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Children are a gift from the Lord, They are a reward from him! Psalm 127:3

Christmas shoppers invited to ornament sales at MC

Special to The Clinton Courier

Christmas shoppers will find plenty of holiday season stocking stuffers at Mississippi College.

It's one way to avoid the mad rush and traffic jams around busy metro Jackson malls as the Christmas season draws near.

Mississippians are invited to the Clinton campus to purchase creative Christmas ornaments that MC art students are designing. The sale runs from November 27 through December 1 at the university's cafeteria in the B.C. Rogers Student Center.

Proceeds from the 8th annual Art Department event will raise money to send MC students to the National Art Education Association convention in 2018.

Ornaments at the Baptist-affiliated university remain priced at \$5 each.

The Christmas ornaments depict crosses, manager scenes, the Magnolia State, Santa Claus and MC arrowheads. Dove designs return to the sale this year. There will be deer and angel designs, too, says art professor Stephanie Busbea.

Busbea serves as faculty advisor to the Mississippi College student chapter of the National Art Education Association. The organization is based in Alexandria, Virginia.

NAEA conferences each year offer a smorgasbord of more than 1,000 work-



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Abby Chappell and Caylee Steele wedging clay for ornaments.

shops, seminars and learning opportunities for students along with educators across the U.S. The group's 70th annual meeting was held in New York City last March.

Each fall, the MC art students design hundreds of clay ornaments in the kiln on the ground floor of the Aven Fine Arts Building.

Over the years, MC students created ornaments featuring dinosaurs and Disney cartoon characters. In 2015, the art students crafted 250 ornaments.

Just in time for Christmas, hours for the November 27 through December 1 sale are 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

For more details, contact Stephanie Busbea at 601-925-7712.

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Clinton native authors local story

Eventually, the newlywed couple found their way into Texas. There, through hard work and frugal living, they were able to get a loan for a small farm and go about subsistence life. In 1868, they welcomed a baby boy, Ira, into their family. In 1869, Lee suddenly died. Shepard had to find her way through probate in a legal system that was stacked against women.

Fortunately, Shepard had a few friends who supported her and provided a place for her and her son to live. One of those friends suggested that she re-establish contact with her family. With their help, she did, but the hardship was not over

for several long years.

Shepard regained much of her life vibrancy in 1881, when she and her teenage son were welcomed home upon her return to Tinnin. There, in the home of her parents, she had a well-respected life and outlived all of her five sisters. She died in 1918 and was buried in the Zachariah Ratliff Family Cemetery in Tinnin.

Return to Tinnin was published by BAM Publishing in 2017. It is available through Books-A-Million online, Amazon.com, and other venues. The author may be contacted via email at jasperlee@windstream.net.

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