



Chamber Connections

14 June 2016

A Weekly Resource For Warren County Business

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Email Address Update

The official email address for the Chamber is: info@warren-chamber.org

Isn't It Great to Wake up Here in Warren County?

Cherish Our Tranquility And Your Loved Ones

Just a simple thought on my part this week. From TV to radio to newspaper to the Web, it sometimes seems that the whole world is coming unglued...sadness and madness everywhere. It's a huge comfort to me just looking out the window at our peaceful Main Street and to realize that we are fortunate to have a safe harbor here in Warren County to call home.

If things get a little overwhelming, take 5 minutes to talk with someone you see downtown...follow Margaret Britt's lead and spend some time on your front porch (either alone or with friends or family)...or just take a drive through our beautiful countryside. The amazing "realness" of life here is a guaranteed smile producer.

May you each find the peace and strength you need. Have a great week here in Warren County!

---Craig

Warren County Historical Tidbits: The Community Center

The Power of One Woman's Vision & A Community

Good Afternoon! I remember on one of our earliest house-hunting trips 2 years ago here to Warren County, my wife and I spent a lot of time driving around Warrenton just taking in the sights..."Oh, there's the library...look they still have a High School on Main Street...MMM, a Mexican restaurant just outside of town...I like this downtown...Wow! That's a beautiful home...there's the Community Center...I wonder where the Police Station is..."

It made me laugh after a few months of living here how my impressions of "what things are" weren't always on the mark...I thought John Graham was still an operating school for several months!

But, one of those places we saw seemed to sync with our initial impression: Warrenton had a "Community Center". Every once in a while I'd see flyers for a poetry slam or some other event being held there, so I

Warren County Online
Warren Record Column
WARR 1520AM

Warrenton City Site
Norlina City Site
Warren County Site

Upcoming Member Events

Warren FoodWorks
Wednesday 15 June
3:45 – 5:15 pm
BreadShare Pickups

Warren FoodWorks
Friday 17 June
7:00pm – 9:00pm
Shavon Russell Jones & Black Journeyz

Farmers' Market 2016
Saturday 18 June
8am - Noon
BB&T Parking Lot

Lakeland Theatre
June 17, 18, 24, 25 & 26
Times Vary
"12 Angry Jurors"

Contact Us

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

just accepted that the red brick building was some sort of historic building that was now used for community gatherings...just a building.

It was nearly a year before I began listening to stories from residents and realized that **this** Community Center truly *was* and *is* one of true Community working together to meet a need.



Let's spin the time machine back to 1933. Now, every good story has to have a hero – or a heroine – and this story is no different. Our heroine in this case was **Mrs. Winnie B. Williams**. Mrs. Williams was born in Warren County in 1856. By the time our story starts she was the oldest public school teacher in the county at 77 years old. Having taught at 8 schools during her career, most in Warren County, Mrs. Williams saw the need for a "reading room", or restroom, in the county seat that African-Americans could use, as well as a library, both of which were to be housed in the Center. She now started to work turning her vision into reality...

As **The Warren Record** notes, "A major component in the project's development was organizing a countywide Parent-Teacher Association, and representatives from the 42 local PTAs showed up for a meeting held at the courthouse in Warrenton in October 1934. There, they gave a donation of \$2,500, and the countywide PTA was formed." One more key community connection created as a result of Mrs. Williams' dream.



August 24, 1934, **The Warren County Community Center and Library** was legally born and the "community" part of our story gets into full swing.... Postcards were sent to 100 people in Warren County to discuss the project – 95 of the people invited showed up for the meeting! Then fundraising started with Coin Drives in African-American Schools and Churches throughout the county.

Pennies, nickels, dimes...they all added up and land was purchased on West Franklin Street. Next a gift of soil was given by **Mrs. Mary G. Wortham** (if her name sounds familiar, stop by the Preservation Warrenton Memorial Garden to her and her husband at Main & Franklin) for two kilns of bricks to be made and burned.

It now was up to the men of the community to come together and donate their labor and needed wood at no cost to turn the bricks into a building. With their outstanding work and contributions from African Americans of Warren County, the WPA, Warrenton & Warren County Commissioners The Community Center was built and continues to be of use today.

For years the Community Center & Library was the only public meeting space, library, restroom facilities and recreation room available to African-Americans in downtown Warrenton. The young people counted on this Community Center for 4-H & Scout meetings as well as parties and dances.

So what about our heroine, Mrs. Winnie B. Williams? 3 years after our story she retired from public school teaching at the age of 80. She was named "Mother" of the Community Center and continued to lend a hand where needed until her passing at the age of 102 in 1959.

One woman with a vision – in the depths of the Great Depression – in a rural county – found that when you can mobilize a community around a

dream & meeting a need, nothing is impossible. A good lesson for us to remember today as we face our own needs and challenges.

I can't describe the Community Center's mission in our community today any better than the current Trustees have, *"Today, The Warren County Community Center remains vital to local citizens. It is a part of the county's rich African-American Heritage. It is still governed by a board of trustees. It is still funded by its supporters. Donations from individuals, organizations, businesses and Churches defray expenses for the upkeep of the building."*

Visit **their website** or email at **warrencountycommunitycenter@gmail.com** or phone at 252-257-3407.

Wherever you turn in Warren County we have a jewel...

"Warren County Historical Tidbits" is a project of The Chamber of Commerce of Warren County.

Warrenton T-shirts & Hats

Get Yours at Town Hall



Here's a great way to show off your Hometown Pride...T-Shirts, printed with the Town of Warrenton emblem, are now available for sale at Town Hall. These Warrenton T-Shirts are high-quality 100% cotton and Hanes Beefy T brand.

Sizes available include Small, Medium, Large, Xtra Large and Xtra Xtra Large. Pricing for the Small through XL is \$12 and just \$13 for XXL. Other sizes can be available through special order. Stop by Town Hall and help us promote the Town.



And, hot off the presses of Facebook last night from **Carolina Images**, Warrenton hats are on the way and should be delivered to Town Hall either Wednesday or Thursday of this week. No word yet on pricing.

Warrenton Animal Clinic Adds 3rd Veterinarian

Dr. Crystal Martinez Joins The Staff



Warrenton Animal Clinic is pleased to announce the addition of a 3rd veterinarian, Dr. Crystal Martinez.

Crystal grew up in Hillsborough, NC. Becoming a veterinarian has been Crystal's goal since she was a kid. She has always had a soft heart for animals and loves caring for them, watching them grow, and trying to heal their pain.

In college she attended NCSU and double majored in Animal Science and Zoology. She then attended NCSU CVM and graduated class of 2016. Her special interests include ophthalmology and surgery; she also pursues an integrative approach to medicine and has studied animal chiropractics. Her personal interests include playing volleyball, hiking, and trail riding with her horse, "Cisco."

Read all about Dr. Martinez at the [Warrenton Animal Clinic website](#).

Lakeland Theatre Company: 12 Angry Jurors

June 17, 18, 24, 25 & 26



Lakeland Theatre Company will be presenting Twelve Angry Jurors directed by Ruth Morgan and her assistant director, Don Heagren. The audience will be in the jury room with the panel as they deliberate the guilt or innocence of the young man accused of murdering his father. If found guilty, the accused will receive a mandatory death sentence.

Although times may change, human nature does not. How would you vote?

Shows begin on June 17 and continue June 18, 24, 25 & 26. Tickets are available by calling 252-586-3124 or can be purchased online off our website, www.lakelandtheatrenc.org. (Tickets \$16.00 Adults, \$9.00 Student).

Warren County Growers Association Farmers Market

Don't Miss The Goodness This Saturday!



Join your neighbors at the Warren County Farmers Market this weekend for more home-grown goodness. Now thru 15 October from 8am – Noon each Saturday

they'll be in downtown Warrenton in the BB&T Parking lot. You may hear a bell now at the market! Someone heard we wanted to celebrate when one of our vendors "sell out" and donated a brass bell to ring. Last week the bell rang three times! Boyd's Rest Home Bluebird Houses, Hannah's Happy Hens, and Henderson's Mushrooms!

Here's a partial list of what you can expect to find (grown locally!) this weekend:

- Bluebird houses
- Local honey
- Farm fresh eggs

- Marinades and sauces
- Jams and Jellies - Returning next week!
- Baked Goods - Hopefully returning soon!
- Vegetables
 - Spring collards
 - Rutabaga, something NEW for our market! Thanks to Mr. Dillahunt.
 - Cabbage, pointy head and traditional
 - Swiss Chard
 - Kale, ruffled and flat leaf
 - Turnip greens
 - Spring onions
 - Beets
 - Purple peppers
 - Carrots
 - Yellow squash
 - Light green zucchini
 - Dark green zucchini
 - Zen, a green with a lettuce/spinach/collard flavor

Dog Treats

Cheddar and Apple - Mostly organic

Crunchy Peanut Butter - All organic

Chicken Jerky

* No additives, salt or sugar



And more surprises!!!

If you need more information, please call 252-257-3640 or visit their website at warrengrowers.com.

Shop Local: Warren Wednesdays

Specials Available This Week

Warren Wednesday Specials



The savings are growing! Remember, each extra dollar we spend locally in Warren County not only helps that business, but it also brings in much needed sales tax revenues to help our 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.

Here are a few of the specials for you to kick things off...

Brain Freeze, Main Street Warrenton: Now this is a great lunch time deal! Get 2 hotdogs, drink & chips for \$5.00 and they'll add in a small cup of ice cream for FREE. I had this last Wednesday and it was delicious!

Warrenton Supply, Main Street Warrenton: Save 10% on all air filters for your furnace.

Oakley Hall Antiques, Main Street Warrenton: Save 20% on any items, except "firm" priced and consignment items.

Lickskillet Dog Grooming & Kennels: 15% off retail products...chew toys, leashes, collars, harnesses and more.

Tar Heel Tire, Ridgeway Street Warrenton: Here's another HUGE Warren Wednesday Special from Tar Heel Tire...bring your car or light truck (pickup) in and get your tires rotated for FREE. Great way to extend the life of your tires.

The Warren Record: Each Wednesday, for Warren County Residents, get \$5 off **NEW** subscriptions to the Warren Record.

King's Fitness & Nutrition Center, next to Just Save in Warrenton: Fruit & veggie smoothies just \$4.

Second Hand Rose Antiques, Main Street Warrenton: 30% off Jewelry this Wednesday. Plenty from which to choose!

Norlina Auto Parts, US 1 Norlina: A great fuel injection cleaner, Sea Foam, is only \$7.99! Boyd recommends this highly!

Warrenton Furniture Exchange, Franklin Street Warrenton: Save 10% off any Troutman Rocker (that's a big \$ savings!). These are the rockers you see on the porches of all the historic hotels.

Futrell Pharmacy, Main Street Warrenton: Buy one QC brand vitamins, get the second of equal or lesser value, half price. Stop by and see Woody, Kim Sherry and Susan AND save \$\$\$.

Friends Two, Main Street Warrenton: Get 15% off regularly priced, select jewelry!

Quilt Lizzy, Macon Street Warrenton: Stop by Quilt Lizzy on Macon Street in Warrenton for Warren Wednesday savings! Thread is buy one/get one free just because you live in Warren County.

Roost Crossroads Antiques: 30% off any OO or DP items in the store.

Pete Smith Quick Lube & Tire, Main Street Warrenton: Get 10% off your oil change on Wednesdays!

Awesome God Christian Bookstore, Main Street Warrenton: 50% off the limited supply of light blue girls and boys school uniform tops.

Warren FoodWorks, Main Street Warrenton: 10% off any coffee, tea or cocoa beverage.

Lin's Everything Business, Main Street Warrenton: Every Wednesday is "Copy Day"...10 cents off each copy means B&W are just 15 cents and just 20 cents for Color. This is a great day to get those Church bulletins or club flyers printed.

Cheap Joe's Clothes, Main Street Warrenton: Fathers' Day Special: Buy a Suit and Tie and get a Regular Men's Dress Shirt **FREE** (a \$20.00 value).

One step at a time we can all keep our local businesses healthy by picking them first for our shopping.

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

Warren FoodWorks: Weekly Lunch Specials

Take Advantage of Their New Breakfast...

[Click here for full menu](#)

Weekly Specials

1/2 Sandwich, Soup, Chips or Slaw (7.95)

Cream of Broccoli Soup (2.95/4.95)

Featuring broccoli from Jeff Bender of Bender Farms Produce and Ashe County Cheddar Cheese

Beef Noodle Soup (2.95/4.95)

Featuring ground Angus beef from Jimmy Harris of Sunrise Ridge Farms

Quiche of the Week, Broccoli and Provolone (2.95/4.95)

Featuring broccoli from Jeff Bender of Bender Farms Produce, Ashe County Provolone Cheese, and eggs from Newell Farm

FoodWorks Taco Salad (7.95)

Featuring ground beef from Jimmy Harris of Sunrise Ridge Farms, tomatoes from Franklin Brothers Nursery, and Ashe County Cheddar Cheese

Breakfast Sandwiches

Great news! FoodWorks is serving homemade breakfast sandwiches and casseroles featuring local eggs, meat and produce. Stop by and fuel up before you start your day!

Grab and Go!

Be sure to stop by our cold cases for fresh-made grab-and-go items, as well as pasture raised meat and eggs!

Baked Goods

Strong Arm Bakery will be bringing fresh baked goods every Wednesday along with the weekly Breadshares from 3:45 to 5:15

Local Baker, Susan Long, is joining our staff to bake bread for our breakfast and lunch sandwiches. Come in this week and try our new breads!

Denise Allen will still be stocking the bakery case with her delicious treats. This week we will have lemon pound cake, chocolate pound cake, and a host of other specialties.

As always Free Wi-Fi and the best view in Warrenton, bring your computer, a book, or a friend and come relax at FoodWorks

NEW Hours for Warren FoodWorks

Warren FoodWorks begins new hours:

Tue 7a – 3p

Wed 7a – 3p

Thu 7a – 3p

Fri 7a – 6p
Sat 9a – 3p

Class A Office Space For Rent

100 – 600 sq. feet available on the 2nd floor at 108 South Main St. in Warrenton. Includes utilities (except communications) and shared bathroom. Call Carla Norwood for more information at 252-431-5164.

A Word From The Warren County Schools... District Wishes Retirees Well

Here's the latest from Jamica Whitaker, Director of Communications & Public Engagement:

Warren County Schools celebrated nine employees Thursday night during the district's annual retirement celebration.

Families, friends, and well-wishers gathered in the theater of Warren County High School on June 9 to celebrate the more than 150 combined years of dedication and hard work of nine employees as they embark on the next step in their lives.

Warren County Schools Board Member Henry Durham welcomed everyone to the event, and Superintendent Dr. Ray Spain provided closing remarks. "This is always a good occasion, but it's a sad one as well," Spain said. "We just want to say thank you, and we really appreciate all you do. Everyday has been a different challenge, and you've met those challenges."

The nine retirees are: **Delbera Kearney**, accounting manager with 19.5 years of service; **Elaine Leet**, 4th grade teacher at Mariam Boyd Elementary with 18 years of service; **Shirley Pendergrass**, teacher assistant at Mariam Boyd Elementary with seven years of service; **Johnnie Wilkins**, 5th grade teacher at Mariam Boyd with 18 years of service; **Gloria Quick**, speech/language pathologist at Northside K-8 School with 22 years of service; **Jaycynthia Robinson**, 4th grade teacher at South Warren Elementary with 20 years of service; **Patricia Williams**, teacher assistant at Vaughan Elementary with 20 years of service; **Grace Alston**, guidance counselor at Warren County Middle School with 26 years of service; and **Thomas Traylor**, agriculture teacher at Warren County High School with 23 years of service.

Each table included personalized books for each retiree, retire"mints", as well as a bucket for visitors for fill with suggestions on bucket list ideas for retirement. The nine honorees were given a personalized clock, and a plant as a token of appreciation.

"We're going to miss you," Spain said. "We just want to wish you all an enjoyable retirement."



Superintendent Dr. Ray Spain.

Warren County Schools celebrated nine retirees Thursday, June 9 at its annual Retirement Celebration. Pictured, from left, are, back row, WCS School Board Member Henry Durham, Delbera Kearney, Shirley Pendergrass, Grace Alston, Johnnie Wilkins, and Thomas Traylor. On the front row, from left to right, are Elaine Leet, Patricia Williams, Gloria Quick, Jaycynthia Robinson, and



Nine retirees were recognized June 9 by Warren County Schools. WCS Superintendent Ray Spain and School Board Member Henry Durham, far right, look on as Assistant Superintendent Frank Polakiewicz, center, shook the hand of Johnnie Wilkins who is retiring after 18 years as a fifth grade teacher at Mariam Boyd Elementary.

Warren County Government Info Board

Budget, Senior Center & Library

Here's the latest on upcoming meetings, events and other important dates from Warren County Government:

Commissioners' Budget Calendar

June 20th – 6:00pm – Work Session (if needed)

June 22nd – 7:00pm – Special Meeting to Adopt FY 2016-17 Budget Ordinance

Warren County Senior Center Activities:

June 17th – 11am – Juneteenth Celebration, Senior Center

June 24th – 9am – RAPIDD Picnic, Bullocksville Park

Warren County Memorial Library:

(Every Monday Friends of the Library Book Sale)

June 15th – 10:30 am Books, Brew & You

June 18th – 11:00 am Weekend Family Film

June 21st – 4:00 pm Paws to Read with a Therapy Dog

June 23rd – Noon Afternoon Tea with the BBC

June 24th – Noon Summer Reading Kickoff!

June 28th – 10:30 am Music & Movement

June 30th – 11:30 am Tech Time Computer Class

June 30th – Noon Beth's Tasty Home

If you're looking for a full list of upcoming events, click on "Community News" under "County Commissioners" on the County website:

http://warrencountync.com/_fileUploads/forms/728_DOC061316-06132016110540.pdf

Lakeland Theatre Company: Aladdin!

Begins 15 July

Lakeland Theatre Company Presents Disney's Aladdin, Jr. July 15th, 16th at 8:00pm, 17th at 2:30pm, 22nd & 23rd at 8:00pm. This show is presented by the participants in Lakeland's Youth Workshop and is sure to send audiences soaring on a flying carpet ride filled with romance and adventure.

When Aladdin vies for the attention of the beautiful Princess Jasmine, he uses a genie's magic power to become a prince in order to marry her. Disney's Aladdin, Jr., a musical adventure filled with magic, mayhem and the power of love.

Tickets can be purchased through our website www.lakelandtc.org or by calling 252 -586-3124. Tickets are just \$16.00 for Adults & \$9.00 for Students.

Chamber Project Updates

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.** Strong Arm Baking Company continues their Breadshare pickup this Wednesday from 3:45 - 5:15! They'll also be bringing a variety of hearth baked bread and artisanal pastries for you to sample and buy. Sign up for your Breadshare today by contacting Strong Arm Baking Co. directly: email: info@strongarmbaking.com, call (828) 400-4826 or visit www.StrongArmBaking.com
- **Warren FoodWorks.** Shavon Russell Jones and Black Journeyz will be appearing Friday, June 17 from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Come out to FoodWorks this Friday to enjoy various genres of live music including soul, jazz, and gospel.

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- **Warrenton Animal Clinic.** June Promotion: See the Difference! During the month of June, we are offering a complimentary fecal test 3 weeks after your purchase of dewormer. We want you to see the difference that you have made for your dog! See website for details: <http://www.warrentonanimalclinic.com/promotions>
 - **Fire House Biscuits & Burgers.** Every week you can stop in for a great meal and these specials: Monday – Fried chicken & BBQ w/ 2 sides, roll and drink \$6.99; Tuesday – 2 pork chops w/ 2 sides, roll and drink \$6.99; Wednesday – Meatloaf, 2 sides, roll and drink \$6.99; Thursday – Hamburger steak with gravy w/ 2 sides, roll and drink \$6.99; Friday – Fish plate \$6.99 or Shrimp or Combo plate \$7.99 both w/ hushpuppies, 2 sides and drink.

What's going on with your business? If you'll send an email between now and next Tuesday I'll make sure to include you in our listings.
