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February 2014

NEWSLETTER

Our Chamber

KEEPING WARREN COUNTY CURRENT AND INFORMED ABOUT ITS CHAMBER COMMUNITY

After two months without an Executive Director, Chamber Board of Directors hires Charla Duncan, Warren County native

Chamber Board Appoints New Executive Director

Charla Duncan is a native of Warren County, growing up in Macon, NC, and graduating from Warren County High School in 2004.

Charla attended UNC Greensboro where she received her BA in English and her NC Secondary Teaching License. She was a writer for the Greensboro News and Record arts and entertainment weekly, Go Triad!, from 2006-2011; she taught high school English at High Point Central High School in Guilford County from 2008-2011. Her non-profit experience began as the first fundraising coordinator and founding board member of the Greensboro Roller Derby League.

From Guilford County, she moved to NY, NY where she received her Masters of Public Administration (Nonprofit Management) from New York University in May 2013. While in NYC, Charla worked for the NYC Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence as a program assistant for the NYC Healthy Relationship Training Academy.

Charla returned back to Warren County in July 2013, and began working as the Executive Director for the Chamber at the start of February 2014.

Charla plans to keep the Tuesday-Thursday 9:30am-5pm office hours that have been in place.



MISSION STATEMENT

The Chamber of Commerce of Warren County is dedicated to enhancing the growth and opportunities of its business members, and thus the economic development of Warren County, through efforts in marketing, education, member benefits, special events and governmental relations.

www.warren-chamber.org
www.facebook.com/warrencountychamber
Twitter @WarrenChamber
Instagram @WarrenCoChamber

Chamber related
Events Calendar
can be found at warren-chamber.org;
chamber member postings only

MEMBERS, DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR HIGH RES LOGO

MEMBERSHIP DATA DRIVE



On February 11, an email was sent out to all members from the executive director expressing a need to confirm contact information and collect data about member businesses. Members were also sent a link to a survey to assess member input, satisfaction, and perceived benefits of membership. Information requested will be used in assessing strengths and weaknesses in the Chamber, gaps in the membership base and services, and to inform strategies moving forward. Please complete the data form and input survey by the end of February. Email info@warren-chamber.org if you need the form and survey link re-sent to your email. Input Survey results will be addressed in March newsletter. Thanks to the first ten members who responded with their data: Relay for Life of Warren County; The Colonial Center; Servpro of Franklin, Vance & Granville; Tar Heel Tire Sales and Service; Warrenton Insurance Agency; NC Cooperative Extension- Warren Co.; The Boat Lift Store; First Citizens Bank; Watkins Insurance Agency; Crenshaw & Haight Family Dentistry.

Using the Small Business Center at VGCC

Tanya S. Weary, director of the VGCC Small Business Center, writes about services available to you.



It's hard to believe with all the snow that's fallen, but spring is indeed on its way. Spring is a perfect time of year to fertilize and prune your business to spur new growth.

Do you have questions about how to sharpen your business ideas, how to organize your business, or how to market your business? Branch out to Vance-Granville Community College's Small Business Center (SBC) for all your business needs. We help existing businesses and start-ups expand through training, education, counseling and referral.

Our seminars include, but are not limited to, start-up and business planning; advertising and marketing; employee management; technology; accounting and financing; and customer service. Most seminars are offered free of charge. The seminars are typically 2-3 hours in length for one day, and are held throughout the year at VGCC's four campuses. For a complete listing of our seminars and to pre-register, visit www.vgcc.edu

or www.ncsbc.net/center.aspx?center=75530. You can also search for "Vance-Granville Community College Small Business Center" on Facebook. The SBC also provides one-on-one free confidential counseling for your business needs from start-up to marketing and much more. While my office is at VGCC's Main Campus, I am happy to meet with you at your business or at our Warren County Campus.

I look forward to working with each of you and hope you will take advantage of our free services to help your business grow and thrive. Don't delay, contact me today at smallbusiness@vgcc.edu or (252) 738-3240 and schedule your appointment. Together, we can cultivate your idea into your dream of small business ownership or enrich the vitality of your existing business.

SMALL BUSINESS CENTER: Upcoming Classes

Free of Charge

March 6, 6-9pm:

Create a Professional Website Using WordPress

March 12, 2-4 pm:

The ABC's of Starting a Business

March 18, 10 am-2 pm:

Ready Business/Disaster Preparedness for Small Business;

6-8 pm:

Enhancing Your Business Using No Cost Features of Google;

March 20, 2-4 pm:

Fundamentals of Starting & Running a Non-Profit Organization

March 25, 2-4 pm:

Business Plan Basics

VGCC to hold annual golf tournament fundraiser May 6

Vance-Granville Community College will hold its 30th Annual Endowment Fund Golf Tournament on Tuesday, May 6 at the Henderson Country Club. There will be morning and afternoon rounds, and meals will be furnished for players. Tournament sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, call Kay Currin at (252) 738-3409.

A note from the director...

First of all, thank you so much to everyone that has emailed, called, stopped by the office, or welcomed me face-to-face to the position and to the Chamber. I am happy to be here, and I look forward to bringing my ideas and experiences to the Chamber community and to Warren County. I would like to ask for your patience as I work to organize the office and orient myself to the Chamber and its current state of being. Quite frankly, there's a lot of work to be done. At a quick glance of the member input survey results as they come in, I can tell that there are some real frustrations out there; I am hearing you, and I ask you to stick with me and the Chamber as we figure out the ways to evolve and grow.

Sincerely, Charla Duncan

Interested in hosting a *Business After Hours?* Contact Charla Duncan, info@warren-chamber.org

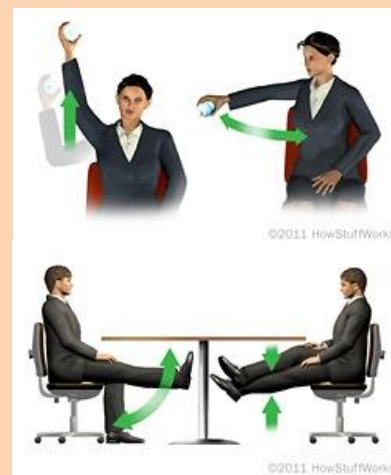
Let's revive the Chamber's Business After Hours (BAH). These events are not only intended for members to network, but to celebrate the partnerships and business community of the Chamber. They are also opportunities for sponsorship investments.

Hosting a BAH could mean providing a venue, supplying food and beverages, or even entertainment. Multiple businesses may join together to host a single event.

Fundraiser for the Warren County Free Clinic, March 8, 2014
For more information, please call 257-1904 or 257-2109 or visit the Chamber Events Calendar

Healthy Chamber Members

It can be difficult to balance work with healthy lifestyles. Finding time for exercise can feel next to impossible; packing healthy lunches may fall to the wayside. Here are a couple exercises you can do at your desk (from Discovery Fit & Health and How Stuff Works): the water bottle lift and the under desk dynamics.



For more, visit health.howstuffworks.com.

Chamber of Commerce of Warren County

130 North Main Street, PO Box 826
Warrenton, NC 27589

www.warren-chamber.org

www.facebook.com/warrencountychamber

Twitter @WarrenChamber

Instagram @WarrenCoChamber





Chamber members- is the Chamber office missing your information for its display shelves? Let's fix that. Bring or mail handouts to the office.



**Warren County Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors**

Bill Miller
President

Laura Hight, *First Citizens Bank*
Vice President

Larry Carver, *Magnolia Manor*

Rose Derring, *Second-Hand Rose Antiques*

Louise Doyle, *Watkins Insurance Agency*

Ernie Fleming, *Oakley Hall Antiques*

Faye Goode, *VGCC Warren Campus*

Roger Greisinger, *Golden Rose Kennel, Tranquility Farms*

Melissa Holcombe, *Warren County Free Clinic*

Doreen Porter, *Licksillet Dog Grooming*

Crystal Smith, *NC Cooperative Ext. Warren County*

Eddie Williams, *Warren County Schools*

PLEASE WELCOME

OUR NEWEST CHAMBER MEMBER

UNITED TAXI

United Taxi
"People Serving People"

10% Senior Citizens Discount

10% Discount for Single Parent Homes

24 hour Service
We serve Warren, Vance, Halifax, Franklin & All Surrounding Counties
Safety and Comfort are Our #1 Goal

"Need a ride around Warrenton, Norlina, Henderson, Arcola, Hollister, Louisburg, Roanoke Rapids, Rocky Mount & Surrounding Communities? We Offer Fast, Speedy Service with Fair Rates"

Reservations accepted prior to 2 hours advanced notice
DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE...CALL US!
252-213-9094 - Conchita
252-213-9092 - Glen

**Preservation Warrenton's
2014 Spring Homes Tour**

Inez Community, Warren County, North Carolina
April 26, 27
www.preservationwarrenton.com
for more info

SpringFest 2014 and the Chamber

The Chamber plans to sell beer again at this year's SpringFest (April 26, 2014). Please keep your eye on your email and newsletter communication in the coming weeks. We will be looking for donations and volunteers to help us make this venture successful and fun for everyone.

*Individual Chamber Members
2013-2014:*

Elaine Coleman
Mary Catherine Harris
Candice White

Chamber Members 2013-2014:

A and S Pest Control
AB Hair Carpets
AAA Gas & Appliance Company
Arcola Logging Company
Banzet, Thompson, Styers PLLC
Bobby Burton, Century 21, Country
Knolls Realty, Inc.
Branch Banking and Trust Company
Breedlove Electric, Inc.
Dr. Elton Brown Optometrists
Candlelight Spiritual Science Center
Carini's Italian Restaurant
Cast Stone Systems, Inc.
Century Link
Cherry Hill Historical Foundation, Inc.
Citizens for Animal Protection of
Warren County
CJ Auto Used parts/CJ Iron and Metal
of NC
Coble Printing Company
Community Memorial Health Center
Creek Construction, LLC
Crenshaw and Haight, DDS
Daily Dispatch of Henderson
Daniel Hendley Photography
Duke Energy Progress
Duncan Hauling
Eastern Bluebird Rescue Group, Inc.
Eastern Motor Lines
Edward Jones- Jon H. Dorsey
E-Z Stor
Family Eye Center
First Benefits Insurance Mutual
First Citizens Bank
Fleming Appraisal and Investment Co.
Food Lion, LLC (Norlina)
Franklin-Vance-Warren Opportunity,
Inc.
Friends of Warren County Memorial
Library
Frontier Natural Gas
Futrell Pharmacy of Warrenton
Glenn Raven, Inc.
Golden Rose Kennel
H & R Block
Halifax Electric Membership
Corporation
Halifax Warren Smart Start
Partnership for Children
Haliwa Saponi Tribe

Haliwa-Saponi Tribal School
Harris Equipment Company
Henderson and Henderson, LLC
Hendley Custom Graphics
Hendricks Insurance
Holden, Moss, Knott, Clark, Copley, -
PA
Hyson Farms, LLC
Inez Forest Industries Incorporated
John R Hawkins Alumni and Friends-
Incorporated



Keats Point Farm
Kerr-Vance Academy
Kilian Engineering Inc.
Kimberly Harding Appraisal Services
Lake Gaston Association
Lake O' The Woods Plantation
Lakeland Theatre Company
Little Garden Club
Magnolia Manor Plantation-
Bed and Breakfast
MidAtlantic360
Nationwide Insurance/O.L. Meek-
Insurance Agency, Inc.
New Covenant Ministries Pentecostal
N.C. Cooperative Ext.- Warren County
North Carolina Sweet Bees, LLC
Holiness Church
Norlina Baptist Church
NC Consumers Council
Oakley Hall Antiques & Art, Inc.
Odom Motor Service
Owen Robertson and Associates
Preservation Warrenton Incorporated
Puckett's Poultry Service, Inc.
Raiford's Tech Help
Relay for Life of Warren County
Ridgeway Historical Society Inc.
Rolling Hills Farm and Tack
Rooker, Marvin P., Attorney at Law
Roost Crossroads Antiques and-
Collectors Mall
Saint Pauls Lutheran Church
Second-Hand Rose Antiques

ServPro of Franklin, Vance, &-
Granville
Solid Sound Productions
South Shore Realty, Inc.
Southern Bank and Trust Company
Southern Comfort Heating and
Cooling
State Employees Credit Union
Stonehouse Timber Lodge, Inc.
Subway
Tar Heel Tire Sales and Service
The Boat Lift Store, Inc.
The Colonial Center
The Warren Education Fund, Inc.
Tillies Beauty Salon
Town of Norlina
Town of Warrenton
Tranquil Palms Bodywork Therapy
United Taxi
Vance-Granville Community College
Warren County Economic
Development
Warren County Farm Bureau
Warren County Free Clinic, Inc.
Warren County Government
Warren County Health Dept.
Warren County Memorial Library
Warren County Schools
Warren County Social Services
Warren Education Fund
Warren Family Institute Inc.
Warren FoodWorks
Warren Record
Warrenton Animal Clinic
Warrenton Baptist Church
Warrenton Furniture Exchange, Inc.
Warrenton Insurance Agency
Warrenton Lions Club
Warrenton Rotary Club
Warrenton Supply Company Inc.
Waterfront Properties at Lake –
Gaston
Watkins Insurance Agency
WCTS-NWHS Alumni & Friends-
Association
William D. Hoyle, CPA, PLLC
WZRU 90.1 FM and WZRN 90.5 FM-
Go Mix Radio

**Notice a mistake?
Please inform the executive
director at
info@warren-chamber.org.**

**Interested in joining?
View warren-chamber.org for
details.**