

LITTLE KNOWN FACTS:

- Dr. Walter Reed, who discovered a cure for yellow fever, once lived in Lawrenceville.
- The great American writer Edgar Allen Poe spent much of one summer in Brunswick County and composed a small book of writings while here.
- Bishop Phillip Brooks of New York who wrote the hymn “O Little Town of Bethlehem” stayed with Mrs. Pattie Hicks Buford of Lawrenceville and was so moved by her selfless service to indigent blacks that he wrote the fourth verse to that song.
- General Starke, a famous Confederate General, is buried near Lawrenceville.
- The St. Louis Cardinals had a Class D minor league baseball team in Lawrenceville for two years (1948-49). The ballpark remains in use.
- The first Brunswick Stew was cooked in Brunswick County on a hunting trip by Jimmy Matthews, the retainer to Dr. Creed Haskins.
- The first stud book in America was created in Brunswick County by James Harrison at “Diamond Grove” farm which remains in use.
- Brunswick County has been invaded by “enemy” forces twice, Lawrenceville once. Courthouse records were saved because the invading commander and Court Clerk were Masons.
- Albertis Harrison, former Governor of Virginia, began his career as the town attorney.
- In the day when blacks in Virginia had no access to a seminary education, such an education was given to a slave, James Soloman Russell, later Archdeacon Russell, who founded Saint Paul’s College in 1888 and about fifteen other Episcopal Churches. Pattie Hicks Buford of Lawrenceville was instrumental in obtaining the seminary education for Archdeacon Russell.

Compiled by Councilman Holman



For more information, contact:

Town Of Lawrenceville

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Brunswick Chamber of Commerce

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WELCOME:

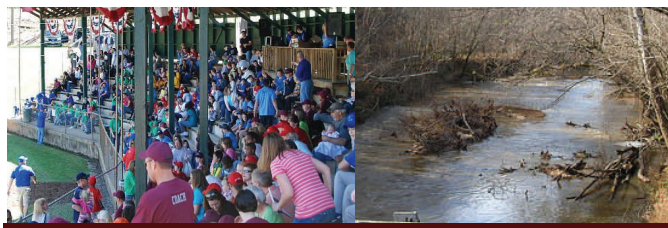
The Town of Lawrenceville was created officially by an act of the General Assembly on January 22, 1814. Legend has it that the name was inspired by a famous racehorse, Lawrence, owned by a prosperous landowner who had built a nearby race track at the end of the eighteenth century.

Incorporation for the Town of Lawrenceville was achieved in 1874. Establishment of the Atlantic and Danville Shops in Lawrenceville provided the town with a significant industrial base. The town continued as the major market center for the rich agricultural areas of Brunswick County as evidenced by the tobacco warehouses, cotton gins, creameries, etc. which came and went during the first half of the twentieth century.

In 1888 James Solomon Russell established a parish school for black children. By 1893 the school was incorporated and became the Saint Paul's Normal and Industrial School, then Saint Paul's College in 1957. Three of the original buildings are on the National Register of Historic Places.

During the depression years of the 1930's, federal funds were used to build a baseball field and a swimming pool. The baseball field, now known as Sonny Wholey Memorial Park, remains in use.

The core area of Lawrenceville is a State Historic District, so designated by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources in 1999.



OUR LOCATION:

Lawrenceville serves as the county seat of Brunswick County, the original home of Brunswick Stew. The Brunswick Chamber of Commerce and town offices are located at 400 North Main Street, adjacent to Lawrenceville's only traffic light. Surrounding localities include the following:

Emporia	25 min	Petersburg	45 min
South Hill	20 min	Raleigh	1 hr 45 min
Virginia Beach	2 hrs	Richmond	1 hr 25 min

HISTORIC SITES / POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Brunswick County Courthouse Square (*downtown*)
- Brunswick County Museum (*on courthouse square*)
- Downtown Lawrenceville (*Main and Hicks St.*)
- Fire Alarm Bell (*municipal building grounds*)
- Fort Christanna Historical Site (*Fort Hill Rd.*)
- Lawrenceville Methodist Church (*W. Church St.*)
- Oakwood Cemetery (*W. 5th Ave. and Belt Rd.*)
- Saint Paul's College Campus (*downtown*)
- Sonny Wholey Memorial Park (*downtown*)
- South Main Street (*between Main St. and town limits*)
- St. Andrews Episcopal Church (*W. Church St.*)
- Windsor Avenue (*between W. Church St. and town limits*)

TRAILS AND RECREATION:

- Tobacco Heritage Trail
- Civil Rights in Education Heritage Trail
- Meherrin River, a State Scenic River
- County Park at Great Creek Watershed



ACCOMMODATIONS:

- Brunswick Mineral Springs Bed and Breakfast
- Three Angels Inn Bed and Breakfast

ANNUAL EVENTS AND FESTIVALS:

- Lawrenceville Downtown Festival and Brickyard 5k Race (*April*)
- Beef and Dairy Festival (*May*)
- Lion's Club Seafood Festival (*May*)
- Brunswick Relay for Life (*June*)
- Taste of Brunswick Festival (*October*)
- Saint Paul's College Homecoming (*October*)
- Lawrenceville Christmas Parade (*December*)
- Brunswick Stew fundraisers (*winter months*)

TODAY AND BEYOND:

Lawrenceville is committed to preserving our heritage while improving the economy and quality of life for citizens and guests. The town is a trail head for the Tobacco Heritage Trail. Outdoor adventurers can walk, bike or ride horses along the former Atlantic and Danville Railroad. The Civil Rights in Education Heritage Trail snakes its way through town and soon the East Coast Greenway will connect Lawrenceville to thousands of cities and towns from Maine to Florida. Historic homes and storefronts, along with exciting business incentives, welcome visitors and entrepreneurs from all over the country. To obtain additional information, please call (434) 848-2414 or (434) 848-3154.