

# Happy Thanksgiving

Contact Us: (704) 735-3031

119 West Water Street, Lincolnton, NC

# LINCOLN TIMES-NEWS

Lincoln County's Home Newspaper

Wednesday, November 24, 2021

www.LINCOLNTIMESNEWS.com

VOL. X — No. 22

\$1.00

## 'tis the season - let there be parades

MICHELLE T. BERNARD  
Senior Staff Writer

LINCOLNTON - Put up that Thanksgiving turkey - it's time for Christmas parades in Lincoln County. The holiday season kicks off on Saturday Nov. 27 with the Small Business Saturday in downtown Lincolnton and the Spirit of Christmas Lincolnton Christmas Crawl and Cruise-in. The crawl runs from noon to 5 p.m. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be at Burton Farms General Store from noon to 4 p.m. and downtown merchants and restaurants will be open for holiday shopping and dining.

The annual Lincolnton Christmas Parade and tree lighting will be on Sunday, Nov. 28 beginning at 4 p.m. The theme this year is "A Candy Land Christmas - Sweet Surprises." Carriage rides and the Santa House start on Thursday, Dec. 2 and run every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday for three weekends through Dec. 18 from 5 to 8 p.m. for the Santa House and 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. for the carriage rides. Carriage rides and the Santa House are weather dependent.

The Christmas tree lighting is Sunday, Nov. 28 at Lake Norman Lutheran Church, 1445 N.C. 16 Business N., beginning at 5:30 p.m. The Denver Christmas Parade will be Saturday, Dec. 4 at 12:30 p.m. along N.C. 16 Business from North Pilot Knob Road to Unity Church Road. The theme is "Christmas Through the Eyes of a Child." Sherry Reinhardt, the executive director of the Lincoln County Coalition Against Child Abuse and Lincoln County Child Advocacy Center, was selected to serve as the grand marshal for the parade.

The Cat Square Parade in Vale returns this year on Saturday, Dec. 11 at 1 p.m. Line-up will be on Cat Square Road instead of Zur Leonard. Those who want their entries judged will need to be in line by noon in order to be judged. Nominations for the Cat Square Mayor and Miss/Little Miss Cat Square are open through Saturday, Nov. 27 and can be left at the Shriner's Wagon which will be parked at the Cat Square Superette. Winners will be drawn at the end of the day.

Crouse won't be having a parade this year, Crouse residents will be decorating their houses, businesses and churches to make Crouse a drive to and through destination.

## Fostering a love of sports and painting



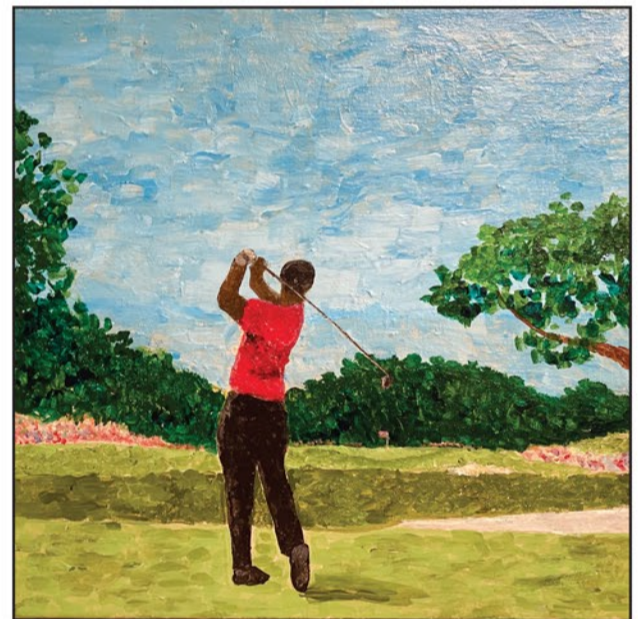
Contributed

Jack Bryson loves sports, especially Carolina sports and he loves to paint. He's merged the two during his classes at UMAR Art on Main.

MICHELLE T. BERNARD  
Senior Staff Writer

LINCOLNTON - Jack loves sports, especially North Carolina sports and he loves painting. Through the art classes he takes at UMAR in Lincolnton, Jack has realized an amazing talent. He hadn't quite put the two together until he started attending art classes at UMAR. He went from painting sunflowers to sports figures and sports venues. His work has become so popular that he now has a waiting list for commissioned art. What's even more amazing about Jack's art is that he has cerebral palsy and paints from a wheelchair.

This is the beauty that is UMAR. People who may not ever realize their creativity are able to discover their hidden talents.



See ART, page 2

2 — LINCOLN TIMES-NEWS, Lincolnton, N.C., Wednesday, November 24, 2021



Contributed

Two of Jack Bryson's commissioned sports paintings.



## ART

(continued from page 1)

"Jack loves to do anything," Nikki Kozak, the lead arts counselor at UMAR said. "Anything we've come up with, he tried it. We've tried to adapt things that he's able to do. With this impressionistic painting style, it's a smaller stroke and he's just taken to it. He picks some of the most difficult pictures sometimes but he's able to accomplish quite a lot. This boy bleeds Carolina blue, let me tell you. He loves sports. It blossomed from there."

Jack's favorite sport is NASCAR, but he loves basketball too. He loves the Panthers. He's got a painting of Michael Jordan on the way and soon there'll probably be a Cam Newton painting.

"When we have a new participant come in, we let them try as many things as they want to," Liz McKay, an art in-

structor at UMAR said. "We introduce them to new things that they haven't tried before, and we slowly whittle it down to find out what their strengths are. Most of the ones that chose to come here already have an interest in creating something. Through a process of elimination, adaptive tool making and generally observing them we can find something that they can do and create sellable work from and earn a little bit of money."

In addition to the money, it also helps develop self-esteem and to identify as an artist rather than as a person with disabilities.

The Gallery UMAR Art on Main is now open to the public during the week and on Saturdays (at least through Christmas) from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for purchases. There's a wide variety of art available for sale and all of the pieces are one of a kind. Art on Main is located at 232 East Main Street in Lincolnton. For more information call (704) 240-9838.