

# Four Things to Love About Cartersville November 2015

Gearing Up for the holidays? You can be thankful for these four things in Cartersville this November. To plan your time with family and friends see [VisitCartersvilleGA.org](http://VisitCartersvilleGA.org).

## Love 1: Mums



No flower in the South evokes more fond memories of homecoming football games than the Chrysanthemum. Cheerleaders, seniors and homecoming court members were all bestowed with beautiful mum corsages; and the bigger the mum, the better. Nobody grows these sentimental beauties better than the Stilesboro Improvement Club members who have hosted a chrysanthemum show for more than a century. The **103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Stilesboro Chrysanthemum**

**Show** is set for Saturday, November 6, from 11 AM to 7 PM in the historic Stilesboro Academy.

The setting for the oldest known Chrysanthemum Show in Georgia is a two-room schoolhouse built in 1859 and escaped the torches of Sherman's army because of the Latin inscription "To God and Country" painted as the school's motto. Inside, the mums are displayed in artistic designs based on a common theme. The growers are on hand to answer questions and to offer tips for growing and displaying mums. Be sure to ask about the magic mixture known as "cow tea."



The Stilesboro Academy is located just west of Cartersville at 20 Taff Road in Taylorsville. Admission to the mum show is \$2 per person. Food will be available for purchase in the tea room, which traditionally serves a menu first offered in the 1950s that includes homemade Brunswick stew, chicken salad and fresh baked cakes with plenty of sweet tea. Thankfully "cow tea" is not served.

## Love 2: Shopping Simple

The gift giving season is fast approaching and for most people price and convenience outweighs the desire to shop responsibly. In Cartersville and Adairsville, we like to encourage “shopping simple” – a concept not reserved for the days following Thanksgiving, but one that is practiced daily. Shopping here means finding those wish list items at the right price just steps away from free and unlimited parking. You can also trust that while you are quickly marking off that shopping list, you are also benefiting small businesses and families that give back to the community throughout the year.

Many shops in both cities have set aside special shopping days beginning in November complete with discounts, refreshments and adult beverages. In downtown Cartersville, the **Around the Bridge Holiday Open House** is set for Tuesday, November 10, from 5-8 PM. Participating will be nine businesses including Lulabelle's Closet, Periwinkle, It's About Time, Love June, Lulu Boutique, Meg Pie, Bartow History Museum, Olive Branch, and Salon Solutions. Both Periwinkle and It's About Time are repeat



winners of the annual People's Choice Award for Best Shoppe.

Another Best Shoppe in downtown Cartersville is **Spring Place Pottery & Artist Gallery**, pictured here. The gallery will hold its annual Holiday Sale November 13-14 with extended shopping hours from 10:30 AM-7 PM. Select artists will be present and

demonstrating their crafts. Door prizes will be offered, along with discounts throughout the Handmade in America store. Spring Place Pottery & Artist Gallery is located at 15 East Main Street, Cartersville.

Just a short drive north on US 41 takes you to downtown Adairsville which has seen several new stores open this year alongside local favorites that have thrived for decades. The stores will be open late until 8 PM on December 5, for **Christmas on the Square**. Pay Santa a visit inside the historic W&A Railroad Depot, then enjoy a dinner theatre performance at the Public Square Opera House inside the 1902 Stock Exchange (reservations are a must, 770-773-1902). Do not despair if the dinner theatre is sold out, more popular dining choices include Ristorante Mabianni Main Street Station and The Adairsville Inn.

To learn more about what our shops have in store see <http://www.visitcartersvillega.org/Shop.aspx>.

## Love 3: Getting Cozy

Cool autumn nights call for glowing fires and hot chocolate shared with friends and family. Spend an evening at the Red Top Mountain Iron Pour and you won't need a campfire to keep you warm. Gather around as hot, molten iron is poured into your very own mold to create a super unique souvenir or original gift. The **Friends of Red Top Mountain State Park** will host the final **Iron Pour** of the season Saturday, November 14. Volunteers will demonstrate the park's iron furnace, which is similar to

surrounding pre-Civil War furnaces in the Allatoona and Etowah mining communities. Park rangers recommend arriving an hour early (bring a chair) to wait in line to purchase a \$10 scratch block mold on sale at 2 PM. Quantities are very limited and sell out quickly. Spend the afternoon creating your mold design and enjoying the park. At 6 PM the furnace will be fired up as the Iron Pour gets underway. As soon as your creation cools, it's yours to keep or share.



Red Top Mountain State Park is located in Cartersville at I-75 Exit 285, east across Allatoona Lake. The Iron Pour will be held behind the park office at 50 Lodge Road. The event is free, but park users must display a \$5 in-vehicle park pass.

## Love 4: Bright Nights

Actress Meg Ryan delivers a line in Nora Ephron & Delia Ephron's film "You've Got Mail" that reminds us to be steadfast and celebrate brightly – "It will all shake out, meanwhile I'm putting up more twinkle lights." "Shop girl" Kathleen Kelly would certainly have approved of adding a little sparkle to your life with some upcoming holiday celebrations.

Inspiration is plentiful at the annual **Christmas at Grand Oaks** open house. Owner Ray Thacker and staff will open the renowned special events home from 2-5 PM on Sunday, November 22. The rooms will be adorned with elaborate Christmas décor and delicious refreshments will be served. A donation of \$10 per person is requested and benefits the Thacker Memorial Scholarship awarded by the Etowah Scholarship Foundation. Grand Oaks is located at 302 West Main Street, in Cartersville's West End Historic District.



One million twinkle lights will be enjoyed at **The Lighting of the Ruins at Barnsley Resort** in Adairsville. This popular annual tradition takes place Wednesday, November 25, beginning at 5 PM. The official start to the resort's holiday season is complete with seasonal refreshments and festive music. Santa and his reindeer will also make a special appearance. Guest parking, \$20 per car, opens at 4 PM for this magical event. Should you miss this special day, you can still see the lights with extended garden hours until 8 PM

nightly through January 3. Please call ahead 770-773-7480 as on select dates, the ruins and gardens will be closed for private events. Barnsley Resort is located at 597 Barnsley Gardens Rd, Adairsville.

The Saturday after Thanksgiving head to historic Euharlee for the **Euharlee Festival of Trees**. This charming event takes place in the historic Commissary adjacent to the historic Euharlee Covered Bridge, and is open nightly from 6-8 PM through December 12. Santa loves this event and comes each weekend to visit with the children. Maybe it's the delicious hot chocolate, hot apple cider and Christmas cookies served each night that keeps Santa coming back. If weather permits guests can roast marshmallows outside.



On the final evening, trees will be auctioned to the highest bidder and proceeds provide Christmas gifts for children in need through the Just Believe Christmas for Kids Foundation. The Euharlee Commissary is located at 114 Covered Bridge Rd.

### **Planning a visit? See the Cartersville-Bartow County Convention & Visitors Bureau**



The Cartersville-Bartow County Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) is the Destination Marketing Organization serving Cartersville, Adairsville, Emerson and all of Bartow County, Georgia. Founded in 1991, the CVB's mission is to foster and sustain economic development through tourism. The CVB operates the Official Georgia Local Welcome Center and the Clarence Brown Conference Center, both at 5450 State Route 20 in

Cartersville at I-75 Exit 290 west. Visitor assistance is available Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m.-4 p.m. For information call 770-387-1357 or visit online at [www.VisitCartersvilleGA.org](http://www.VisitCartersvilleGA.org).

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