



Chamber Connections

1 December 2015

A Weekly Resource For Warren County Business

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Email Address Update

Can you believe 1 December 2015 has already come & gone?! Moving forward the official email address for the Chamber is: info@warren-chamber.org

Warren County Online

[Warren Record Column](#)

[Warrenton City Site](#)

[Norlina City Site](#)

[Warren County Site](#)

Shop Local: Announcing Warren Wednesdays

A Day to Reward Local Residents for Shopping Locally



I believe that encouraging our Warren County neighbors to spend more of their dollars here locally is one key step in making our home even better...and after talking with a number of Chamber members, many of you share that sentiment.

So, in following the lead of businesses like Frank Newell's Eastern Bluebird Rescue Group and Susan Harris' Quilt Lizzy, both who started off small and have grown exponentially step by step, I'd like to kick off the new year with our own small initial step towards growing local shopping.

The plan is fairly simple and hopefully memorable. Beginning 6 January 2016 we will launch **Warren Wednesdays!** Each Wednesday, just by being a resident of Warren County, local shoppers can save at participating local businesses. That's it...one day a week...one consistent message...designed to slowly change shopping habits and grow our local business community.

How about a few details for Chamber members and participating businesses?



We'll begin by building on the "Local is Best" window sticker campaign that the Warrenton Revitalization Committee has so ably been promoting for several years. Working with that committee, the Chamber of Commerce of Warren County will be splitting the cost of more stickers for Warrenton and adding customized versions for Norlina and Warren County to distribute to Chamber members ("Shop Historic Norlina" & "Shop Historic Warren County"). Step One will be to promote these stickers as a cue to look for Warren Wednesday specials for local residents.

Next, the Chamber of Commerce will be providing small, stand-up counter cards for all participating businesses. This card will be covered with "chalkboard paper" to allow businesses to promote their Warren Wednesday specials and change them weekly.

Upcoming Member Events

Warren FoodWorks
Thursday 3 December
Trivia hosted by Annika Conrad
6:30pm – 8:00pm

Warren FoodWorks
Saturday 5 December
Karaoke!
7:00pm – 9:00pm

Warren Growers
Saturday 5 December
Broccoli, Cabbage, Collards & Brussel Sprout Greens
Main Street Warrenton
9:00am – Noon

“Miracle on 34th Street – The Musical”
4, 5, 10, 11 & 12 December @8pm
5 & 12 December @ 2:30pm 4pm – 8pm
Lakeland Theatre Littleton

Lakeland Singers
Christmas Concert
Saturday 19 December 8pm
Lakeland Theatre Littleton

Prelude To Christmas & Parade
Saturday 12 December
Parade, Tree Lighting, Santa Claus & More
4pm – 8pm
Historic Courthouse Square Warrenton

Warren Wednesday Specials



What are the specials? Well, that's up to each business to determine. Since a generic "percent off" discount is hard to coordinate across businesses (not to mention, unexciting for shoppers) we will leave the offer up to each participating business. It can change weekly or stay the same...you know what your customers would appreciate and what makes sense for your business. Stay tuned between now and Christmas for more information from me for all Chamber of Commerce of Warren County members.

As a side note, I'm working with several of our members and calling on my brain trust to develop some "shop local" ideas for our service industry members...insurance, real estate and other non-retail businesses. Stay tuned...If you have any questions, please email me at info@warren-chamber.org.

Santa's Christmas List Rolls On!



We have lots of toys that have been dropped off at our donation locations...but we still have a ways to go to gather gifts for more than 400 Warren County children this year. Thank you to everyone who has given! As you're out and about shopping, please consider picking up a new, unwrapped gift or two to help our local children.

Just a reminder that we're accepting toys (both fun & educational), clothes, hats, gloves, stuffed toys, books, candy and gift cards for 13-16 year olds.

Drop Off Locations:

WARRENTON

Warren County Chamber Office
Warren Record
WARR 1520 AM
Time Out Sports Bar
First Citizens Bank
Milano's
BB&T
Warrenton Town Hall
Pete Smith Tire & Quick Lube

NORLINA

James White Barbershop
Norlina Town Hall
Norlina Auto Parts
Rural Health Group
The Whistle Stop Café
Diamond's Hair Studio

LAKE GASTON

Lake Gaston Chamber of Commerce

Our sincere thanks go out to **Warrenton Furniture Exchange** for providing collection boxes and to **Lin's Everything Business** for printing services. Look for the large wrapped boxes at the above locations to donate. Santa's Christmas List is a joint project of **The Chamber of**

Contact Us

Warren-chamber.org
info@warren-chamber.org
252-257-2657

Commerce of Warren County, The Warren Record, WARR 1520 AM & The Lake Gaston Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber Featured Business: Your Story Needed

Send me your story and I'll let everyone know...



With the short work week and the Thanksgiving holiday last week, I didn't receive any Featured Business overviews. When you have a few minutes today, please send your advertorial (roughly 200 words) about your business to info@warren-chamber.org and I'll help tell your story!

Remember, we have plenty of businesses here in Warren County that are treasures. The more we support them with our business, the better we'll make our own community.

Chamber Project Updates

Main Street Showcases...

Each week I'm talking with more businesses interested in establishing a Main Street Warrenton presence with a storefront display. I expect to have the first few windows set up by the first of the year.

Remember the details...

We will be working with building owners in downtown Warrenton 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.

If you're interested for your business or know someone who would be interested, please contact me at info@warren-chamber.org or 252-257-2657.

Once we begin to get visitors noticing all of our storefronts, we could spur interest from new businesses to come to downtown Warrenton.

Chamber Membership Benefits

\$25 Referral Rebate...



\$25 Referral Rebate

If you know of a business that would be a valuable addition to our Chamber, please email me at info@warren-chamber.org or call at 252-257-2657. If they are new to the Chamber or not a member for the past 3 years, when they join I'll send you a check for \$25 as a rebate on your current 2015/2016 dues.

Free Conference Room...

From time to time, I'll bet each of your businesses has the need for a meeting room. Somewhere 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.

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.

- **Lakeland Theatre Company: "Miracle on 34th Street – The Musical"**. The classic Christmas story immortalized by the 20th Century Fox Picture will be brought to life on the Lakeland stage this December. Set in the 1940's, the curtain opens on Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, where a substitute Santa appears to be the real thing. When he begins sending customers to other stores, a spirit of good will and love takes over New York City as never before. But Christmas comes to a standstill when Santa stands trial to determine his sanity and identity. This musical rendition includes songs written by Meredith Wilson, writer and composer of the Broadway hit, "The Music Man". It's a show that promises to bring Christmas to your heart. **December 4, 5, 10, 11 & 12 @ 8pm; December 5 & 12 @ 2:30pm. Come visit Santa prior to the Matinee performances from 1:45 until opening.** Get your tickets at <http://www.etix.com/ticket/v/4382/lakeland-theatre->.
- **Warren FoodWorks Trivia.** From **6:30pm – 8:00pm this Thursday** it's fun for teams up to 5 with trivia hosted by Annika Conrad. Join your friends and neighbors and impress them with your knowledge.
- **Warren FoodWorks Karaoke.** Whether it's Christmas carols or classic songs, regale the crowd this **Saturday from 7:00pm – 9:00 pm** for Karaoke! The choice of songs and the stage are yours.

- **The Prelude to Christmas & Parade.** If you've never seen this parade, don't miss it this year...and if you've seen it before, come on out for another genuine celebration of the season Warren County style. This year's event on **12 December** is on the Historic Courthouse Square in Warrenton and runs from 4pm-8pm. We'll kick things off with a hometown parade down Main Street. Then join your neighbors for the lighting of the Courthouse Christmas tree. Santa will be there at the Christmas Hut to receive visitors and share a few laughs. Enjoy the Vance-Granville Community Band and Holiday Tunes with DJ Lee Burrows Solid Sound Productions. The Prelude to Christmas and Parade is presented by The Town of Warrenton, Warren County Jaycees & The Warrenton Revitalization Committee.
- **Warren FoodWorks Holiday Meat & More Box.** There's not a better way to entertain friends and family this Christmas than with a genuine taste of Warren County. Order your choice of an Economy Box or Prime Cut Box by 11 December for pickup on 22 December online at <http://bit.ly/1NpSAI8>. In addition to the pre-packed boxes, you can add more meat, mouthwatering treats from the Bakery, Prepared food additions like Veggie soup and Veggie Lasagna & fresh Warren County Produce. Stop by FoodWorks on Main Street in Warrenton or contact Tim Williams at 252-257-0205 & tim@workinglandscapesNC.org.
- **Lakeland Theatre: Lakeland Singers Christmas Concert.** Gather your friends and family and head for Littleton on Saturday 19 December at 8:00pm for this wonderful Christmas concert featuring many of your favorite songs. Get your tickets online at <http://www.etix.com/ticket/v/4382/lakeland-theatre->.
- **Warren County 4-H: Old School vs. New School Rescheduled.** The basketball game to raise money for the Warren County 4-H Program has now been rescheduled. Look for it at the John Graham Gym on **Friday 18 March**. Looking for more details? Please call Crystal Smith at 252-257-3640 or email her at crystal_smith@ncsu.edu. Tickets are just \$5 to this great family event.