

Group stresses alternative gift-giving for season

By Ken Hardy
Staff Writer

The Christmas shopping rush is on and will continue until that special day arrives. People are often confused about what to buy friends and relatives but after a visit to UNCA's Ramsey Library, some of the confusion may disappear.

Some of the library staff set up a display to demonstrate alternative gift giving. A Christmas tree, pamphlets and recipes are included in the display.

The alternative gift giving theme stems from the Hunger Awareness Group, whose local chapter is located at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church.

The Hunger Awareness Group sponsored an Alternative Christmas Celebration on Nov. 8 at the First Baptist Church in Asheville. The idea for the library to participate in the Alternative Giving Celebration came from Virginia Stevens, computer systems coordinator at UNCA.

"Her idea is to bring a different spirit to Christmas, where there is sharing and caring instead of buying and rushing," said Betsy Murray, circulation supervisor.

"We wanted the tree to be something to grow out of a community activity we want to support," said Murray.

The decorations on the Christmas tree are made of recycled library cards. They were made by children and placed on the tree as they passed by the display set up by the library staff at the Alternative Christmas Celebration.

Library staff participating in the celebration were Mary Brown, Annette Crisp, and Betsy Murray.

The Hunger Awareness Group meets on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in Asheville. The group is open to individuals and churches concerned about hunger here and abroad.

Hunger Awareness is responsible for the annual CROP Walk for Hunger in October. They support development of community gardens and promote support of local direct aid efforts such as Meals-On-Wheels and international efforts such as CROP/Church World Service, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Catholic Relief Services, Oxfam America and Heifer Project International.



Christmas cheer

UNCA student Carla Betz replaces an ornament on the library's Christmas tree. Some school-children helped decorate the tree.

Staff photo-Jonna McGrath



Staff photo-Michele Samuel

A one-act play

Tracy Ross (Mable) and Pamela Whiteside (Henrietta) performed in the one-act play, "Suppressed Desires," Tuesday. The next Forum production is "The Tiger," today at 3:30 p.m. in the theatre.

Beat

The

Devil



Written by Truman Capote, this black and white 1953 film is the story of two wives who run merrily around oblivious to their bonds of matrimony. It left audiences in a daze years ago - today all the humor shines through.

Director: John Huston

Cast: Humphrey Bogart, Jennifer Jones, Gina Lollobrigida, Peter Lorre, Robert Morley

Sunday, December 7 at 7 p.m.

Monday, December 8 at 4 p.m.

Humanities Lecture Hall

\$1⁰⁰ - Students & kids under 14

\$2⁰⁰ - All others

*Childcare available for Sunday Showing



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