

# Sales tax holiday will start tomorrow

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Retail stores are calling in reinforcements for the weekend. That's when large crowds are expected at shopping centers and malls throughout the state for the state's second sales tax holiday.

Shoppers will be exempt from paying sales taxes on many items from Friday until Sunday. The sales tax holiday was passed by the General Assembly in 2001 as a way to specifically help families save on their back-to-school shopping.

Clothing items, shoes and school supplies priced under \$100 per item qualify for the sales tax exemption. Sports and recreation equipment of \$50 or less per item and computers and educational software for personal use that cost under \$3,500 per item are also exempt. Clothing

accessories, jewelry, cosmetics, protective equipment, wallets, furniture and layaway transactions are among the items not covered by the exemption and will be subject to the applicable tax.

State retailers are hoping that the sales tax holiday will help to increase their profits. According to a survey conducted by the National Retail Federation, families with school-aged children plan to spend about \$450 on back-to-school merchandise this year. Last year was the first time the state had a tax free holiday, and the holiday was a huge success. State retailers saw a more than 150 percent increase in sales during last year's three-day holiday.

"If the success of the holiday last year is any indication, shoppers should be coming to stores and malls in droves," Fran Preston, president of the N.C. Retail Merchants Association, said in a statement. "Retailers know that this (is) a big weekend for consumers and are planning special sales to coincide with the three-day holiday so not only will shoppers save on the sales tax they normally pay, but will also have a wide variety of special retail pricing to help their dollars go further."

Check out the N.C. Department of Revenue site - [www.dor.state.nc.gov](http://www.dor.state.nc.gov) - to see which items are sales tax exempt.

## Mother WIT receives WSF grant

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem Foundation has awarded a \$40,000 grant to Mother WIT Family Development Center, said Lee Faye Mack, executive director.

According to Mack, the grant will be used to help support salary and benefits for the associate director position, consultant fees, and leadership training for a second year.

"Our organization has accomplished so much in the community in areas of family development, providing information and referrals, board, and staff development during the last three years," Mack said.

The grant will give Mother WIT additional resources to help in sustaining long-range stability in operations and program services. The funds are made available from the Carl W. and Annie M. Harris Endowment Fund.

Mother WIT Inc. - where WIT stands for "Wisdom in Training" - was founded in 1998 and has served more than 600 families with educational, outreach, grassroots leadership development, information and referral services. There is also a clothes distribution center on site. Rodney Sumler is chairperson of the board of directors.

The Winston-Salem Foundation is a community foundation that supports charitable programs in Greater Forsyth County.

In 2002, the foundation awarded grants totaling \$18.2 million, including a broad diversity of discretionary grants totaling \$3.5 million.



Mack



Most members of the Tom Joyner Morning Show are expected in Winston-Salem.

### Joyner

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reached.

"There's going to be a lot of vendors and a lot of sponsors in the parking lot with giveaways. It's going to be very active," said Vestal.

The inside of the coliseum, says Vestal, will be transformed to look like an actual theatre, complete with chandeliers and a curtained stage to give it an "upscale look."

The Pre-Sky Show party will be an alcohol-free event and Vestal says that anyone who arrives with alcohol will not be permitted to enter. "We're looking forward to having a great time and having a chance to meet some great people on that Thursday and Friday," Vestal said.

After Party with the Stars will cap off the day's festivities at the M.C. Benton Convention Center at 9 p.m. on Aug. 8.

The Tom Joyner Foundation has adopted Livingstone College as its School of the Month.

All money raised at Sky Shows during the month of August will go towards scholarship for Livingstone students. The Tom Joyner Foundation is a nonprofit organization that raises money for students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) around the country.

Grace Adams-Square, director of Title III sponsored programs at Livingstone, says that proceeds from the Tom Joyner Foundation will benefit students studying in a variety of disciplines.

"The school thought it was

a great honor to be selected and found that this would be a very wonderful and beneficial opportunity for our students," said Adams-Square. "The scholarships are very diverse and will cover students in many different categories, not just high GPA students...we're pleased to have this opportunity to assist our students."

Livingstone will also host a reception on Aug. 8 at the Adam's Mark Hotel where Joyner will be present from 6-8 p.m. Livingstone alumni and friends are invited to attend the reception, where additional donations can be made to scholarships for Livingstone students.

For more information on the Sky Show, log onto [www.wqmg.com](http://www.wqmg.com) or [www.ljfm.com](http://www.ljfm.com).



Shoppers will hit the mall in force this weekend.

File Photo

## ACCU WEATHER Forecast for Winston-Salem

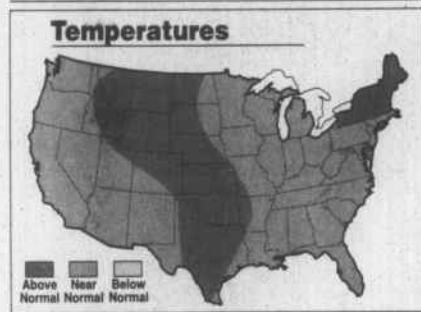
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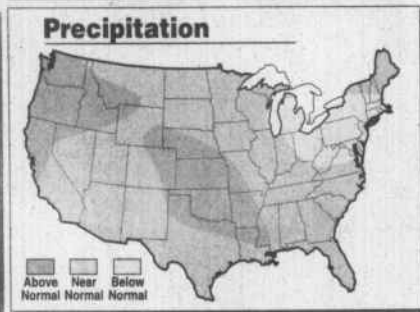
### LOCAL 7-DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
T-storms.	Cloudy with thunderstorms.	T-storms.	Humid with some sun.	Humid with some sun.	Humid with some sun.	Some sun.	Partly sunny.
84	70	86/70	85/69	85/68	85/65	89/69	90/69

### THE WEEK AHEAD



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### U.S. TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday		Friday		Saturday		Sunday		Monday	
	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
Atlanta	86	70	86	70	88	70	88	70	88	71
Boston	76	64	74	66	80	68	82	68	81	66
Chicago	82	63	82	64	81	65	83	65	84	64
Cleveland	80	66	81	65	81	65	82	64	81	63
Denver	88	60	82	61	83	62	84	62	85	53
Des Moines	84	62	81	63	82	67	87	66	85	63
Detroit	80	65	82	64	82	65	82	65	83	64
Houston	94	76	94	74	96	76	96	76	96	76
Indianapolis	81	66	84	64	83	65	83	65	85	64
Kansas City	87	65	87	67	84	68	87	69	89	67
Los Angeles	82	66	80	64	82	66	82	62	84	60
Miami	91	79	90	78	90	78	90	79	91	76
Minn.-St. Paul	74	60	76	58	80	56	84	55	82	61
New Orleans	91	76	91	75	91	75	90	75	91	73
New York City	81	69	81	71	83	70	83	71	83	69
Omaha	86	62	88	66	90	68	87	66	87	65
Phoenix	98	82	101	83	101	83	101	82	102	79
San Francisco	66	56	74	59	72	57	70	55	69	48
Seattle	79	57	79	57	77	57	76	56	76	53
Washington	86	72	84	72	88	74	90	74	85	68

### THE NATIONAL SUMMARY

Heat will expand across the central and northern Plains during the period. Temperatures in the triple digits will be common across Texas and Oklahoma. Afternoon temperatures will reach the 90s across the Dakotas and northern Rocky Mountains. Showers and thunderstorms will be common across the Northwest. High pressure will keep the Ohio Valley and Great Lakes dry.

Weather (W) = sunny, p=partly cloudy, c=cloudy, sh=showers, t=thunderstorms, r=rain, sf=snow flurries, sn=snow, ice.

### WORLD TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday		Friday		Saturday		Sunday		Monday	
	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
Amsterdam	70	61	74	65	75	59	70	58	71	62
Berlin	79	62	84	69	89	68	77	57	75	57
Buenos Aires	87	50	86	45	86	40	84	42	80	40
Cairo	101	70	102	70	102	71	103	72	101	73
Jerusalem	82	63	82	63	82	61	81	60	89	59
Johannesburg	72	44	69	42	70	40	64	40	65	39
London	68	53	70	56	71	54	73	57	76	62
Madrid	104	73	105	62	99	63	95	61	97	64
Mexico City	74	53	70	49	68	46	68	47	69	49
Moscow	78	54	76	54	77	61	85	63	86	62
Paris	67	52	80	61	81	55	79	58	80	61
Rio de Janeiro	76	62	71	59	72	60	74	64	75	63
Rome	85	60	85	64	88	66	91	69	89	65
San Juan	88	77	89	78	89	78	89	76	87	76
Seoul	88	71	86	71	86	70	85	66	84	72
Sydney	59	36	60	33	58	41	61	44	66	45
Tokyo	81	69	79	66	80	72	82	71	81	71
Toronto	82	65	80	65	80	65	80	56	80	56
Winnipeg	72	48	78	57	84	60	86	60	78	57
Zurich	70	53	81	62	86	65	85	60	80	59

### SUN & MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset
Thu., July 31	6:27 a.m.	8:27 p.m.
Fri., Aug. 1	6:28 a.m.	8:26 p.m.
Sat., Aug. 2	6:28 a.m.	8:26 p.m.
Sun., Aug. 3	6:29 a.m.	8:25 p.m.
Mon., Aug. 4	6:30 a.m.	8:24 p.m.
Tue., Aug. 5	6:31 a.m.	8:23 p.m.
Wed., Aug. 6	6:32 a.m.	8:22 p.m.

	Moonrise	Moonset
Thu., July 31	8:43 a.m.	10:23 p.m.
Fri., Aug. 1	9:50 a.m.	10:52 p.m.
Sat., Aug. 2	10:57 a.m.	11:20 p.m.

	New	First	Full	Last
July 29	Aug. 5	Aug. 12	Aug. 19	

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