Wednesdays with **Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce**

August 4, 2021

UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

Wednesday, August 4th

Noon

Chamber Board Meeting—Warren County R-III

Monday, August 9th

11:45 am—1:00 pm General Membership Meeting—Warrenton High School Commons

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! MONDAY, AUGUST 9TH

OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ARE ON MONDAYS NOW!

Join us on Monday, August 9th at 11:45 am at the Warrenton High School Commons located at 803 Pinckney. Park around back to get to the Commons.

The presentation will be provided by Christine Zika of Boonslick Regional Planning Commission. Christine will be sharing the many resources available to businesses. You won't want to miss this! Lunch will be \$10.

REGIONAL JOB/CAREER EXPLORATION SHOWCASE

September 15, 2021 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Warrenton High School, 803 Pinckney, Warrenton

The goal of this event is to expose our regional students and their families to possible careers/ employment outside of the college route.

If you would like to participate as a vendor, please contact the Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce at 636-456-2530 or warrentoncoc@socket.net.

Things you should know:

This showcase is free to all vendors and participants; Set up begins at 3:45 pm and you must be totally set by 5:15 pm. If you need to set up earlier, please let us know.

Booth space is free; Bring your own tables, chairs, tent, etc.; You will be able to visit and inform high school students and their families from Warrenton, Wright City and Montgomery schools; Bring information about your business; The event will be in the high school parking lot, so you are encouraged to bring whatever equipment, simulators, etc.; Live demonstrations and hands on activities will speak loudly to our students.



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH Samantha Richardson—Main Street Real Estate

Voted Best REALTOR® by the Warren County Record consecutively, each year since 2014, Samantha Richardson will without a doubt exceed your expectations. She equates her success to her ability to connect with clients and individualize her service to their needs. When it comes to her clients, Sam asks questions and learns about their individual needs. If you need help with home staging, pricing your home, deciding what repairs are most economical or a slew of other concerns, Sam can help with them all. She says her favorite aspect of her job is all of the friendships she makes along the way. many times helping members of the same families, and multiple generations, buy their dream homes! You can reach Sam at 314.713.2455 for all your real estate needs.

FRIENDS OF THE CHAMBER

CertainTeed www.certainteed.com

Amy Lombardo Insurance - Amy Lombardo www.myuhcagent.com/Amy.lombardo

Warrenton Office Furniture - Patsy Barteau www.warrentonofficefurniture.com

Town & County Garage, Inc. www.townandcountygarage.com

Better Health with Bridgette www.bridgeyourhealth.com

10 TIPS FOR GIVING CONSTRUCTIVE FEEDBACK

"Criticism, like rain, should be gentle enough to nourish a man's growth without destroying his roots."— Frank A. Clark When a task is performed by us, things might go wrong, and there could be a great scope for improvement. Feedback by others plays an essential role in helping us identify the areas of improvement. Feedback helps us make corrections and not repeat the same mistake next time. Giving and receiving feedback is part of life, and feedback helps us grow. Feedback provides us with an opportunity to correct ourselves.

Being a boss or an employer, it could be part of your job to give regular feedback to your employees. Regular feedback, when offered constructively, helps the employees improve their job performance and become more productive. Not only at the workplace, but there could be situations at home as well where feedback needs to be given. Feedback is very much required if our goal is constant improvement.

However, giving feedback becomes a bit tricky because only a few people are open to it and can take the feedback positively. Most of the people take it negatively and get hurt. When feedback is not constructive, it can demotivate the other person and impact self-esteem badly. The objective of giving feedback is not to hurt anyone but to help the other person make corrections in his or her approach.

So, how to give feedback that is constructive and positive? Here are ten pointers. 10 tips for giving constructive feedback: **Mention the positives first:** Lord Krishna in Bhagavat Gita said no person is completely good or completely bad. So, there are high chances that there will be some amount of good in the opposite person. Before giving feedback, talk about these positives in the person—like the excellent job they have recently done or their good qualities. Appreciate their work whole-heartedly and acknowledge their contribution. Make it a point to mention at least three positives in the other person. When positives are pointed out before negatives, it opens up the other person and helps in building trust. It makes it easier for the other person to accept feedback.

Be specific: When giving feedback, choose a particular job or action and talk only about it. Don't become generic and vague. Don't dig past issues. Don't focus on multiple things as such kinds of conversations can lead to arguments and personal attacks, and they consume a lot of time with no productive output. Just focus only on one action and talk about it. Being specific makes the discussion fruitful.

Have a one-on-one: Never give feedback to a person in public or in front of a group of people. When feedback is provided in meetings or in front of others, it is equal to disrespecting the other person, and it causes embarrassment and humiliation. So, avoid giving feedback publicly. Have a one-on-one conversation where just you and the other person are present.

Give examples: Examples are particularly important while giving feedback. This makes your feedback authentic and helps the other person understand your viewpoint. So, give specific instances and examples as to why you think the other person should improve. Instead of just telling 'your presentation is bad and needs to be improved,' tell why the presentation is bad. Quote specific places where the presentation can be improved.

Be respectful: Make sure that your body language, tone, and choice of words are respectful towards the other person. Don't raise your voice or use any kind of abusive or derogatory words. Don't use words like – always, never, all the time, etc. These words magnify the impact and cause unnecessary hurt. When you tell someone – you are always bad at presentations, it is unprofessional and not a constructive way of giving feedback. A better way to tell it is – your presentation skills can be improved.

Be sincere: Don't carry any malicious or negative intentions while giving feedback. Be sincere in your intention. Your intention should be only to help the other person improve and not to point out the flaws. So, be sincere while giving the feedback.

Be objective: Focus on the action and not on the person while giving the feedback. Action and the person are different. A person is much more than the action performed. Don't engage in any kind of personal attack. Don't use sentences like – you have bad communication skills, or you are always late to office. Instead, you can say – your communication skills can be improved.

Be kind: Understand that it is part of the process to make mistakes. Put yourself in the other person's shoes and understand their viewpoint. Think about how you like to be given feedback when you make a mistake. Give the same kind of feedback to the other person.

Listen patiently: After you have given the feedback, provide the other person a chance to speak out and express. Listen patiently and understand their viewpoint. Don't cut through or interrupt. Don't assume. Give all the attention and listen patiently. This helps you understand better the circumstances of the other person.

Give suggestions: Tell the other person how they can implement the feedback. Give your suggestions and pointers. Give at least one action item. If possible, share your own story or story of someone whom you know about how they improved this area. Adding a personal story makes the feedback more trustworthy and inspiring. For example, if the feedback is about the other person's communication skills, share the resources that helped you improve your own communication skills. Share your perspective about the topic and show the way towards the right resources. Be more like a mentor than a judge.

Feedback that is constructive can make a significant difference to the recipient and help him or her genuinely. When the feedback is not constructive, it can impact the other person negatively. So, be mindful while giving feedback and make sure you give only constructive feedback. Constructive feedback can do wonders for the productivity and engagement levels of employees. It is not only about giving constructive feedback but also try asking for constructive feedback from others about your work. You will be surprised to know new things about yourself and your areas of improvement. Asking for feedback helps you to make improvements and grow wonderfully. It is a great trait to ask for feedback because only a person who has good self -esteem can ask for it. Give and ask constructive feedback!

EVENT DATES (see flyers)

August 4th
August 7th
August 9th
August 13
August 20
August 21
September 25th

Veteran & Community Resource Event—Missouri Job Center Family Fun Day—College United Methodist Church Pool Party—City of Warrenton Concert in the Park—Warrenton Pool

School Supply Giveaway

Woofstock—CCAC

Fall Festival & Car Show—Warrenton Downtown Association and the City of Warrenton





















