

Local Area Churches Plan Annual Christmas Programs

Christmas Pageant Tuesday Night At Zion Meth. Church

Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Houser and the Youth Department of the Sunday school will again have charge of the annual Christmas program at Zion Methodist Church in the county.

Miss Joan Reep will play the role of Mary and Dean Reep the part of Joseph in the pageant, supported by the usual shepherds and wise men.

The program will be Tuesday night, December 20, at 7:30 o'clock. Rev. R. W. Blanchard, Sr., is pastor of the Zion church, and Loy Reep, Superintendent of Sunday school.

The Christmas sermon will be preached Sunday, December 25, by the pastor at 10 a.m. His subject will be, "A Changeless Day In A Changing World."

Emanuel Reformed Christmas Programs

Emanuel Evangelical and Reformed Sunday School will have its annual Christmas Program and Farty at the church on Wednesday at 7:30 o'clock. The program will be a festival of carols, "Sing for Joy" by Elizabeth Yost. It will consist of carols sung by senior and junior choirs, interpretation of carols, tableau, and special music by the children of the Sunday School. Special gifts will be given for the needy.

This program of joyous music, scripture and prayer will be followed by the Sunday School Christmas Party in the social hall. Here there will be good fellowship and the giving of gifts.

On Sunday, December 25, Emanuel Church will celebrate the Festival of the Nativity with a special Christmas message by the pastor and special Christmas music by the choir will be a part of the Lord's Day service at 11:00 o'clock. Help to make Christmas a Christ-centered day by attending church and worshipping your God. You are always welcome at Emanuel Church, and a special invitation is extended to you at this Christmas season.

Christmas Play Dec. 25 Southside Baptist Church

A Christmas play, entitled "Scarlet Ribbon" will be presented at the Southside Baptist Church on Sunday night, December 25, at 7 o'clock in the church auditorium.

Rev. W. L. Pitts, pastor, and the congregation of the Southside Baptist church extend a cordial invitation to the public to attend.

Candlelight Service At Daniels Evangelical And Reformed Church

Daniels Evangelical and Reformed Church will have a service of Christmas Carols and Candles Saturday night at 11:00, December 24th. The public is cordially invited to attend this service.

Christmas Cantata At Pleasant Grove Church

A cantata entitled "The Last Carol" will be presented at the Pleasant Grove Methodist Church Thursday, December 22, at 7:30 p.m.

The public is cordially invited to attend this service.

Christmas Program At Leonard's Fork Church

Leonard's Fork Baptist Church will present its Christmas program, "The Songs of Christmas," Friday night, December 23, at 7:30 o'clock.

The public is invited.

Friendly Chapel Church Christmas Program Dec. 23

Friendly Chapel Baptist Church will present a Christmas program, Friday night, December 23, 1955, beginning at 7:30.

The children of the church, under the direction of Mrs. Floyd Beaver, will present their program first. Following this the young people, under the direction of Mrs. Tyson Lawing, are Mrs. Davis Lee Turbill will present a drama entitled "A Sign Unto You." Characters are:

Caleb—the keeper of the inn, Bobby Shull; Rebecca—his wife, Jean Shull; Mira—their daughter, Barbara Warlick; Martha—a maid servant, Shirley Lawing; Aunt Sarah, Vetra Mathis; Joed, the steward of the inn, James Carpenter; Joseph, Rhyne Henley; Mary, Sylvia Reel; Shepherds, Janet Carpenter; Larry Carpenter; Eugene Henley; Group of Bethlehem Children, Gail Mathis; Donna Carpenter; Brenda Carpenter; Rickie Lawing; Gary Alexander; Gerald Henley.

The pastor Rev. Floyd Beaver gives everyone a cordial invitation to attend.

Lincoln Savings Bonds Sales In Nov. \$25,056.25

A new peacetime sales record in U.S. Savings Bonds is being set this year in North Carolina.

With November sales of \$4,346,939.75, which is 10 per cent ahead of the same month of last year, sales in the State have now passed the \$50,000,000 mark. Total State sales for the year are \$7,174,609.50 or 19 per cent ahead of 1954.

Twenty-seven counties in North Carolina have already exceeded their sales quota for this year. Lincoln County sales for November are \$25,056.25 and for the year \$205,631.25, according to G. Harold Myrick, Savings Bonds Chairman for Lincoln County, who released this report as prepared by the Savings Bonds Sales Director's office in Greensboro.

Nationwide November sales were three per cent above those of last November. The accumulated national sales for the first eleven months of this year are 11 per cent higher than for the same months last year.

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WHERE SEALS CASH GOES... The District (Catawba-Lincoln-Alexander) mobile X-ray unit of the District Tuberculosis Association is seen above at one of its stops with a group of people lined up to get their chests X-rayed. No fee is charged for this service as the cost is defrayed by the sale of Christmas seals. The mobile unit will be in Lincolnton Saturday, Dec. 24.

Rites Conducted For W. A. Potts

Walker Andrew Potts, 66, prominent farmer of Lincolnton, Route 3, Macedonia Baptist church section, died in a Maiden clinic Friday morning about 10:30 o'clock.

Mr. Potts is reported to have been taken suddenly ill at his home Wednesday morning and was rushed by car to Maiden clinic, where he died soon after admission. Death was attributed to a heart attack.

Funeral services were held Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in Macedonia Baptist Church, of which Mr. Potts had long been an active worker, with the Rev. Jack Mace, pastor, officiating, assisted by Rev. L. A. McClure, Rev. Roy Williams and Rev. A. A. Walker. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Eva Lee Potts; three daughters, Mrs. Thurman Smith, Mrs. Arnold Ballard and Mrs. Elma Lockman of Lincolnton; Route 3; four sons, Gaither and Reid Potts of Lincolnton; Route 1, Lee and Elliott Potts of the home, five grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. W. M. Lawing of Lincolnton, Route 5, Mrs. J. T. Lawing of Lincolnton, Route 2.

Drum's Funeral Home of Lincolnton was in charge of arrangements.

High School Fetes City And County Employees

Approximately 100 city, county, state and federal employees school board members, and staff members of the local newspapers were feted at a turkey dinner Friday at the school cafeteria by the Lincolnton high school officials.

This is an annual event of the school just prior to the Christmas holidays, and was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by the "free" eating guests. Superintendent S. Ray Lowder and Principal Jack Kiser acted as the genial hosts to the gathering, and also lent assistance as "table waiters." Mrs. C. E. Kiger and her splendid crew of cooks were complimented on the fine meal.

Invited guests at the dinner included members of the city board of alderman, fire department, police department, sheriff's department, court house and agency personnel, health and welfare departments, city and county school boards, state highway division, other city and county departments, and the press.

New Car Tags Go On Sale January 3rd

Motorists are reminded that the new 1956 automobile licenses go on sale here in Lincolnton on January 3rd at Guy F. Cline, Roddy Cline license agency manager.

Mr. Cline states that the hours on which the local office will be open for license sales will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The license plates next year will be the same width but will be slightly higher. Instead of the customary six numbers, a combination of numbers and letters will be used.

There will be only one plate with orange background and black letters.

The numbers for automobiles to be issued here will be: From CA 1001 to CA 9998, and CB 1 to CB 1500.

New Articles, Ads Omitted Today's Issue

Due to the heavy run of pre-Christmas advertisements and news articles for today's Times, space was not available to publish them all. Look for them in Thursday's edition.

Local Stores To Be Closed Monday, Dec. 26

Member stores of the Lincolnton Merchants Association will be closed on Monday, December 26, as a Christmas holiday. It was announced today by Mrs. Polly Crismon, association secretary.

A half holiday in the afternoon will also be observed by local stores next Wednesday, December 28.

Monday, January 2, will be observed by local stores as a holiday. This week, the week before Christmas, local stores will be open all day on Wednesday for the convenience of shoppers.

On normal schedules, the local stores close on Wednesday afternoon but at the Yule shopping season will remain open all day the two Wednesdays before Christmas. Some of the local grocery stores are observing 8 p.m. closing schedules during the last of the week.

Local Doctors, Health Dept. Have Polio Vaccine Supplies

Have you protected your child against polio? Many have, but apparently there are hundreds of others who haven't.

SUPPLIES ADEQUATE
The supplies of the Salk anti-polio vaccine in Lincoln county have been adequate, but it is not being used by those eligible to receive it, to the extent that it is available," it has been pointed out. The distribution set-up on the vaccine may not be clear in the minds of the public, as to priority groups, the fee charged, etc. As a result, health authorities are concerned over the indifference of some parents toward immunizing their children against the 1956 polio season.

SMOOTH LOCAL PROGRAM
Here in Lincoln county, the polio immunization program for the public has been going along more smoothly than in some other counties. Dr. John Fitzgerald, president of the Lincoln County Medical Society, reported that Lincoln county as a whole is doing fairly well in the polio inoculation program.

"The mothers have been interested in the program from the beginning," he said, "and there are few days that pass without children being brought in for polio shots." He estimated that well over 1,000 in all age groups have been given immunization shots since the vaccine was first distributed for commercial use last summer. Local doctors have a standard fee of \$3 for administering the shot.

Physicians point out that the beginning of next year's polio season is only about five months off, and now is the time for the Salk vaccine to be used to give protection against polio next summer.

Lincolnton physicians have received adequate supplies of the vaccine, and the county health department. The physicians who direct their practice toward children are generally swamped with demands for shots. However, in contrast, there has been lukewarm response to the free health department program aimed at immunizing children whose parents are unable to pay for inoculations.

SAFE, EFFECTIVE
It has been pointed out that the vaccine allocated in North Carolina is distributed on the basis of 70 per cent through commercial channels for use by private physicians and 30 per cent through local health departments. Under the government approved program on the vaccine, it was the intent of Congress that the vaccine would be available, free, to parents who are unable to pay for it for their children.

This free program is available at the health departments to youngsters one to 15 years old. This vaccine, allocated to the health departments, is not in the hands of physicians. Physicians have their own supply which they buy and assess the \$3 inoculation fee.

The Salk vaccine has proved safe and effective in Lincoln county, with no polio cases reported at all this season. Over 1,600 first and second graders of the county received free shots of the vaccine at the clinics last Spring. So, there is no reason for fear concerning the vaccine.

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County Schools Superintendent Since 1931

"Professor" Joe R. Nixon Enjoys His Work With People And The Youngsters

By SMACK PROCTOR
He's a friendly, familiar personality to Lincoln county's population, young and old. He's respectfully addressed by many of his acquaintances as "Professor" Joe; by others, as "Mr. Joe."

47 YEARS AS SCHOOL MAN
This would be robust, easy-going Joseph Robert Nixon, present Superintendent of the Lincoln County Schools, who has spent 47 of his 65 years in school work, as a teacher, principal, superintendent, counselor and advisor. And, he says he has loved every minute, every hour and every day of his work in the field of education. He adds simply, "I went into teaching and school work as a profession. My greatest joy has been working with the people and youngsters of our schools."

Lincoln National Bank Elects Three Assistant Cashiers

Chief Sigmom Gives Warning On Firecrackers

Police Chief Sigmom today issued a warning on the exploding of firecrackers within the Lincolnton city limits. County officers, likewise, issued a similar warning.

Chief Sigmom pointed out that there is a law in North Carolina that prohibits the manufacture, sale or use of firecrackers. "Our men intend to enforce that law," he said, "especially at this Christmas season of the year when firecrackers are usually put into use."

Prompt arrests will be made against violators of the firecracker law, he said, and reminded that during the recent Halloween night celebration, eleven warrants were issued against persons found with firecrackers in their possession.

"Firecrackers are not only against the law," the chief added, "they are dangerous to life and limb." Many instances can be cited of serious burns and injuries to people, often small, innocent children, as the result of exploding firecrackers.

The Lincoln National Bank, at the monthly meeting of the Board of Directors last week, elected three assistant cashiers — Debro Peeler, Mrs. Cecelia Carpenter and Marshall S. Ramseur, Jr.



Mr. Peeler has been with the bank since last September. He is a brother of the late George Peeler of Lincolnton. Prior to coming to the Lincoln National Bank, Mr. Peeler was connected with the Union Trust Co. in Fallston, and has served in an educational capacity with the Veterans Administration. He attended Belwood high school, Cleveland county, High Point college, and is a World War II veteran.

J. Everett Henley, executive president of the Lincoln National Bank, made the announcement today.

The three newly elected assistant cashiers serve as tellers in the bank.

MR. PEELER
Mr. Peeler has been with the bank since last September. He is a brother of the late George Peeler of Lincolnton. Prior to coming to the Lincoln National Bank, Mr. Peeler was connected with the Union Trust Co. in Fallston, and has served in an educational capacity with the Veterans Administration. He attended Belwood high school, Cleveland county, High Point college, and is a World War II veteran.

MRS. CARPENTER
Mrs. Carpenter is the wife of Grier Carpenter of Route 1, Dallas. She has been with the local bank since shortly after its organization. Mrs. Carpenter is a graduate of Union High School, and is being elected assistant cashier of the Lincoln National Bank is reported to be the first woman to ever hold an officer position in any of the two local banks.

MR. RAMSEUR
Mr. Ramseur, Lincolnton native, has been with the Lincoln National Bank for three years. He is a graduate of the Lincolnton high school and served in the Navy during World War II.

Leonhardt Rites Held Thursday

Final rites were held Thursday at 3 p.m. in Bess's Chapel Methodist church in Lincolnton county for J. Frank Leonhardt, 66, with Rev. Johnson, pastor, officiating, assisted by Rev. Cooke. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Mr. Leonhardt, farmer of the North Brook section, and Homestead, Fla., died in the Presbyterian hospital in Charlotte last Thursday.

He had been in declining health and came home from Florida recently for a check-up with his doctor, and entered the hospital about ten days before his death.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Annie Ledford Leonhardt, his mother, Mrs. Lizzy Leonhardt, Gates of Cherryville; four daughters, four sons, 11 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

'Baby Doll' Girls Arriving In Drove At Local Hospital

For the last decade or so, girls have far outnumbered men — which makes it sort of rough on the husband-hunters. "Baby dolls" are coming, in numbers, females all, at a local hospital.

And if trends at the Gordon Crowell Memorial Hospital are any indication, it doesn't look like there's much hope of the situation becoming any better.

Each last Monday, there were thirteen girls born straight — setting what is believed to be a new record at the local hospital. Then one boy put in an appearance, breaking the record at thirteen. But since then three

Schools Close For Holidays

Christmas holidays began at five Lincolnton city schools and eight schools in the county system on Friday at 3 p.m. and continue until January 2, 1956. Other county schools close Wednesday of this week.

City schools closing Friday for the holidays were Lincolnton high school, Lincolnton grammar, Park Elementary, South Aspen Street primary, Oak Lawn elementary, County schools closing Friday were Crouse, Love Memorial, Laboratory, Long Shoals, Asbury, Iron Station, Hickory Grove and Mt. Vernon.

The following county schools will close Wednesday afternoon, December 1, at 3 o'clock for the holidays and re-open Monday, January 2: Rock Springs, Triangle, Union Nos. 1, 2 and 3; Newbold, New Elbeth, Tuckers Grove and Rock Hill.

THIRTEEN STRAIGHT BIRTHS...

'Baby Doll' Girls Arriving In Drove At Local Hospital

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Lock Your Car, Protect Gifts, Says Police Chief

Police Chief Ben Sigmom has issued his annual reminder to Christmas shoppers about leaving their packages in unlocked cars.

The police are especially alert for thieves during the Christmas shopping season.

Chief Sigmom said: "It takes no time at all to lock a car door, and the act may save a great deal of money and disappointment. If you put packages in your car and plan to return to the stores for additional purchases, please assure the safe keeping of your gifts by locking the car door."

Injured Clark Girl Taken To Charlotte

Frances Clark, 10-year-old Lincolnton county girl who was seriously injured in an auto-truck accident Dec. 10, was taken from the Crowell Hospital by Drum Funeral ambulance Friday to the Memorial hospital in Charlotte.

The little girl is reported to have regained consciousness, but her condition is still regarded as serious. Doctors are now said to be more hopeful of her recovery. Her father, Tom Clark, also injured in the wreck, remains at the local hospital.

Driver License Office To Close For Holidays

Christmas holiday closings will affect all driver licensing stations throughout the state, according to an announcement from Raleigh by Col. James Smith, commander of the State Highway Patrol.

Smith said that all licensing branches of the highway patrol have been authorized to suspend operations Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26. Raleigh headquarters of the licensing division will observe identical closings, the patrol commander said.

All units will re-open for business Tuesday, December 27, he concluded.

The driver's license office in Lincolnton is located on the basement floor of the county courthouse, R. G. Thomas examiner.

Schedule For Dist. X-ray Mobile Unit This Week

Saturday, December 24, Health Department building, Lincolnton. Large film — 9:00-10:00; small film — 10:00-12:00.

Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.



FIRST '56 LINCOLN AUTO TAG... Pretty Shirley Wilson of The Lincoln Times staff holds the first auto license which will be sold when the tags go on sale here at Guy E. Cline, Roddy Cline agency manager, on January 3. The tag which Shirley displays in front of one of Cline's shiny, new Buick models shows the new number system which will be used in the state for the first time next year — Times staff photo-Frazier.



PROF. JOE NIXON

SCHOOLS CONSOLIDATED

The consolidation of the white schools included the following: Zion, Ridge Academy, Bethel, Daniels, Elm Grove, Oak Grove, Union, Buffalo, Shrum, Macedonia, Salem, Mt. Zion, Greenwood, with Asbury, Southside with Laboratory; Piney Grove with Oak Grove; Machpelah with Rock Springs. Negro schools consolidated were: Flint Hill, Pinehurst, Southview, Edwards Grove with Mitchell; Costner's Grove, Georgetown, Poplar Springs with Newbold (a new high school completed and opened several years ago); Brevard's, Denver, Liberty Hill, with Tucker's Grove; Ebenezer with Rock Hill.

"Mr. Joe," modest man that he is, refuses to take credit for the growth, expansions, improvements made under his superintendency. He says: "I think that should go to the school boards, the committees, and the cooperative patrons, teachers and pupils of each school."

(Continued on page 4)