

# Newsletter

YOUR BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION

### November 2022

685 Hwy. 52 Bypass W. • Lafayette, TN 37083 • Phone (615) 666-5885 • Fax (615) 666-6969 www.maconcountychamber.org
WELCOME CENTER HOURS: Monday • Friday, 8:00 a.m. • 4:00 p.m., Saturday & Sunday, Closed 2022 Board of Directors and Staff:

Craig Harris - Chairperson, Brandon Clark - Vice Chairperson, Logan Tuck - Treasurer Laura Merlo, Keith Allen, Jeffrey W. Massey, Fellisha Adams, Titus Carter, Mayor Steve Jones, Mayor Jerry Wilmore, Mayor Kenneth Hollis Jennifer Hardman - Director • Brenda Hiett - Assistant Director

# Letter from our Chairperson

They're just around the corner ... yes, the holidays loom.

Most of us know that we celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas for their intended reasons. On Thanksgiving, we pause in an intentional effort of gratefulness for all of the many blessings that have been extended to us. That should be a posture in which we live every day, being thankful for how blessed that we are. On Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. God sending His only son into the world to die for sinful man was the greatest gift and an immeasurable blessing.

You know ... when you really stop and think about it ... it's really a blessing to even have the opportunity to celebrate.

While we strive to keep our focus where it should be, a lot comes along with the holidays. Many families try to balance the time that they are able to spend with various extensions of their family. Some couples enjoy time with the wife's family on Christmas Eve and then see the husband's family on Christmas Day. Travel is often involved, sometimes driving a distance and other times flying across the country. It can certainly be a juggling act. And yes, it can be stressful at times ... not wanting to disappoint anyone, trying to work together, wedging everything in ... the holidays can sometimes be more stressful than relaxing unfortunately. But hopefully, we will strive to avoid falling into that trap.

There's often a reason why that we find ourselves "all worked up" around the holidays. It's because of people ... more specifically, it's because of people that we care about. We try to wedge everything in because we're trying to make time for those who are most important to us. Those are the people who we want to spend the holidays with ... the people we love.

Every holiday is a little unique. No two are exactly the same. For years, our family has said that we may not always be gathered in the same place in the same way that we are at that moment, so we should realize how blessed that we are and enjoy the wonderful opportunity that we have to be back together.

That all changed for our family in January of 2020 as my grandmother – the matriarch of our family – passed away. For us, everything revolved around her house at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Nobody else was allowed to prepare any food. She handled it all, producing a massive spread, with the intention to provide each individual's favorites. We miss the spread ... but we miss her so much more.

I lost one of my closest friends a few weeks ago to cancer. I'll miss

sitting with him late on Thanksgiving weekend and again on Christmas Eve or Christmas night and talking about the craziness that took place during each of our holiday gatherings.

Many of you can relate to where I'm at. Though our family still gathers, the holidays have been different for me the past two years. However, I fully realize that I've been blessed and that I'm still blessed. I was blessed to spend every holiday for 43 years with a wonderful grandmother who I loved



dearly and who loved me too. This holiday season will be different for some of you due to the fact that you too have suffered loss.

While it may seem that I'm bringing discouraging thoughts to mind, what I really want to encourage each of us to do is to treasure the wonderful people around us as we plunge into this holiday season. Whoever it may be – whether it's a loving family, treasured friends or simply acquaintances who you may not know quite that well – stop and think about how that God has blessed you if you have a place to go and people to be around. Everyone can't say the same.

God created us to be relational creatures who need and enjoy fellowship with one another. It's my prayer that your fellowship during this holiday season serves to enrich your life and encourage you greatly.

Speaking of fellowship, the Macon County Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet is also around the corner, on Nov. 15. Great friends and colleagues will be there. It's always a great time. If you haven't made plans and obtained your tickets, don't hesitate. Give us a call. I look forward to seeing you all there.

And lastly, before the opportunity passes me by, let me be one of the first to wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving ... and I'll go ahead and offer up a Merry Christmas too!

Until next month ...

Craig Harris, Chairperson Macon County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors





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SCREENINGS

at Macon Community Hospital

POLITIANS SYMPTOMS OF DARRIES including increased miles, therest water, being a director, bowe by serials in Recommises Monday. In stay from Ten., Spirs, to recovery year SE HEAVING BOOK Tens. Se sure to see that us have we can held you making you.

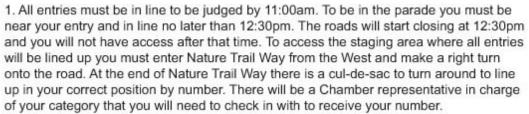
MACON



A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on October 29, 2022 for Beans and Leaf's Coffee Cafe. We welcome them to the Chamber Family!

#### Lafayette Christmas Parade

#### Saturday, December 3rd@ 1:00pm 2022 Parade Guidelines



- FINALjudging will take place before the parade starting at 11:00am and ribbons will beawarded before the line-up moves to TSC at 12:40pm.
- 3. All entries, including 4-wheelers & horses, must be clean and decorated.
- 4. There can be no live Santa as part of the entry! There is only ONE Santa, and he

will be on the Lafayette Fire Department truck.

- No refilling of generators during the parade. All floats using a generator must have a fire extinguisher on board.
- 6. All floats throwing out candy MUST have at least 2 walking guards on each side of the float. All floats with children must also have an adult on board for safety & supervision.
- 4 Wheelers: If you are under 18 years of age, you must be accompanied by an adult.

Parade Line-Up will be marked one week before the parade.

If you need more information please contact the Chamber of Commerce at 615-666-5885.



Chri	only Chamber of Commerce literas Parade stage Christmas* mber 3, 2022 at 1 00 p.m.
Organization/Group	
Address:	
Contact Name:	
Phone Number:	
Please check appropriate bos:	
☐ Antique Car or Truck: \$10 per vehicle	☐ Individual Car or Truck (no trailer): \$10 per vehicle
Example: Before the year 1995	Example: Students, public individuals
☐ Large Business Floats: \$30 per float or vehicle	☐ Small Business Floats: \$20 per float or vehicle
☐ Nonprofit/Clubs: \$20 per club Example: Booster clubs, athletic clubs, nonprofit	☐ Horse & Rider/Buggy: \$10 per entry
organizations, school clubs, youth clubs	□Churches: \$20 per entry
☐ ATV/UTV: \$10 per vehicle	☐ Tractor/Antique Tractor: \$10 per tractor
☐ Marching Bund: exampt	□Public Official/Dignitary: exempt
☐ Pageant Queens: \$10 per single vehicle/\$20 for trail	er or float/must provide vehicle (f not riding float)
*Please note that floats or trailers must be accompanie	d by walkers.
	nerce/City of Lafayette Christmas Parade, I understand that I, will and will not hold responsible the Macon County Chamber :
Signature of Responsible Party:	Date:
Judging:	
	arade! By completing the entry form for the parade, all entries
	mas Parade Committee. Please return all signs to the Chamber
Commerce after the parade if not picked up by one of the	he committee members during the parade.
Remember there is only <b>ONE SANTA</b> and he will be ridir	ng on the City of Lafayette Fire Truck.
Deading	
Entry forms should be received at the Welcome Center, November 21, 2022, if possible.	685 Hwy 52 Bypass West, Lafayette, TN 37083, by Monday,
Lineup:	
Lineup will be marked off the week of the parade but is	subject to change depending on the number of entries. Please

CPR Classes at Macon Community Hospital- Held monthly. Call 615-688-7907 for more information.

A1C Hemoglobin Screenings- Monday-Friday from 7:00am to 5:00pm in the month of November at Macon Community Hospital. For more information contact 615-666-2147.

Art in Real Life- November 3-9, 2022 at the Citizens Bank Main Office located at 400 Highway 52 By-Pass West in Lafayette, TN. The Macon County Arts Council and Citizens Bank present Art in Real Life a photo contest. Photos will be on display. For more information contact Pat Bailey and leave a message 615-388-2561 or emaildbailey@nctc.com.

Citizens Bank Veterans Appreciation Breakfast- November 5, 2022 at 7:30am at the Sally Wells Building located at the Macon County Fairgrounds. Guest speaker will be Judge Brody Kane. For more information contact 615-666-2195 or www.citizens-bank.org.

Macon Bank & Trust Company Veterans Breakfast- November 9, 2022 at 8:00am at The Barn on Church Street. Special Guests are the Macon County "Treble Makers" Choir and a speaker while breakfast is served. Please RSVP by November 1, 2022 by calling 615-666-6448. Macon County Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet-November 15, 2022 doors open at 5:30pm, event starts at 6:00pm. Tickets are \$30.00 each. For more information contact 615-666-5885.

Red Barn Holiday Bake & Barqain Sale- November 19, 2022 from 8:00am until 4:00pm at the Red Barn Event Hall located at 1805 Tanyard Road in Lafayette, TN.

Pictures with Santa- November 19, 2022 from 8:00am until 12:00pm. The Lafayette Lions Club will be hosting pictures with Santa at the Winding Stairs Cabin located at 655 Nature Trail Way in Lafayette, TN. Complimentary donuts, coffee, milk, and juice will be available. All donations are appreciated. A photographer will be on-site to take pictures and will be emailed at no charge.

<u>Vegetarian Cooking Class-</u> November 20, 2022 from 12:30pm to 2:00pm at the Macon County Chamber of Commerce Community Room. To register call 615-666-6931.

Vision 2020 Monthly Meeting- November 22, 2022 at 7:00pm at The Armour's Hotel in Red Boiling Springs, TN. For more information contact Rita at 615-388-3046 (text) or visit www.vision2020inc.com.

Step Back in Time Open House/ Small Business Saturday- November 26, 2022 from 10:00am to 2:00pm at 252 Main Street in Red Boiling Springs, TN. Contact 615-699-1919 or visit www.facebook.com/pg/SBiT2020 for more information.

<u>Diabetes Support Group Meeting-</u> November 28, 2022 at 5:00pm in the Macon Community Hospital conference room.

A Southern Marketplace Christmas Barn Sale- December 2-3, 2022 at Acres of Grace Farms located at 225 Henson Rd in Red Boiling Springs, TN. For more information go to info@asouthernmarketplace.com.

Macon County Chamber of Commerce Paradeber 3, 2022 at 1:00pm. The parade will start at the intersection of Walgreens and Tractor Supply. Contact 615-666-5885 or visit www.maconcountychamber.org for more information.

Red Boiling Springs Nighttime Christmas Parade-December 3, 2022 at 6:00pm. Contact Amber at 615-561-0899 for more information.

Christmas Caroling- December 3, 2022 after the Red Boiling Springs Christmas Parade at the Step Back in Time Shop. Contact Rita at 615-388-3046 (text) or visit www.vision2020inc.com for more information.

Storytelling and Singing- December 17, 2022 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Drop in for a hot cup of cocoa, coffee, or cider and a story or two. Text 615-388-3046 or fb@GpasHouse. For more information.





Ribbon Cutting held at Modern Automotive Group on October 21, 2022







## NOVEMBER 19,2022 RED BARN HOLIDAY BAKE & BARGAIN SALE

NO ADMISSION

Everyone's welcome to come join us as we start this holiday season with fresh baked goods for Thanksgiving. We will have Holiday Decorations, Stocking Stuffers, Personalized Gifts, Crafts, Jewelry and so much more. Have funch while you shop. We will open at 8 am until 4pm Saturday November 10°, 2022.



and Barn Event Haif 1805 Turryand road Lafayette, TN 37083









Macon County Chamber of Commerce Leon & Marie Cothron Macon County Welcome Center 685 Highway 52 Bypass West Lafayette, TN 37083