A scenic sunset over a body of water. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of blue, orange, and pink. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the water. The water reflects the colors of the sky. In the background, there is a dark silhouette of a forest. On the left side, a small wooden pier or dock is visible in the water.

Columbus County

NORTH CAROLINA

954 Square Miles of Amazing

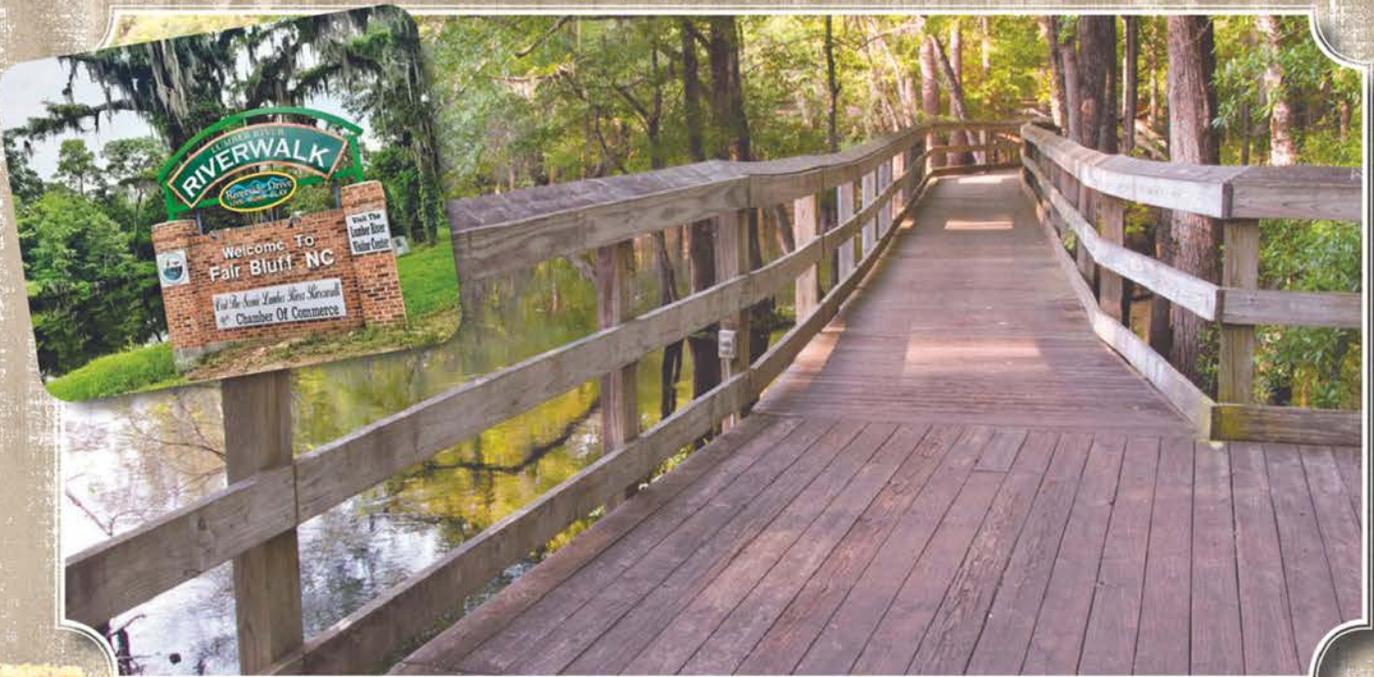
RELOCATION GUIDE

VISIT THE NEW UPTOWN FAIR BLUFF



Sponsored by the Greater Fair Bluff Chamber of Commerce

LUMBER RIVER RIVERWALK



VISIT BEAUTIFUL FAIR BLUFF



The Columbus County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism is pleased to provide this relocation guide to welcome you to Columbus County.

With 954 square miles of diverse landscapes, Columbus County offers an amazing place to live, work, play, shop, and dine. Community stakeholders actively develop partnerships to enhance the county, making it an even better place to be.

Discover Columbus County's unique features, including natural bodies of water like Lake Waccamaw, the Lumber River, and the Waccamaw River. Our rich cultural history is showcased in our historic structures, Depot Museums, State Parks, and the Waccamaw Siouan Tribal Center and celebrated with vibrant cultural festivals. Located conveniently, Columbus County offers easy access to area beaches, making it a perfect place to call home.



Again, welcome to Columbus County!
Joan McPherson
President



Welcome to Columbus County! We are so glad you have decided to relocate here and we welcome you with open arms. Columbus County is rich in history and beauty, so get to know us and enjoy everything Columbus County has to offer. Let me encourage you to get involved in your community and be engaged in civic clubs, area churches, recreation, and service to the community.

On behalf of the County Commissioners and the employees of Columbus County, we say welcome to you!

Your county manager,
Edwin (Eddie) H. Madden, Jr.



Publication photos courtesy of The News Reporter and Columbus County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism

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LARGE EQUIPMENT

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Phone 642-6642



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While other insurance companies just see a customer, I see a neighbor in my community. I'm here to get to know who you really are so I can help life go right.

LET'S TALK TODAY.

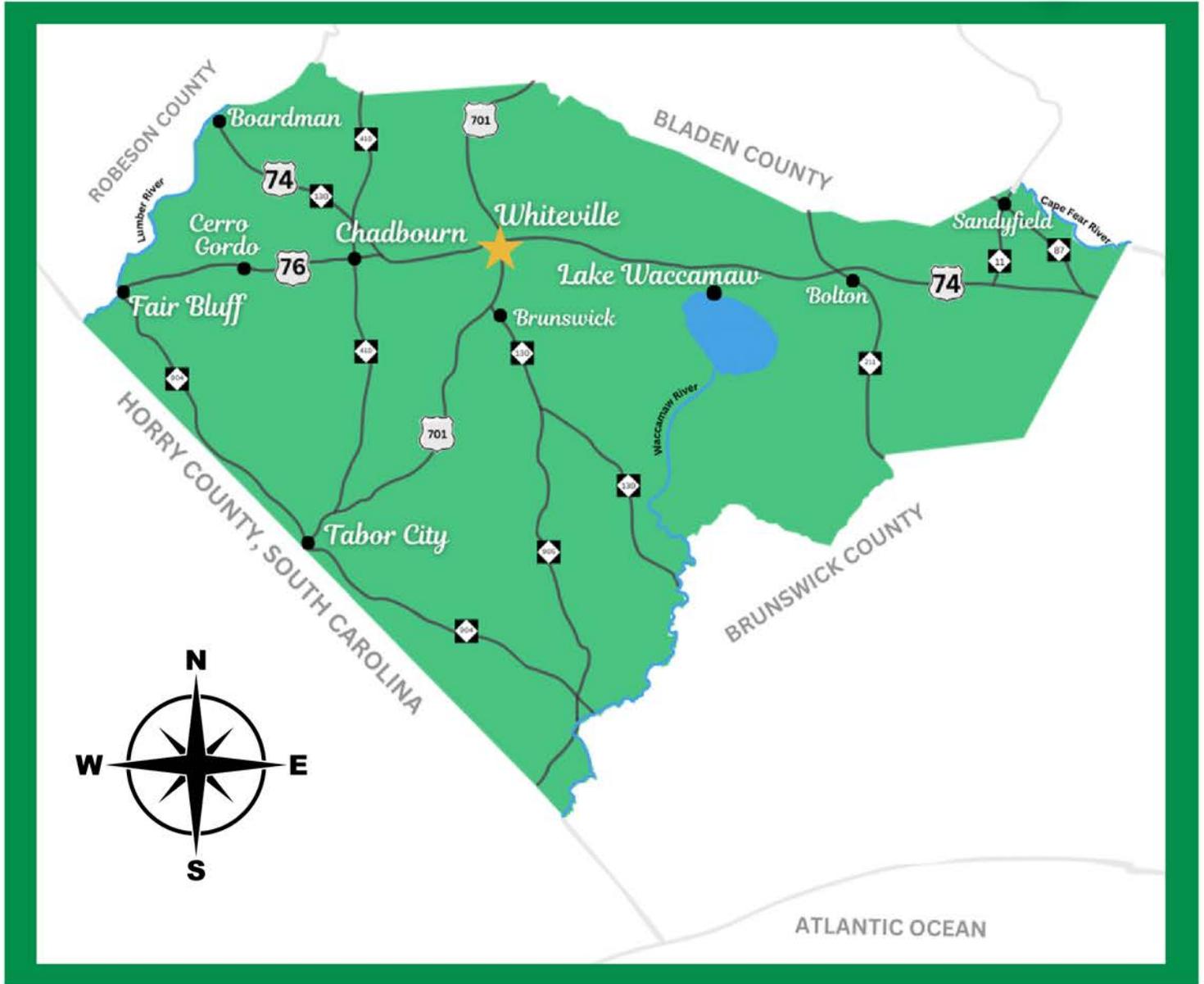
Mary Williamson, Agent
910-642-3753

1011 N. J.K. Powell Blvd
Whiteville, N.C. 28472
Se habla español

 **State Farm**™

Columbus County

NORTH CAROLINA



Small-town life, within day-trip distance of beaches and cities...

Driving distances from Whiteville

Sunset Beach...50 minutes
Ocean Isle Beach...51 minutes
Wilmington...56 minutes
Holden Beach...57 minutes
North Myrtle Beach, SC...58 minutes

Fayetteville...1 hour
Myrtle Beach, SC...1 hour, 12 minutes
Southern Pines...1 hour, 30 minutes
Raleigh...2 hours
Charlotte...2 hours, 30 minutes

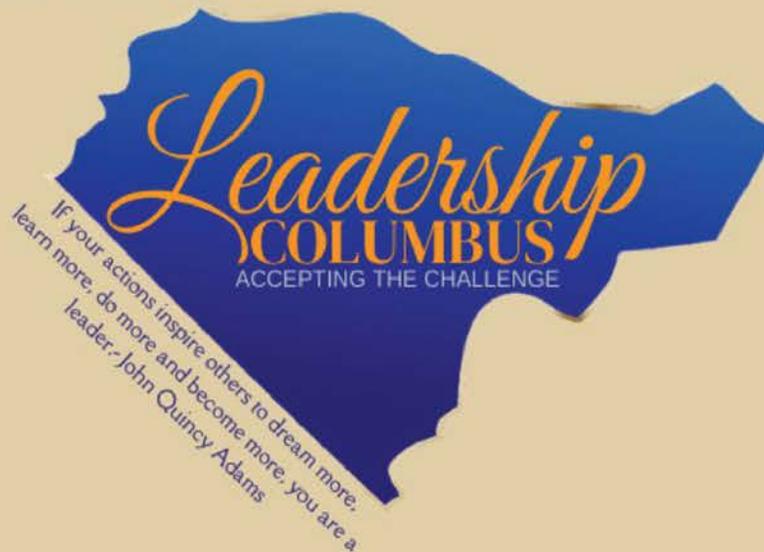
Columbus County

Live, Work, Play & Lead!

Leadership Columbus is co-sponsored by the Columbus County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism and Southeastern Community College and has been an exceptional leadership development program in Columbus County. The program aims to provide our existing and emerging leaders with a diverse knowledge of leadership training and a detailed understanding of our community, which includes opportunities, challenges, and ongoing issues that Columbus County faces.

Historically, employers from every size of business, nonprofit, educational systems, and municipalities have enrolled members of their organizations. Their enrollment provides them with direct contact with the leaders and partnerships critical to the process of change and improvement in Columbus County.

Leadership Columbus County offers the best opportunity to increase your or your employees' knowledge of who to call, the importance of partnerships, and the desire to continue cultivating positive change and impact in Columbus County.




Columbus County
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& TOURISM

601 South Madison Street
Whiteville, NC 28472
910-642-3171

[www.thecolumbuscountychamber](http://www.thecolumbuscountychamber.com)

Connecting in Columbus County

EMERGENCY

For any fire, public safety, or medical emergency, dial 911.

- Emergency Services: 910-640-6610
- NC Highway Patrol: 910-642-7169
- Sheriff's Office: 910-642-6551
- Families First, Inc.: 910-642-5996

BUSINESS

- Chadbourn Chamber of Commerce: 910-234-3898
- Columbus County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism: 910-642-3171
- Greater Fair Bluff Chamber of Commerce: 910-649-7202
- Greater Tabor City Chamber of Commerce: 910-377-3012

EDUCATION

- Carolina Adventist Academy: 910-640-0855
- Carolyn T. High Memorial Library – Main Library, Whiteville: 910-642-3116
- Chadbourn Community Library: 910-654-3322
- Classical Charter Schools of Whiteville: 910-641-4042
- Columbus Christian Academy: 910-445-0460
- Columbus County NCWorks Career Center: 910-788-6261
- Columbus County Partnership for Children – Smart Start: 910-642-8226
- Columbus County Schools Administration: 910-642-5168
- East Columbus Branch Library – Riegelwood: 910-655-4157
- Fair Bluff Community Library: 910-649-7098
- Faith Christian Academy: 910-899-1973
- Rube McCray Memorial Library – Lake Waccamaw: 910-646-4616
- SCC Small Business Center: 910-788-6419
- Southeastern Community College: 910-642-7141
- Tabor City Public Library: 910-653-3774
- Thomas Academy Charter School: 910-646-2237
- Whiteville City Schools Administration: 910-642-4116

RECREATION

- City of Whiteville Parks and Recreation: 910-642-9052
- Columbus County Parks and Recreation Department: 910-640-6624
- Lake Waccamaw State Park: 910-646-4748
- Bolton Senior Center: 910-655-4166
- Bug Hill Senior Center: 910-640-3791
- Chadbourn Senior Center: 910-654-4423
- East Columbus Senior Center: 910-655-4754
- Fair Bluff Senior Center: 910-871-0001
- Tabor City Senior Center: 910-653-3063
- Whiteville Senior Center: 910-640-6602

GOVERNMENT

- City of Whiteville: 910-642-8046
- Columbus County Administration: 910-640-6600
- Columbus County Animal Services: 910-641-3945
- Columbus County Board of Elections: 910-640-6609
- Columbus County Cooperative Extension: 910-640-6606
- Columbus County Department of Aging: 910-640-6602
- Columbus County Department of Transportation: 910-641-3929
- Columbus County Economic Development: 910-640-6608
- Columbus County Social Services: 910-642-2800
- Columbus County Municipal Airport: 910-642-6187
- Columbus County Soil & Water Conservation District: 910-642-2196 ext. 3
- Columbus County Solid Waste: 910-641-3953
- Columbus County Tax Office: 910-640-6635
- Columbus County Public Utilities: 910-642-5257
- Employment Security Commission: 910-642-0146
- Social Security Administration: 877-779-7257
- Town of Boardman: 910-608-0390
- Town of Bolton: 910-655-8945
- Town of Brunswick: 910-642-6741
- Town of Cerro Gordo: 910-654-5387
- Town of Chadbourn: 910-654-4148
- Town of Fair Bluff: 910-649-7246
- Town of Lake Waccamaw: 910-646-3700
- Town of Sandyfield: 910-655-9877
- Town of Tabor City: 910-653-3458
- United States Postal Service Columbus County Post Offices USPS office locator: 800-ASK-USPS

HEALTHCARE

- Columbus Regional Healthcare System: 910-642-8011
- Columbus County Health Department: 910-640-6615
- Columbus County Department of Aging: 910-640-6602

LICENSES & REGISTRATION

- NC Driver's License: 910-642-2017
- NC DMV Office: 910-642-7500

UTILITIES

- Brightspeed Internet (phone/internet): 833-370-2914
- Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation (electric): 910-642-5011
- Duke Energy (electric): 800-452-2777
- FOCUS Broadband (cable, internet, phone): 888-367-2862
- Spectrum (cable, telephone, internet): 910-642-7171

Things to See & Do



North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences at Whiteville

A branch of the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences, the museum features an Investigation Lab, Naturalist Center, Outdoor Nature Play Space, and Discovery Forest. It offers education and inspiration to visitors free of charge.

Lake Waccamaw State Park

The state park offers public access to Lake Waccamaw, a shallow Carolina bay lake that's one of the largest natural bodies of water between New York and Florida. The park includes more than 2,000 acres of forest and shoreline. Amenities include a boat ramp, primitive campsites, hiking trails, a long boardwalk that extends into the 3x5-mile lake, and a visitors' center with regular programs.



The Lumber River Riverwalk

The riverwalk offers beautiful lowland scenery, with access located in downtown Fair Bluff. Enjoy a casual stroll by the river, or, if you are seeking adventure, use the boat ramp for kayaking or canoeing.



Reuben Brown House

This farmhouse from the early 1800s houses the Reuben Brown House Preservation Society, an organization of concerned citizens dedicated to preserving local history with period music and literature events.

Veterans Memorial Park of America

Just south of Whiteville, this memorial park honors past, present and future veterans for their service to our country.

Columbus County Community Farmers Market

Every Saturday from May to December, the market brings farmers and artisans together with loyal patrons for some of the finest and freshest locally grown produce, handmade crafts, sweet and savory treats, local honey, eggs, herbs, plants and much more.

Historic Railroad Depots

Columbus County has six historic railroad depots, with the depots in Lake Waccamaw, Chadbourn, Fair Bluff and Tabor City also serving as museums. The Riegelwood depot is that community's library, and the Whiteville depot, known as Vineland Station, is the town's civic center and hosts a large number of events.

Columbus County Parks and Community Centers

Columbus County Parks and Recreation maintains over twenty parks and community centers across the county, each with unique amenities. Residents and visitors of all ages can use walking trails, softball and baseball fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds and many other features. The Julie M. Strickland Fitness Park in Whiteville is one of the newest additions and includes a walking track, a Fitness Court outdoor gym facility and an inclusive playground for children and adults of all abilities.

Whiteville Butterfly Trail and Murals

Stroll or drive around Whiteville and you'll see beautiful butterfly murals all around town. Civic organizations and clubs sponsored these public art projects created by local artist Bess Taylor. Take a selfie or just enjoy the butterflies at the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences at Whiteville, Columbus County Arts Council, Columbus Regional Healthcare System, Vineland Storage, Columbus County Community Farmers Market, Julie M. Strickland Fitness Park and various downtown locations.



COME EXPERIENCE YOUR LOCAL MUSEUM



**OUR GIFT SHOP FEATURES LOCAL AUTHORS, ARTISTS,
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- Movies on Madison
3rd Friday of the Month
May - Sept. at Dusk
- Give the Gift of Knowledge
\$50 provides one class to receive
one school program at the museum

- Museum is available for
Event Rentals

All proceeds go back to the museum to benefit the community!

**Tuesday - Saturday 10 am - 4 pm
Free Admission**

415 S. Madison St., Whiteville | 910.788.5100



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BROKER

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- Ruth Gaskins

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test of golf!"*

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price."*

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910.642.5757
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6354 James B. White Hwy S.
P.O. Box 2046 | Whiteville, NC 28472
910-840-5207 | 910-840-3848
Email: veteransmemorialparkofcolco@gmail.com
Website: veteransparkofamerica.com

Arts & Culture

A thriving arts community starts early in the lives of Columbus County residents, as shown by the annual Celebrate the Arts. Featuring visual and performing arts by more than 1,000 Columbus County students, it's the largest student arts program in the state.

Local artisans showcase their work at festivals and craft fairs. Live music can be seen and heard at various venues throughout the county. The county's history is rich with gospel, jazz, and bluegrass music, and we celebrate numerous accomplished local authors.

Columbus County Arts Council

822 S. Madison St.
Whiteville, NC 28472
910-640-2787
columbuscountyarts.com

Southeastern Oratorio Society

P.O. Box 4
Whiteville, NC 28472
910-641-1335
southeasternoratorio.com

Reuben Brown House Preservation Society

128 E. Columbus St.
P.O. Box 2147
Whiteville, NC 28472
910-207-1484
reubenbrownhouse.com

Columbus Community Band

columbuscommunityband@gmail.com
910-840-6495

Richard F. Burkhardt Fine & Performing Arts Series

Southeastern Community College
Foundation
terrie.priest@sccnc.edu
910-788-6320





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- Assisted Living
- Medicare Advantage Plans
- Durable Medical Equipment
- Pharmacy



(800) 999-9883 | Liberty-Healthcare.com

Healthcare, Business & Industry

Healthcare

Columbus County residents have access to dynamic and progressive healthcare through the services of superb healthcare practitioners; Columbus Regional Healthcare System, the county's full-service hospital; and emergency outpatient facilities.



Providers serve the county with a range of medical services including outpatient labs, diagnostic testing, physical therapy, cardiac rehabilitation, diabetes education, cancer care, hospice, pediatrics, imaging services, gynecology, urology, dental care, and orthodontics. Additionally, residents are eligible for a variety of services through the Columbus County Health Department.

Business and Industry

Columbus County offers strategic access to Interstates 95 and 40 via U.S. 74, which runs east to west through the county. The Port of Wilmington is less than one hour east, and a web of federal and state highways allows employees to reach their employers with ease. A rail line through the county links the Port of Wilmington to Charlotte.



Commercial airline service is available at nearby Wilmington (ILM), Fayetteville (FAY), and Myrtle Beach (MYR) airports, each approximately an hour away, with Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU) just two and a half hours away. Private and corporate aircraft are facilitated by Columbus County Airport's (CPC) 5,500-foot runway just south of Whiteville.

Four prime county industrial sites are: the Southeast Regional Park next to Southeastern Community College in Whiteville, the Tabor Industrial Park in Tabor City, the Columbus County Cape Fear River Site in Riegelwood, and the International Logistics Park of North Carolina in Delco. Southeast, Tabor, and the International Logistics Park have each met the comprehensive standards of North Carolina's Certified Sites program and are fully served with electricity, water, natural gas, sewer, high-speed internet, and rail.



Workforce Continuing Education at Southeastern Community College

Southeastern Community College provides education, training, and support services for new, expanding, and existing business and industry in Columbus County.



Southeastern COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**YOUR BUSINESS
SUCCESS
IS OUR PRIORITY!**

- One-on-one confidential counseling
- FREE Business seminars
- Resource Library
- Funding Opportunities

Pamela Young-Jacobs
 Director, Small Business Center
 Regional Director, Sandhills

SCC Campus, Cartrette Building
 (910) 788-6419
pamela.young-jacobs@scnc.edu






Skills development training is also available for the specific purposes of training an individual for employment, upgrading skills of the presently employed, and retraining others for new employment in occupational fields.



Family Medicine & Internal Medicine

McLeod Loris Primary Care	Loris	843-756-9292
Southern Medical Associates	Loris	843-756-7885
McLeod Primary Care Seacoast	Little River	843-390-8320
McLeod Primary Care Little River	Little River	843-366-3030
McLeod Primary Care Sunset Beach	Sunset Beach	910-575-8488
McLeod Primary Care Carolina Forest 1	Myrtle Beach	843-646-8001
McLeod Primary Care Carolina Forest 2	Myrtle Beach	843-646-8340
McLeod Primary Care Myrtle Beach	Myrtle Beach	843-646-8350
McLeod Primary Care Postal Way	Myrtle Beach	843-903-9993

Specialized Care

McLeod Cardiology Associates	Loris	843-756-7029
	Little River	843-390-0877
	Sunset Beach	843-390-0877
	Myrtle Beach	843-839-1201
McLeod Digestive Health Center Seacoast	Little River	843-366-3715
	Sunset Beach	843-366-3715
	Myrtle Beach	843-366-3715
McLeod ENT Seacoast	Little River	843-366-3040
McLeod Nephrology Associates	Loris	843-716-7163
McLeod Neurology Seacoast	Little River	843-646-8040
	Myrtle Beach	843-646-8040
McLeod OB/GYN Seacoast	Loris	843-756-7090
	Little River	843-390-3100
	Myrtle Beach	843-399-3100
McLeod Oncology and Hematology Associates at Seacoast	Little River	843-366-3891
McLeod Orthopaedics Seacoast	Little River	843-390-0100
	Myrtle Beach	843-390-0100
McLeod Interventional Pain Management Seacoast	Little River	843-366-2980
	Myrtle Beach	843-366-2980
McLeod Pulmonary and Critical Care Seacoast	Little River	843-390-8302
	Myrtle Beach	843-390-8302
McLeod Rheumatology Seacoast	North Myrtle Beach	843-366-3060
	Myrtle Beach	843-366-3060
McLeod Urology Associates	Loris	843-366-3920
	Little River	843-366-3920
	Myrtle Beach	843-366-3920
McLeod Vascular Care	Little River	843-366-3755
	Myrtle Beach	843-366-3755
Dialysis Access Center	Loris	843-716-7140
	Myrtle Beach	843-716-7140

Surgery

McLeod Loris Seacoast Surgery	Loris	843-756-3150
	Little River	843-399-9774
	Myrtle Beach	843-399-9774
McLeod Breast Surgery Seacoast	Little River	843-366-2940
McLeod Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery	Myrtle Beach	843-646-8430

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Education & Childcare

Columbus County Schools

2586 James B. White Hwy. North, Bldg. A
Whiteville, NC 28472
910-642-5168
columbus.k12.nc.us

Columbus County Schools operates 12 schools, including three traditional high schools and one early-college high school, serving more than 5,100 students.

Whiteville City Schools

107 W. Walter St.
Whiteville, NC 28472
910-642-4116
whiteville.k12.nc.us

Whiteville City Schools operates five schools including primary, elementary, middle, high, and alternative schools that serve more than 2,200 students.

Classical Charter School of Whiteville

35 Bacon's Way
Whiteville, NC 28472
910-641-4042
ccswhiteville.net

Classical Charter School of Whiteville is a public, tuition-free, year-round charter school serving students from kindergarten through eighth grade.

Thomas Academy

206-B Rube McCray Circle
Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina 28450
910-646-2237
thomasacademync.org

Thomas Academy is a public, tuition-free charter school that integrates behavioral and therapeutic care with academics for middle and high school students.

Columbus Christian Academy

4934 Peacock Rd
Whiteville, NC 28472
910-445-0460
columbuschristianacademy.com

Columbus Christian Academy is a private school fostering a Christ-centered learning environment for students from preschool to twelfth grade.

Carolina Adventist Academy

3710 James B White Hwy S
Whiteville, NC 28472
910-640-0855
whitevillenc.adventistschoolconnect.org

Carolina Adventist Academy is a private school for kindergarten through twelfth grade students with an academic program structured to put God first.

Faith Christian Academy

26998 Andrew Jackson Hwy
Delco, NC 28436
910-899-1973
faithbaptistdelco.com/fca

Faith Christian Academy is a private school providing a biblically-based education emphasizing grades kindergarten through eighth grade with individually-based education provided for grades nine through twelve.

Childcare

Private childcare and daycare offerings are available through various religious institutions as well as public childcare facilities through the NC PreK program in the public schools system. The Smart Start Early Learning & Family Resource Center offers a variety of children's books, videos, educational kits and other resources.

Higher Education

Southeastern Community College

4564 Chadbourn Hwy.
Whiteville, NC 28472
(910) 642-7141
www.sccnc.edu

Southeastern Community College is a public comprehensive community college that offers a variety of curriculum and workforce development programs. SCC serves more than 7,000 students annually with more than 1,800 enrolled in college-credit courses. The 246-acre campus is located between Chadbourn and Whiteville.



Four-year Institutions

Columbus County residents are within commuting distance to three institutions of the University of North Carolina System: UNC Pembroke, Fayetteville State University, and UNC Wilmington, as well as Coastal Carolina University in nearby Conway, S.C.



Festivals & Events



Fatmucket Walk-Run-Ruck
Lake Waccamaw
February

Celebrate the Arts
Columbus County Arts
Council, Columbus County
Schools, Whiteville City
Schools
Fourth Weekend in March

Southern Farm Days
Lake Waccamaw
Third Weekend in March

BBQ on the Bluff
Fair Bluff
Fourth Weekend in April

N.C. Alligator Festival
Lake Waccamaw
Fourth Weekend in April

Farmers Union Springfest
Clarkton
Fourth Saturday in April

N.C. Strawberry Festival
Chadbourn
First Weekend in May

**Columbus County
Industrial Golf Tournament**
Whiteville
First Weekend in May

Spring has Sprung Festival
Tabor City
First Saturday in June

**Juneteenth Celebration &
Festival**
Chadbourn and Whiteville
Third Week in June

Fireworks Celebration
Tabor City
First Week in July

Fair Bluff Watermelon Festival
Fair Bluff
Fourth Weekend in July

N.C. Honey Festival
Whiteville
Second Weekend in September

Brunswick Stew Festival
Brunswick
Fourth Weekend in September

Pine Tree Festival
Bolton
First Weekend in October

**Columbus County
Agriculture Fair**
Whiteville
Second Week in October

**Trooper Kevin Conner
Memorial Run**
Whiteville
Second Weekend in October

Waccamaw Siouan Pow Wow
Bolton
Third Weekend in October

N.C. Yam Festival
Tabor City
Fourth Weekend in October

N.C. Pecan Music Festival
Whiteville
First Weekend in November

Shuck n' Shag Oyster Roast
Whiteville
Second Week in November

St. James Siouan Festival
Lake Waccamaw
Second Weekend in November

Christmas Events & Parades
Across Columbus County
December





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910-642-4298 | 910-770-5366

GORE MINI STORAGE

3226 New Britton Hwy., E., Whiteville

910-642-4298 | 910-770-5366



YOUR CHOICE
FOR
COLUMBUS
COUNTY



1014 N. JK Powell Blvd.
Whiteville, NC

Rhett Freedman
Provisional Broker
910-918-2210

Kirby Sanderson
BIC, Broker
910-840-1856

Mary Ann Allgood
Broker, GRI
910-991-6010

Darian Ransom
Owner, Broker
910-640-0182

Chip Stallings
Broker
910-625-7727

Derrick Nobles
Broker
910-770-4520

Not Pictured Savanna Tedder Broker 910-625-4360



Choosing Columbus

Many vibrant young professionals living and working in Columbus County have taken leadership roles and are making a difference in communities through service aligned with their core values. The county's locally-owned newspaper, The News Reporter, asks citizens to nominate candidates outstanding in their civic and/or professional roles. Independent judges select 15 honorees, and the paper celebrates them in a special publication and at a recognition event.



“Walking into a store or business feels like visiting family, not just a routine transaction. Here, the concept of neighbors helping neighbors is not just a phrase but a way of life, something that's often lost in larger cities. This tight-knit community spirit, where everyone looks out for one another, truly makes Columbus County a special place to call home.”

Darren Norris, Tabor City resident



“The best part of living in Columbus County is community and lower cost of living. I've lived in Washington, D.C., Raleigh, and Greensboro – and I wouldn't trade being home. I feel like I can make a huge difference here versus in the city. I frequently travel, so I still get a taste of the city life, but it's certainly nice to come back to peaceful living.”

Dr. Latoya Beatty, Bolton resident

“The best part of living in this county is the vibrant sense of community and the simplicity and authenticity of local traditions and events. The tight-knit community allows for meaningful relationships, and the sense of familiarity creates a supportive environment where people genuinely care for one another.”

Josh Harris, Whiteville resident



“Columbus County is full of opportunity for growth. We have one of the most beautiful places to be active in our region: Lake Waccamaw. I absolutely loved growing up here and still enjoy it today. It makes it easier to stay active with the beautiful nature we have!”

Brianna Monroe, Lake Waccamaw resident

Faith & Community

Faith and Worship

Our spiritual community includes a diverse mix of Protestant denominations as well as Catholic parishes and a mosque.

With more than 175 congregations that gather each week on their holy day, our church groups have a heritage of outreach efforts and serving and assisting others throughout the community and the world. Many church groups support Habitat for Humanity building projects, donate to area shelters and food pantries, and provide support systems and counseling services to strengthen our community and ensure each resident receives the full support and assistance Columbus County has to offer.

Many of the local churches offer childcare and after-school programs along with group ministries, activities for adults, and sports teams for children.

Civic and Volunteer Opportunities

Whether you want to explore a new interest, meet new people, or make a positive impact, there are numerous opportunities available. Local chapters of Rotary, General Federation of Women's Clubs and countless independent organizations that serve Columbus County meet regularly for fellowship and to give back to our community. Joining any of these groups not only contributes to the betterment of the community but also fosters a sense of belonging and purpose.



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Our Communities



Whiteville

With a population of more than 5,000 residents, the City of Whiteville serves as the county seat for Columbus County. Named for the original owner of the town site, James B. White, in 1810, the city lies along major thoroughfares U.S. 74, U.S. 76 and U.S. 701.

The city is home to the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences at Whiteville and has a vibrant downtown with unique restaurants and shops. Vineland Station, built in 1903, is one of North Carolina's original brick depots and serves as the town's civic center. The Columbus County Courthouse in Whiteville is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The N.C. Pecan Music Festival takes place in the city each November.



Our Communities

Tabor City

Founded as a rural market town on the Atlantic Coast Railroad in 1905, Tabor City borders the state of South Carolina. Within 30 minutes of the beaches of the Grand Strand in Horry County, S.C., the town is home to award-winning campgrounds, muscadine wines, and family values. Visitors can tour a historic one-room schoolhouse from 1870, see the historic Tabor City Railroad Depot that maintains artifacts of the town's rich tobacco and lumber industries, or spend time at Lake Tabor, a 100+ acre recreational lake that's home to fishing, boating, picnics, and ball fields.

In the mid-1930s, Tabor City became known as the "Yam Capital of the World." The North Carolina Yam Festival takes place in the town annually in October to pay tribute to the sweet potato.





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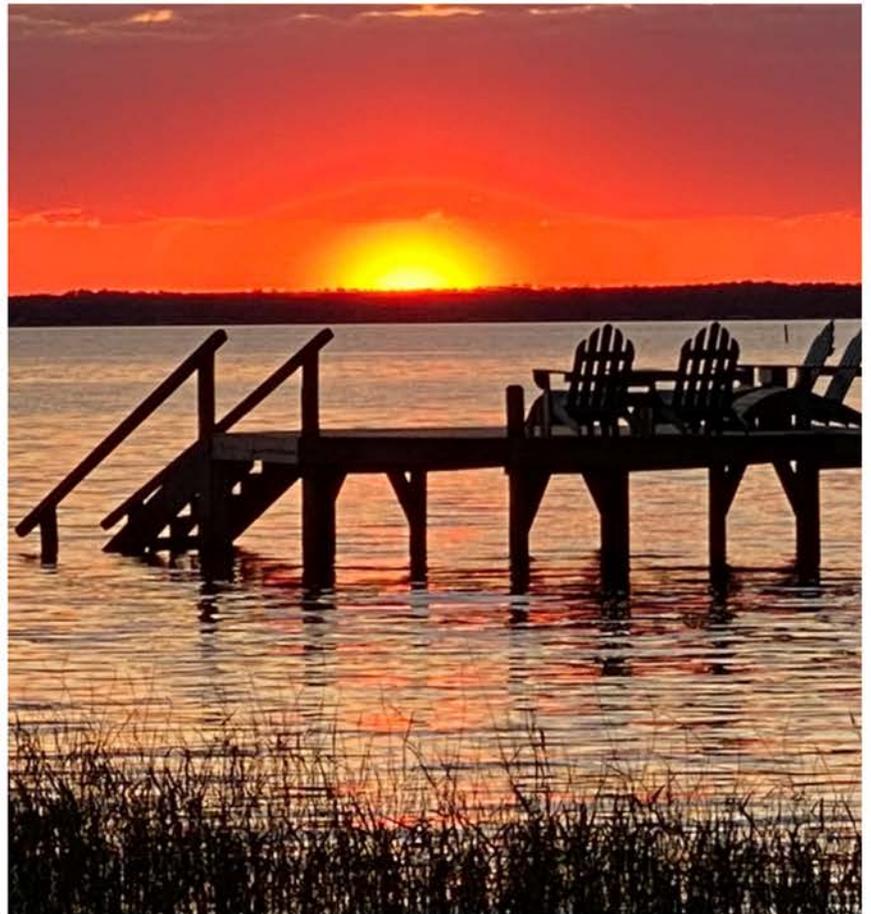
Our Communities



Lake Waccamaw

Established in 1911, the town of Lake Waccamaw is a small community on the shores of the largest natural freshwater lake in North Carolina. In less than 4 square miles, the town offers friendly neighbors, access to a prehistoric lake, rich Native American history, and an abundance of fish, reptiles, birds and endangered plant species.

A historic train station built in 1904 by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad serves as the town's museum. Residents and visitors alike take advantage of Lake Waccamaw for swimming, paddling, running and biking in organized fitness events throughout the year and for daily exercise.





Chadbourn

Incorporated in 1883, Chadbourn began as a railroad town centered around a station formerly known as Timberville. Nicknamed 'The Sunny South Colony,' the town was named after the Chadbourn family of Wilmington and was an important railway center. Strawberries were the crop that brought the town into prominence, and in the first three decades of the 20th century, long lines of farmers awaited turns at the town's auction shed. Chadbourn is host to the N.C. Strawberry Festival, the longest-running agricultural festival in the state.



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Our Communities



Fair Bluff

Nestled against the banks of the nationally recognized Wild and Scenic Lumber River, the community of Fair Bluff was incorporated in 1873. The town's earliest inhabitants were turpentiners, lumbermen, and merchants. The Fair Bluff Depot, built in 1887, is now a museum filled with treasures and relics of the town's history.

The town boasts a beautiful elevated river walk that follows the course of the Lumber River and offers a stroll with nature. Each April, the town hosts BBQ on the Bluff, a barbecue cooking competition featuring some of the finest cooks in North and South Carolina.



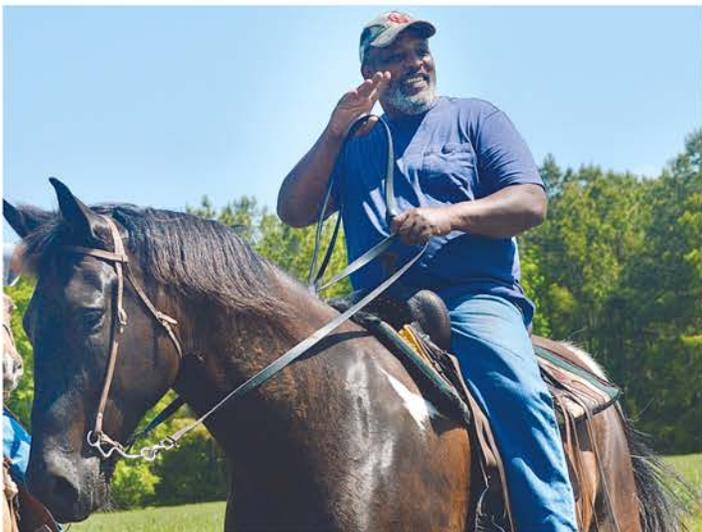
Our Communities

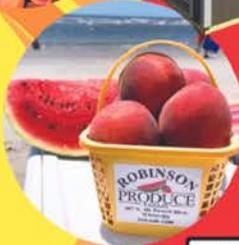
Other Communities

From the small towns of Bolton, Sandyfield, Cerro Gordo, Boardman, and Brunswick to the communities of Mount Olive, Buckhead, Hallsboro, Riegelwood, Evergreen, Nakina, St. James, Old Dock, and Williams Township, Columbus County offers locations that fit the lifestyle of any family.

Bolton, on the eastern end of the county, is home to the annual Pine Tree Festival. Buckhead, near Bolton, is home to the Waccamaw Siouan Tribe, one of eight state-recognized Native American tribal nations in North Carolina. Williams Township, south of Whiteville, is a farming community anchored by Williams Township School, serving kindergarten through eighth grade.

Mount Olive, north of Whiteville, is a community organized around the historic Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, founded in 1872 by African-American pastor Rev. John Washington Worley. Cerro Gordo, on the western end of the county along U.S. 76, has the highest elevation in the county and according to legend was named after the “Battle of Cerro Gordo” in the Mexican-American War.





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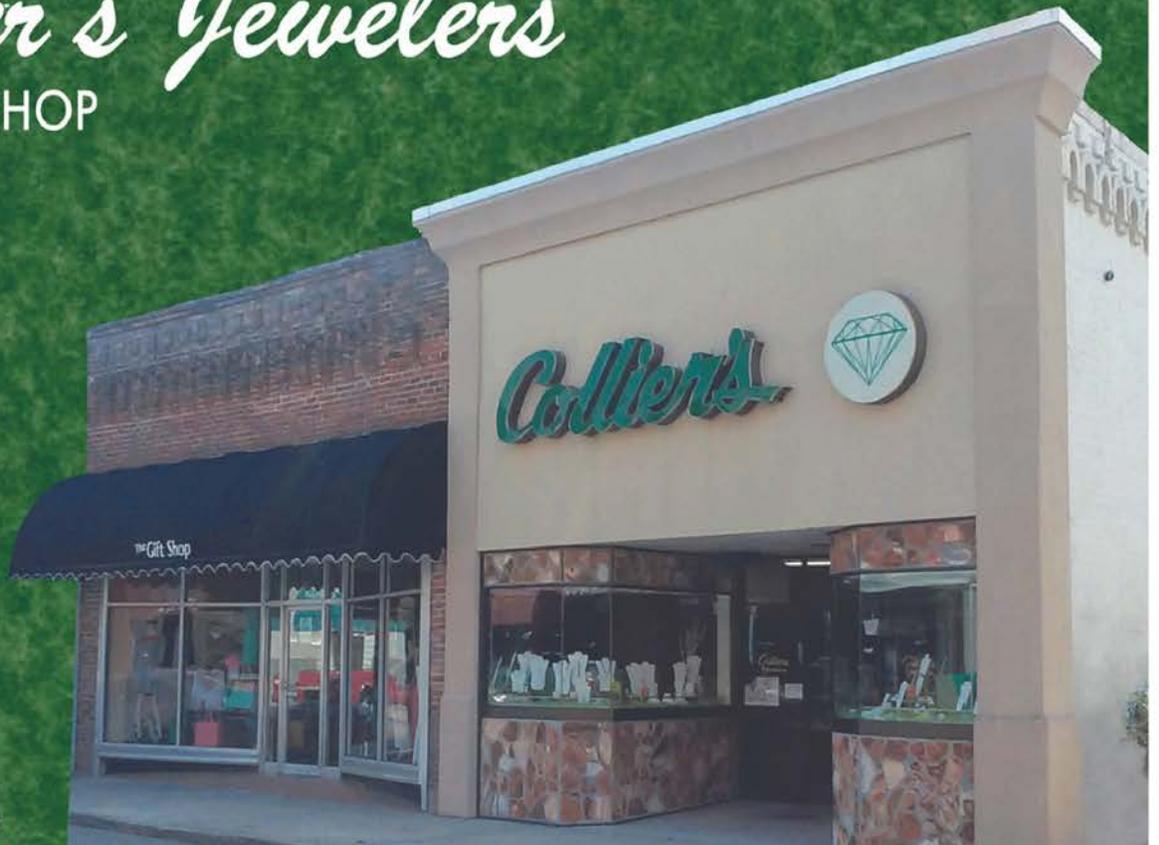
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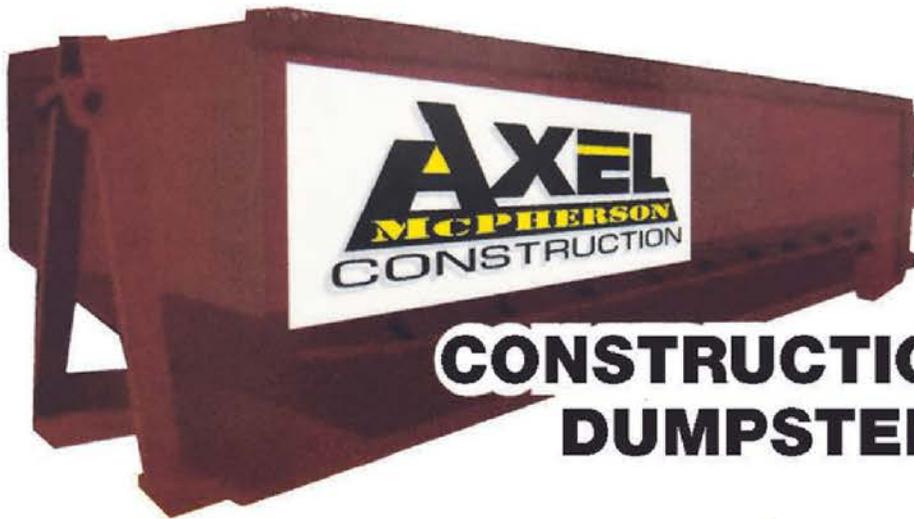


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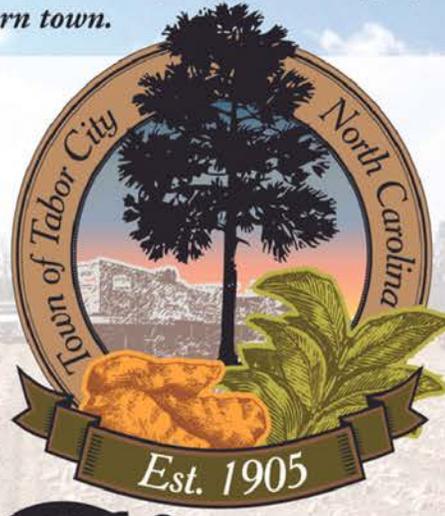
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