



# CLASSIC CITY *Christmas*

**HOLIDAY EVENTS  
GIFT-GIVING IDEAS  
SHOP LOCAL  
THE GIFT OF GIVING**

**OnlineAthens**

ATHENS BANNER-HERALD





## YULETIDE MUSICAL DINNERS

ATHENS CHAMBER SINGERS

PRESENT

CHRISTMAS ON THE WORLD'S ISLANDS



7:30 P.M. ON DECEMBER 6, 7 AND 8

TRUMPS BALLROOM, 2026 S. MILLEDGE AVENUE, ATHENS

TICKETS \$48 CALL FOR RESERVATIONS: 706-353-6976  
RESERVATION DEADLINE: DEC. 1

## CLASSIC CITY *Christmas*

CONTACT US  
706.549.0123

GENERAL MANAGER  
Kevin Clark

EDITOR  
Donnie Fetter

DIRECTOR OF SALES/MARKETING  
Tina Laseter

CIRCULATION MANAGER  
Ginny Collins

EDITORIAL  
Chris Starrs and Melissa Erickson

SUPPORT  
Kelsey French, Allyssa Robinson  
and Ashley Thompson

CREATIVE DIRECTOR  
Robin Stauffer

COVER PHOTO  
Joshua L. Jones

## What's INSIDE

Local Holiday Happenings .....	5
Holiday Gift Guide .....	9
For the Stylish Guy .....	10
Tech Gifts .....	11
Hot Toys .....	12
For Pets .....	13
For the Home Cook .....	14
For People On the Go .....	15
For the Fashionista .....	16
Gifts to Keep On Hand .....	17
Gifts That Give Back .....	18
Shop Local for the Holidays .....	19
The Gift That Keeps On Giving .....	20
Gifting Hand-Crafted .....	21
Shop for Local Angels .....	22
#GivingTuesday .....	23
Promoting Your Business .....	24
Shop Local Fast Facts .....	25
The Gift of Giving .....	26
YWCO Girls Club Encourages Girls to "Dream Crazy Big" .....	27
Giving Back through the Classic Center Cultural Foundation .....	28
Make a Difference in the Life of an Older Adult .....	29
For Youth Development, for Healthy Living, for Social Responsibility .....	30
Give the Gift of Hope .....	31
The Athens Area Community Foundation "For Good, Forever." .....	32
The Lifelong Gift—Education .....	33
Books for Keeps Brings Christmas in May to Area Children .....	34
Give the Gift of Mentoring this Holiday Season .....	35
Making a Difference through Bread For Life .....	36

# Coming Soon!

## WIN A FREE HOT ROD

FROM  
**HANKSTERS**  
*Hot Rods*  
MUSCLE CARS  
386-944-9219  
HANKSTERS.COM

12 CLASSIC HOT RODS TO CHOOSE FROM!



**2018**

### HOT ROD

Holiday Giveaway

**SECOND PLACE**  
2 VIP Tickets  
to the  
**DAYTONA 500**  
Includes 2-night stay at Night Swan Bed & Breakfast

**THIRD PLACE**  
2 GA Tickets  
to the  
**DAYTONA 500**

Plus 36 Participants will win Gift Bags!

Look in the Athens Banner-Herald starting the week November 25th for your chance to win!

CO-SPONSORED BY:





# Celebrate the Season

The Christmas Season is about more than buying gifts and wrestling Christmas trees. This year, start your Holiday Season out on a high note with our Christmas concert celebrating the Season and each other, surrounded by the ones you love.

**SATURDAY**  
**December 8**  
8:00 PM

**SUNDAY**  
**December 9**  
3:00 PM



**ATHENS  
SYMPHONY**

[athenssymphony.org](http://athenssymphony.org)



**Continue the celebration this Spring at our upcoming concerts:**

#### **SPRING CONCERT**

Sunday, March 31, 2019 - 3:00 pm

#### **PICNIC AT THE POPS**

Friday, May 3, 2019 - Picnic from 6:30; Concert at 8:00 pm

Saturday, May 4, 2019 - Picnic from 6:30; Concert at 8:00 pm



## LOCAL Holiday Happenings

By Chris Starrs

The Christmas season means many things to many people, and one of the prevailing joys of the season is the opportunity to either get together with far-flung family and friends or to draw those who are close even closer.

Athens has myriad opportunities for families to celebrate the season together. Among the events and activities are the Downtown Parade of Lights, ice skating (indoors or outdoors), home tours and the always—popular Breakfast with Santa.

**HERE'S A LOOK AT SOME OF THE YULETIDE FUN AWAITING ATHENIANS AND VISITORS ALIKE. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

#### **2018 Downtown Parade of Lights:**

This year's parade, set for 7 p.m. Dec. 6, has a theme of "Christmas Around the World." The parade begins at the corner of Dougherty and Pulaski streets and ends at City Hall, just in time for the traditional tree lighting ceremony hosted by Santa Claus. For more information about this community institution, call 706-613-3800.

**Athens On Ice:** The Classic Center offers multiple opportunities for public skating during the holiday season. The NHL-sized rink will offer skating sessions every day through early February, and if you want to see folks who really know what they're doing on the ice, you can see UGA's Ice Dawgs squaring off against multiple national opponents. For more information, call 706-357-4444.

**Indie South: Holiday Hooray:** The Indie South Market, set for 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 1 and noon to 5 p.m. Dec. 2 at 660 North Chase Street, provides an excellent opportunity for shoppers to not only find ideal gifts, but in many cases meet with the more than 100 artists that create the works for sale. In addition to the handmade market, Indie South will include photo booths, workshops, live bands, food trucks, and – this is just a rumor, now – Santa Claus. Visit online at [www.theindiesouth.com](http://www.theindiesouth.com) information.

**Classic City Tour of Homes:** On Dec. 2 from 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m., a number of the "expansive mansions" along Greek Row on Milledge Avenue will see their doors thrown open for the annual Tour of Homes. The tour of sorority and fraternity houses, which will feature homes fully festooned for the holidays, benefits UGA Miracle, which supports Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. Parking will be available at The Varsity. For more information, visit [www.ugamiracle.org](http://www.ugamiracle.org)





**Classic City Band Holiday Concert:** What could be better during the season than to enjoy a concert of holiday music, especially when that music is performed by the oldest community band in Georgia at the State Botanical Garden of

Georgia? The free concert is set for 7 p.m. Dec. 11. In addition, Big Band Athens, an offshoot of the Classic City Band, is set to perform at 3 p.m. Dec. 16 at Thrive Senior Living. For more information, visit [www.classiccityband.org](http://www.classiccityband.org)



**Breakfast(s) with Santa:** Jolly old Saint Nick is teaming up with Athens-Clarke County Leisure Services for two breakfast events, one set for three sessions starting at 8 a.m. Dec. 8 at Sandy Creek Nature Center and at 9 a.m. Dec. 15 at Memorial Park (\$5 for A-CC residents, \$7.50 for non-residents). For more information, call 706-613-3615 (Sandy Creek) or 706-613-3580 (Memorial Park).



**Athens-Clarke Leisure Services:** In addition to **Breakfast with Santa**, Leisure Services has a host of Christmas-related happenings, including the **Twelve Days of Christmas in East Athens** (Dec. 3-17), **Deck the Hollow at Bear Hollow Zoo** (Dec. 7-9, Dec. 14-16), **Breakfast with the Grinch at Rocksprings Park** (Dec. 15), **Holidays With Beauty and the Beast at Rocksprings Park** (Dec. 4) and **Buddy Elf's Holiday Happenings at Rocksprings Park** (Dec. 17). Visit [www.athensclarkecounty.com/148/Leisure-Services](http://www.athensclarkecounty.com/148/Leisure-Services)

**Athens Holiday Market:** The market will be held Dec. 13 and 14 in the courtyard at Big City Bread, located at 393 N. Finley St. in Athens.

**OCAF Holiday Market & Artists Shoppe:** The annual event of the Oconee County Cultural Arts Foundation will be held Nov. 30 through Dec. 2 at the OCAF Art Center, 4 School St., Watkinsville. Admission is \$3. For more, call (706) 769-4565.

**Breakfast with Santa:** This event returns to The Classic Center on Dec. 8 to benefit The Classic Center Cultural Foundation. It will be held 8:30-10:30 a.m. and tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for children ages 10 and under. The event includes a breakfast buffet, a visit and photo with Santa, a coloring contest and more. Visit [ClassicCenter.com](http://ClassicCenter.com) or call (706) 357-4444 to buy tickets. The Classic Center box office is located at 300 N. Thomas St., Athens.







**Circque Dreams: Holidaze:** Held at The Classic Center in downtown Athens Nov. 28 and 29 at 7:30 p.m. each night, the event features more than 300 imaginative costumes and 20 acts featuring original music and seasonal favorites. Tickets are available online at [www.eventticketscenter.com](http://www.eventticketscenter.com).

**The Nutcracker:** The classic Christmas ballet returns to The Classic Center 4 p.m. Dec. 22 and 2 p.m. Dec. 23. It will be presented by The National Ballet of Odessa from Ukraine. Visit online at [www.ClassicCenter.com](http://www.ClassicCenter.com) or call (706) 357-4444 to buy tickets. The Classic Center box office is located at 300 N. Thomas St., Athens.

**Jane Lynch's A Swingin' Little Christmas:** Featuring Emmy and Golden Globe winner Jane Lynch, this



concert also features Kate Flannery of "The Office", Tim Davis and the Tony Guerrero Quintet performing jazzy holiday tunes at the Hugh Hodgson Concert Hall on the UGA campus. It takes place 7:30 p.m. Dec. 21. For more information, call (706) 542-4400. Tickets can be purchased at the Performing Arts Center box office, 230 River Road. The box office is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

**UGA Holiday Concerts:** Held Nov. 29 and 30, 7:30 p.m. each night, the event features performances by the UGA Symphony Orchestra, choirs and other ensembles celebrating the holiday season at the Hugh Hodgson Concert Hall. For more information, call (706) 542-4400. The Performing Arts Center box office is located at 230 River Road and is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

**The Many Moods of Christmas:** This show will be performed 8 p.m. Dec. 4 by the Athens Choral Society at the Huge Hodgson Concert Hall on the UGA campus. Selections include Silent Night, Away in a Manger, Joy to the World and more. Admission is free. For more information, call (706) 542-4400.





# Give the gift of NEWS!

For a limited time, save up to 50% off the newsstand price!

Call (706) 208-2300 or visit [onlineathens.com](http://onlineathens.com) and mention offer code: HOL18

## TUESDAY-SUNDAY

Home Delivery + All Access

**\$80<sup>44</sup>**

6 MONTHS, INCLUDES  
ACTIVATION  
FEE

## SUNDAY ONLY

Home Delivery + All Access

**\$54<sup>13</sup>**

6 MONTHS, INCLUDES  
ACTIVATION  
FEE

ORDER BY DEC. 17 TO ENSURE DELIVERY BY CHRISTMAS!

Print delivery available within the newspaper distribution area only. By submitting your address and/or email, you understand that you may receive promotional offers from GateHouse Media and its related companies. You may unsubscribe from receiving any such offers at any time by calling us at 706-208-2300. The advertised price for the Offer includes the one-time \$5.95 activation fee for new subscribers. The advertised price does not include the charges for any premium editions. Premium editions are published to provide additional information and value to our readers. You agree that you will be charged up to an additional \$5.00 for each premium edition published and delivered to you during your subscription period, in addition to the cost of your subscription. The length of your subscription will be shortened by the publication of premium editions if those premium editions are delivered to you during your subscription. As an illustrative example, if you select a subscription of up to 12 weeks at a cost of \$48.00, and two premium editions at \$2.00 each are published and delivered to you during that subscription period, your subscription will be shortened by 1 week because the weekly cost of the subscription is \$4.00 per week and the premium edition charges total \$4.00. Depending upon the length of your subscription and the timing of the publication and delivery of premium editions, you will not be charged for any premium editions if none are published and delivered to you during your subscription. As such, in that case only, the length of your subscription will not be shortened. The timing of the publication and delivery of premium editions is variable. There will be no more than two premium editions published each month during the subscription term. Subscribers may suspend print delivery during vacation periods. For vacation periods less than 21 days billing continues and subscriber maintains access to the digital portion of subscription. Subscribers also have option to have print copies held as Vacation Pack. For more information or to cancel your subscription please call 706-208-2300. Offer expires 12/31/18.





# For the stylish guy



By Melissa Erickson

The stylish man in your life may not be about the brand names or the price tag, but he knows how to appreciate the finer things in life. From a classic overcoat to a well-made phone case, give a gift that will have him appreciating your thoughtfulness.

### Fossil Q Goodwin \$155

While fitness trackers may help people stay in shape, they aren't usually sleek and stylish. Fossil's Q Goodwin is a hybrid smartwatch: It looks like a traditional analog watch but is connected via Bluetooth to a user's phone to send notifications and receive alerts. It's also an activity tracker that monitors steps, distance and calories burned. Plus, it runs on a battery so no charging is needed.



### Peugeot Whisky Tasting Set \$40

A must for the serious whisky aficionado, this ingenious set ensures a properly chilled and aromatic experience. The clear glass has a distinctive wide bowl and central dome that minimizes the fumes of over-powering alcohol while allowing the aroma and flavor of fine spirits to come through. The metal chilling base cools the liquid in less than five minutes, keeping it chilled for at least 30 minutes. No ice required. A leather coaster completes the set.



### Topman Forest Green Overcoat \$180

A classic coat is always in style. He'll look smart and be protected from cold weather in Topman's overcoat in forest green wool with single-breasted styling. This timeless topcoat with a classic fit features side pockets and will become a staple in the stylish man's wardrobe. Machine-washable.



### Shinola Leather Case for iPhone X \$75

Shinola's elegant leather case for the iPhone X is hand-crafted from rich, embossed oxblood leather. The minimal, sturdy design will protect his phone for years to come — or at least until he upgrades to the next iPhone. Made of harness leather, known for its durability and longevity, it will develop its own character with use and time.



# Tech gifts

By Melissa Erickson

Stumped for what to buy a gadget-obsessed friend? Here are a few cool products sure to please tech lovers, from a home Wi-Fi improvement to fun toys, the ultimate party speaker to a standout virtual reality headset.



### Google Wifi From \$129

Tired of hearing your friend complain about spotty Wi-Fi? Google's system makes sure your Wi-Fi works consistently and well. It replaces a home router for increased coverage throughout the home, eliminating dead zones and buffering. The Network Assist technology keeps Wi-Fi connectiond fast by always selecting the clearest channel and fastest band for your devices.

### Oculus Go From \$199

Picking out a great virtual reality headset depends on how a person wants to use it. The Oculus Go stands out because it's a standalone gadget that doesn't require a smartphone or PC, and it's reasonably priced. It boasts impressive visuals, limited screen-door effect and integrated spatial audio. The lightweight headset is designed with breathable fabric and foam molding for comfort.



### Amazon Echo Show \$229 or less

The Echo Show packs in all the features people like in an Echo, including Amazon's Alexa digital assistant, with a 7-inch touchscreen that allows users to make phone calls, watch video, see pictures, make video calls, pair with security cameras, control TV, set thermostats and more. The Drop In feature connects with other Echo devices in the home to do things like check on a sleeping baby or ask when dinner will be ready.

### Sky Viper Journey Pro Video Drone \$99.99

With professional-grade Auto-Pilot firmware, the Sky Viper Journey Pro Video Drone features built-in GPS and provides an autonomous flight experience similar to pricier hobby-grade drones. Using a network of satellites to triangulate its position in relation to waypoints, the Journey Pro can maintain its coordinates in a hover without drifting away. Positional awareness also enables Return to Home with the touch of a button.



### Ultimate Ears MegaBoom 3 \$199

With a more refined redesign, the Ultimate Ears MegaBoom 3 is a rugged, waterproof Bluetooth speaker that offers powerful, immersive 360-degree sound. It offers a boosted bass and larger woofer, is waterproof — and even floats. Covered in two-tone performance fabric, it shimmers in a range of iridescent colors. Plus, there's upgrades like the Magic Button that allows users to play, pause and skip tracks as well as program or navigate one-touch playlists.



HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

Hot TOYS

By Melissa Erickson

The smart shopper knows not to wait until the last minute to buy toys and games, because those who wait will miss out on the most anticipated gifts. Here are a few of the hottest toys for Christmas 2018.

Lego Creator Pirate Roller Coaster

\$89

With pirates, a cannon, a skeleton minifigure, a three-legged octopus and a working roller coaster, there's lots to love with Lego's 3-in-1 Pirate Roller Coaster building set. It's easy to modify and rebuild with either a skull ride or a ship ride, so it's great for creative play, plus there are neat and unusual pieces: 923 in all. For ages 9 to 14.



Pomsies

\$14.99

Adorably cute, Pomsies are loveable, wear-able pom-pom pets. Kids can interact with these small, personal pets in a variety of ways. Each Pomsie has its own personality and light-up eyes. They react when you cuddle and pet them, grumble when they're hungry and even feature a dance-and-song mode. With their wrappable tails, they become a fashion accessory to wear on the wrist, a backpack or anywhere else.



Unstable Unicorns

\$20

Quick, intuitive and fun, Unstable Unicorn combines sabotage, goal-setting and a bit of luck into a strategic card game. The goal is to build your own unicorn army — mostly by betraying your friends. It's competitive and fun for two to eight players. Aimed at kids 14 and up.



Paw Patrol Ultimate Rescue Fire Truck

\$59.99

Kids 3 and up can save the day with Marshall's Ultimate Rescue Fire Truck. This big truck is equipped with a 2-foot-tall extendable ladder and claw arm, mini fire cart and fire hose, flashing lights and sounds. Water cannons on the front and back launch three water bombs to put out fires. Marshall figure is included, but truck has room for all six pups (others not included). For kids 3 and up.



Fisher-Price Think and Learn Rocktopus

\$59.99

For the budding musician, Fisher-Price's Think and Learn Rocktopus includes 15 musical instruments with three play modes and five musical styles. Kids control the musical creation by bopping the instruments, adjusting the tempos and adding sound effects. In math mode kids can practice their adding, subtracting and patterning skills as they follow prompts. The toy also works with an app that allows kids to compose music and create videos to accompany them. For ages 3 to 6.



HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

For PETS

By Melissa Erickson

Of course you want to include pets on your holiday gift list. They provide unconditional love, fun and friendship, so consider one of these gifts to get their tails wagging.



Wizard of Paws pet deshedding glove

\$14.99

If your home has a shedding problem, reach for a pair of Wizard of Paws pet deshedding gloves. These machine-washable gloves are designed with adjustable Velcro straps and soft rubber tips that pull off layers of hair gently. The five-finger design of this glove brush can be used on dogs, cats, rabbits, horses and other furry friends.



P.L.A.Y. California Dreaming memory foam bed

Starting at \$199

This luxe bed features a 100 percent high-density memory foam center cushion covered with a soft yet durable micro-fiber fabric. Its bolster sides are filled with the company's eco-friendly stuffing made from recycled plastic bottles. In case of accidents, the center cushion is protected by a water-resistant liner, and the bed cover is machine-washable and -dryable. Available in three sizes.

Sleepypod's Go Bag

\$79.99

Built for pet travel but clever enough for humans, the Sleepypod Go Bag organizes pet and human travel essentials in a go-anywhere bag. Its tapered profile makes it comfortable for cross-body carrying, while the streamlined grab handle amplifies convenience. Organization is easy with two mini packing cubes, an insulated food pouch, gusseted side pockets, an exterior utility ring for hanging a leash, an exterior and interior pockets, a padded main compartment and an interior lanyard for attaching keys.



Gen7Pets' Snuggle Pocket

\$49.99

Make every car ride a safe one for your pet with Gen7Pets' Snuggle Pocket booster seat. Pets can easily sit, stand or lie down while being secured. It's the perfect place to relax and snuggle up in while on the road. Snuggle Pocket helps eliminate distraction and is best suited for pets 12 to 15 pounds.

Walking Palm's Kitty Twister

\$39.99

This modern and versatile activity mat for cats and small dogs is made of all-natural hand-felted wool. It is a rugged yet soft and flexible strip that can be twisted into a figure eight and fastened to form tunnels and caves or laid out flat to reveal a colorful lounge mat. It is available in a variety of colors and patterns. Walking Palm products are made in Kathmandu, Nepal, as an economic opportunity for the community, paying local workers 200 percent of the average wage.







# For the HOME COOK

By Melissa Erickson

It's a big job to feed a family, so the head chef at home deserves some helpful tools to make the job easier and more enjoyable. Here are some tasty choices.



## Oxo Good Grips 3-Blade Tabletop Spiralizer

\$39.99

A spiralizer is a great kitchen tool to whip up a healthy alternative to pasta or give your classic recipes a twist. Oxo's 3-Blade Tabletop Spiralizer creates uniform spirals from fruits and vegetables for curly fries, salads, garnishes and more. A trio of stainless steel blades offer three cut sizes and are stored neatly in a blade box when not in use. A strong suction cup provides stability.

## Dreamfarm Fledge

\$29.95

Dreamfarm's unique cutting board has flip-up edges that prevent food from rolling off the sides when being transported to a pot, bowl or table for serving. The Fledge has nonslip rubber feet and knife-friendly patterns on both sides, and a generous juice groove for carving on the underside. For bigger jobs there's also the double-sized Big Fledge.



## Global G-2

\$99.95

You can spend \$10 to over \$1,000 on a chef's knife, but the Global G-2 is a great pick. Lightweight and well-balanced, this 8-inch chef's knife is sturdy enough to last for years and offers a comfortable feel with a stainless steel handle that features a dipped grip. The sharp blade is made of high-tech stainless steel: a mixture of molybdenum, vanadium and chromium.

## Craft Kitchen Acacia Wood Cutting Board

\$19.99

Preparing, cooking and serving food is more than a basic need, it is a craft. Craft Kitchen's circular cutting board is a natural beauty made of finely grained acacia wood, a top choice for food safety and durability. Handsome and affordable, this kitchen tool holds up to chopping and cutting in the kitchen and is a lovely addition to the serving table.



## CDN ProAccurate Digital Glass Scale

\$39.99

Designed with simplicity, the CDN ProAccurate Digital Food Scale helps portion your food for healthy eating. This compact and ultra-thin model boasts a large-capacity scale measuring up to 15 pounds in pounds, ounces, grams or milliliters. Available with a tempered glass top in solid silver, black, red, blue or a sandblast pattern on black. Comes gift-boxed.



## HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS



# For people ON THE GO

By Melissa Erickson

Everyone is busy, but some people are busier than others. We all have a friend who wakes up early to work out, squeezes in a full day of work, juggles the kids and seems to make the impossible happen on a daily basis. While you probably can't offer them some needed some time off, here are a few gift ideas.

## Zoku Stainless Steel White Camo Bottle

\$29.99

The on-trend design will help remind the gift recipient to stay hydrated during the busy day. The 18-ounce bottle is made with vacuum-insulated construction so beverages stay cold for up to 40 hours and hot for up to 12 hours. Designed to take a hit, this double-walled bottle is made of heavy-gauge stainless steel, yet remains easy to carry with a removable paracord lanyard.



## Garmin Vivosmart 4

\$129

Known for their reliability, Garmin's fitness trackers work well, look stylish and are easy to read. The Vivosmart 4 gives users a more detailed look at their health with added blood oxygen saturation measurements, advanced sleep monitoring and a new Body Battery feature that monitors energy levels. Dedicated activity times are available for walks, runs, strength training, yoga, swims and more. A long-lasting battery holds a charge for up to seven days.



## Beatural Handheld Steamer

\$28.99

Busy people don't have time for the dry cleaner. Beatural's handheld garment steamer removes creases while cleaning and sterilizing clothes. This powerful little 1200-watt steamer heats up in just 30 seconds, and its large water tank keeps going for a continuous 15 minutes of steaming. It's suitable for a variety of fabrics from polyester to plush, silk to velvet.



## Full Focus Planner by Michael Hyatt

\$39.99

Know someone with an ambitious lifestyle? This planner is a match for the intersection of goal-setting and daily productivity. The clear layout allows users to plan by days, weeks and months and is organized in 90-day chunks to ensure a busy person isn't overwhelmed by planning and tracking 12 months at a time.

## Parachute Classic Bathrobe

\$99

For when the day is finally done, help them relax with this soft, warm and cozy bathrobe made of 100 percent Turkish cotton. With two slouchy front pockets, a snug waist tie and cozy shawl collar, this super-plush robe is the ultimate relaxation wear. As a bonus it's ideally weighted for year-round wear and is machine-washable.







# For the fashionista

By Melissa Erickson

She likes sparkle and shine, beauty and bling. For the girl who goes for glitter or the woman who wants to wow, here are some glitz and glamour choices for holiday gifts.



**Banana Republic Multi-Colored Stone Stack Ring**  
\$48

Delicate and sparkly, Banana Republic's Multi Colored Stone Stack Ring set adds instant polish to either a casual or dressed-up look. Made of zinc with a gold tone finish, the colorful cubic zirconia stones glitter for a look that's just her style.

**Bellabeat Leaf Urban**  
\$139

A stylish wearable fitness tracker, Bellabeat's Leaf Urban doesn't feature any screens or buttons yet it tracks activity and stress levels, calories moved, meditation, reproductive health, sleep and more. It's a small piece of art that can be worn as a bracelet, necklace or brooch. No charging required; it runs on a coin cell battery that lasts six months. Perfect for the person who wants to be fit and stylish. The leaf-shaped body is available in grey or black with rose gold or silver metal accent. Made of eco-friendly materials



**Olivia Riegel Gold Windsor Compact**  
\$50

Check your makeup in true glamour with Olivia Riegel's estate-jewelry-inspired mirrored compact. It's a pretty little case in gold-finished stainless steel with a cast pewter face encrusted with gold and hand-set clear European crystals. Opens up to reveal double-sided mirror with two levels of magnification.

**Tiffany T Smile pendant**

**\$700**  
Simple and elegant, Tiffany's curved Smile pendant in 18k yellow gold embodies a timeless aesthetic. Tiffany's modern T collection blends graphic angles and clean lines for beautiful necklaces, earrings and bracelets. Set on an adjustable 16- to 18-inch chain.



**Express Sequin Mini Skirt**  
\$69.90

She'll steal the spotlight with this mini skirt's sparkly sequined pattern and flattering stretch fit. Its design in black and soft ivory is a nod to Southwestern style. With its comfortable elastic waistband for slip-on styling it's just the thing to wear for parties and flirty nights out. Hand-wash.



# Gifts to keep on hand

By Melissa Erickson

The holiday season is so hectic, it's smart to think ahead when it comes to small gifts. Have some tiny treasures on hand to gift to surprise guests or to be used as last-minute hostess gifts. Remember, good manners say it's not OK to arrive empty-handed to a gathering.



**Fred Como Tea Llama tea infuser**  
\$10

This groovy little infuser will brighten anyone's day as it steeps with a serene llama face poking out of the cup. Simply fill Fred's Andean-inspired infuser with a blend of tea, stand it upright in a mug and steep. Fred's line of whimsical tea infusers, from spouting whales to Brew Bunnies, are all BPA- and phthalate-free.

**Graf Lantz Key loop**  
\$12

In an on-trend tumeric color with a minimalist silhouette and unique proportions, this handy key fob ensures that keys and other small items are accounted for at all times. Made in the United States of fine merino wool and available in a variety of other bright colors.



**Tovolo Tour Spatula**  
\$12

Whether they remind someone of home or a place they want to visit, Tovolo's Tour line of spatulas are designed for mixing, scraping, flipping or turning and make a fun gift. These handy tools are part of the company's growing collection of Spatulart, and designs represent Seattle, Chicago, Boston, New York, San Francisco, Brooklyn, California, Las Vegas, Texas, Florida and Washington, D.C.

**Diptyque Scented Candle**

**Starting at \$35**  
Made from high-quality raw ingredients, Diptyque's scented candles are revered for their balanced, long-lasting fragrances. With a bouquet of roses and blackcurrant leaves, the Baies/Berries scent is fresh and fruity to warm the heart and home. Made in France.



**Origami Swan Ring Holder**  
\$8

This whimsical yet modern swan-shaped origami-inspired ring holder has a nice weight to it, to keep multiple rings safe and accessible. Constructed of zinc with a chrome-plated finish and felt liner to prevent scratching, it will compliment interior spaces from kitchen to bath to bedroom.







# Gifts that GIVE BACK

## Mouth and Foot Painting Artists

\$16 for 10 greeting cards  
mfpausa.com

Mouth and Foot Painting Artists is an international organization that helps take care of its artists’ financial needs by helping them sell their work, including holiday and greeting cards, book illustrations, calendars and prints. It’s a collective — not a charity — of over 800 members worldwide who have severe disabilities yet have control of their enterprise and purpose in life.



## TOMS

\$59.95  
Toms.com



Put a little sparkle in her step with TOMS’ exclusive silver iridescent glitter limited-edition shoes that are made in the classic TOMS design of vegan materials. TOMS is renowned for its charitable policies, working with over 100 philanthropic partners on clean water, vision needs, bullying prevention and safe birth. Plus, the company matches every pair of shoes bought with a new pair for a child in need.



## St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital

\$16  
giftshop.stjude.org

Show that special someone how much you care for them and the kids at St. Jude with this Dream Velvet Makeup Bag. This fully lined little bag in grey with cream lettering features a dipped dyed tassel and a charm of the St. Jude logo. One hundred percent of the profits benefit St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis.



## Love Your Melon

\$35  
loveyourmelon.com

Warm their head and heart with this lightweight beanie knit available in a variety of colors. Fifty percent of net profit from the sale of all Love Your Melon products is given to the Love Your Melon Fund, to support its nonprofit partners in the fight against pediatric cancer, create therapeutic experiences and fund charitable programming initiatives for children and families battling cancer.

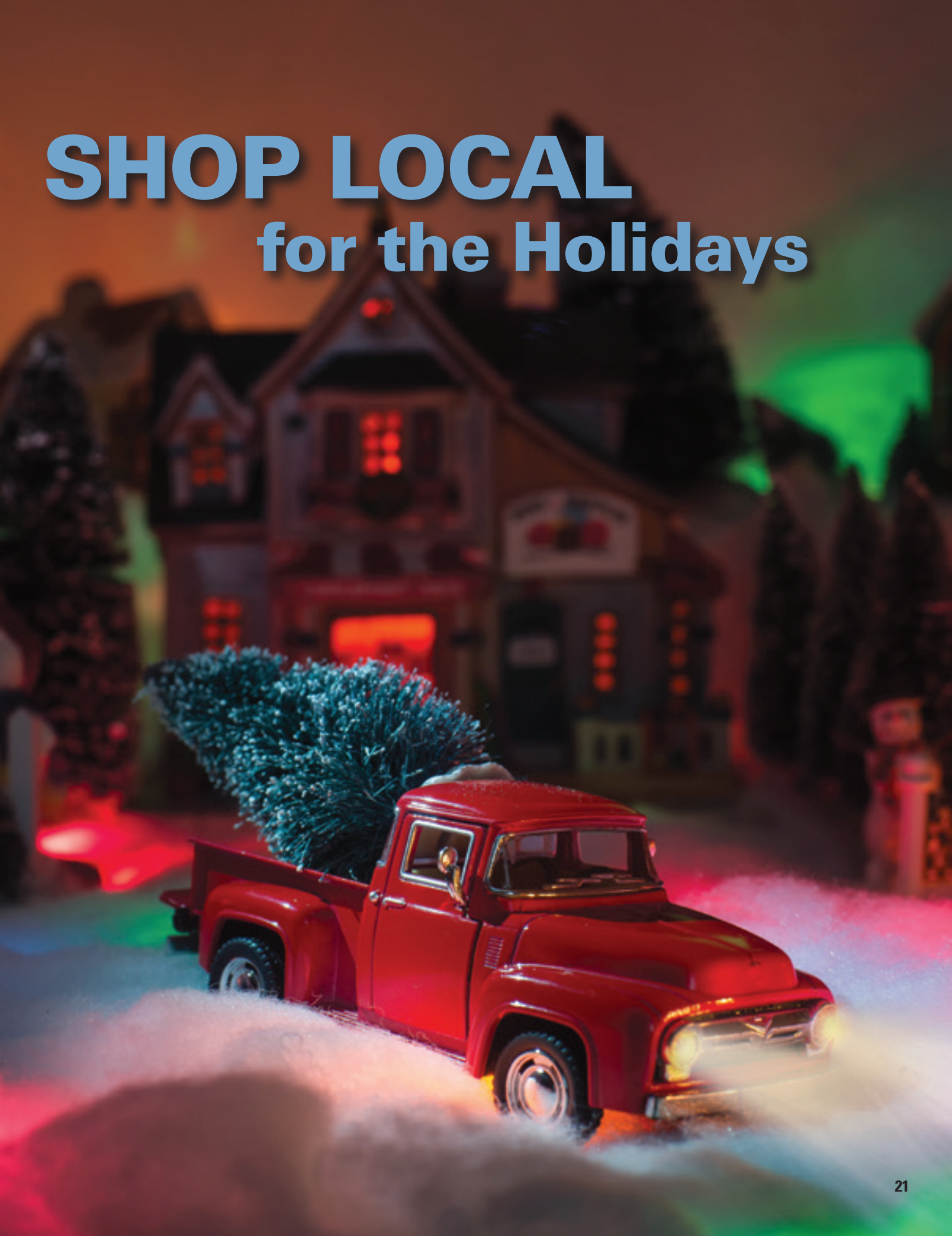
## The Doll Kind

\$59  
kindcultureco.com

The Doll Kind are soft, huggable dolls that give back. For every doll purchased, the company donates a doll to a child in need and supports a variety of causes including orphanages, hospitals and shelters. Plus, each doll comes with a kindness kit, 10 tokens with special phrases on them to show gratitude, love and kindness, meant for children to share with others.



# SHOP LOCAL for the Holidays







# The Gift that KEEPS ON GIVING

Shopping local is the ultimate gift you can give your community and it is an incredibly patriotic act. By shopping local, you keep your money local, investing in the place that invests in you. Read on for some inspiring reasons to shop local.

### YOU MAKE YOUR TOWN THE PLACE TO BE

Local shops and businesses are what give a town its flavor. By spending money in local shops — especially those that support local makers — you are making a statement that you appreciate those trades and would like to see them remain in the area. Supporting those businesses can even attract more people to your area. Towns and cities with vibrant downtown areas are hot spots during the shopping season, resulting in more revenue for many related businesses, organizations and tourism bureaus.

### YOU SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORS

Not only do small businesses account for more than 99 percent of all the business in the country (that is a lot of jobs), but they support and give to local programs. One of the most popular ways small businesses give back is through sponsoring little league teams and major community events. And shopping local doesn't stop at purchasing gifts. Consider shopping local with your groceries or opening up a savings account at a local bank to save for your Christmas shopping all year round.

### YOU HELP SHAPE YOUR COMMUNITY

A community's small businesses are what give a town or city its heart; these are places that help shape your town's character and personal brand. Locally owned businesses tend to stock the items and products that they know will sell well. By purchasing from small businesses, you are helping to dictate the items they sell, as well as their overall success in the community.



# Gifting HAND-CRAFTED

A handmade gift can add a special note of thought to a gift. But remember to think outside the box. Shopping local can actually allow you to achieve the best of both worlds: Gifting an item that is unique and handmade while also saving yourself the time and stress of creating something yourself.

And let's face it, not all of us were blessed with a crafty gene or skilled artisan hands. This is why local markets exist.

### VISIT A LOCAL BAKERY

Hand-crafted is not limited to wares. For those on your list who prefer a minimalist lifestyle (or have everything), consider a consumable gift. Local bakeries go into overdrive during the holiday season, producing many delicious treats. Consumable gifts are a great way to show someone you care. One of the great things about local bakeries is that they take advantage of the high store traffic, and often

produce specialty items only available during the holidays. Homemade marshmallows and cocoa-dusted truffles will make any friend feel loved.

### A GIFT WITH A STORY

Don't hesitate to strike up a conversation with the shop owner. Because local businesses have a vested interest in their own success, they take special care with the items they stock and often know how things are produced. If you find your intended gift has a story, share it. For an added touch of thoughtfulness, choose a piece of fine stationery and write the item's story down. Include the note with the gift.

### ONLINE PLATFORMS

Many online forums serve as communities of small-businesses selling handcrafted wares, many of whom work out of their homes. While this may not necessarily be shopping local in the traditional way, it is most definitely shopping small. (You also can probably find local sellers on these platforms.)

It is important to support small businesses because most are family-run. A majority of these businesses are so small they need to keep their overhead low, which means no brick and mortar building. By purchasing items from these shops, you are helping someone else's dream grow and gaining a hand-made gift in the process.





# Shop for LOCAL ANGELS

**T**he holidays are a wonderful time for most of us to be grateful for what we have. The Salvation Army's Holiday Angel Tree Program is a great way for many to give back and be even more happy with what we have.

By shopping for an angel is not only an opportunity to purchase items from small businesses, but to support a child in your own community. In the words of the Salvation Army, "Because of you, a child in need experiences the miracle of Christmas."

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Each Salvation Army Corps has their own process for signing up and qualifying for the Angel Tree program, but all Angel Tree gifts are given to children from infancy through 18 years of age, whose families are in need of extra assistance

around the holidays. The program serves thousands of children every year.

## HOW TO ADOPT AN ANGEL

Find an Angel Tree in your area. Most shopping malls host one, but if you are unsure of where to start, the Salvation Army keeps a list of locations on their website you can consult. Each tag on the tree lists a child's name, their age, their gender and a wish lists of items. You can choose any tag you like, using the wish list to guide you as you shop. Then return unwrapped gifts with the tag to the tree.

## MAKE IT A TRADITION

Shopping for gifts is an exciting activity and is bound to generate extra zest for the holiday season. Every year, bring another friend along. Have the kids in your group choose an angel who is around their age, and enlist their help in choosing items to gift. Let them know that all of the angels listed on the tree are kids in their community. Help the younger members understand that Santa comes in all forms, and by giving what you can, you become Santa to someone else.



# #GIVING TUESDAY

**G**ivingTuesday has become a movement that celebrates the act of giving. While the campaign promotes charitable acts and other philanthropy throughout the year, it culminates on the first Tuesday following Thanksgiving.

If you decide to participate this year, consider giving your time or money to a local need.

## THE HISTORY

Many noted days now follow the holiday of Thanksgiving. The big day itself is followed by Black Friday, one of the biggest shopping days of the year. After this is Shop Small Saturday, Cyber Monday and then Giving Tuesday.

Giving Tuesday was created in 2012 by the United Nations Foundation and the 92nd Street Y — marketed for that year's Thanksgiving holiday. The intention of the holiday was to mark a day for celebrating the generosity of giving.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**If people enjoy spending money, they also enjoy giving it. Here is GivingTuesday in 2017, by the numbers:**

**2.5 million** online donations were given for more than **\$300 million** in monetary value.

More than **150 countries** participated in the campaign, along with more than **120 community coalitions**.

The social media impression of the campaign reached **21.7 billion**. That's right, billion.

## TURNING GIVING TUESDAY INTO A LOCAL AFFAIR

While there are many worthy national campaigns and foundations performing great work, there is something to be said for providing charitable acts in your hometown. Support a local charity or find a local chapter of a larger foundation you admire. Also keep in mind that not all giving has to be monetary. If you're strapped for cash, there are many causes that would appreciate your time as a volunteer — even if it's only for a few hours. Everyone has a skill, talent, passion or some time they can share with a nonprofit. Reach out to see what their needs may be.





## PROMOTING Your Business

Shop Small Saturday is a national campaign and one of the most influential in encouraging consumers to spend their dollars locally or to support small businesses. A crucial element of these campaigns is for small business owners to join in to provide their unique voice to the marketing.

If you own a small business, you should be performing all of the following 10 small business marketing basics—some of which take less than five minutes.

1. Like the Small Business Saturday page on Facebook. You might be surprised how much online traffic this will bring your business.
2. Check to be sure your business is listed on Google+ Local. This is free, and again, will bring a lot of attention to your business through a passive marketing channel.
3. Be an example. You should also be supporting local businesses and be seen doing so.

4. Join forces with other businesses. There is power in numbers, so use this to your benefit. Perhaps you could create a discount system where, if a customer shops at one local business, they earn a small discount at another.
5. Be creative with promotions. Often a small giveaway will get people in the door, and once they are there, they won't be able to resist looking around.
6. Make customers feel special. Don't bombard them as soon as they walk through the door, but find a way to show you notice them and appreciate them stopping by.
7. Post often on your businesses social media accounts. You should always strive

- to stay in people's feeds and in front of their eyes.
8. Connect with customers. If a particular item a customer is holding has a story, be sure to let them know.
  9. Participate in local events. This includes ribbon cuttings and town festivals. When people start associating your face with your business, you become a walking, breathing advertisement.
  10. Give back. This could even mean sponsoring a summer league team. You may be hesitant to provide 30 uniforms, but with your name on the back, people will be seeing your business at every game all season long.

## Shop Local FAST FACTS



Shopping local has become on trend thanks in large part to nationwide marketing campaigns. In fact, Small Business Saturday has become a shopping holiday in its own right — and fares well against its more big-box competitors Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

### THIS IS WHAT IT MEANS TO SHOP LOCAL IN THE UNITED STATES.

#### SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

- Small Business Saturday started in 2010. That year, the event was sponsored and promoted by American Express to encourage the growth of small businesses.
- Small Business Saturday took a dip in 2017, both in foot traffic and in overall dollars spent. The shopping holiday saw 108 million shoppers who spent approximately \$12.9 billion, which according to the National Federation of Independent Business and American Express, is 4 million shoppers and more than \$3 billion less than the year before.
- The state-by-state breakdown of the day shows that a majority of participation was through restaurants and bars, with 41 percent of people dining local. This was followed by purchases of clothing and accessories from small businesses (24 percent), grocery stores (23 percent) and then coffee shops (22 percent).

#### SHOPPING SMALL

- You may have already heard more mainstream statistics regarding your dollars (such as when you spend \$100 at a local business, approximately \$68 stays in the local economy, rather than just the \$43 if you would spend that same money at a big-box store.). But did you also know that small businesses accounted for more than half the jobs that have been created in the last decade?
- Additionally, small businesses donate 250 percent more than corporate businesses to non-profits and to community-based causes, according to the Seattle Good Business Network.
- While some shoppers won't purchase items directly on Shop Small Saturday, the shopping holiday has definitely increased small business awareness. People have begun to shop small on other days and more consistently throughout the year.



# The Gift of **GIVING**

Local charities and nonprofit organizations make our community a better place to live. They educate our children, feed and shelter the homeless, make sure our elderly know they are cared for and loved, strengthen families, rescue unwanted animals, and so much more. They depend on the community to step up by donating or by volunteering. Following are a few in the Athens area.



## YWCO Girls Club Encourages Girls to “**Dream Crazy Big**”



**T**he YWCO is passionate about giving girls the tools they need to succeed in life. For 43 years, the YWCO has offered Summer Girls Club, a camp targeting girls from low to moderate income families in the Athens area. Girls Club focuses on educational/recreational activities

that build self-confidence, encourage educational achievement and promote healthy lifestyles. To accomplish this, Girls Club curriculum includes reading lessons, career discovery, job training skills, nutrition education, financial literacy, and traditional camp activities. Girls Club campers are not only given experiences to “Dream Crazy Big”, but also they are provided role models to help them work toward their goals. Girls Club is unique in that lunch and transportation to the program are

provided, and it is just for girls.

YWCO supplements the cost of attendance through grants and fundraisers, but still over half of the girls attending camp receive financial assistance. A gift to Girls Club makes a difference in a girl’s life. A \$15 donation to Girls Club provides one registration (including a Girls Club tee), \$45 covers the cost for one week of camp and \$270 sends a girl to camp for all seven weeks.

For more info, visit [www.ywco.org](http://www.ywco.org)





Athens Wine Weekend's Gourmet Dinner raises thousands of dollars every year towards the Cultural Foundation's scholarship program (photo Wingate Downs Photography)

Executive Director of The Classic Center, Paul Cramer, recognizes Paul Martin and the launch of the Paul T. Martin Hospitality Education Fund (photo Getchell Photography)

Classic Center Cultural Foundation Scholarship Winners (photo Wingate Downs Photography)



# GIVING BACK Through The Classic Center Cultural Foundation

Originating in 2001, The Classic Center Cultural Foundation was not only a new and exciting approach of keeping The Classic Center in a state-of-the-art condition, but also a way to provide classic art and entertainment to those who believed in the foundation's mission to entertain and educate the community through diverse arts programs.

Today, The Classic Center Cultural Foundation's legacy has reached far beyond the original vision of its creators. The foundation currently awards \$30,000

in annual performing, visual and culinary arts scholarships to students in Athens-Clarke County and throughout northeast Georgia. The foundation also offers local community groups the opportunity to apply for a grant to aid them in accessing The Classic Center. Previous grants have been used to fund complimentary performances for patrons and students. The 400-plus foundation members allow The Classic Center to support visual art in Athens by hosting two Classic Galleries, which rotate 35 pieces of art twice each year.

The Classic Center is also a permanent home to 50 locally-purchased art pieces. The Classic Center Cultural Foundation is also a proud supporter of work development programs in our community such as the Hospitality Careers Academy and Bread for Life, as well as the Paul T. Martin Hospitality Education Fund, which was established to support the continuum of local hospitality workforce development initiatives.

For more information on The Classic Center Cultural Foundation, visit [www.ClassicCenter.com/Foundation](http://www.ClassicCenter.com/Foundation)

# MAKE A DIFFERENCE in the Life of an Older Adult



The Athens Community Council on Aging aims to maintain and enrich the lives of older persons in 27 counties of northeast and east Georgia. Last year, gifts from the community helped provide comfort, food and friendship to more than 14,000 seniors in the community.

A gift is not just giving material items, but helping to instill pride, independence, connection and a purpose in life. A gift prevents hunger, isolation and loneliness.

Mary, a senior employment client says, "The programs have allowed me to get involved in so many other areas. ... I am more integrated with the community. It has kept me from feeling closed in and secluded."

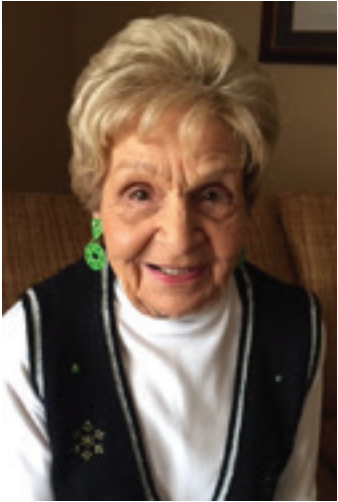
"I come to the Center every day to be with my friends and have a good nutritious meal. This is my family and my home away from home," according to Katherine, a Center for Active Living client.

- A GIFT CAN BUY**
- On-the-job training for an older adult
  - A week of adult day health
  - Transportation trips to doctors, grocery stores and pharmacies
  - A membership to our Center for Active Living
  - A meal delivered by a friendly volunteer

For more information or to donate, visit online at [www.accaging.org](http://www.accaging.org)

*Your gift means that ACCA can continue to ensure that all older adults in our community have the opportunity to live well and age well.*

From top:  
Jessie, Center for Active Living Client  
Joe, Bentley Adult Day Health Client  
Ruth Long, Meals on Wheels Client





# For YOUTH DEVELOPMENT, for Healthy Living, for Social Responsibility



For more than 160 years we have been a proud piece of the fabric of Athens-Clarke County and surrounding communities. We are a strong group of men, women, and children of all ages and from all walks of life joined together by a shared mission: to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

The sole purpose of the Athens YMCA is to provide a safe place for individuals to become healthy. Through generous donations from individuals like you, our annual campaign allows us to open our doors to those of all abilities, ages, backgrounds, cultures, faiths, and incomes. Your commitment to the Y brings extraordinary results every day.

Every gift, large and small, is life-changing. Please consider a gift to the Athens YMCA today. Your support allows us to continue serving nearly 10,000 people in our community each year. Visit [www.athensymca.org](http://www.athensymca.org) to give today.



From top:

Children participate in swim instruction to build important water safety skills

Runners take off during the annual Run Through the Woods 5k

Athens YMCA staff members helping collect food for the local food bank

Campers enjoy trying new foods during our Gardening option of day camp

Piedmont Athens Regional offers various health fairs and classes throughout the year at the Athens YMCA

# Give the GIFT OF HOPE



For thousands of children, families, and seniors at risk of hunger here in northeast Georgia, this time of year can be heart-breaking. It's hard to get into the holiday spirit when you don't know where your next meal will come from. But you can make a difference for our neighbors in need. This holiday you can give the gift of meals and hope.

## WAYS TO HELP

**Grow your heart three sizes** this year by giving just a few hours of your time. It won't cost you anything, but the feeling of helping your neighbors in need during the holiday season is priceless.

**Make a difference online.** There are lots of ways that you can help people facing hunger from the comfort of your own laptop, from fundraising on Facebook to posting photos volunteering, your actions will inspire friends and family to join you in the fight against hunger.

**Give a gift with meaning.** This year consider donating to the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia in honor of your friends and family. You will be spreading the love twice as far by giving meals to families who are in need and giving your loved one a meaningful gift.

Go to [www.foodbanknega.org](http://www.foodbanknega.org) to help now





# The Athens Area Community Foundation “FOR GOOD, FOREVER.”



The Athens Area Community Foundation is a public grantmaking foundation partnering with donors, nonprofits, and institutions to grow, preserve, and share philanthropic assets.

There are many flexible, tax-advantaged ways to get started. Donors may contribute a variety of assets to:

- Establish a Donor Advised Fund.
- Grow a nonprofit endowment.
- Support a specific area of interest.
- Leave a legacy through a planned gift.

**Convenience.** Donors have their own separate fund, a “foundation within the foundation,” that is simple and convenient, without the customary requirements and expenses of a private foundation or trust arrangement. Donors are provided with every aspect of administrative support.

**Flexibility.** Establishing a fund allows donors to support a broad base of projects and services, including the arts, the environment, health and human services, economic development, literacy, youth, and more.

**Local expertise.** This Community Foundation is a powerful ally, providing local expertise, personalized service, and leadership to support grantmaking. Serving Clarke, Oconee, Barrow, Madison, Jackson, and Oglethorpe counties, the Athens Area Community Foundation honors and protects the intentions of its donors in perpetuity, “For Good, Forever.”

Call today at (706) 357-7148 or visit online at [www.athensareacf.org](http://www.athensareacf.org)



Above: Donors at the Athens Area Community Foundation enjoy supporting a variety of causes in our community.

Harold Rittenberry Jr. presents a custom sculpture to the Lyndon House Arts Center. This donation was made possible by the Dan T. and Sara Wyche Coenen Fund at the Athens Area Community Foundation.

# The LIFELONG GIFT—Education



Since 1988, the Athens Tech Foundation has been providing scholarships, GED testing fees, support for adult education and related programs, and professional development to Athens Technical College. The mission of the Athens Tech Foundation is to partner with Athens Technical College and the community to build the workforce of today and for the future. The vision is to be the influential liaison with Athens Technical College and with the community to fulfill the college’s mission.

During the holiday season, consider providing the gift of education by contacting the Athens Tech Foundation about scholarship opportunities at (706) 355-5025, or visiting online at [www.AthensTech.edu/Foundation](http://www.AthensTech.edu/Foundation). Donations to the Athens Tech Foundation go directly to assisting students in completing their educational goals and changing lives.

### OUR MISSION

Athens Technical College, a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia, provides educational programs and services that foster lifelong learning, facilitate workplace success, and promote economic development.



Above: Athens Tech Foundation and Athens Technical College



From Left: Elaine Cook; Athens Tech Foundation Board Member, Dr. Andrea Daniel; President Athens Technical College, Philip Bettendorf; Athens Tech Foundation Chairman



From Left: Beth Thomas; Athens Tech Foundation Board Member, Kim Keegan; Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation, Ed Keegan; Ashton Hope Keegan Foundation





# Books for Keeps Brings CHRISTMAS IN MAY to Area Children



Books for Keeps believes providing children with open, equal access to books allows them to discover the joy of reading and lays the foundation for a successful, fulfilling life.

The Athens-based nonprofit's **Stop Summer Slide** program works in service of this belief by providing books to students who might otherwise have none. They are working to end summer-time learning loss by partnering with 18 Georgia elementary schools, offering a free book fair to every student in grades kindergarten through fifth.

Summer is a time when students without access to books can fall up to three months behind their peers, but research has found a simple solution. Following a research-based model inviting students to choose 12 books each, Books for Keeps has given away over 450,000 books since 2009.

With the help of UGA researchers and the use of student testing data, they have evidence that the program is advancing reading skills during summer. And then there are the notes from families.

"I think Books for Keeps is a fantastic program. My daughter was thrilled to pick out her books and bring them home," wrote Sara W. last May. "She's read them all several times already and just got them last week."



Books for Keeps has grown its impact because of community support. The organization is committed to finding a sponsor for all 7,900 children in the program. At just \$30 per child, even a very small donation has high impact. Help out by volunteering, donating books, donating funds, becoming a sponsor, hosting a book drive, or just spreading the word. Your contributions will make a difference in the life of a child – 12 books at a time.

Want to know how you can help? Visit online at [www.booksforkeeps.org](http://www.booksforkeeps.org)



# Give THE GIFT OF MENTORING this Holiday Season

The Clarke County Mentor Program recruits volunteers and matches them with students in the Clarke County School District who would benefit from having a mentor. A mentor is a role model, listener, and friend whose presence can help a young person become a successful adult.

Mentors visit the student they mentor at school once a week, to share a meal, help with homework, play a game or simply have a conversation. These visits take place during the school day, and we ask all mentors to make a one-year commitment.

The Clarke County Mentor Program, a nonprofit organization, began in 1991 as a joint initiative of the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce and the Clarke County School District. Among the many benefits of mentoring: Mentored students have better school attendance and are more likely to graduate from high school; local businesses have access to a more educated workforce with stronger ties to their community; and volunteers who mentor experience the pride and fulfillment of having made a positive impact on a young person and strengthening their community.

Through fun activities and exposing a child to new experiences, mentors encourage positive choices, promote high self-esteem, and support academic achievement.



To learn more about program requirements, upcoming training sessions, and opportunities to support CCMP this holiday season visit online at [www.clarkecountymentorprogram.org](http://www.clarkecountymentorprogram.org)

*"I've been mentoring since my mentee was in first grade and she is now in ninth. It has been exciting to watch her develop socially and academically. I'm proud to have this kind, thoughtful, hard-working student as my friend."*

— Janet, Mentor 2011–present





# MAKING A DIFFERENCE through Bread For Life



**B**read for Life, a nonprofit organization housed at The Classic Center in downtown Athens, strives to lift individuals and families within the community out of poverty through hospitality education and employment. BFL brings together leaders in the local hospitality industry, a dedicated crew of volunteers and trainees to serve as instructors for the eight-week training. Each of these individuals are dedicated to instilling the skills and education the trainees need to find and maintain successful hospitality careers within our community.

This recipe for success combines an eight-week classroom curriculum with hands-on training in Hotel Housekeeping, Banquet Service and Culinary Skills; all are designed to prepare graduates with a pathway to successful careers.

To find out more on how Bread for Life is enhancing the community and how you can be involved, contact Shannon McCullough, director of education at The Classic Center, at [Shannon@ClassicCenter.com](mailto:Shannon@ClassicCenter.com) or by phone at (706) 206-0500. Visit online at [www.breadforlifeathens.com](http://www.breadforlifeathens.com)



Top: Bread for Life Class of 2016 Graduates (photo Wingate Downs Photography)

Bottom: Each Bread for Life graduate receives a certificate of course completion upon graduation (photo Wingate Downs Photography)



Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 7:00 pm  
Hugh Hodgson Concert Hall UGA Performing Arts Center

\$12 General Admission

Carol Reeves, Artistic Director • Candace Stoffel, Accompanist

For tickets, information or to schedule an audition contact The Georgia Children's Chorus at 706-542-8711 or [GCC@uga.edu](mailto:GCC@uga.edu).

[www.GeorgiaChildrensChorus.org](http://www.GeorgiaChildrensChorus.org)



**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**



# ATHENS WINE CELEBRATING 10 YEARS! WEEKEND

AMUSE-BOUCHE WITH TROPHY WINES

GRAND TASTING FEATURING  
HUNDREDS OF WINES

SEMINARS BY WINE EXPERTS

6-COURSE GOURMET DINNER

FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
***FEBRUARY 1&2***  
THE CLASSIC CENTER ATHENS, GA

***CLASSICCENTER.COM/ATHENSWINEWEEKEND***

300 N. THOMAS ST., ATHENS, GA • 706.357.4444

BENEFITTING

