

Many Citizens Enter Contest For Best Outdoor Decoration

Trees and Shrubs Ablaze With Light

The News' Christmas Outdoor Decoration Contest is proving one of the most interesting features of the holidays and many citizens of the city are decorating the exterior of their homes, lawns, shade trees and evergreens with colored lights and wreaths. This adds to the cheer of the Christmas season, and the beautiful effect that one is able to bring about with the use of a few colored electric lights is causing the interest to spread fast as the citizens see what can be done with this form of decoration.

Already a score or more of people are decorating their homes on the exterior and have announced their entrance in the contest for prizes as published in the News last week.

The local prize for the best lighted exterior is \$15.00, with a second prize of \$10.00. These are offered by the News and the winners will be entered in the contest of the S. P. U. Co., for their entire system, and also in a national contest, with a possible total prize of \$540.00 for the winner of the first prize.

Aside from the winners of prizes, the effect possible with decorations of this class is well worth the expense. The electric fixtures are sturdy and can be used for a number of years, and the electric light bulbs are of the household type and have a burning capacity of 1,000 hours. Back in the past the old type of decorative light was very delicate but this has been remedied and those who have the new ones can burn them with regularity during the holiday nights and not materially decrease their efficiency. And the cost of the current is negligible, for instance: the ordinary Christmas tree set of eight lights costs exactly three-quarters of a cent an hour to burn. From this you can figure that the extra light bill for the holidays would not be noticeable.

The judging of the decorations will take place one night this week, following Christmas night, and announcement of winners made in the News' columns. As yet the judges have not been selected, but will be a committee of disinterested ladies and men.

Many people have been riding over the city for the past three nights admiring the decorations that have already been installed and many others are fast being erected.

The following have already decorated their homes:

E. H. Kochitzky on Pine street, with shubbery on the sides of the steps lighted and a large blating star suspended over the entrance to the porch.

Mrs. C. B. Shelton on Franklin street, with large cedar tree in yard flooded with lights.

Wm. Merritt on Rawley street, shubbery lighted and electric lighted wreath on door.

W. W. Christian, on North Main, cedar in lawn lighted with twinkle set.

Edw. M. Linville, on North Main, large spruce pine in yard flooded with lights and large star on the tree.

C. M. Whitlock, on North Main,

lighted arches over walk leading to house, with laurel festooning entwined with the lights. (Not eligible for prize on account of connection with S. P. U. Co.)

W. H. Holcomb on Elm street, shubbery lighted.

W. M. Johnson, on Lebanon street, shubbery lighted and lighted wreath over doorway, using laurel festooning. (Not eligible for prize.)

H. O. Wells, on Willow street, with two cedars on lawn lighted, two flower boxes on porch lighted, twinkle sets in flower boxes in sun parlor, Christmas tree and flower boxes in children's room on second floor decorated with twinkle sets, electric lighted star and wreath over front door, and four porch lights with flaming red bulbs. Candles in windows.

J. R. Hines, on Lebanon street, large spruce pine erected on terrace lighted with colored bulbs, and children's play house on lawn lighted, with miniature Santa Claus climbing down the chimney loaded with Christmas toys for the children in the house. All lighted with a flood of colored bulbs.

Others who have signified their intention of entering the News' decoration contest and now have their decorations erected include, Mrs. E. C. Bivens, Mrs. H. R. Hege, Mrs. John Sobotta, J. E. Cockerham and Mrs. Albert Johnson.

Former Slave of Siamese Twins Dies

Dicie Banner, colored, aged ninety-six years a former slave of the Siamese Twins died at the home of her daughter Sarah Farmer last Friday. She was well known and respected by members of both races. She had been a member of the Primitive Baptist Church for years.

News of Martin Memorial Hospital

Mr. Simon Hiett, of route 5 is a hospital patient quite ill from an infected knee. The infection followed an accidental cut with an axe.

A son, William George Reid was born to Mr. and Mrs. George B. Reid, of Pilot Mountain, Tuesday morning.

Leonard Ayers the twelve year old son of G. A. Ayers, of The Hollow, Va., is quite sick with empyema.

Mr. Monte Smoot of route 3 is recovering from an accidental gunshot wound which took off one ear.

Leo Haynes, son of J. T. Haynes, of Dobson, is a patient in the hospital for treatment.

Mrs. A. E. Smith is recovering from an attack of influenza.

Evin Moore, son of Mr. John Moore of Highland Park is improving from the injuries sustained when his bicycle collided with an automobile. He suffered a broken collar-bone in the mix-up.

A daughter, Ruth Ernestine, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Marshall of route 5, Dec. 14.

Mrs. W. S. Wolfe is improving following an attack of influenza.

Mr. Fletcher Collins, of Francisco, is a medical patient in the hospital.

Mrs. J. A. Snow, who was carried to the hospital last week with influenza and asthma, is improving.

The Night Before Christmas

This poem, written by Clement Clarke Moore, (1778-1862) is the most popular poem ever written. It carries Santa Claus on from year to year and the spirit of Santa Claus.

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house

Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;

The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,

In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;

The children were nestled all snug in their beds,

While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads;

An mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,

Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap,

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,

I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.

Away to the window I flew like a flash,

Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.

The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow

Gave the luster of mid-day to objects below,

When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,

But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer,

With a little old driver, so lively and quick,

I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,

And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name;

"Now Dasher! Now Dancer! Now Prancer and Vixen!

On Comet! on Cupid! on Dunder and Blitzen!

To the top of the porch to the top of the wall!

Now dash away, dash away, dash away all!

As dry leaves before the wild hurricane fly,

When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky;

So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,

With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas, too.

And then in a twinkling, I heard on the roof

The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.

As I drew in my head, and was turning around,

Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.

He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,

And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;

A bundle of toys he had slung on his back,

And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.



His eyes—how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow;
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke, it encircled his head like a wreath.
He had a broad face and a little round belly,
That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly.
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself,
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread;
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings, then turned with a jerk,
And laying his fingers aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose;
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down on a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight—
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"

Round Peak Section Has Plenty Of Pork For Holiday Season

Former Resident Buried Here

Funeral services were conducted here Wednesday from the Central Methodist Church for Mr. William Hawkins, of Washington, D. C., whose remains were shipped here from that city for interment. Rev. A. C. Gibbs officiated and the Masons conducted the services at the grave. Mr. Hawkins was formerly from Independence, Va. He was a stone mason and lived here about fifteen years ago. He was ill several months in the home of his son, E. L. Hawkins in Washington, following a stroke of paralysis. His wife and one son survive. A number of relatives from Virginia attended the funeral.

Miss Rosa Lee Cockerham Passes

Miss Rosa Lee Cockerham, invalid daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Cockerham, of this city, passed away at their home on Orchard street last Friday following a month's confinement to her bed from a stroke of paralysis. Miss Cockerham was thirty-two years old. Already afflicted she suffered a stroke of paralysis four years ago and a second stroke about a month ago.

Owing to several cases of influenza in the home the funeral was held on Saturday, the Rev. I. T. Jacobs officiating. Her parents and three sisters and three brothers survive.

The News Office Decorates

The boys here in The News office seem to have caught the Christmas decoration spirit and by the use of 75 yards of laurel festooning and three holly wreaths that were generously donated by W. M. Woodruff's Son & Co., of Lowgap, they have turned the old printing shop into one that Santa would with pride work in.

Belk's Store Shows Our Police-men

Belk's Department Store, of this city, played Santa Claus to the police force of this city this week. Chief Lawrence received a letter last Saturday from Mr. Bain, the local manager, inviting all the force to come to Belk's store where they would be presented with a select pair of shoes as a Christmas present and a recognition of their service during the year.

See The White Quail

Beginning Christmas Eve an opportunity will be given for one week for all Mount Airy residents, and those who come this way, to see the white quail recently shot in the Valentine bottom land by Mr. Pete Bianco.

Mr. Bianco feels that this opportunity should be given local people before the quail is sent to the state department at Raleigh.

The bird is being stuffed and mounted by Prof. Brown principal of the Mount Airy High school and will be placed in the window of the Turnmyre and Lamm Drug store where everyone may see it during the last week in this year.

Kiwanis Elects New Officers

D. E. Hoffman President For Next Year—Club Passes Road Resolution

At the regular meeting of the Kiwanis Club last Friday night the following were elected as officers for the year of 1929:

D. E. Hoffman, President.

O. K. Merritt and O. H. Yokley, Vice-Presidents.

Edw. M. Linville, Treasurer.

Directors—W. W. Christian, Fred Polger, C. M. Whitlock, Geo. E. Marshall, J. L. Ashby, J. D. Thompson and L. F. Wrenn.

J. B. Sparger introduced a resolution asking that the County Highway Commission make another report of the state that the Lowgap road be taken over as a part of the state system. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Miss Corna Eary spent Saturday and Sunday in Greensboro, where she attended the funeral of Mrs. J. Willis Smith, mother of Miss Nanette Lee Smith.

Mr. Possum Wedges Himself Into The News' Big Hog Contest

Reports of hog killing around Beulah and the Round Peak section of the county indicate that the people up there will have plenty of good old spare ribs ham and hock during the holidays and for the year 1929 also. Citizens from up there tell us that the following killings have recently been made:

S. D. Cooke, 650 pounds; Miss M. J. Richards, a 10 months old hog, 500; F. P. Ramey, 450; Wm. Wright two weighing 450 and 425; Will Callahan, 500; Fred Hodges, 500; Frank Hodges, 452; David Frances, 530; Cole Shelton, two weighing 450 and 425; Harry Estis two weighing 412 and 417.

All the above were from the Round Peak section and now the first report from Lowgap is in with Tilden Ramey coming close to the figure of Daniel Jefferson, whose hog killed last week weighed 790. Mr. Ramey's weighed 680. But Joe Neal of Round Peak is after the record of Mr. Jefferson and has a hog that is being fattened which is said to now weigh more than 700 pounds.

Mrs. A. M. Denny, of near Pinnacle, would have our readers know that women can be quite as successful as men in the raising of hogs and she is prepared to show by her own success what others may do if they try. She raised a hog which weighed 580 lbs. When she dried out her fat she had 20 pounds of fine lard. Now let us hear from other farm women or town women who are in the hog raising business, our columns are open to their reports. Who can best Mrs. Denny?

With the reports of these big porkers Mr. Possum has tried to wedge in and get some publicity. His entrance into the hog contest came about in this way: While Cleve Atkins, of Beulah, was doing some chores around his house one night last week a big Sheppard collie trod something in a patch of woods down below the hog pen. The bark of the dog was not exactly like a hound tree bark, but the excitement made by the dog caused Mr. Atkins to investigate and he found Mr. Possum hanging way out on the tip of a limb. He was brought down and when dressed weighed 12 pounds. Now this is not any comparison with the big weights of the porkers but we submit that any possum that weighs 12 pounds dressed would be a whopper and entitled to a little publicity—and still more publicity if we could slice off a piece of the meat from a ham bone and "sop" it around in some gravy and a good juicy sweet potato to finish the menu.

Methodists Will Observe White Christmas

White gifts honoring the Christ Child will be collected for the poor Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock when Central Methodist Sunday school will have the annual Christmas program.

Each one attending is requested to bring a gift, preferably wrapped in white, and the pupils will receive a treat from the Sunday school.

The public is invited to attend the program which will be given by the pupils and those who wish may join the children and members of the Sunday school in making offerings for the poor.

Mrs. Turnmyre Twice Hostess

Mrs. A. P. Turnmyre was hostess at two pretty parties Saturday afternoon and evening. In the afternoon the members of her two table bridge club were her guests with Miss Helen Monday as honoree and in the evening both girls and men were her guests.

Mrs. John Frather won the club prize and was suitably rewarded and a gift was presented to Miss Monday. In the evening James Glenn was the men's high score and received handkerchiefs and Miss Love Bessie held the girls' high score and received a bottle of perfume. Ted Ross and Billy decorated the home and last before the refreshments were served lighted candles and with sprays of holly were placed in the center of each table. A children's song contest and abundant tea were served.

All-State High Contest To Be Played Mount Airy

The all-state high school football squad that battles the Oak Ridge southern prep school champions at the Carolina-Virginia fair grounds here on New Year's day includes scholastic stars from 15 of North Carolina's leading cities and towns.

Six of the seventeen boys who have already accepted the invitation to play against the Niggers hail from the eastern part of the state. The rest of the squad are from western teams, but easterners and westerners alike have earned their places by sterling play on the state's high school gridirons and in some of the hardest fought battles of North Carolina's athletic history.

The places represented by the All-Stars are Wilson, Taylorville, Concord, Lenoir, Statesville, Durham, Sanford, Hickory, Asheville, Randle,

Wilmington, Waynesville, Raleigh, High Point and Mount Airy. Each of these towns will watch their "favorite sons" in action with unusual interest.

The team already listed will be a well-balanced aggregation of hard-charging linemen with a galaxy of powerful and versatile backs. The Charlotte Observer's all-state squad was used as a basis of selection, but practically every man on the team that plays here was picked or mentioned on other teams chosen this season. Every man is a star in his position.

C. C. Feindexter, Waynesville coach and former All-Southern guard at Carolina, will be one of the assistant coaches. Another will be L. J. Perry, Reidsville manager and former All-Star. Others have been invited and may be here.

Mrs. Marion Entertains Hospital Employees

Mrs. N. C. Marion entertained ten young women from Martin Memorial Hospital and a few friends Thursday evening in acknowledgment of the fine service rendered by the nurses during her confinement in the hospital as a patient. It was an old-fashioned party where the guests popped corn around the open fire and enjoyed the old games and later a salad course with coffee was served.

Those enjoying this delightful affair were Misses Edna Homet, Nell and Bertha Wright, Ingram, Davis, Forrest, Anderson, Smith, Clay and Adams, Messrs Thomas, Charles and Judson Ashby, Ronald George, Ted Robinson, Coke Marion, Dr. Jesse Hogan, Dr. Robert Smith and Mr. Adams and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Carter.

C. W. Andrew Receives High Honor

C. W. Andrew has received his commission for the appointment of District Deputy Grand Chancellor of Pythians for the sixth district of the state organization. The sixth district includes three lodges in Winston-Salem, one in Germantown, one in Rural Hall, and the Mount Airy lodge. Mr. Andrew's appointment is to fill the unexpired term of L. W. Gault, of Winston-Salem, resigned.

Local Pythians Clothe Orphans

The Mount Airy Lodge Knights Pythias have contributed everything needful for complete wardrobes for Louise Gale aged 13 years and Olin Randall aged 11 year, two children of the Pythian Home, Clayton, N. C. The Christmas boxes sent to the two orphans would delight the hearts of any children; for the boy had and every day suits, overall, best and work shoes, shirts, cap, sweater, socks, underwear, ties, hose, etc. For the girl, dresses, slips, sweater; gloves, hose, slippers, bathrobe, on down to a box of talcum powder.

The local lodge will not meet next Monday, but will hold a regular meeting on Monday night, Dec. 31.

"Nest"

Odell Beck, chief linotype operator on The News force, is confined to his home with an attack of flu. Any of the other force who must have the flu will have to wait until Odell gets back on the job.

Mrs. Andy Bessley Passes

Mrs. Golda Lee Bessley, wife of Mr. Andy L. Bessley, died at their home in the quarry section, Dec. 17, and the funeral was conducted from the First Back Presbyterian Church, Dec. 18, the Rev. R. L. Berry officiating and the remains interred at Oakdale cemetery.