



BETHLEHEM STAR ORNAMENTS — Pieces of the original Bethlehem Star lighted display have been turned into ornaments, above, and are being sold as a fundraiser for the upkeep of the new electric star which shines over Bethlehem at Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church, as well as for securing musical groups to perform at the Star Lighting each December.

Exhibiting Artist Series calls for 2019, 2020 submissions

Since August 2010 the Bethlehem Branch Library in Bethlehem Community, Alexander County, has been the exhibiting the work of local artists. The Gallery is now accepting submissions for 2019 and 2020 exhibitions.

Exhibitions are available for the following dates:

- In 2019 -- June 6 - July 25, August 1 - September 26, and October 3 - November 28 are available.
- In 2020 -- June 5 - July 30, August 6 - September 24, and October 1 - November 26 are available.

Exhibitions can be solo artist, multiple artists, or organized group artists. The gallery space can hang up to approximately 30 pieces of mediums sized art measuring about 30" x 30". If an artist would like to hang in a multiple group of 2 to 4 to 6, please indicate in your submission. In addition to wall art, there is space available for free standing sculpture, clay, and wood, for up to 12 pieces no taller than 18" high. This would be in conjunction with regular exhibitions. Artists must wait a minimum of two years since their previous exhibition at the library. (Please note that the exhibition schedule will be booked quickly.)

Submissions should include the following: bio + artist statement, artist address + phone number, 8-10 images in jpeg format, website if applicable, the theme or idea for the exhibition, and the number of pieces in the exhibition.

Submissions and questions can be emailed to Bud Caywood at caywood studio@charter.net.

Low Income Energy Assistance can help with heating costs

The Alexander County Department of Social Services staff would like to inform the community that applications for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) will begin on December 3, 2018, thru December 31, 2018 for households containing an elderly person age 60 and above, OR a disabled person receiving services through the Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS). *Disabled persons are defined as receiving SSI, SSA, or VA disability.*

Energy payments will be paid directly to the heating provider.

Households must make an application for LIEAP Assistance. If funds are still available, applications will be taken starting Jan. 2, 2019, through Mar. 31, 2019, for all other households.

For more information contact Alexander County Department of Social Services at 828-632-1080.

"Christmas in Bethlehem" Drive-Thru rescheduled

For the seventeenth consecutive year, the churches of Bethlehem community will be hosting "Christmas in Bethlehem," a drive-thru dramatization of the Biblical village where Jesus Christ was born. Due to last weekend's snow storm, this inspirational event has been rescheduled for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, December 14, 15, and 16, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. on property adjacent to the Fellowship Advent Christian Church (833 Icard Ridge Road).

Included will be over 30 live scenes depicting Bethlehem at the time of Jesus' birth, with peasants, prophets, shepherds, soldiers, kings, angels, and a cast of nearly 80 characters. A year ago, several scenes were added depicting highlights of Jesus' later years and ministry as well, leading up to the Cross and His glorious Resurrection!

Those wishing to stroll through the village at a leisurely pace will have opportunity to don costumes of the period and interact with the cast (costumes provided on site, free of charge). Refreshments are also provided for the public to enjoy in the church fellowship hall nearby. This wonderful event is provided admission free as a gift from the Bethlehem community.

In recent years this celebration has received media coverage from the New York Times, USA Weekend magazine and a photo spread in the Advent Christian Witness national magazine. Visitors have traveled each year from Charlotte and beyond to witness this inspirational event, totaling about 2,000 guests annually. The public is cordially invited to join the hundreds of visitors who will attend this year. The village is located at the intersection of Fellowship Church and Icard Ridge Roads one mile south of West Middle School and one mile west of Highway 127.



We're dashing through the snow to say, we wish you a wonderful holiday! From the sweet sound of carols filling the air, to the lights that twinkle everywhere, may every moment be merry and bright, filled with goodwill, laughter and sheer delight.

Basic Finance, Inc.

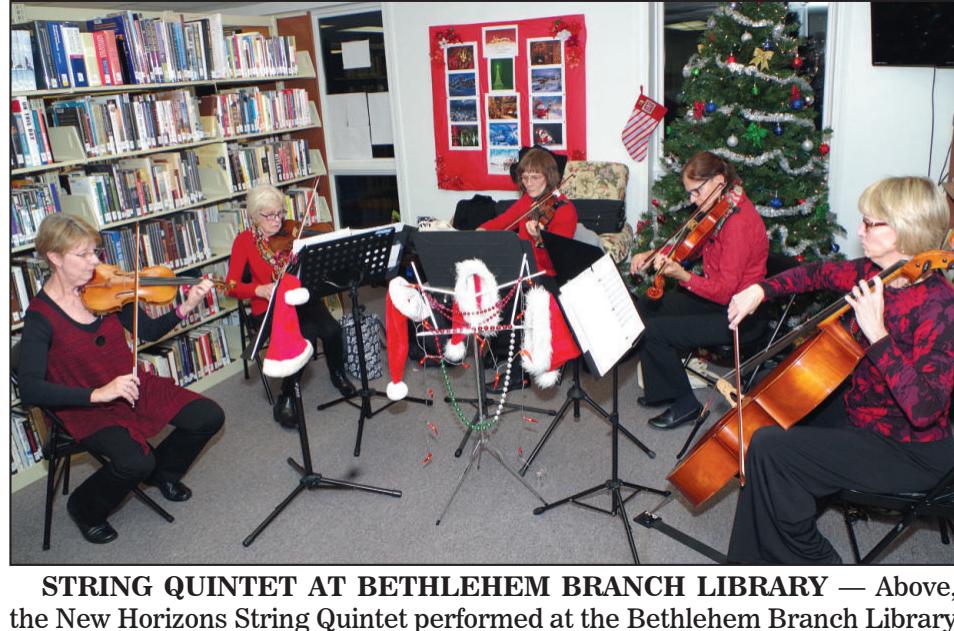
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STRING QUINTET AT BETHLEHEM BRANCH LIBRARY — Above, the New Horizons String Quintet performed at the Bethlehem Branch Library on December 6, 2018. The group provided music for the 2nd Annual Holiday Art Festival at the library.



YOUNT'S GLASS ART AT BETHLEHEM BRANCH LIBRARY — A reception for the 2nd Annual Holiday Art Festival at the Bethlehem Branch Library was held on December 6. Above, some of the work in the exhibit includes pieces by Reilly Young, stained glass and fused glass artist. All the artwork in the display are from local Bethlehem artists.

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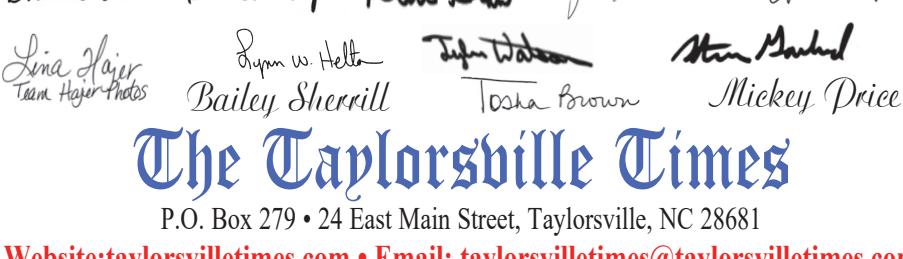


With Glad Tidings At Christmas



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With thanks and best wishes from our entire staff.



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