayer has and always will be my No. 1 priority.

DISTRICT 6



Chris Chadwick

- ▶ **Age:** 49
- ▶ **Address:** N/A
- ▶ **Phone No:** 252-725-0820
- ▶ **Email address:** chadwick@carteretcountync.gov

I am a life-long Down East resident; I grew up in Gloucester and have spent almost 30 years in Stacy. I attended Smyrna Elementary and graduated from East Carteret High School. I then received an automobile mechanics degree from Pitt Community College.

I am married to Kathryn Chadwick, and we have two children who attend East Carteret High School. I have served two terms on the Carteret Health Care board, two terms on the Carteret County Planning Commission. I have served on the Carteret Community College board. I am currently serving on the ABC board and a member of the Crissie Wright Lodge, Sudan Shriners and an NRA life member.

I am a former assistant Scout master, volunteer fireman, deputy sheriff. I have 30 years of experience as a business owner at Chadwick Tire in Otway and Harkers Island RV Resort and other real estate ventures. I know how to balance a budget, and I will not spend tax dollars on frivolous things. I pledge to keep our taxes as low as possible. I am a common-sense conservative. After God and my family, Down East and its people are my next passion.

