



Chamber Connections

15 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](#)

Santa's Christmas List Thank You

Warren County, you're solid gold!



What an incredible outpouring of giving from all of you here in Warren County! It took 5 truckloads to get all of the presents to the folks at Social Services. I know that your generosity will make many children in Warren County wake up with a smile on Christmas morning. Thank you Warren County!

When you're out and about in Warrenton & Norlina, please make sure that you thank each of the people below with your business and your words of appreciation. They made Santa's Christmas List a success in 2015...

Warren Record – Jennifer Harris & team: Not only did they promote Santa's Christmas List in ads, articles in the paper & online, but they decorated collection boxes & filled their box to overflowing.
WARR 1520 AM – The Darensburg's, Peace, Rev. Galloway & more: I can't tell you how many times I heard the ads on 1520 AM, but it seemed like they ran every hour. On Monday their huge box was packed past the top...lots from their loyal listeners and the teachers at South Warren Elementary.

Time Out Sports Bar – Andre Hendricks: Their customers filled a box with a great selection of gifts for kids from 13-16...including significant cash and gift certificates.

First Citizens Bank – Laura Hight: They collected dolls and toys and stuffed animals...and all with their usual friendly service.

Milano's – Ahmed Abraham: Every time I've asked for help for a project or event, Ahmed has said "Yes" immediately with a smile...this time was no different. Great number of bags of stuffed animals and books!

BB&T – Matt Korff: Not only did their customers drop off toys, but they also included canned goods which Social Services put to use immediately when I delivered them on Monday.

Warrenton Town Hall – Robert Davie, Greg and the rest of our Town Staff: They all helped promote Santa's Christmas List and added to our Christmas gift collections for Warren County children.

Pete Smith Tire & Quick Lube – Glenn McMullen: They may be fairly new to Warren County, but their tradition of helping the community goes waaaayyyy back. Thanks for the gifts collected and for being a solid part of our business community.

James White Barbershop – Macon Myrick & the late James White: A Warren County institution for more than 60 years, they

Upcoming Member Events

Working Landscapes
Honors Local Farmers
Thursday 17 December
5:30pm – 7:30pm
Warren FoodWorks
Warrenton

Warren FoodWorks
Friday 18 December
Java Blue with DJ Mic Dub
6:00pm – 11:00pm

Warren FoodWorks
Saturday 19 December
Christopher Hunter's
Christmas Cantata
7:00pm – 9:00pm

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

Cherry Hill Christmas
Concert
Sunday 20 December
3pm
Cherry Hill Plantation - Inez

Contact Us

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opened their barbershop to display our collection box and collected a very nice amount of toys for our neighbors.

Norlina Town Hall – Blaine Reese: The picture above says it all...the Norlina Town Hall broke all records in collections thanks to their wonderful citizens and the leadership from Claude O'Hagan, the Town and the Police Department. The gifts they collected filled an SUV and a mini-van.

Norlina Auto Parts – Boyd Scott: Boyd was a great help in making sure Social Services can help every Warren County child in need this year with the gifts he collected.

The Whistle Stop Café – Lisa Willis & staff: Tuesday nights and fried chicken are my favorites, but any day of the week is delicious. Our thanks to the Whistle Stop for hosting a collection box and helping with the toys they gathered.

Diamond's Hair Studio – Jennifer: Their box was also overflowing with toys, games and stuffed animals. Unfortunately, Jennifer lost her Mother very recently, but still encouraged her customers to give dozens & dozens of gifts.

Lake Gaston Chamber of Commerce – Christina Wells: In addition to directing her own gift collection campaign, Christina immediately jumped on the opportunity to be a co-sponsor of Santa's Christmas List. With her help, our neighbors in the Lake Gaston community gathered scores of books and clothing for children.

Warrenton Furniture Exchange – David Gardner: When we first decided to launch Santa's Christmas List I knew that we would need LARGE boxes...and immediately thought of David. He volunteered to save the boxes from recliners, washers and driers...and they worked perfectly.

Lin's Everything Business – Lin Cousins: Window posters, donation signs and multi-colored fliers...we needed them all. A quick call to Lin and she donated all of the printing. We couldn't have done it without her help.

Peggy Richardson – Graphics and posters: I quickly learned when I joined the Chamber that Peggy is the unheralded source of 90% of the graphics and design work done for events, projects and other city/county promotions. She did her customary outstanding job in taking my ideas and making eye-catching promotional pieces for us.

Victoria Lehman & her students – Warren County High School: When I sent out the newsletter announcing Santa's Christmas List, Victoria immediately emailed back that she and her students would be happy to help decorate collection boxes. Not content with wrapping paper, they designed their own eye catching decorations to make our collection boxes sing.

Donna Hahn – my wonderful wife: As I've told many of you, the development of my gift-wrapping skill stopped when I was about 6. Since I wanted the collection boxes to make drop-off locations proud, I turned to my wife who knocked out 8 huge boxes in no time at all.

On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce of Warren County and the many children you've helped this year I send my heartfelt Thank You for your gifts.

Shop Local: Warren Wednesdays

Local Resident Rewards Begin 6 January 2016



Just a quick reminder to set your alarms for Wednesdays beginning in 2016 as Chamber Members and other local businesses make that day a chance for you to save even more with Warren Wednesdays...just by being a resident of Warren County.

Look for the Green "Local is Best" in merchant windows...then, find the counter cards inside listing the business' special that week. Finally, show them you're a Warren County resident and the special is yours.

Warren Wednesday Specials



We'll have information about each business' specials on our website and on our Facebook page right after the first of the year. Stay tuned for more information from me for all Chamber of Commerce of Warren County members.

If you have any questions, please email me at info@warren-chamber.org or call at 252-257-2657.

The Chamber Featured Business: Brain Freeze

Ice Cream Goodness and More in Downtown Warrenton



Please welcome the Chamber of Commerce of Warren County's newest member: Brain Freeze! Kim Hudson and her family have added to the choice of sweet treats for Warrenton with their downtown café.

"For nearly a year now, when your sweet tooth calls, the answer can be found at Brain Freeze on Main Street in Warrenton at the corner of Franklin Street. The brightly colored store welcomes you in for frozen goodness and plenty of candy choices.

Now you can certainly pick from their dozen or so delicious flavors of ice cream...in a cup or your choice of waffle, sugar or regular cones. You'll love it. But why not go for a thick and creamy hand-made milkshake? Their chocolate shakes will remind you of the corner drugstore from childhood. And for a real treat, Brain Freeze makes the best banana splits you've had in a while. They start with a whole banana...then you pick your 3 flavors of ice cream...finish it off with your choice of pineapple, strawberries, nuts, chocolate sauce, caramel sauce, whipped cream and a cherry and you'll have a dessert that's almost a meal.

For a quick but delicious lunch head for Brain Freeze & their hot dog special that includes chips and a drink. There's one quick stop you can make when it's time for a treat: Brain Freeze...Keep Your Brain on Ice!"

Keep those featured business write-ups coming! I received several last week, but we always need more. 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...

We'll have the first two windows decorated around the first of January as we kick off Main Street Showcases. Still plenty of opportunities for your business to get a "Main Street Presence" in Warrenton and help bring downtown to life!

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 can spur interest from new businesses to come to downtown Warrenton.

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.

- **Warren FoodWorks.** Stop in to help them celebrate their 1-Year Anniversary as they celebrate local farmers on Thursday 17 December from 5:30-7:30pm. At the celebration, participating farmers will receive certificates recognizing their contributions. A representative of RAFI (Rural Advancement Foundation International), rafiusa.org/, will be in attendance and will provide information about a grant opportunity for local farmers. Interested members of the public, including farmers who have not yet supplied FoodWorks but might be interested in doing so, are encouraged to attend. Complimentary heavy hors d'oeuvres, tea and hot chocolate will be provided with additional menu items and alcoholic beverages available for purchase.
- **Warren FoodWorks.** On Friday 18 December, join your friends for Java Blue with DJ Mic Dub. Michael Williams, teacher at Warren

New Tech High, also known as DJ Mic Dub, will be spinning some records for us in the café from 6:00-11:00pm.

- **Warren FoodWorks.** Christopher Hunter's Christmas Cantata...Wake Forest University graduate, talented performer and valued FoodWorks employee Christopher Hunter will be singing Christmas songs on Saturday 19 December from 7:00-9:00pm.
- **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->.

- **Cherry Hill Christmas Concert.** The Oakwood Waits, an a cappella group from Raleigh, will perform at Cherry Hill Plantation in Inez on **December 20th**. The event will begin at 3:00 pm and will feature the group, dressed in antebellum costume, for the 8th year. The performance of traditional carols and songs has been given from the Executive Mansion to the White House and has become a holiday tradition at the 1858 home of the Alston family. The board of directors of the Cherry Hill



Foundation presents the singers as a Christmas gift to the community and cordially invites everyone for an afternoon of entertainment and refreshment. For further info visit

www.cherryhillconcerts.com.

- **VCU Health Community Memorial Hospital.** Take advantage of their Winter Special and join the area's premiere Medical Fitness Facility. For all new members there is no enrollment fee when you join between now and February 2016. Take a medical fitness approach to your health & wellness to kick off the New Year!
- **Lakeland Theatre Company Spring Vacation Raffle.** They keep us entertained with wonderful plays throughout the year. Here's a chance to help them raise funds for the coming year AND possibly win a Spring Vacation worth \$2,000. Your raffle ticket enters you in a drawing for one week (April 23-30, 2016) at Beachwoods in Kitty Hawk. It's a 3 bedroom condo with tons of extras! Tickets are just \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. Drawing to be held December 31, 2015. Call 252-586-3124.