

# MACON WHOOPEE!!

1889 -N- 1989  
MACON, NORTH CAROLINA

## Macon's 100th Birthday Party Slated Saturday

Friends from near and far away will converge this Saturday for the centennial celebration of the 100th birthday of the Town of Macon.

The Macon Town Commissioners have been working long and hard to plan an afternoon and evening celebration of Macon's 100th anniversary of incorporation, which occurred on March 11, 1889 when the village of Macon Depot became the Town of Macon.

"I am very excited and proud that this 'Macon Whoopie' celebration is occurring during my tenure as mayor," M. C. Clary said, "and the town commissioners and I appreciate everything that has been done by the citizenry to ensure the success of the 100th birthday party."

The events will begin at noon on Saturday, March 11, and conclude with a massive fireworks display from 7:30-8 p.m. launched from the rooftop of Halthcock's Grocery Store.

But prior to the firework display, a number of activities will take place, all guaranteed to attract the interest of those who attend the "Macon Whoopie" celebration.

Beginning at noon, clowns will roam the town's streets bearing balloons for the children attending the 100th birthday party.

Another treat planned for the children is face painting. Mrs. Junell Blaylock and personnel from Warren County's schools will "colorize" the faces of children and proceeds for their handiwork will be used for the benefit of "Project Graduation," an all-night, supervised party which has been planned for seniors on graduation night at Warren County High School. Designs will be painted for a fee of 50 cents. The cost of full-face painting will be \$1.

Also beginning at noon and lasting until 7 p.m. will be the sale of plate lunches and dinners. Meals of pork barbecue, boiled potatoes, slaw, bread and tea or coffee will be sold from the Macon Fire Station. The cost of the meals will be \$4 for adults and \$2.00 for children. Proceeds from the sale of the pork barbecue meals have been earmarked for the benefit of the Macon Volunteer Fire Department to be used toward the purchase of a new fire truck.

Soft drinks will also be offered for sale and proceeds from all purchases have been earmarked for the benefit of local church youth programs.

The artwork of Dianne T. Rodwell will be on display and "401 Familiarity," a limited edition

print of her oil pastel painting will be raffled, with proceeds donated to the Jennifer Lynn Henry Kidney Transplant Fund. Authentically detailed and realistically colored, Mrs. Rodwell's "401 Familiarity" depicts an old house located two miles on the Raleigh side of Louisburg. The 11½-inch-by-nine-inch print has been double-matted to form a 16-inch-by-20-inch display. Other pieces of Mrs. Rodwell's work will also be on display and available for sale. A portion of the proceeds from sales of other artwork will be donated to the Macon Volunteer Fire Department, also for use toward the purchase of the new truck.

Live entertainment will be available for persons of all ages. Butch Meek's Country Grass Band will appear in concert. The Roanoke Valley Cloggers, of Roanoke Rapids, will perform their fancy footwork. Danny Harris, of Roanoke Rapids, will appear with his bike show. The Norlina Senior Citizens' Rhythm Band will perform. The Warren County High School Eagle Chorus and band will appear. And as a special treat, pending confirmation, Franklin County parachutists will appear and hot-air balloon rides will be available.

Mule-drawn buggy rides will be furnished by Karl Hehl, on leave from the North Pole as chief transportation coordinator for Santa Claus. Riders will tour the Town of Macon and will be shown the location of historic homes, old businesses, the old Macon school and the site of the first school built there.

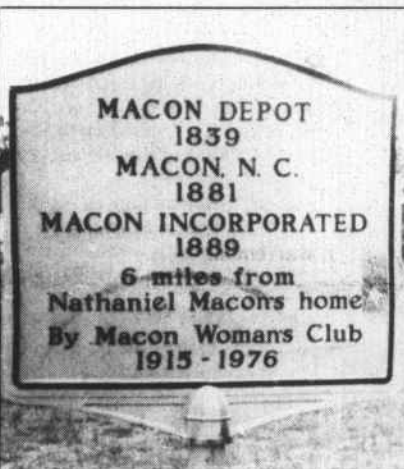
For history buffs and other persons with interest, a glass-covered display case will be located in a building, which housed most recently a taxidermy shop and is located next door to the fire station. Included among the items on display will be old notes from the Bank of Macon, old photographs of the town, and old map of the North Carolina railroad system, old store ledgers and other memorabilia.

A dedicatory ceremony has been planned for mid-afternoon. A granite marker bearing the centennial dates and a flagpole, to be located in the town square, will be dedicated. Keys to the Town of Macon will be presented to Reynolds Price, award-winning author and Macon native, and his brother, Bill Price, director of the N. C. Department of Archives and History in Raleigh. In addition, the town will recognize the citizen who has resided in Macon continuously for the longest time since birth. Also slated to appear during the ceremony are Senator Frank Ballance and Warren County Commissioners' Chairman Mrs. Eva N. Clayton. Macon Mayor M. C. Clary will preside over the dedicatory ceremony.

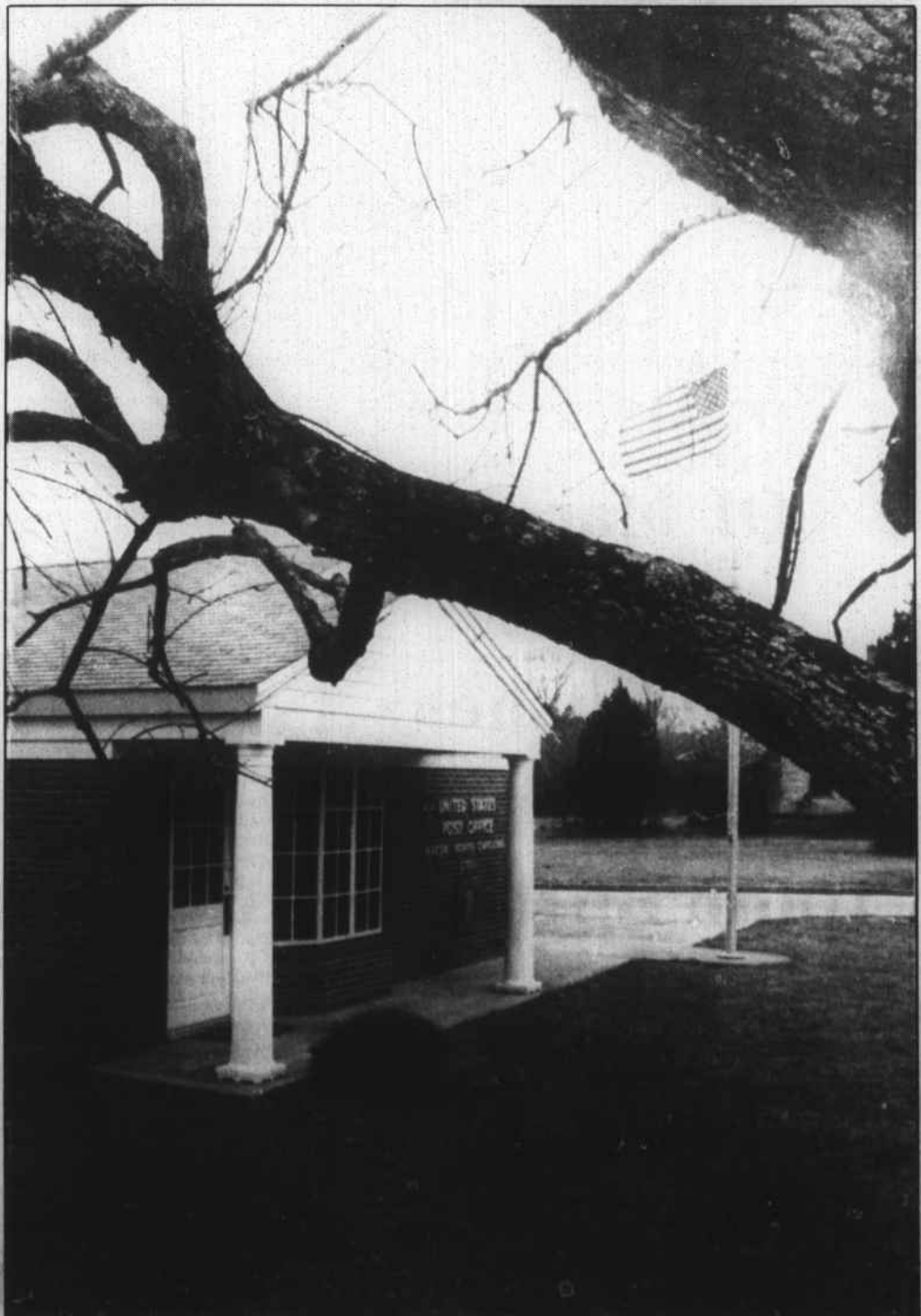
Other planned activities include bake and crafts sales.

"This will really be a day for 'Macon Whoopie' and for reflecting on the history of our town, and I certainly hope everyone will turn out for our exciting 100th birthday party and celebration on Saturday," Mayor Clary said.

In case of inclement weather, a Saturday, March 18, rain date has been planned, Mayor Clary said.



**M**acon, North Carolina will be celebrating its 100th anniversary on Saturday, March 11, weather permitting. A limited number of special bumper stickers (shown in inset above) will be handed out, and an afternoon full of activities awaits visitors to the small town which got its start in 1839 as Macon Depot. Macon has developed over the 150 years since its birth from a railroad town into a peaceful village that is today home to 158 persons. One of the attractive structures in Macon is the U. S. Post Office shown below.



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