

Holiday 2018

SALISBURY

t h e m a g a z i n e

TRADITIONS *on* TRACK

- 'The village lady' in Rockwell does it again
- Forest Glen home always sparkles at Christmas
- If it's November, it's time for the Salisbury Antiques Show

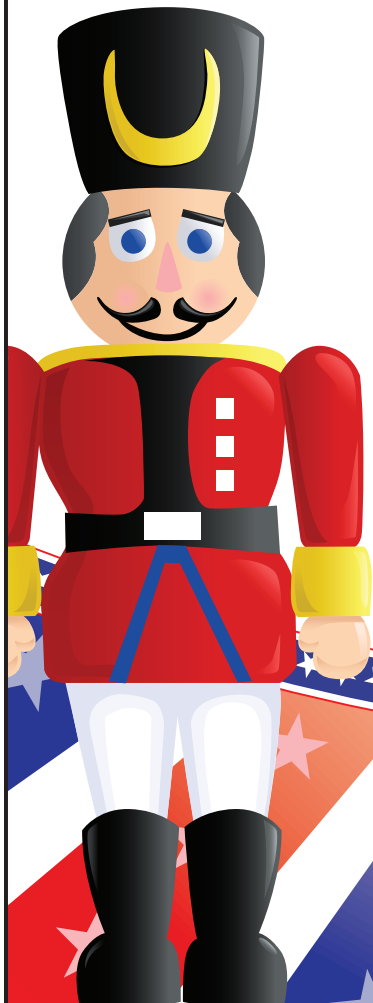


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Jolly good show!

The Deals make room
for Christmas

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Blue Sapphire Jubilee

Rowan Museum presents
65th edition of Salisbury
Antiques Show

by MARK WINEKA

On the cover: Silicone caulk provides the icicles
overhead as a locomotive passes through a
tunnel built by Mallory Allen. See page 64.

On this page: Christmas decorations at the home
of Jack Page and Robert Myers.

— Photos by Jon C. Lakey

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Hold on for a holiday issue, to the nth degree

With every holiday issue of Salisbury the Magazine that comes and goes, I feel a little guilty about Thanksgiving. It gets short shrift, when compared to the Christmas-related stories we do, and I'm afraid you'll see that's the case again paging through this year's holiday edition.

I could make the case that Deirdre Parker Smith's story on pumpkin cheesecake — just writing those words makes me hungry — could be connected to Thanksgiving. I tend to associate pumpkin and desserts to Thanksgiving meals.

I also could argue that Kris Mueller's piece on the artistry Carolyn Peterson shows in making sweet potato jewelry comes close to a Thanksgiving tale. Many Thanksgiving feasts include sweet potatoes, or maybe even sweet potato pie.

But I know those stories might be a stretch when it comes to the November holiday.

How about the wood ministry conducted every year by Randy Elium and Dennis Peeler, who spend hundreds of hours collecting wood, sawing and splitting it up so they can give it away to people in need?

Isn't that something to be thankful for? Yes, it is, but I have to acknowledge I thought of Randy and Dennis' mission more as a Christmas-giving story to the community — the gift of warmth.

So how can I fill what I fear is this Thanksgiving void? You probably have heard of the Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon, the parlor game film buffs play in which they try to show Bacon is no more than six movies apart from any other actor.

Truth is, so many stories we end up doing in Salisbury the Magazine have connections to other stories we've done in the newspaper or magazine — and I am thankful for that.

In this edition, Elizabeth Cook tells us about the passion Jack Page and Robert Myers have for decorating their home at Christmas. Well, we learned of their love for family and tradition over the holidays a couple of summers ago when we were doing a newspaper story related to their roses.

The same goes for William and Judy Deal. The newspaper once did a story about their friendship with an Indian family they came to know through Samaritan's Purse. That led to us learning about William's restoration of a miniature train from Salisbury that now chugs around their house. Then we found out about the unique after-Christmas open house the Deals have every year to share their elaborate decorations, which you'll see in this issue.

It happens all the time. Drop in at Rockwell's Festival of Trees, and you learn about the detailed, one-of-a-kind village-building Mallory Allen does each year to go with the Rockwell Museum's Christmas display.

Visit Rowan Museum's Germanfest, and you hear this is the 65th year for the museum's Salisbury Antiques Show, the longest running show of its kind in the state. As you'll see, it's a November tradition heading toward Thanksgiving.

This issue also meets up with Chauncey Gale, a Santa who is our

Rowan Original, and Clyde, the first-name-only, local artist who contributed a wintry scene for Salisbury's the Place.

Check in with Deirdre for some reading recommendations in Bookish, and see if you know any friends and neighbors among the Scene photos.

As always, one thing leads to another, and to any degree, I'm thankful we could bring it to you. **S**



Mark Wineka,
Editor, Salisbury the Magazine





'DRIFTING AWAY'

By Clyde

Mixed media

Artwork for Salisbury's the Place may be submitted to
mark.wineka@salisburythemagazine.com

Try a little politics and kinder, gentler novels



“The Traveling Cat Chronicles”
By Hiro Arikawa

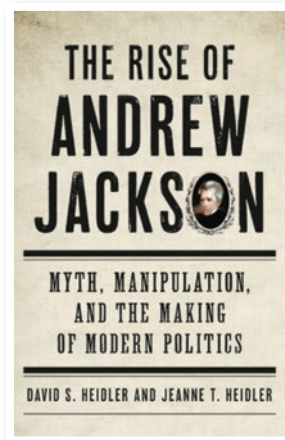
This is the gift for the cat lover or peace-seeker on your list. Already a best-seller around the world, “The Traveling Cat Chronicles” by Hiro Arikawa, is more than a story about a man and his cat. It chronicles how the smallest things can provide the greatest joy.

Tokyo author Arikawa is renowned in her country. This small novel, meant for adults, shows it’s not the journey that counts, but who’s at your side.

Nana the cat earns that name because of his crooked tail — it looks like a seven. He is on a road trip, but he is not sure where he is going. All that matters is that he can sit beside his beloved owner Satoru in the front seat of his silver van. Satoru is keen to visit three old friends from his youth, though Nana doesn’t know why and Satoru won’t say.

Set against the backdrop of Japan’s changing seasons and narrated with a rare gentleness and humor, Nana’s story explores the wonder and thrill of life’s unexpected detours. It is about the value of friendship and solitude, and knowing when to give and when to take.

“Traveling Cat” has already demonstrated its power to move thousands of readers with a message of kindness and truth. It shows, above all, how acts of love, both great and small, can transform our lives.



“The Rise of Andrew Jackson: Myth, Manipulation and the Making of Modern Politics”
By David S. Heidler and Jeanne Heidler

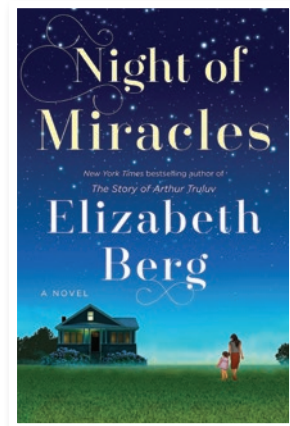
Here’s the story of Andrew Jackson’s improbable ascent to the White House, centered on the handlers and propagandists who made it possible.

Andrew Jackson was volatile and prone to violence, and well into his 40s his sole claim on the public’s affections derived from his victory in a 30-minute battle at New Orleans in early 1815. Yet those in his immediate circle believed he was a great man who should be president of the United States.

Of course, Jackson studied law right here in Salisbury.

Jackson’s election in 1828 is usually viewed as a result of the expansion of democracy. Historians David and Jeanne Heidler argue that he actually owed his victory to his closest supporters, who wrote hagiographies of him, founded newspapers to savage his enemies, and built a political network that was always on message. Does any of this sound familiar?

In transforming a difficult man into a paragon of republican virtue, the Jacksonites exploded the old order and created a mode of electioneering that has been mimicked ever since.



“Night of Miracles”
By Elizabeth Berg

You’ll have to wait for November for this one, but fans of “The Story of Arthur Truluv” can rejoice that Elizabeth Berg has a novel that uses the same characters, “Night of Miracles.” You don’t have to start with “Arthur Truluv,” but you might pick it up after reading this one.

It’s a delightful novel about surprising friendships, community, and the way small acts of kindness can change a life.

Lucille Howard is getting on in years, but she stays busy. Thanks to the inspiration of her dearly departed friend Arthur Truluv, she has begun to teach baking classes, sharing the secrets to her classic Southern yellow cake, the perfect pin-wheel cookies, and other sweet essentials.

Her classes have become so popular that she’s hired Iris, a new resident of Mason, Missouri, as an assistant. Iris doesn’t know how to bake, but she needs to keep her mind off a big decision she sorely regrets.

When a new family moves in next door and tragedy strikes, Lucille begins to look out for Lincoln, their son. Lincoln’s parents aren’t the only ones in town facing hard choices and uncertain futures.

In these difficult times, the residents of Mason come together and find the true power of community — just when they need it the most. **S**



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Chauncey Gale receives help with his Santa suit from wife Claudene.

Gale force

Meet a Santa named Chauncey.

Written by **Mark Wineka** | Photography by **Jon C. Lakey**

Chauncey Gale will soon be 87, but he'll tell you — his children would disagree — that when it comes to playing Santa Claus, he's a novice.

The job sort of flowed to him naturally last year when he grew out his white beard and people couldn't ignore the fact he looked a lot like St. Nick. Leading up to Christmas, he served as a Santa Claus for Dr. Myron and Mary Goodman's family, for children at a Lutheran church, for a family in Faith, for a friend's grandchildren, for a photographer in Spencer and for a company's Christmas gathering at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

It's amazing, Gale learned, how much Santas are in demand, and he plans to take on the job again this year. But

to his four children, Gale has always been the big elf.

"First of all, my dad has played Santa for 65 years, the age of his oldest child," daughter Trudy Gale says.

When she and her siblings were kids, "Santa" without fail would visit the Gale house before Christmas and ask everyone what was on their wish list.

"Of course, Daddy was never home when Santa came, so we were also excited to tell him about our visit with Santa," Trudy says. Invariably, their father would show up not long after Santa left.

"Once my oldest sister told my dad, 'Santa wears shoes exactly like yours,'" Trudy says.

Chauncey Gale grew up in Peoria, Ill. During the Korean War, while Gale was serving four years in the Air Force,

he was stationed for a time in Okinawa, Japan, loading bombs into B-29s. It was in the service, while in Denver, Colo., that he met his first wife, who was from Rowan County.

The couple married, moved here and had three girls and a boy. Chauncey worked six years for Southern Railway in the fire and machinists departments. When those railroad jobs faded away, he worked six weeks for the box plant in Spencer before hiring on with the VA Medical Center in Salisbury.

A 33-year career as a nurse's assistant at the VA hospital followed. It was there he also met his second wife, Claudene, a nurse, and they have been married 39 years.

The Christmas spirit in Chauncey is remarkable, given what happened to him as a young teenager. Not long after Chauncey had turned 14, his father committed suicide — on Christmas Day. Chauncey was the first to find him that morning.

"For many years, my dad said the first image he would think about on Christmas morning was that of his father as he found him," Trudy says. "But my father is one of the most positive people that you will ever meet and did not let that traumatic event shape his life in a negative way."

Salisbury the Magazine recently caught up with this man who has plenty of Christmas spirit.

Q. *As Santas go, you were pretty much a rookie last year when you started. What did you like most about the experience?*

Seeing the excitement of the children.

What part of it was not too much fun?

I pretty much liked all of it, although it could get hot in the suit.



How did your becoming a Santa Claus start? Was it your idea, or did somebody suggest that you should be Santa?

I decided to grow a beard to see what it would look like. As it grew, people started saying that I looked a lot like Santa.

Where did you find a Santa suit and what all does your Santa gear now include? Is there any padding involved?

There is NO padding involved. I bought the suit from a man that I go to church with who had lost weight and the suit no longer fit him. I then bought boots, white gloves and a belt.

Do you keep your white beard year round, or if not, when do you start growing it for the holiday season?

I shaved the beard after Christmas and started growing it out again in May.

You must have come away with some interesting stories in your first year as Santa. Could you share one of your favorites?

A couple hired me to play Santa for their four grandchildren. As I left their home, the children followed me out and saw my wife sitting in my pick-up truck. They said, "Santa's even got a red truck and there's an elf in there."

Beyond your Santa Claus duties, what are some other activities or hobbies you enjoy doing in retirement?

Carving walking canes, antiquing and traveling.

Where's your favorite place to vacation or visit?

Alaska. I've been there four times traveling in a motor home.

What's your pet peeve during the holiday season, or just something that annoys you anytime?

When people leave Christ out of Christmas.

What's your favorite part of the newspaper — something you try to read everyday?

The obituaries — to see how I'm doing. And I like human interest stories.

If you can't have cookies and milk, what are two other foods you'd have a hard time living without?

Ice cream and pretty much anything sweet.

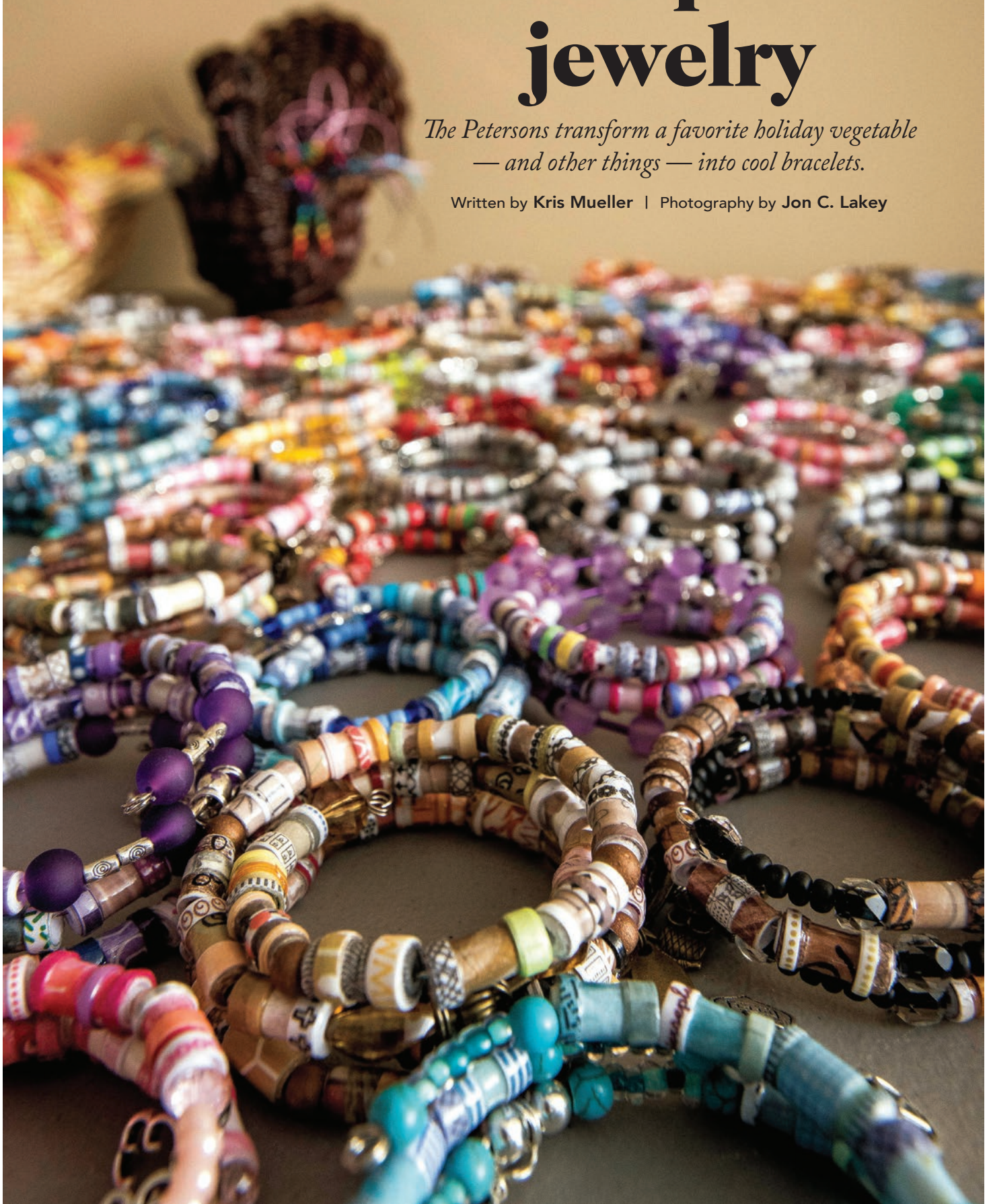
What's your best advice to anyone who's thinking about going all in and playing Santa Claus this year?

Enjoy it. **S**

Sweet potato jewelry

The Petersons transform a favorite holiday vegetable — and other things — into cool bracelets.

Written by Kris Mueller | Photography by Jon C. Lakey



THE ARTS

The sweet potato has long been at the root of Thanksgiving's most intriguing food dishes.

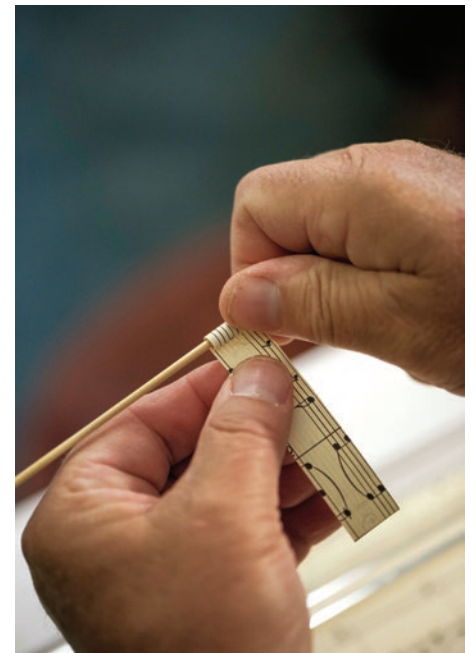
That's because the sweet potato is the only vegetable on the holiday buffet as a side dish AND a dessert.

This holiday season, local residents Carolyn and Harry Peterson have added yet another layer to the discussion of how many ways we can bring sweet potatoes to the table.

Through their cottage business "Sweet Potato Jewelry," they repurpose the versatile root plant to create a perfect wardrobe accessory and conversation starter for Thanksgiving meals and gatherings.

When Carolyn began making sweet potato jewelry years ago in Minneapolis, she never dreamed her hobby would sprout into a home business. It started as a diversion for her professional job as a smooth jazz disc jockey and radio announcer.

"I needed a creative, quiet outlet because I worked with audio all day," she said. Jewelry-making, she discovered, also helped lessen her chronic headaches.





Harry and Carolyn Peterson
with their dog, Prince.

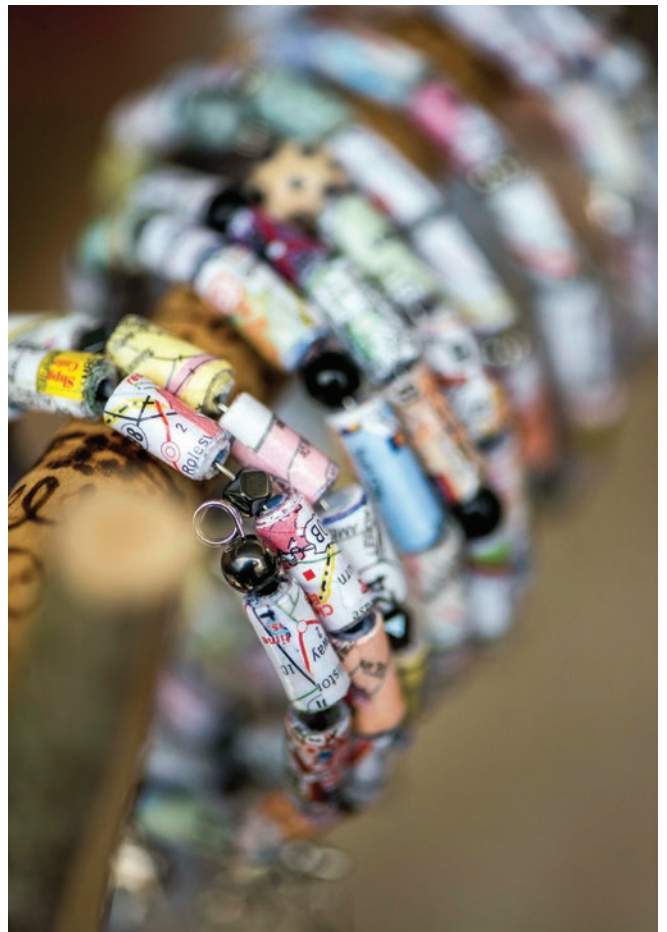
The idea for using sweet potatoes as a craft medium had come from a newspaper column explaining how kids could make fake rocks from the vegetable.

“I tried it and realized it looked kind of cool if I put a hole in it and made it into a bracelet,” she said. “It wasn’t my idea, I just took the craft idea a step further and adapted it in my own way.”

When Harry’s work brought them to Salisbury, Carolyn set up a home studio for her radio work and continued making bracelets to relax. When her bracelet collection outgrew its designated space, they created “Sweet Potato Jewelry” and began selling her creations at festivals around the state.

“There’s probably no more appropriate place to make sweet potato jewelry than in the South,” Harry said. And especially in North Carolina, where the sweet potato reigns supreme as the state vegetable.

“I was amazed at the reaction we got from people at the festivals,” Carolyn said. “Their first question would be, ‘Can I eat it?’ And then it was ‘How do you do that?’ Most people had never heard of sweet potato jewelry.”



THE ARTS

The jewelry is made from sweet potato pieces that Carolyn dehydrates. She primes the pieces, smooths the finishes and paints and waterproofs them before stringing them on elastic jewelry thread or memory wire. Over the past year, she has converted about 120 pounds of sweet potatoes from food into fashion.

Eventually, Harry joined Carolyn at the crafting table. They created a second line of bracelets featuring beads made from recycled paper — like road maps, books, church bulletins, candy wrappers, and anything that can be recycled, rolled, painted in colorful patterns, layered and sealed using a technique from the Depression era.

The recycled paper bracelets have become their best sellers so they have created different themes to suit customers' interests. They also make earrings, wine charms and children's bracelets.

The Petersons' jewelry operation is spread over most of their basement. Carolyn and Harry fashion their accessories in separate but adjacent work areas surrounded by beads, charms, and other jewelry supplies, bracelets under construction, and inventory completed and waiting to be sold locally or at festivals.

For the Cheerwine Festival in the summer, they sold bracelets showcasing red and white recycled paper beads made from Cheerwine's promotional handouts. The Cheerwine beads are strung on memory wire with purchased beads and charms featuring the state of North Carolina and soda bottles. Fuller Market in downtown Salisbury sells the Cheerwine bracelets in its Cheerwine merchandise section.

For the Lexington BBQ Festival on Oct. 27, Harry has made bracelets from recycled paper beads and charms featuring pigs, eating utensils and the state of North Carolina. You can also catch the Petersons at the Lexington Farmers Market Craft Show on Nov. 24 and Dec. 1.

Book lovers are drawn to the recycled beads





Carolyn Peterson, right, talks with customers at this summer's Cheerwine Festival.

Carolyn creates from book pages and pairs with book charms. South Main Book Store carries these specialty bracelets in their store.

Other themes for bracelets in the “Sweet Potato Jewelry” lines include dogs, music, religion, Mickey Mouse, skulls, travel and the beach. The Petersons are working to acquire maps from all 50 states so they can make state-themed bracelets.

In her small radio studio next to the crafting area, Carolyn records and mixes radio commercials for a group of Minneapolis radio stations and one in Wilkesboro. The nature of her work requires her to produce commercials quickly and be on standby for edits and approvals.

“We do crafts in between my recording commercials,” Carolyn said. “Every day, 8 to 5.”

She also records telephone messages for local businesses and overhead messages for Chicago’s rapid-transit system.

A long career in sales has given Harry the skills needed to

sell jewelry at festivals and manage the business aspects of Carolyn’s voice services and “Sweet Potato Jewelry.”

Even the family dog, Prince, has a role in the Petersons’ basement businesses. He provides companionship and kisses between naps.

“I never thought at 66 I would be making sweet potato bracelets,” Harry said. “But it is addictive. And we both work together making the jewelry. We sit down here and put the TV on. She makes the one-of-a-kind pieces and I do the specialty bracelets. It just works for us.”

Kind of like marshmallows and sweet potatoes in a Thanksgiving casserole.

The Medicine Shoppe also carries “Sweet Potato Jewelry” in its store. For more information, contact Carolyn Peterson through the “Sweet Potato Jewelry” Facebook page or at carolynvoice@gmail.com. **S**

Kris Mueller is a writer living in Salisbury.



May the joyous spirit and blessings of Christmastime resound in your heart and home all year. We greatly appreciate your friendship and support at the holidays and year round, and we thank you for being a continued part of our success and good fortune here. We feel truly blessed to be a part of this fine community.



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What's for dessert?

Indulge in pumpkin cheesecake.

Written by Deirdre Parker Smith | Photography by Jon C. Lakey



*Dan lle Cutting's
Pumpkin Pie
Cheesecake with
homemade chai
whipped cream on top.*

FOOD



What special dessert can take us through the holiday season?

We decided to try pumpkin cheesecake, since pumpkin spice everything is all the rage.

Dan lle Cutting, former Rowan County Extension agent and now Hurley Park manager, offered her recipe for a pumpkin cheesecake with a gingersnap crust and a chai whipped cream topping.

Yum.

Then Toi Degree, Dan lle's former co-worker, found a pumpkin cheesecake recipe she wanted to try.

So, Toi, who is the associate family and consumer education agent for Cooperative Extension, kindly offered the kitchen at the Extension Center, and the two agreed to bake their cheesecakes for a taste test.

Both came out winners.

Watching them have fun while cooking together took all the fear out of mak-



Toi Degree's Caramel Pumpkin Gingersnap Cheesecake.

ing a cheesecake.

Basically, you need cream cheese, sugar, eggs, pumpkin puree and a few spices for the filling. Both crusts used gingersnaps,

but each one was different and delightful in its own right.

The key to any successful baking, especially the extra baking we do over the

holidays, is organization.

Danélle and Toi had their springform pans ready, bowls for mixing, they'd set out all the spices they were going to use, had their eggs at room temperature, and had let the cream cheese soften on the counter for a while.

They'd set out measuring spoons and cups and had ingredients lined up. They then moved step-by-step to beautiful and mouth-watering desserts.

For Danélle, the secret is extra sugar and the South's favorite dessert ingredient, sweetened condensed milk. For Toi, the secret is in following the recipe to a "T" and knowing your ingredients.

Danélle likes to try different cheesecake flavors because she hates making plain cheesecake. She likes to experiment with different tastes and crusts. She once had chai whipped cream in a latte, and decided it would be perfect for her cheesecake.

She also likes all her cheesecakes to have a real whipped cream topping. Without it, the cheesecake is naked.

Her recipe calls for one cup of sugar, but after she mixes the cream cheese, pumpkin puree, spices and sugar, she tastes the batter to see if it's sweet enough.

"Even canned pumpkin puree can taste different from one time to the next, she says.

"Lots of things can affect your baking," Toi adds.

For this cheesecake, Danélle added another



Toi Degree, left, and Danélle Cutting work together to make their favorite pumpkin cheesecake recipe.

$\frac{2}{3}$ cup sugar. "I like it sweet if it's going to be dessert."

Once it tastes right, she adds the eggs.

"You could eat that like a pudding if you don't add the eggs," Toi points out. "Put it in a little tart shell, chill it and that would be good."

The consistency is smooth and creamy.

Danélle uses a water bath to cook her cheesecake and she cooks it at a lower temperature of 325. It also takes about 2 hours to bake.

Toi found a Pioneer Woman recipe for pumpkin cheesecake with pecans in the crust and caramel sauce on the bottom and the top.

That crust, with gingersnaps and pecans, also used brown sugar, and it's not baked beforehand, but chilled, slightly streamlining the process.

The filling is similar, but includes a good dose of allspice, which increases the spiciness of the finished product, along with nutmeg and cinnamon. Online recipe reviewers had said the caramel made the crust too hard, but Toi's was a deep brown, crunchy one, perfectly matched to the filling.

The key, we think, is to use jarred caramel sauce you would pour over ice cream. Making your own caramel sauce takes too

long and using wrapped caramels just won't work. The pourable consistency of the topping is what you need. The extra sprinkle of pecans on top of that is almost like having a sticky bun on the bottom of the cheesecake. Toi's cheesecake did not require a water bath, and it was baked at 350 degrees.

Of course, we had to taste test these remarkable creations, which came out without a single crack. After waiting a few hours for them to cool — the longer, the better — we dived into Danélle's whipped cream-topped Pumpkin Pie

Cheesecake, and it is rich, flavorful and decadent. The chai in the whipped cream gives it something extra you were not expecting.

And then we tried Toi's caramel-draped cheesecake, and it's wonderful, too, and quite different from Danéllé's. Somehow, it was cream cheese-ier, and the extra spices gave it a little punch that cut through the sweetness. Toi's crust was darker and thicker, good enough to eat by itself, if you ever wanted to try that.

Toi said either recipe could be made in a rectangular or square pan to cut into bars. And both could be made in individual ramekins, with some adjustment to the baking time.

The two bakers laughed and cut up throughout the process, so it's not intimidating at all. With all the ingredients and tools laid out, the mixing went quickly.

The very hardest part is waiting hours or overnight to get that first, luscious taste.

We've also included a recipe from baker Cindy Miller, who goes the more traditional route with her cheesecake. Bet it's still a knockout.

CARAMEL PUMPKIN PECAN GINGERSNAP CHEESECAKE

For the crust:

- 12 ounces gingersnaps (Murray's is best)
- ½ cup chopped pecans
- 6 Tbsp. butter, melted
- 2 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 1 dash salt

For the filling:

- 4 packages (8 oz.) cream cheese, at room temperature
- 1½ cup sugar
- 1 can (15 oz.) pumpkin puree (not pie filling)
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp. allspice
- ½ tsp. nutmeg
- 4 whole eggs
- 2 Tbsp. heavy cream
- 1 jar (about 12 oz.) caramel topping
- Extra chopped pecans and gingersnaps (for garnish)



For the crust: In a large zippered bag or a food processor, crush gingersnaps. Add chopped pecans, melted butter, brown sugar and salt and pulse (or mix) until thoroughly combined. Press into bottom and sides of a 10-inch springform pan. Chill for 20-30 minutes.

For filling: In a mixing bowl, beat cream cheese and sugar until light and fluffy. Add pumpkin and spices and mix again. Add eggs one at a time, mixing for 20 seconds between each addition. Add cream and mix just until combined.

Remove crust from fridge. Pour ½ jar of caramel topping (ice cream topping) on crust. Sprinkle caramel with chopped nuts. Gently pour cheesecake filling into pan. Even out the top with a flat spatula.

Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour, 15 minutes or until no longer soupy. Cheesecake should still be somewhat jiggle.

Cool on counter for 30 minutes. After 30 minutes, pour the rest of the caramel topping over the top. Smooth with a spatula until evenly smooth. Cover and chill the cheesecake for at least 4 hours or overnight.

When ready to serve, remove rim from pan and slice. Sprinkle each slice with extra crushed gingersnaps and pecans.

— Recipe from the Pioneer Woman

PUMPKIN PIE CHEESECAKE

Crust:

- 1 cup gingersnap cookie crumbs
- 3 Tbsp. granulated sugar
- 4 Tbsp. butter, melted

Filling:

- 4 (8 oz.) blocks cream cheese, at room temperature
- 1 (15 oz.) can solid pack pumpkin puree
- ¼ tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1 Tbsp. vanilla extract
- 1 cup granulated sugar (more, if needed)
- 1 can sweetened condensed milk
- 5 eggs, room temperature
- ¼ cup heavy whipping cream, room temperature

Whipped cream:

- 1 pint heavy whipping cream
- powdered sugar to taste
- 4 chai tea bags, steeped in cream for best flavor

Cover the bottom and sides of a 9-inch springform pan with extra large aluminum foil so that no water can leak in. Wrap it in two layers for extra security. Crimp the top of the foil

around the top edge of springform pan.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees, placing the rack in the lower third of the oven.

In a large mixing bowl, mix together the finely ground gingersnap crumbs with the sugar. Pour the melted butter over the top and mix until crumbs are coated. Pour into the pan and gently smooth out. Work the crumbs up the sides about 1½ inches. The crust should be about ¼ inch thick. Place in the oven and bake for 8 minutes, or until light golden brown. Turn oven down to 325 degrees.

Beat the cream cheese, pumpkin, salt, cinnamon, pumpkin pie spice and vanilla in the bowl of a stand mixer for about 4 minutes, or until smooth and creamy. With speed on low, gradually add the sugar and sweetened condensed milk and increase speed to high and beat for an additional minute. Reduce speed to low and add the eggs one at a time, mixing until incorporated. Add the heavy cream and beat for 1 minute on high.

Place the prepared springform pan into a large, high sided roasting pan. Pour the cream cheese filling into the springform pan, smoothing out the top with a spatula. Pour boiling water into the larger pan, taking care not to get any water on the filling. Water should come about halfway up the sides. Carefully place in the oven and bake for 1 hour and 45 minutes. If you like extra firm cheesecake, continue baking for another 15 minutes, for 2 hours.

After the cheesecake is baked, turn off the oven, slightly open the door and allow to cool for 1 hour. This is key to avoiding cracks in the top. Remove the cheesecake from bath, dry the bottom and cover with foil. Place in refrigerator to chill for at least 4 hours before service. Six hours or overnight is better. While it cools, the cheesecake should come away from the edges of the pan, making it easy to remove the collar.

Heat ¼ cup heavy cream and steep 4 chai tea bags. Once steeped, prepare the whipped cream by combining all the ingredients in a chilled



bowl of a stand mixer, using the whisk attachment, beat on high until relatively stiff. Serve with the cooled cheesecake.

This recipe is adapted from lifemadesimplebakes.com

PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE

Crust:

- 1½ cups graham cracker crumbs
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- ⅓ cup butter or margarine, melted

Filling:

- 4 (8 oz.) packages cream cheese, softened
- 1¼ cups granulated sugar
- ⅓ cup packed brown sugar
- 1¾ cups (16 oz.) can solid pack pumpkin
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup evaporated milk
- 2½ Tbsp. cornstarch
- 1½ tsp. ground cinnamon
- ½ tsp. ground nutmeg (optional)

Topping:

- 2 cups (16 oz.) sour cream, room temperature
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract

For crust: Combine graham cracker crumbs, sugar and butter in medium bowl. Press onto bottom and 1 inch up side of 9-inch springform pan. Bake in 350 degree oven for 6 minutes. Remove from oven; cool.

For cheesecake: Beat cream cheese, granulated sugar and brown sugar in large mixer bowl until fluffy. Beat in pumpkin, eggs and evaporated milk. Add cornstarch, cinnamon and nutmeg; beat well. Pour into crust. Bake in preheated 350 degree oven for 55-60 minutes or until edge is set.

For topping: Combine sour cream, sugar and vanilla in small bowl. Spread over surface of warm cheesecake. Return to 350 degree oven and bake for 5 minutes. Cool on wire rack. Chill several hours or overnight.

Optional: Garnish with toasted pecans. **S**

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*Jack Page, standing, and
Robert Myers in their
Forest Glen home*

SEASONAL SHOWPLACE

In home already full of distinctive touches, Christmas still finds a way to sparkle.

Story by Elizabeth Cook | Photography by Jon C. Lakey



*Above: Wine corks and seasonal fruit fill a trifle bowl in the kitchen.
Below: Bubble lights, like the ones Robert's grandparents had, cover a tree.*





Sparkling Christmas trees flank the front door in the foyer, which flows right to the formal dining room at right, all set for a holiday meal.



A peacock tops one of eight trees in the house.

Glowing candles light a stairway. Crystal ornaments sparkle in the dining room. Flames dance in a fireplace below a silvery bough.

Christmas comes in countless welcoming ways at the Forest Glen home of Jack Page and Robert Myers — but with fewer roses than you might expect.

Jack and Robert are best known for their flourishing rose gardens and the 300 more they maintain for clients up and down the Piedmont. As owners of The Perfect Rose, they are rosarians of the first order, traveling the world to international rose society events.



Clockwise from above: Candles light the stairway, which has tall, dramatic windows; the Three Wise Men stand watch over a small box that contains cat Simon's ashes; the stern countenance of an architectural accent peers over the master bathroom; one end of the front hallway is accented with a stained glass window.



Throughout their home, though, an even stronger devotion becomes evident — their love of family.

It's in the crystal goblets and glasses on the dining room table, in the same Cambridge pattern that Jack's mother chose when she got married, Manor. Nearby is a crystal compote that belonged to his great-grandmother.

It's in the ceramic Nativity scene created by Robert's beloved "Gram," the framed mechanical drawings that his grandfather sketched, and the old kitchen table, now refinished, where Robert grew up doing crafts.

And it's in family photos and paintings throughout the house. Robert's daughters, Liz and



Above: At night, landscape lights accent the Italian villa style house. Left: The fireplace that opens into the foyer also opens to the living room on the other side.

Robyn, show up from childhood to adulthood — Robyn as a Christmas pageant angel at the age of 6, both girls posing with Santa. Generations of Page and Myers family members fill portraits lining the stairwell.

• • •

Their 3,000-square-foot house on Glenview Drive is in the style of an Italian villa. Jack and Robert had it built in 2007 with an eye toward bigger gardens than they could grow at the historic West Monroe Street house they had lived in for several years.

Jack, who has a degree in architecture, planned to design the structure but knew what he had in mind would be too expensive. Then he came across a house plan that had the



Above: The painted ceiling inside the dome. Right: Jack and Robert say the den is where they spend the most time. Below: Crystal on the table is the same pattern Jack's mother chose.



basic bones he and Robert wanted. Jack made some changes in keeping with their style, and builders went to work.

Wesley Stokes of Speck Builders led the project, which included features he hadn't encountered before, according to Jack.

"I wanted things that were just a little different," Jack says. "He saw that different was not that extreme; it wasn't that expensive."

The house includes two domes, for example, one above the foyer, the other in the master bedroom, painted with a blue sky and clouds by Stokes' father.

Instead of placing a conventional fireplace in the living room, as the original plan called for, Jack put a see-through fireplace in the wall separating the living room and the foyer.

The fire greets visitors when they step through the front door, and it warms the high-ceilinged living room beyond — "one fireplace serving both purposes," Jack says.

The living room itself, inspired by the Biltmore House, has the air of an ancient manor. A moose head above the mantel is flanked by bear skins stretched out on either side, the result of Robert's and his father's hunting. "We don't condone sport hunting," Jack says. "His dad eats it all."

Balconies from the second floor open out onto the room. Decorative corbels, each carved with a face, support the beams that cross the soaring wood ceiling — another touch that proved to be less expensive than the builder expected.

For the holidays, the moose wears a wreath of greenery. Miniature holiday trees of varying sizes, shapes and materials fill the mantel and can be found on other tabletops and the dining room buffet.

The living room has the friends and family

Right:
The master bedroom's tray ceiling has a dome. On the far wall are mechanical drawings Robert's grandfather made.

Below: *Jack lights the dining room candles as a tree holding crystal ornaments glows in the background.*



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*Above: The screened-in lanai has proved spacious enough for entertaining. **Below left:** A Phyllis Steimel painting of the house hangs over the buffet. **Below right:** A table where Robert did crafts as a child has been repurposed in the breakfast area.*





***Above:** Inspired by Biltmore House, the living room's decor includes a moose head decorated for the holidays, Jack's tree collection on the mantel and the family tree, left. **Right:** An island provides ample working space in the kitchen.*

tree, one of eight decorated trees in the house. Each ornament has special meaning, from the set Jack's mother gave them to the one bearing the emblem of N.C. State University, the alma mater of Robert and daughter Liz. It's topped off with feathers.

"You've got to have a little drama at the top," Jack says.

Speaking of drama, Waterford crystal tree toppers adorn two foyer trees, and the trees themselves glow from within thanks to garden stakes wrapped tightly with 300 tiny lights and nestled vertically near the trunk.

"Thank goodness for LED," Jack says.

A woodland tree in the den is topped by peacock feathers. The Grinch tree on the second floor is laden with bubble lights, like the ones Robert's grandparents had. A wire tree in the master bedroom holds the artificial birds Robert has given Jack through the years.

The metal tree in the dining room, wrapped in LED lights, holds collectible crystal ornaments — complemented in this room by crystal vases holding two rose bouquets on the table. A Phyllis Steimel painting of their home, roses and all, hangs above the buffet.

Robert resists Jack's talk of having fewer trees.

"The gifts don't mean a lot to me," Robert says. "It's the trees that make Christmas. There's a lot of memories on all these trees."



Openings with graceful French arches lead from room to room, so many that a worker wrote "McDonald's" on the studs above one archway.

Robert and Jack wanted a house that would be distinctive but still livable.

"Because we make our living outside and



in the dirt, it couldn't be a museum piece," Jack says. "It needed to be nice and comfortable."

Their favorite room is a recent alteration — a large lanai or veranda across the back of the house that replaced an exposed deck they seldom used.

"The sun baked that deck all day long," Jack says. And the wood decking quickly showed its age. Replacing it with more durable decking was going to be as expensive as putting in a permanent structure, he says.

The enclosed space has proved more comfortable and useful. "I have seated 25 for lunch here," Robert says.

The rustic room has accents of blue — in a zebra-pattern rug, for example. The color is picked up in the Christmas decorations, such as a whimsical metal tree with blue and white balls and two blue stockings hanging over the stone fireplace.

Christmas comes to the kitchen, too, of course, with wine bottles wearing colorful sweaters and a trifle bowl filled with Childress wine corks and holiday fruit.

Jack loves to bake and at Christmas has been known to create multi-colored cheesecakes with

plaid patterns inside.

Past the breakfast room, the door leading outside has a cat door installed for the big Siamese that lived with Jack and Robert when they moved in, Simon — "the manor cat," Jack called him.

"The minute he set his feet down in this house, this was his castle."

Simon has passed on. His successor, Russian blue-like Sasha, is less amenable to the cat door and will not use it. Sasha also shuns the faux fur bedspread in the master bedroom but seems at home everywhere else.

A window at one end of the foyer holds 19th century stained glass that Robert and Jack bought from the late Franchot Palmer's antique store. On the other side of it sits the half-bath with a one-of-a-kind copper sink set in a cast iron garden urn. Neat rows of framed Rose Society awards cover one bathroom wall.

Robert and Jack have more awards than can be displayed, in crystal and in paper form.

Nearby is the study where Robert and Jack "actually live," they say.

Ceilings are no afterthought in this house. In the den, wooden beams create a coffered ceiling.

In addition to a painted dome, the master bedroom has a tray ceiling.

Heights vary, too — 10 feet in the kitchen and dining room, 12 feet in the den and 14 in the master bedroom, with oversized, 8-foot doors. "I didn't want a ceiling anywhere near me," Jack says. "I wanted space."

And space he got, though one thing they deliberately left out of the design is bountiful closet and storage space. They would just fill it up. Already Jack wants to thin out the Christmas decorations. Anything that wasn't used this time, he says, when they went all-out, has to go.

The house doesn't have everything Robert and Jack wanted. A second story over the garage had to be trimmed from the final plan as costs mounted. Jack mentions the self-closing kitchen drawers that have become so prevalent in high-end kitchens of late. And the housing market of 2007, when they built the house, crashed soon after.

"But it's a beautiful home," Robert says.

And full of more memories than any closet could contain. **S**

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The cat seems to be peering from a picture on the wall into the guest bathroom, whose fixtures include a copper sink set into a cast iron garden urn.

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CRAZY FOR CHRISTMAS

When it comes to decorating for the holidays, the Deals never hold back.

Story by Mark Wineka | Photography by Jon C. Lakey



William and Judy Deal stand among many of the blow-mold figures they've collected through the years.



LEXINGTON — Blame part of William Deal’s affection for Christmas on his Aunt Gladys, some on his parents, more on the downtown Salisbury of his youth and maybe even the most on his willing holiday accomplice, wife Judy.

“Anyone who grew up in Salisbury is marked for life,” says William, a retired Lexington fire chief. “Anybody who grew up in Salisbury remembers Christmas.”

As a kid, William loved going to Greer Hardware (later Bernhardt Hardware) to stand in front of the store’s windows and take in the Christmas scenes. “That was just unreal,” Deal says.





One of William Deal's model trains speeds by his Christmas village.

And he marveled at the downtown Christmas lights in Salisbury that were strung across the streets. They created so much light during the holiday season that commercial pilots used to invite their passengers to look out the windows as they flew over Salisbury.

Deal also was enthralled as a kid by his Aunt Gladys' house in Davidson, which was covered with only blue lights at Christmas. And when he married Judy in 1976, one of their first shared Christmas gifts was a train set that cost \$40.

William asked the Little Choo Choo Shop in Rowan County to place it on layaway, and he made payments on the train until Christmas. That train still holds a place of honor at the bottom of their living room Christmas tree every year.

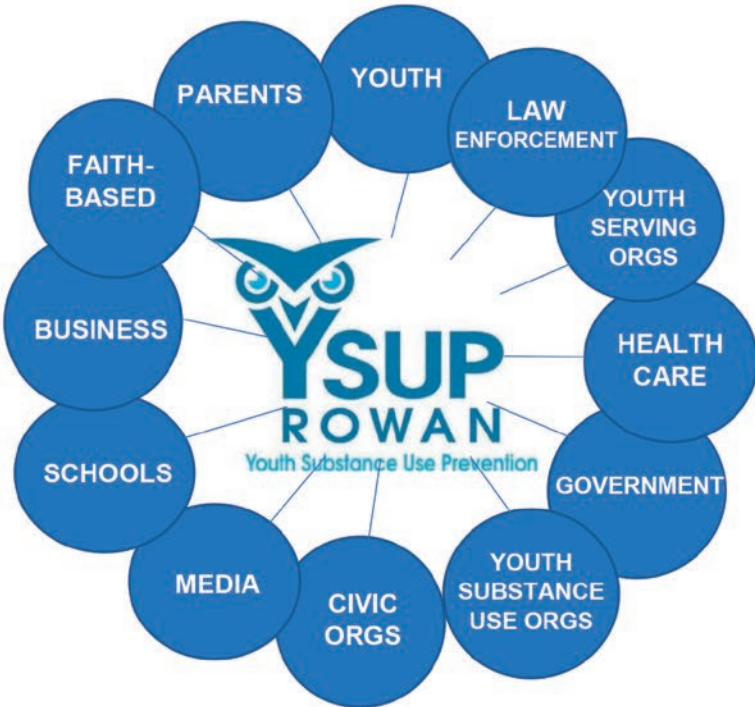
But the couple didn't stop there. When William and Judy lived on Biesecker Road, about three houses down from the fire station, they had so many Christmas lights they required a separate breaker box.

"We've been crazy for a long time," Judy says.

Which brings us quickly to present day and their home on Pinnix Drive. For about 10 years now, William and Judy Deal have held an open house for friends on the first Sunday after New Year's Day. It's a good last chance to see everything the couple have put up for the holidays, from 12 different trees, to blow molds, to ceramics, to elaborate model train village scenes.

Right: A Dairy Queen reproduction in the kitchen.
Below right: Ceramic churches near the fireplace.





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Throughout the house — in every room, hall and stairway — there seem to be Christmas pictures, quilts, pillows, wreaths and card holders.

Even the laundry room has a Christmas tree, which is decorated with socks and clothespins, not ornaments. They refer to others as the “Christmas Story” tree, Coca-Cola tree, railroad tree, retro tree, doll tree and Disney tree.

There’s an aluminum tree with a color wheel, and a tree in the outside gazebo, one in the garage and a decorated ficus tree that the Deals call their “Whatever tree.”

The front porch steps have roughly 20 stand-up, blow-mold Santas, Snoopy, candy canes or candles.

The main decorations take 30 days to pull together. “We’re kind of out of room to display and store the stuff,” Judy says.

The Deals have been a big collector of Department 56 ceramics, of which they have 65 pieces in the Snow Village collection, including the restaurants in the kitchen and the churches in front of the fireplace.

The Department 56 restaurants include McDonald’s, Krispy Kreme, Campbell’s Soup, Frauley’s Hot Dogs, an old diner, Pisa Pizza and two cocoa shops.

Their tree in the living room is most impressive. “That one takes eight hours to put up,” Judy says.

It includes Campbell Soup ornaments, first offered in 1980, and Judy has them all.

William reports the living room tree includes 2,500 lights for good measure.

The living room also is filled with lighted plastic Santa faces and Santa figures. The 1968 Empire light-up model in which Santa has a black bag for presents is the most common. The Bunkers on television’s “All in the Family” had one just like it, as did Fred and Lamont on “Sanford and Son.”



The doll tree.

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Jon David Everhart and his young son watch the trains go by, while William Deal talks with Amy Frank.



“And a lot of this stuff is Empire,” William says. Empire blow molds were manufactured in North Carolina before being bought by another company (General Foam Products), which went out of business in the fall of 2017.

The Deals started collecting the blow molds years ago when they realized they were getting scarce in stores. “Everything now is blow-up, not blow-mold,” Judy says.

William says don’t ask him how many Santas are on display. Whenever he has tried to take an inventory, he loses count.

The living room shelves also are full of battery-powered trains William has collected. They serve as a harbinger for what he has assembled in the basement — his elaborate model train network and scenes.

“My thing’s the basement,” William says from the living room. “So I’m out of position here.”

The Deals have their Snow Village pieces out by Veterans Day, then come the blow-mold Santas and battery-powered trains. The big tree goes up the Saturday after Thanksgiving, and the Sunday after Thanksgiving, they have friends over and light the tree.

“That’s when the holidays begin,” Judy says.

The lighted Santa face in their master bedroom has its own wall. It’s exactly like the one near the front door at the Deals’ house on Greenwood Avenue in Salisbury, where William grew up. William could always find the nail hole for it.

The Mickey and Minnie Mouse on display go back to a Disney theme that’s important for the couple. Their honeymoon 42 years ago on Valentine’s Day was at Disney World.

The Deals like to call their master bedroom the “retro room,” and it includes the “retro tree” in one corner.

A lot of the stuff on the tree came from items people had discarded on curbs or in antique shops. Some of the beautiful Belk store ornaments were gifts from a woman at church who eventually tired of putting up her tree every year. She gave away ornaments to friends.

The toys underneath the retro tree are cherished replicas of things like an old fire truck, ukelele, train, cash register and Lincoln Logs — the kinds of toys William and Judy had received as kids.

Also there is the Celeste bride doll, still unpacked and in its original box. Judy received this Celeste when she was 12, more than 50 years ago.

In their wills, the couple spell out to whom their Christmas artifacts will go, because they are that cherished.

Other sentimental items include a paper nativity scene and a miniature sleigh William’s dad fashioned for his son’s teachers to hold their Christmas cards.

His dad made furniture and clocks. The bedroom suite in one of their extra rooms was crafted by him, and there’s a story behind the small table in the hall, holding all kinds of Santa figures.

William’s mother had planted a seed when she was young, and it



*Above: The Coca-Cola tree has a spot in the basement.
Below: Some of the many glowing Santas in the living room.*





had grown into a tree. When Interstate 85 was being built back in the 1950s, that tree had to be removed. William's dad salvaged the wood and made small tables out of it. And that's one of the tables.

A doll tree in a bedroom is filled with Madame Alexander dolls, which were in old Happy Meals from McDonald's.

William Deal's father made this table in an upstairs hall.

Things are a lot louder in the basement, where William has three trains running on his elaborate model train setup, which is all about winter and Christmas. The trains pass through towns, past amusement parks and into mountain villages.

There are almost too many details to take in.

For example, William has the actual "A Christmas Story" movie playing on a screen for a drive-in. The movie plays while people skate on the drive-in's frozen swimming pool underneath.

Overall, the train setup for Christmas is a job that means pulling things out of storage starting in October, dusting, vacuuming and setting them in place.

"I like to have this done by early November, because we have other stuff to do," William says.

As you might remember from the September 2017 issue of Salisbury the Magazine, the Deals have restored a 1950 miniature train that once was an attraction at the Hitching Post drive-in theater in Salisbury. For the 65-foot train, they installed about a half-mile of track that loops around their home, so it's easier to understand all the

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Judy holds the Celeste bride doll she received as a 12-year-old. It remains in its original box.

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effort William puts into his trains downstairs.

William actually enjoys taking down the winter/holiday train scenes every year, believing that “all this stuff is between me and spring.”

When it’s all stored away, spring has to be just around the corner. **S**

If you would like to see the Deals’ Christmas decorations in person while also supporting the Faithful Friends Animal Sanctuary in Salisbury, you are invited to attend their “Trains and Trees” open house, which will take place from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5, 2019, or from 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6, 2019, at 337 Pinnix Drive, Lexington. The open house will accept donations for Faithful Friends at the door.



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Visitors to the Deals' open house take in the living room.

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*Felina Justin specializes
in Victorian memorial
jewelry.*

BLUE SAPPHIRE JUBILEE

65th edition of Salisbury Antiques Show promises to dazzle.

Story by Mark Wineka | Photography by Jon C. Lakey

Time after time, Ellyn Brannick hears visitors to her booth proclaim, “I’ve never seen this color before.” Brannick then provides an explanation for the sun purple glass they’re impressed with — how the manganese in colorless glass is intolerant to gamma rays. That intolerance makes it turn purple when exposed to the rays, and sun purple glass has been manufactured this way on purpose for a long time.

Brannick, who owns Plantation House Antiques in Rockingham, says you can see this phenomenon more naturally in old glass doorknobs that have turned lavender from 100 years of exposure to sunlight.



Silver from The Brass Lantern in Greensboro.



Michael Briggs displayed several of his Rowan long rifles, including a 1827 Isaac Ribelin model.



From left: Marlene Minsbaw had dolls and figurines at her Memories booth; a large variety of merchandise offered at the antique show and sale included religious items; Connie Marks from Victoriana in Rocky Point is a linen dealer.



Above: Acey Worthy of Salisbury stops by the Plantation House booth. Left: Plantation House Antiques from Rockingham had a collection of Fostoria glass.



Last autumn, Brannick sold her wares for the second time at the Salisbury Antiques Show and Sale. She intends to return for this year's 65th edition, which Rowan Museum Inc. is calling the Blue Sapphire Jubilee.

The Salisbury Antiques Show is the longest, continually operating show in the state, born with and as a fundraiser for Rowan Museum Inc. during the Rowan County Bicentennial celebration in 1953.

The Blue Sapphire Jubilee will be held Nov. 9-11 at the West End Plaza. (See the information box on page 55.)

Today, Rowan Museum Inc. provides programming and maintenance for five properties, builds exhibits, leads tours, staffs history camps, executes on-site education events for students, hosts history celebrations and looks after an ex-



*Top: Michael Briggs brought several of his Rowan long rifles.
Above: Felina Justin specializes in Victorian memorial hair jewelry.
Left: A selection of bonnets from Victoriana in Rocky Point.*

tensive collection of local artifacts.

The annual Antiques Show remains the largest and most important fundraiser for Rowan Museum. This year's Blue Sapphire Jubilee will be dedicated to the late Lib Taylor, a stalwart leader behind the event.

The show owes much of its start to Lib's father, E.L. Hardin, who was Salisbury mayor during the bicentennial and first president of Rowan Museum.

"My grandfather had a love for history," Lisa Towell says, and that transferred to her mother, who as much as anyone symbolized the steadfast volunteers — mostly women — who have made the annual show possible.

Other important people behind the scenes have included Kaye Brown Hirst, Mimi Carlton, Trudy Thompson, Margaret Busby, Betty Mickle and Barbara Lockert, but that doesn't come close to naming them all or the thousands of hours put in collectively.

It took a village of committees to produce the early shows.

"What a thrill I felt when I was asked to be on the soup committee in 1966," says Betty Mickle. "As a newcomer to Salisbury, I was amazed that I would be entrusted with the famous Antiques Show vegetable soup recipe."

To Mickle, everyone she met seemed to be involved in the Antiques Show — making soup, cutting up hens and celery, mixing chicken salad, separating lettuce cups, making sandwiches, baking pies and cakes, cutting desserts, serving food, clearing tables and taking in money.

"I learned there was a job description and an art form to every responsibility," Mickle says. "There was a hierarchy of responsibilities. I graduated to chairing the soup committee and finally to the celery committee, a coveted position in my mind because it was the least messy."

Beyond its wide array of antiques, the show gained a reputation for featuring good food for



Above: Phyllis Prather, from The Brass Lantern in Greensboro, has been working in antiques close to 55 years.

both dealers and patrons. Since 1968, Lockert has organized the volunteer servers for food, which includes chicken salad, vegetable beef soup, ham and swiss cheese sandwiches, pimented cheese sandwiches and homemade desserts.

The first antiques show was held at the old armory at City Park. It eventually moved from the armory to Salisbury Civic Center and most recently to the county-owned West End Plaza.

Patrons can expect to find dealers from throughout the Southeast (and farther), and they will walk among all kinds of antiques and Americana imaginable.

The dealer displays shine with their silver, porcelain, crystal, estate jewelry and fine china. But there's also fine paintings, rugs, linens, laces, furniture, majolica and other pottery, vintage books and prints.

A veteran of many antique shows, Brannick

says Salisbury's geographical location is a plus, and "the show is pleasant to do." The volunteers with Rowan Museum are accommodating and the food is extra good, Brannick says.

"The people enjoy having us here," she adds.

And while the crowds may not seem overwhelming, spread out in this large space that used to be a JC Penney store, Brannick says many of the people who attend are buyers, not just lookers.

Phyllis Prather of The Brass Lantern in Greensboro has been in the antique business close to 55 years and for 30 years has been a dealer at the Salisbury show.

"I've always liked Salisbury," Prather says. "I just think it's a nice little town. The people are genteel."

Prather used to specialize in English Staffordshire, but now it's more brass, wood, iron smalls and collectibles. "I've become more eclectic," she says, adding, "I bore very easily, and there's always something to learn in antiques."

Dealer Cora Hosse of Attic Antiques in Charlotte looks forward to the Salisbury show. She brings a montage of metals, porcelains, tex-

tiles and majolica to sell.

"The people are great, whether they buy or not," says her husband, Jim Hosse. "And the food is good here, too. That's one of the good things to come back for."

At last year's show, Pete Clapp was representing the Little A Silver Chest in Tampa, Fla. As the name would suggest, he specializes in silver. For him, antiques were a sideline, until he realized he was spending all of his vacations in their pursuit.

He left banking and went into antiques full-time soon after a friend persuaded him to take off a weekend "to sell knives and forks."

"Of course," he says, smiling, "you had to do it."

Clapp attended last year's Salisbury show on the recommendation of Old Friends Antiques in Vass.

Some of the local dealers include the 19th and 20th century fine art of Davis Cooke and his Old Sarum Gallery. Cooke offers appraisals on site, too.

Sentimental Era, owned by Felina Justin of

Woodleaf, specializes in estate jewelry, hair memorial jewelry and other items. And last year for the first time, Marlene Minshew offered salt cellars, glass and depression glass at a booth she rightly called "Memories."

Many of the items belonged to Minshew's parents and late husband, Jerome. She didn't want to sell them at an auction house, and former Rowan Museum Executive Director Kaye Brown Hirst persuaded her to bring them to the show.

Minshew's mom and aunts liked to travel to glass factories and antique shops, and her father would drive the women. They would return home, spread the things out on the kitchen table and determine who bought what.

Laura Rodd bought several of Minshew's salt cellars. Minshew said her mother owned more than 500 of them.

"They're a thing of the past," Rodd said, "but they should be used all the time. They're just real

What: North Carolina's oldest, continually operating antiques show. This 65th edition is being called the Blue Sapphire Jubilee.

When: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 9-10, and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 11.

Where: Event Center, West End Plaza, 1935 Jake Alexander Blvd. West (former Salisbury Mall).

Featuring: American and English antiques, Oriental and English porcelain, fine painting and folk art, estate jewelry, linens and textiles, furniture, pottery, books and prints, Americana, vintage clothing, silver, fine china, crystal restoration and glass repair.

Food: The show's cafe is open from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. each day and offers soup, sandwiches, desserts and beverages for patrons and dealers.

Tickets: \$7 general admission, \$5 in advance.

More information:
www.rowanmuseum.org



A Delicious Pumpkin Pie

- ¾ cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon ground ginger
- ¼ teaspoon ground cloves
- 2 large eggs
- 1 can (15 oz.) pure pumpkin
- 1 can (12 fl. oz) evaporated milk
- 1 unbaked 9-inch deep-dish pie shell
- Whipped cream (optional)



1. Mix sugar, cinnamon, salt, ginger and cloves in small bowl. Beat eggs in large bowl. Stir in pumpkin and sugar-spice mixture. Gradually stir in evaporated milk.
2. Pour into pie shell.
3. Bake in preheated 425 degree oven for 15 minutes. Reduce temperature to 350 degrees; bake for 40 to 50 minutes or until knife inserted near center comes out clean. Cool on wire rack for 2 hours. Serve immediately or refrigerate. Top with whipped cream before serving.
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Marlene Minshe, right, at her Memories booth, sold many items that were owned by her parents and late husband.

treats.”

Among all her other items, Minshe offered two magnificent lustres, which also were family pieces. “I wish I had a place to put them,” she said last year.

Marlene’s late husband, Jerome, bought several of the figurines on display in occupied Japan, made between 1945-52.

Justin, the Woodleaf antiques dealer, will be attending her third Salisbury show this November.

“I’m glad it’s a three-day show,” she says. “This one is great because it’s right in my backyard.”

In 1992, Justin first started selling some of the items she had collected. She specializes in cameos, pearls and Victorian memorial hair jewelry and memorial items in general — things such as post-mortem funeral photographs and mourn-

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ing papers.

"This stuff doesn't appeal to everyone," she says, "but it has its followers. It was common practice in the 1800s because the mortality was so high. They were so sentimental back then."

She points to hair gold, hair under glass and a necklace made of hair — things surviving family members wanted as keepsakes to remember loved ones.

"They're just like pieces of artwork," Justin says.

In previous eras, mourners also would collect their tears in tear vials — something Justin sells — and on the first year's anniversary of a loved one's death, they would supposedly visit the graveyard and pour out their tears.

Although he lives and works in Greensboro, Michael Briggs is a bonafide expert — and au-

thor — on the Rowan long rifles, which he had on display at last year's show. He especially admires his 1827 Isaac Ribelin model, named for the gunsmith who made it.

"It is just a great work of art," Briggs says. He explains that Mary Eagle was Isaac Ribelin's wife. George Eagle, her father, was a Cabarrus County gunsmith, so Ribelin liked to engrave eagles on his long rifles.

Connie Marks of Victoriana will be returning this year as a dealer. She features fine linens, lace and vintage clothing, and she comes to the Salisbury show from Rocky Point near Wilmington.

"We do see regular customers," Marks says of some of the people visiting her lush display.

Marks said she prefers attending small shows that help a museum or charity.

At her Plantation House Antiques booth, Brannick likes to point out to the younger set of people just getting into antiquing that it's the ultimate green activity. She has been a collector pretty much her whole life.

When she was 5, Brannick wanted a bookcase with a glass door. Her parents tracked one down, and it still sits in a place of honor in the hallway at her house.

Carol Worthy of Salisbury stopped by to see Brannick's sun purple glass.

"I love anything glass, anything on a stem," Worthy says. "I particularly love that purple."

Worthy said she and her husband go antiquing all the time, "especially when it's raining." She personally collects old hankies.

"I think I have about 50 of them," she says. "In fact, I've got an old hankie in my pocket." 



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*Above: Randy Elium and Dennis Peeler with a log splitter. The two run a firewood ministry.
Below right: Michael Elium makes sure the load of wood is secure in the truck.*



A gift of warmth

'The good Lord put it in our hearts to do it.'

Written by **Mark Wineka** | Photography by **Jon C. Lakey**

This mission Randy Elium and Dennis Peeler call their wood ministry, or firewood ministry, started with something Peeler would rather forget.

Back in December 2010, Peeler was injured badly in a trucking accident. He tore up both shoulders and broke his neck and back in three places. Elium says their pastor came to him one day and asked whether Randy could find a way to help Peeler, who was trying to mend and living on worker's compensation because of the accident.

As Elium remembers it, Peeler needed some cut wood for the cold months ahead. Elium also had an extra wood stove Peeler could use, and for as long as Peeler needed the help, Elium supplied him with free wood.

When Peeler recovered sufficiently enough to where he could help Elium, he wanted to do for someone else what Elium had done for him.

"Then we found other people who needed it," Elium said. "It has just turned into a blessing for a lot of people."

Each of the last two winters alone, the men's wood ministry has provided 150 pick-up truck loads of free firewood.

"It snowballed," Peeler said.

Typically, they know families who will need



wood every year. Sometimes there are emergency situations. Maybe someone's furnace has gone out, or a family is having trouble with a well pump, which also has shut down a heating system.

Sheriff's deputies often know of individuals or families who could benefit greatly from a load of wood.

"We just want to reach the whole county — whoever's in need," Elium said. "We haven't turned



Owen James Basinger, 3, and his dad, David, from China Grove pick up a load of firewood.



anyone away. We don't want anyone to run out."

In recent years, to make sure the wood gets to people who are most needy, they also have partnered with Rowan Helping Ministries. The non-profit agency tries to match the firewood with clients who have income at 150 percent or less of poverty, or those simply experiencing a financial crisis or heating emergency.

RHM has its main headquarters in Salisbury and a satellite office in Mount Ulla, and both arrange for deliveries from the wood ministry.

Those in need must rely, of course, on wood stoves for heating and/or cooking. Peeler said you'd be surprised how many people do.

The wood ministry has given back to Peeler and Elium much more than the thousands of hours they've put in through the years.

"We love doing it," Peeler says. "The good Lord has put it in our hearts to do it. That's the best way I can explain it. I always had a servant's heart to help people."

Elium has provided a back spot on his 22-acre farm as the operational headquarters of sorts for their wood ministry. This is where fallen trees that otherwise would have rotted or gone into landfills are trucked in.

Several tree services supply the wood at no cost, including those run by Jason Sheehan of A-1 Tree Service, Hugh Smith and Eric Moore. Patrick Miller of Mid Carolina Grading had just recently brought in a load of white oak.

"A lot of people have stepped up to the plate," Elium said.

As tree services and builders bring their fallen trees to Elium's farm, the timber goes into a "to-be-cut" mountain, surely one of the biggest woodpiles in Rowan County.

Elium and Peeler rely on splitters to slice the logs into more manageable pieces that can then be cut by chainsaws. The pieces of wood that are ready for delivery or pickup become part of other mountainous piles.

Dennis Peeler runs the wood splitter.

Elium says it's a smorgasbord of mostly hardwoods, such as oak, gum and poplar. He describes the white oak as "102 octane," his way of saying it contains a lot of BTUs of heat.

The piles of wood on either side of the gravel lane back to Elium's hay barn used to be higher than on this particular winter day. Squeezing a truck between those accumulations was a bit more difficult earlier in the fall.

"We've been taking off this side for a month," Randy Elium said, pointing to one of the piles. "You think we'll run out?"

The obvious answer is "no." Elium guessed 30 to 40 pick-up truck and trailer loads had gone out already during this season leading into Christmas, but there was no danger of running out of wood.

Back in 2016, he recalled, he watched 60 pickup loads of wood leave in one morning. Buddy Stirewalt often provides his truck for deliveries.

Over the years, other friends such as Paul Canup, Darrell Elium, Cameron Rose and Rowan County Sheriff Kevin Auten and his deputies have helped Randy Elium and Peeler

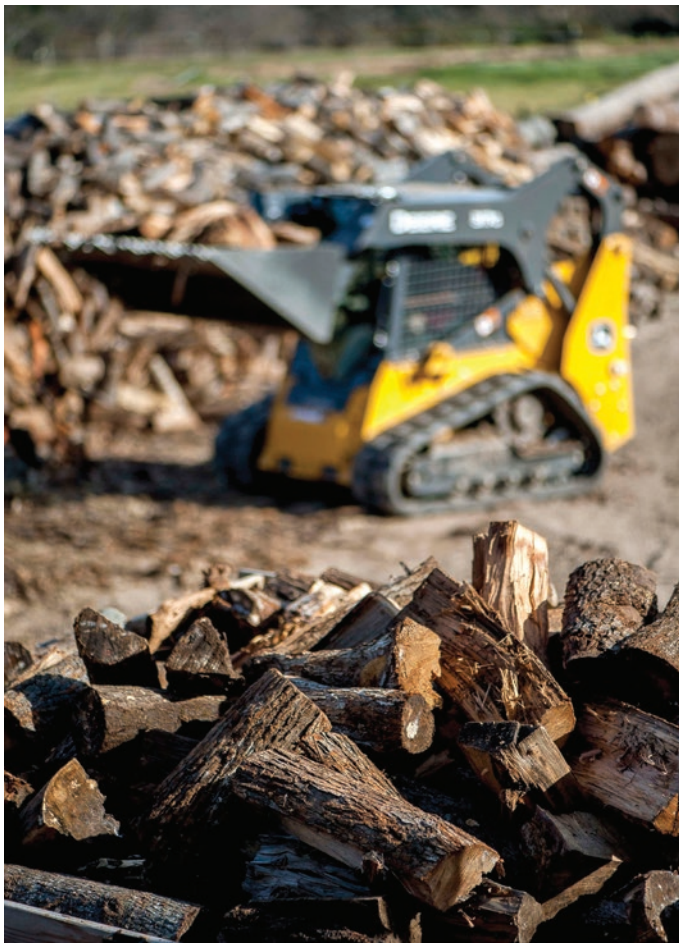


in getting the wood to families who need it to survive the winter. Lincoln Roth, Elium's pastor, also has been doing a lot of sawing.

On this day, Elium had drafted his cousins Michael and Kent Elium to help him prepare a load for delivery to a needy family north of Salisbury. The brothers were visiting from California. Michael is a retired college professor.

Kent is a Los Angeles banker.

They donned gloves and pulled themselves onto the long bed of a truck. Driving a front-end loader, Randy scooped cut wood from the aforementioned pile and deposited it into the back of the truck, where Michael and Kent moved pieces around by hand so they wouldn't fall out during the delivery trip ahead.



Nearby, David Basinger and his young son, Owen, were loading up the back of a pickup and trailer with wood they would need for the winter.

Elium and Peeler do a lot of splitting, sawing, sorting and stacking in the weeks before the wood starts leaving.

Left: Randy Elium uses a skid steer to load split firewood into a waiting truck.

Opposite: Buddy Stirewalt, left, and Dennis Peeler.

Peeler found himself using the demanding work with the wood as part of his therapy to recover from the 2010 accident.


At first, he worked with an arm in a sling and used his free hand on the levers of a tractor for moving bigger pieces of wood. As he got stronger and dealt with four shoulder surgeries over the years, Peeler combined his physical therapy with the wood therapy he was getting on Elium's farm.

He eventually lost 90 pounds.

While they counted roughly 150 truckloads last year, Elium has no idea how much wood actually ends up being distributed or how much they have given away since they started.

"We don't write it down," Elium said. "I don't know where all this stuff goes."

Peeler likes it best on days they can leave a truckload of firewood when no one's home.

"The element of surprise is fun, too," he said. 

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‘The village lady’

At Christmastime, Mallory Allen knows what it takes (300 hours) to build one-of-a-kind places.

Written by **Mallory Allen** | Photography by **Jon C. Lakey**

There is a magical miniature place that springs into existence for a few days every year, but each year it is a different place — although it is in the same place. It is in the Historic Rockwell Museum, and it happens in December.

The place may be city or country, in the United States or abroad; it always has snow, and the era is always sometime before World War I, when women wore long dresses and horses pulled carriages and sleighs. I’m the creator of the ephemeral confection that is the centerpiece of the Rockwell Festival of Trees. I’m Mallory Allen, “the village lady.”


In 2007 I decorated a tree for the festival and mentioned that I build miniature Christmas villages. Ever since, I have built a village on the cabinets that run down the middle of the museum. If I build a village at home only a handful of people see it, but about 300 people come to the Festival of Trees every year.

I have a degree in art history with a focus on architecture, but I sold out to industry and have been working in IT since 1980. The “villaging” hobby exercises my old love! I collect architecturally correct buildings and create realistic villages, not fantasies such as North Pole or Candyland.

Each village has been different (with one exception); they alternate between city or country themes, and American versus European. Most American villages include a train.

I research themes I’m considering, find scenes to model and collect pieces to use for years in advance. When I have enough stuff, I do that village.

It takes up to 300 hours to build each village, including two weeks of my vacation devoted to intense village-building. Vacation is, after all, when you get away from your job and get away from home and go live in another world for a while. My vacation world just happens to be less than 2 feet high.



Mallory Allen pays attention to every detail when building her holiday villages for the Rockwell Museum. Here, she works on her Carrier and Ives village from 2017.



Above: In the early building stage, Allen inserts a ceiling light panel for a 'cracked ice' effect on a pond. *Above left:* The village substructure at the museum is up to 22 feet long and has 108 outlets, if needed. *Left:* Allen has scores and scores of colorful figures to populate her scenes.



Top and right: Allen has four different trains and more than 1,000 buildings she chooses from. Above: Allen uses wooden dowels to make a fence.





Above: Allen relied on cardboard packaging from bulbs to build this tunnel and retaining walls. Below: Just unpacking everything Allen will use takes considerable time.

Where do I get my ideas? The Currier & Ives villages were modeled directly on the Currier & Ives prints.

The New England Fantasy and German Christkindlemarkt showed actual locations and models of real buildings; these were recognized by visitors and internet viewers. I know I've nailed it when I hear "I've walked through that covered bridge!" or "That looks like the market in Bernkastel-Kues and the Marpingen shrine.")

The sand and shells on Old Orchard Beach in the New England Fantasy came from Old Orchard Beach in Maine; the North Country village had a granite boulder with garnet that came from Barton's Mines in the Adirondacks.

Every villager does a Christmas Parade at some point; I applied that theme in order to use a number of oversized houses. The Over the River and Through the Woods village theme developed from wanting to use many wild critters and do a woodland animals' Christmas tree.



REMINISCE

Some Enchanted Evening with castles and palaces and formal gardens was mostly my imagination, but the castle complex was modeled on the Loch Ness Monster's usual hangout, Urquhart Castle on Loch Ness.

Starting in early September, I build the village at home; in November I transport it in sections to the museum. It has to fit around three large square pillars that support the upper floor. There's a substructure of joists and 108 outlets. The base, 62 inches by 18 to 22 feet long, is made of sheets of Styrofoam and polystyrene foam insulation board.

The landscape is also insulation, with painted rocks and snow areas covered with fiberfill and snow blanket held in place by thousands of pins. Model railroad scenery products create

Thousands of white-headed pins end up holding the dimpled snow in place.






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Last year's village was based on scenes from Currier and Ives prints.



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snow, grass, turf and water. Water may also be clear silicone caulk. Frozen ponds are “Cracked Ice” ceiling light panels over an under-painted base.

I collect everything. Buildings and figures are mostly Lemax and Department 56 and also those made by O’Well under various labels (Heartland Valley, Dickens Keepsake and more).

I have over 1000 buildings! I make many of the accessories and trees. My four trains are Bachmann On30 scale, which was developed specifically for Christmas villages. ON30 is an O scale train running on HO track as a 30-inch narrow-gauge track.

Three types of visitors see the villages in different ways.

The “overall viewer” takes in the whole spread of trees and village, but does not notice that the village is different — except for the presence or lack of a train.

The “storyteller” looks at the details and becomes engrossed in the story being told. Children enter the fantasy easily and pick out houses for themselves, their friends and their teachers to live in. Mr. Clyde Harriss has to be my favorite visitor! He comes every year and works his way slowly around the village and down memory lane; I’ve heard him say “My father had one of those” or “We used to do that....”

Then there is the “Do-it-yourselfer,” who wants to find out how the village was made; they poke and prod and pick at it. Just ask — I’m always willing to share my techniques with other villagers!

The Festival of Trees, with this year’s village “Christmas in the Old

West,” opens Dec. 7 through Dec. 16. Hours are 6-8 p.m. Monday through Friday; Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m.; Sundays 1-4 pm.

The Historic Rockwell Museum is located at 111 E. Main St. (U.S. 52) at the intersection with Broad Street, next to the gazebo. A visitor from Atlanta once said, “I never expected to see something like this in a little Podunk town like Rockwell!”

Come and see for yourself. **S**

In the off-season, Mallory Allen makes jewelry, and with her husband, Walt, remodels their 1924 house and cares for many pets.

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Operation Hope

This summer, a ribbon-cutting event was held in Salisbury when Operation Hope opened its fourth branch statewide at the Capital Bank on Faith Road. Operation Hope is a nonprofit providing financial literacy and economic education, and it partners with First Horizon National Corp., the parent company of Capital Bank. On hand for the Operation Hope opening were the organization's founder, John Hope Bryant, and Salisbury native and First Horizon Chief Executive Officer Bryan Jordan. During the event, Jordan also presented a \$5,000 check to Rowan Helping Ministries on behalf of the Capital Bank Foundation.

— Photos courtesy of Capital Bank



Rowan County Chamber of Commerce President Elaine Spalding with Rick Manley, Mid-Atlantic Region president for First Horizon National Corp.



Left: Ronald Campbell and Rick Manley. Above: Debbie Tillis, Lori Allerton, Amber Garner and Sheila Dennis. Right: John Hope Bryant, founder and CEO of Operation Hope.



Left: N.C. Rep. Harry Warren and David Jordan.

Right: Tom Bennett, Derek Painter and Mike Foster.





Right: Joy Jefferson, Sherita Goodman, John Hope Bryant, Alisha Hunt and Steve Swain.

Left: First Horizon National Corp. CEO Bryan Jordan, right, presents an oversized check for \$5,000 to Rowan Helping Ministries. Accepting the check were RHM Executive Director Kyna Grubb and Jordan's dad, Dave, of Salisbury.



Kim Graham, Daniel Dent and Terry Dolch



Alisha Hunt, Joy Jefferson and Shonda Rodgers



John Hope Bryant, Steve Swain, Amy Tharrington and Dan Strickford



Chaitra Brant, Robin Craig, Kim Graham and Sherita Goodman



Brandy Rye, Jenifer Lamy, Sheila Dennis and Amber Garner



Bud and Betty Mickle



Dr. Yut Sukkasem and wife Rhoda, Josh and Nicole Brooks, Lauren Graham, Dr. Brett Henson, Dr. Hetal Amin-Patel and Dr. Chet Amin.



Drs. Tom and Arabella Trahey, Erin Trahey and Lynn Moody

Novant Health Rowan Patrons' Ball

On Sept. 8, the Novant Health Rowan Medical Center Foundation was host for the 28th annual Patrons' Ball at the Catawba College Peeler Crystal Lounge. Mecklenburg Radiology Associates was the presenting sponsor. Guests enjoyed a coastal, beach-themed evening complete with cocktails, dinner, music and dancing. Proceeds from the event benefited the new Wallace Cancer Center. Virtual Sounds and Venue Services provided music, lighting and rentals. Catering was by Best Impressions.

— Photos by Melissa Biggers Photography



Steve and Robin Fisher



Dr. Joel Goodwin with Kim Robinson



Shari and Bill Graham



Taylor Durham, Abigail Young, Jeremy Ferden and Megan Ferden



Jill McNeely and Dr. Rachel Ross



Cora Greene with Campbell University medical students Ani Mnatsakanian, Laura Barbalato, Nick Luibil, Kailey Remien, J.T. Mueller and Ester Kim



Tom Disseler, Matthew Brown, Barbara White, Henry Buck and Shirley Disseler



Rick Parker with Dr. Jim and Beverly Mitchell



Dr. Lester Brown and wife Tiffany



Wib and Julie Manuel



Kristen Trexler, Gina Winders and Janet Parker



Dr. Leighanne and Breck Dorton with Trudy Thompson



Brad and Marty Farrah



Rachel Bernheim and Libby Gish



Precious Council, James Means and Zaliah Means



David Handley, Jeremy Thomas and Champ Bryant at the Balloon Lagoon concession with Powers Thomas Midway Entertainment.



Left: Danny Reynolds and Mariah Handley work concessions.

Right: Drew Nowlin and Jamin Skipper with Dakota and Friends



Rowan County Fair

A tradition since 1951, the Rowan County Fair got off to a slow start this year as the remnants of Hurricane Florence passed through on what should have been the fair's opening two nights. But by Sept.

17, the fair was in full swing with its rides, food, games, exhibits, livestock shows, petting zoo and even racing pigs, ducks and goats.

— Photos by Jon C. Lakey



Left: Beth Beaver Tapp with Beaver Concessions. Right: Amanda Justice and Angelina Smith with the East Rowan FFA





Clockwise from above:
Bayden, Sarah, Ty
and Kevin Sweatt;
Jason Menser works
the Balloon Lagoon;
Chelsey Huie, Tyler Huie,
Linda Rosenbalm, Dan
Rosenbalm and Mason
Huie, 2; Heather Resino
drove one of the shuttle
carts while Heather
Boyd, right, parked cars;
Ashley Rowland waits on
customers at Ashtoons
Caricatures; Vernon
Jones with Teashia Ellis,
11, Keyanna Ellis, 5, and
Brooklyn Ellis, 5.





Left: Rockwell artist Marshall Stokes, whose oil painting won 'Best of Show,' stands with fellow artist JoAnn Smith.

Right: Myra Tyner takes in some of the entries in the Fall Expo.



Joan Perry, Carolyn Holt and Jean Jones

Carolina Artists' Fall Expo



Above: Artist Mark Brincefield, photographer Kim Lance and Kenneth Lance. Below: Artist Janet Isehour and art student, Kathy Hoffner.



The Carolina Artists' Guild held its Fall Expo Sept. 18-22 at the Salisbury Civic Center. All year, members of the guild work on their art and are excited to offer to the public the pleasure of viewing paintings, drawings, photographs and mixed media at their annual Expo. Also, there was the opportunity of purchasing original art at reasonable prices. At a Sept. 20 reception, artists learned the judges' picks in each category.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Left: Carolina Artists' Guild members Connie Eads and Karen Morgan



Below: Artist Carolyn Blackman and digital artist Zelia Frick

NOVEMBER

1 'Little Women the Musical'
 Nov. 1-3, 8-10: Lee Street theatre — 7:30 p.m. For more information about tickets, visit 704-310-5507 or leestreet.org.

3 Harvesting Hope 5k
 Nov. 3: Patterson Farm, 10390 Caldwell Road, Mount Ulla — 9 a.m. Proceeds from this first-annual race support Novant Health Hospice & the Glenn A. Kiser Hospice House. Visit salisburyrowanrunners.org for more information.

3 Big Chili Cookoff
 Nov. 3: Waterworks Visual Arts Center/F&M Trolley Barn, 123-125 E. Liberty St., Salisbury — 6:30-11 p.m. Enjoy the art of chili-making and the best chili recipes in Salisbury/Rowan County at this 10th annual Waterworks event. Chili-tasting from 6:30-9 p.m. Raffle. Dancing until 11 p.m. Tickets: \$30 per person, members; \$35, non-members. Must be 21 to attend. Price includes chili tasting, beer, wine and other beverages, plus tickets to vote on your favorite chili recipe. Tickets can be purchased online at www.waterworks.org, by phone at 704-636-1882, or in person during regular gallery hours. A fundraiser for Waterworks education and outreach programs.

3 Holiday Faire
 Nov. 3: First Ministry Center, 220 N. Fulton Street — 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Handmade crafts, vendors. Admission is \$3; free for children 12 and under. Contact Joyce Curl at joycecurl2@yahoo.com for more information.

9 Blue Sapphire Jubilee Antiques Show
 Nov. 9-11: West End Plaza, 1935 Jake Alexander Blvd. W. — Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The 65th annual show is sponsored by Rowan Museum. It is considered the longest running annual antiques show in North Carolina and one of the finest. Tickets, \$5 in advance; \$7 at the door. For more information: 704-633-5946 or www.rowanmuseum.org.

13 'Hamlet'
 Nov. 13-17: Hedrick Little Theatre, Catawba College — 7:30 p.m. Catawba Theater Arts presents 'Hamlet' by William Shakespeare. For tickets and information: 704-637-4481 or catawba.edu/theatretix.



The Polar Express rolls back into town Nov. 16-Dec. 22 at the N.C. Transportation Museum in Spencer.

— Jon C. Lakey photo

Holiday 2018

Upcoming events in the Salisbury-Rowan area

16 Polar Express
Nov. 16-Dec. 22: N.C. Transportation Museum, Spencer — Inspired by the hit movie, this holiday favorite brings on-screen characters to life as families take a ride on the Polar Express. Passengers will enjoy singing and dancing upon arrival at the North Pole where Santa will present the first gift of Christmas. Tickets, dates, and times available at www.nctrans.org/Events/Polar.aspx or by calling 704-636-2889.

17 Lighting of the Fall Fires
Nov. 18: Historic Gold Hill village, Saint Stephens Church Road — 5:30 p.m. Check out www.goldhillnc.com for more information.

17 'Sail On: The Beach Boys Tribute'
Nov. 17: Lee Street theatre — 7:30 p.m. For more information about tickets: 704-310-5507 or leestreet.org.

20 Southern Rowan Christmas Parade
Nov. 20: Landis and China Grove — 3 p.m., Landis; 4 p.m., China Grove. Check chinagrovec.org for more information.

21 'Tis the Season Spectacular
Nov. 21: Spencer and Salisbury — 2 p.m. Spencer; 3 p.m. Salisbury. The traditional holiday parade is new and revised. Go to visitsalisburync.com/holidayparade for details. Entries accepted through Nov. 2.

22 Butterball 5k
Nov. 22: Start at The Forum, 2318 S. Main St. — 8:30-11:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Day run. For more information, contact beth@preventchildabuserowan.org, 704-639-1700, or go to preventchildabuserowan.org or salisbury-rowanrunners.org.

23 Scrooge's Christmas Trolley Tour
Nov. 23-Dec. 22: Rowan County Convention Bureau, 204 E Innes St. — Lee Street theatre presents Scrooge's Christmas Trolley Tour, a dramatic retelling of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," featuring both laughter and serious moments. Passengers will travel back in time by trolley to Christmases past with Scrooge on his journey. Beginning Nov. 23, tours will run four times a night on Thursdays, and five times a night (6 p.m., 6:45 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 8:15 p.m., 9 p.m.) on Fridays and Saturdays with final performances on Dec. 22. For tickets and additional information, go to <http://www.leestreet.org/scrooges-trolley-tour.html> or call 704-310-5507.



Kerry Campion, from Salisbury, was one of the dancers in a previous performance of the 'Nutcracker.' This year's event is Dec. 7 and 8 in Kannapolis. — Jon C. Lakey photo

24 Celebration of Lights and Winterland Express
Nov. 24-Dec. 30: Kannapolis Village Park — Celebrate the Christmas spirit all month long in Kannapolis. The Celebration of Lights boasts more than 250,000 lights and takes place at Village Park nightly at 6 p.m. Walk through the park and enjoy many light displays, or ride the Winterland Express and see if you can find all 12 Days of Christmas. Tickets to ride the train and carousel are \$2 per person, per ride. Closed Dec. 24 and 25.

24 Santa and the Grinch at the Bell Tower
Nov. 24: Bell Tower, West Innes and Jackson streets — Free photo-op with Santa and the Grinch at the Bell Tower all day. More information: www.downtownsalisburync.com.

29 The Living Christmas Tree
Nov. 29-Dec. 3: First Baptist Church, Salisbury — Involves more than 100 church and community choral members. Performances are as follows: 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Monday; 5 and 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are free, but required. There is a suggested donation of one canned food item per ticket to benefit Rowan Helping Ministries. Limit of 10 tickets per household.

30 The Arc of Rowan Festival of Trees
Nov. 30-Dec. 2: F&M Trolley Barn — The Festival of Trees is the signature fundraising event of the Arc of Rowan County. It showcases a collection of beautifully decorated Christmas trees and is a wonderful kickoff to the holiday season. Trees in the festival are sponsored by anyone interesting in helping this United Way organization. Tree viewings take place from 7-9 p.m. Nov. 30; 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Dec. 1; and 1-5 p.m. Dec. 2.

DECEMBER

1 Town of China Grove Tree Lighting
Dec. 1: Hanna Park, China Grove — 7 p.m. Don't miss the lighting of the town Christmas tree, followed by Christmas caroling and light refreshments.

1 Brunch with Santa
Dec. 1: Salisbury Civic Center — 10 a.m.-noon. Families are invited to make priceless holiday memories over brunch with Santa. \$6 per person or \$20 per family of four. Pre-registration is required; call 704-216-7529.

1 'Swing into Christmas'
Dec. 1: Salisbury Civic Center — 7-10 p.m. The Salisbury Swing Band covers classic holiday tunes from the 1920s to today in this third-annual benefit concert for Rowan Helping Ministries. Under the direction of Dr. Stephen Eppers and featuring award-winning vocalist Laura Millsbaugh, the 18-piece ensemble will have your toes tapping to the sounds of Gershwin, Sinatra, Count Basie and more. Admission is \$5 at the door. There will be a canned food drive for raffle prizes.

6 'A Christmas Story'
Dec. 6-9, 13: Norvell Theater, 135 E. Fisher St. — 7:30 p.m. Enjoy the Piedmont Players Youth Theatre presentation of Jean Shepherd's memoir, 'A Christmas Story.' Tickets on sale Nov. 26. Call 704-633-5471 or go to www.PiedmontPlayers.com.

7 Christmas in the Village
Dec. 7-9: Historic Gold Hill village, Saint Stephens Church Road — Check out www.goldhillnc.com for more information.

7 Choral Society Holiday Concert
Dec. 7: First United Church of Christ, 207 W. Horah Street — 7:30-9 p.m. Annual Holiday Concert of the Salisbury-Rowan Choral Society. For information: lindavo@windstream.net, 704-796-2898, or [facebook.com/Salisbury.Rowan.Choral.Society/](https://www.facebook.com/Salisbury.Rowan.Choral.Society/).



Rodney Arey waves as he cycles with the rest of the Arey family during the 2016 Christmas parade in downtown Salisbury. Revamped for this year, the Christmas parade will be Nov. 21. — Jon C. Lakey photo

7 'The Nutcracker'
Dec. 7, 7 p.m.; Dec. 8, 2 p.m.: Kannapolis Performing Arts Center, 415 E. First Street, Kannapolis — a Piedmont Dance Theatre production. For more information, contact annepsmd@gmail.com, 704-971-2011 or piedmontdancetheatre.com.

8 Kannapolis Christmas Parade
Dec. 8: downtown Kannapolis — 6 p.m. Celebrating its 80th year, the Kannapolis Christmas Parade of Lights continues to be a must-see, night-time event. For information, visit <http://www.kannapolisnc.gov/ChristmasParade> or call 704-920-4349.

9 Choral Society Holiday Concert
Dec. 9: Milford Hills United Methodist Church, 1630 Statesville Blvd., Salisbury — 4:30-6:30 p.m. Annual holiday concert by the Salisbury-Rowan Choral Society. For information, contact lindavo@windstream.net, 704-279-2898, or check out [facebook.com/Salisbury.Rowan.Choral.Society/](https://www.facebook.com/Salisbury.Rowan.Choral.Society/).

10 Christmas Traditions
Dec. 10-11: Meroney Theater — 7 p.m. each performance. "Christmas Traditions: The Stories of Music and Christmas" represents a collaboration among storyteller Dr. Karl Hales, vocalists Neal Wilkinson and Lauren Stephen-

son and pianist Susan Trivette, with help from Graham Carlton and flautist Karen Franks. Admission is at least one canned item for Rowan Helping Ministries.

14 Big Band Christmas Show
Dec. 14: Lee Street theatre — 7:30 p.m. Enjoy well known classics with Rowan Big Band live at the Lee Street theatre. Tickets: \$22.90. Tickets on sale in November. Visit www.rowanbigband.com for tickets and more information.

15 'The Nutcracker'
Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m.; Dec. 16, 2:30 p.m.: Keppel Auditorium on Catawba College campus — a Piedmont Dance Theatre production with the Salisbury Symphony Orchestra. Go to salisburysymphony.org for more information.


15 Tea with Mrs. Claus
Dec. 15: N.C. Museum of Dolls, Toys & Miniatures, 108 4th St., Spencer — 2-4 p.m. Join Mrs. Claus for tea, cookies, and more. Admission: 1 adult and 1 child, \$28; \$13 for each additional child; \$15 for each additional adult.

15 Christmas in the Grove
Dec. 15: downtown China Grove — 5-9 p.m. Join in on the Christmas cheer with

sledding, hot chocolate, s'mores and snacks on Swink Street in China Grove. Santa, horse-drawn carriage rides and other activities will take place on Main Street. Bring your own plastic sled, no metal sleds allowed. Sledding and wagon rides are free with a small charge for food and drinks.

15 Santa, the Grinch, and Antique Fire Trucks
Dec. 15: downtown Salisbury — all day. Catch a free ride on antique fire trucks with Santa and the Grinch. Additional information: www.downtownsalisburync.com.

29 Old Stone House Christmas
Dec. 29-30: Old Stone House, 770 Old Stone House Road, Granite Quarry — 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Dec. 29; noon-4 p.m., Dec. 30. Experience Christmas like many Rowan County residents would have known 200 years ago. Sponsored by Rowan Museum.

31 New Year's Eve at the Bell Tower
Dec. 31: Bell Tower, W. Innes Street — 8 p.m.-midnight. Say goodbye to 2018 and ring in the new year. Festivities include live music, video feed live from Times Square, hot chocolate, other goodies and the ringing of the bell when the clock strikes midnight. Free admission. 



This is the posterior of a fall web worm on a park bench at Dan Nicholas Park. The white, wiry hairs and the faux face trick predators into leaving the lonely worm alone.

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