



Chamber Connections

3 November 2015

A Weekly Resource For Business

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Email Address Update

In the past we've had several email addresses for the Chamber. In order to ensure that I get all of your communications, effective 1 December 2015 the official email address for the Chamber will be: info@warren-chamber.org

Warren County Online

[Warrenton City Site](#)

[Norlina City Site](#)

[Warren County Site](#)

Upcoming Member Events

Warrenton Woman's Club
Thursday 5 November
Soup & Salad
Warrenton Baptist Church
11:30am-1:30pm

Warrenton Lion's Club
Wednesday 4 November
BBQ Chicken Dinners
The Lion's Den

Welcome To Our Newest Members!

A growing membership is the lifeblood of any Chamber. I'd like to welcome the following new members to The Chamber of Commerce of Warren County. Please consider these fellow local businesses whenever you have need of their services or products...

BUSINESS	OWNER/MANAGER	EMAIL
Tangler Trash Service	Christopher Pierce	tanglertrashservice@gmail.com
Norlina Auto Parts	Boyd Scott	boydscott@embarqmail.com
Pete Smith Tire & Quick Lube	Glenn McMullen	petesmithwarrenton@raleigh.twcbc.com
The Wright Place Rental & Event	Sherion Jones	swjsmj2001@yahoo.com

New Chamber Benefits for Your Business

The first of many to come...

I believe that after promoting Warren County businesses and finding new ways to attract customers to your stores, one of the most important things your Chamber can do is to constantly add new benefits to make your membership even more valuable. With that in mind, here are a few starters with more to come.



Weekly Email Newsletters & Member

Promotion: Beginning today, look for a new email newsletter each Tuesday. The nature of business today means that there are too many things to promote about our members to limit our conversation to just once a month. Having a sale? Having a special event? Just have something you want to promote? Contact me at info@warren-chamber.org and I'll get it in the next newsletter that reaches more than 750 people.

Chamber Featured Business. In the next several weeks, you'll see a new look to the Chamber's homepage and website. The content will be expanded to focus more on your businesses...evident on the homepage with a Chamber Featured Business. This advertorial overview will change weekly & give each of you the opportunity to tell your story to the world. If you'd like to start this feature off, please send me an overview of your business...approximately 200 words...to info@warren-chamber.org. First-come, First-featured.

11am – 7pm

Contact Us

Warren-chamber.org

info@warren-chamber.org

252-257-2657

Facebook & Twitter Features. Social media gives us the opportunity to connect with our customers on a daily basis. When people visit a business Facebook page they're looking for a benefit...a special sale, early notice on an event or even just a business offering that they weren't aware of. I'd like to ask each of you to send me a short blurb (on an ongoing basis) you'd like your customers to know about at info@warren-chamber.org. I'll take it from there.

Chamber Business of the Week. As I mentioned when I told the story of George and his treasure in the Warren Record, my job is to show lifelong residents, new Warren County neighbors and people around the State the treasure we have in Warren County businesses. Beginning 30 November we'll designate one of our members as the "Business of the Week". We'll feature you on our Facebook page, on Twitter and provide a curbside sign for the front of your business so that we can let Warren County shoppers know what a treasure you are.

Free Conference Room. From time to time, I'll bet each of your businesses has the need for a meeting room. Someplace to meet with vendors or staff...instead of gathering around the counter. Effective immediately, we're opening the conference room at the Chamber office at 130 N. Main Street, Warrenton to all members for those meetings. You'll have seating for up to 8 people in a private room. To reserve this space, please email me at info@warren-chamber.org. Available times are Mon-Fri 9a-4p.

There's plenty more to come. Stay tuned over the coming weeks for the launch of a dynamic "Shop Local" campaign and special advertising opportunities for your business.

Santa's Christmas List

Helping Warren County Children...



Several weeks ago, I received a call from the Warren County Department of Social Services. Due to circumstances beyond their control the past supplier of Christmas gifts for Warren County children would not be able to provide any this year. Since that would mean more than 400 children would potentially get no gifts this year, I called on our media members, **WARR AM1520 and the Warren Record**, as well **The Lake Gaston Chamber of Commerce**. Thanks to their support and creativity we're proud to announce the 1st Annual **Santa's Christmas List** to benefit our local children up to age 16.

Beginning Monday 16 November you'll see large collection boxes (**thanks to Warrenton Furniture Exchange**) at a number of locations throughout Warren County. Those boxes will be decorated by Warren County school children. Signage and flyers will encourage people to drop off needed items for distribution thru Social Services. Donations will continue to be accepted thru Saturday 12 December.

What do we need?

Toys...both fun and educational

Clothes or hats & gloves

Stuffed toys

Books

Candy

Gift cards for 13-16 year olds

The Department of Social Services will begin distributing gifts on Friday 18 December. Cash will also be accepted so that additional gifts can be purchased.

Where are drop-off locations? Here's a starter list, with many more to be added this week:

Warren County Chamber Office

Warrenton Town Hall

Norlina Town Hall

Warren Record

WARR AM1520

First Citizens Bank

Milano's

Pete Smith Tire & Lube

Norlina Auto Parts

The Lake Gaston Chamber of Commerce

We'll have plenty of posters and flyers for businesses to help us promote. Please let me know if I can bring some to your business to help get the word out about this important project.

Main Street Showcases

A First Step in showing off our downtowns...



As we were setting up for Harvest Market on the Courthouse Square in September, Cliff Jackson pointed out the building at the corner of Main & Macon in Warrenton. After **Don & Ernie of Oakley Hall Antiques** sold that building, the new owner had no need for the ground floor window display space so she rented it to them to show off additional merchandise from their shop. They've sold a number of items as a result with the added benefit that there is something engaging for visitors to see in that window.

Why can't we expand that idea to other vacant storefronts, Cliff asked? I think he has a great idea. As a result, the Chamber is launching "**Main Street Showcases**". We will be working with building owners in downtown Warrenton initially as a broker for this program. For a modest

monthly rental price they can make the window spaces in their vacant buildings available to "off-Main Street businesses" in Warren County.

We can create 3 winners with this program. **#1:** The building owners will receive a monthly income until they either sell the building or lease it to a new business. **#2:** The "off-Main Street" businesses will receive prominent advertising and promotion for their business. **#3:** The town will benefit when visitors come to town...they'll find vibrant, engaging Main Street windows the length of our downtown.

Would your business like to be a part of this? Just give me a call at 252-257-2657 or email me at info@warren-chamber.org. I'll be glad to get you the necessary details right away.

What's Going On

News from your fellow Chamber Members...

Here's a brief rundown of special offers or events from Chamber member businesses. If you'd like your business or event featured just send me an email with all the relevant information to info@warren-chamber.org. I'll add it to next week's newsletter.

- **MMM, MMM Good!** The Warrenton Woman's Club is holding a Soup & Salad lunch this Thursday from 11:30a-1:30p at the Warrenton Baptist Church at 226 N. Main Street. Tickets are just \$8 with the proceeds benefitting local education in Warren County and their other civic projects. Call Janna at 252-257-2777 or Sue at 252-213-2468 for tickets.
- **BBQ Chicken Dinners...No Need to Say More.** It's not too late to get in on Wednesday night's BBQ Chicken dinner from The Lion's Club. Just show up at the Lion's Den in Warrenton (The Old Fairgrounds) with \$8.00 per plate from 11am - 7pm. Eat in or take out. Make sure you get there early as they will run out!
- **Warren FoodWorks First Friday Poetry.** Come share your favorite poems...original or otherwise...from 7-9pm on Friday 6 Nov. This event is hosted by the Warren Artists' Market and also includes a book signing for the WAM Poetry Anthology.
- **Warren FoodWorks Book Signing.** On Saturday 7 November from 6pm-8pm join Warren FoodWorks for the E.T. Malone Book Reading & Signing. Ted Malone will be reading from and signing copies of his book, "*The Equestrian Statue of Jesus and Other Stories.*"