

#### MARCH 2023 Jackson County Chamber Happenings

March was a wonderful month, bringing us guests from as far away as Holland, and as close to home as Franklin NC. We spent some time getting 36 boxes of the new visitor guide shipped out to Welcome Centers, as well as delivering locally 10 boxes to lodging facilities. Delivered and mailed 490 Fly Fishing maps to area guides and outfitters. We restocked all 8 kiosks with the new visitor guide. We had a terrific March Madness Open House and had many positive comments about the office and the events we produce. It is good to see our local business owners come inside our building to rediscover what we have to offer their guests. We always learn something new while listening to their business success stories, as well as their struggles. We started working on reaching out to area student housing complexes (members and non-members which I call potential members!). We have discovered that there are a significant number of units available for rent. What once may have been a student-only complex is now being reconsidered. We will continue to make those contacts and share with our partners and the public through social media posts and info on our Relo table. While not the final answer to the housing challenges that we have, it is an option and a new opportunity to rebrand nice apartment complexes as rentals for everyone, not just students. We've spent significant time with brides to be, provided info and contacts for their weddings. We spent some time doing some tidying up in Dillsboro in preparation for the Easter Hat Parade in April. Our Friends Night Out event was popular. The blanket in the photo above was our free gift, and now we have some for sale to guests and locals. We've ordered a new holiday ornament and expect it to arrive by the end of April. Most popular item sold in March was the new honey jars. Most unusual comment in March from a guest: 'It is quite nice that your restroom facilities are free of charge because in my country, each visit costs money and there is never any paper, vou bring vour own".

Phone calls: 214
Guests Served:
972
Direct Inquiries:
1109

Visitor Guides to Welcome Centers: 5400

**Local Lodging:** 1500

**Fly Fishing Maps-490** 

#### **Friends Night Out-**

24 businesses participated 125 Friends registered at the Chamber 217 individual purchases were made at 23 businesses

Memorial Day Pop-Up Market on the lawn of the Chamber, May 26<sup>th</sup>-4pm-6pm. Made in America products!

#### Jackson County Chamber and Visitor Center Inquiry and Analytic Report - 2020

|                       | Jan | Feb  | Mar  | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | YTD Totals |
|-----------------------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| Source                |     |      |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |            |
| Facebook              | 54  | 44   | 56   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 154        |
| Flyfishingtrail.com   | 70  | 98   | 39   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 207        |
| Friend                | 14  | 19   | 8    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 41         |
| Google Search         | 40  | 31   | 33   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 104        |
| NCTroutCapital.com    | 53  | 63   | 20   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 136        |
| discoverjacksonnc.com | 716 | 1096 | 912  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 2724       |
| VisitNC.com           | 0   | 0    | 1    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 1          |
| WCU                   | 2   | 8    | 3    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 13         |
| Blue Ridge Parkway    | 17  | 38   | 37   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 92         |
| Blue Ridge Country    | 0   | 0    | 0    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 0          |
| Monthly Total         | 966 | 1397 | 1109 | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |     | 3,472      |
| Dining Guide          | 366 | 1962 | 690  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 3,018      |
| Our Town              | 0   | 116  | 515  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 631        |



# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JACKSON COUNTY

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





#### 25th Greening Up the Mountains Fest is April 22

Don't miss the Town of Sylva's largest street festival on Saturday, April 22 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is a 5K, live music, arts & crafts vendors, food, and much more, We'll be there helping out in the info tent. Come see us! Please click <u>HERE</u> for more information.



### Two public ribbon cuttings on June 1

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The next public grand opening/ribbon cuttings we will have are on June 1 at 10:30 a.m. at Mountain Projects and 10:45 a.m. at the Center for Domestic Peace. They are both located at 154 Medical Park Loop in Sylva. Look for invitations to be sent later.



#### Next STIR Business After Hours event is April 27

Join us for the next STIR event from 5-6:15 pm on Thursday, April 27, hosted by Allstate Insurance in Dillsboro. They will be partnering with some local businesses to treat you to wonderful food! Click HERE for the invite to RSVP.



## Concerts On The Creek schedule

The 14th season of Concerts on the Creek will begin on May 26 and run through Sept. 1. The schedule is set and available to view by clicking <u>HERE</u>. We look forward to seeing everyone at the Bridge Park this summer on Fridays from 7-9 p.m. for **FREE** 

#### **Annual publications are here!**

The chamber's new 2023 Our Town relocation & community information guide and 2023 Eating Out in Jackson County Dining Guide are both here hot off the press. You can read the new Our Town online by clicking HERE! The online version of the Dining Guide is available HERE!





### Happenings & Opportunities

- TREP Camp Our friends at the Southwestern Community College Small Business Center and TenBiz are hosting a summer camp for young entrepreneurs from July 24-28. To register or learn more about the camp, click <u>HERE</u>.
- POP UP MARKET The Chamber will host a Memorial Day Pop Up Market on the lawn of the Chamber on Friday, May 26 from 4-6 pm. Member vendors will feature their Made in America products! Stay tuned for more info.
- ROTARY CLUB PANCAKE BREAKFAST- Our friends at the Rotary Club of Sylva are holding their annual Pancake Breakfast fundraiser on Friday, April 14 from 7 to 10 a.m. at Sylva United Methodist Church. All the fixn's, all you can eat for ONLY \$5. The event will take place in the gym at First United Methodist Church in Sylva. All money raised will go to local non-profits. Get tickets from a Rotarian or at the door that day!









The Jackson County Chamber of Commerce invites you to the next



# Thursday April 27

5-6:30 pm

With our friends and members at



Located at 36 Marsh Lily Dr., Sylva, NC (in Dillsboro Court)

# Come enjoy some amazing snacks, refreshments & door prizes from:

- Speedy's Pizza
- City Lights
- Haywood Smokehouse
- The Well House

- The Coffee Shop
- Ray's Florist & Greenhouse
- Innovation Station
- Allstate/Pressley Group
- Dillsboro Chocolate Factory

- Come meet the Alistate staff
- Network with other chamber members

Please RSVP by Monday, April 24 by calling the chamber at 828-586-2155 or emailing JacksonChamberTeam@gmail.com