

## **Walden's Ridge Civic League Report to the Town of Walden December 12, 2023**

Thank you for allowing us to report on recent developments at the Walden's Ridge Civic League.

We had great community participation at our year-end quarterly meeting in October when Senator Bo Watson presented a beautifully framed Proclamation honoring the centennial of the Civic League. After four years of service, President Karen Stone and Vice-president Carolyn Longphre were grateful to turn over their duties to the new officers elected. Rob Johnson is now President; Mark Dwyer is Vice-president, and Vicki Love is Secretary.

Thanks to the generous help of a local foundation, gifts from others, proceeds from events, and many volunteer hours by Chris Martin Construction and Walden Plumbing crews, the concession area is back in working order with upgraded wiring, new floor, paint, lighting, refrigerator, sink, counters, and shelving.

We have worked with EPB and the neighbors to provide subdued lighting for the grounds and plan to install switches on the lights to preserve dark skies.

Our auditorium residing effort is well under way due to the significant financial support of the Town of Walden. About 5,000 square feet of white oak boards are drying in the basement and will be supplemented by more as wood becomes available. Many hard-working individuals have dedicated hours to encapsulating the drying room, moving, sealing, treating and stacking the lumber. Among those was our friend Mike Aguado, who recently lost his life in a hiking accident. He was a very dedicated and enthusiastic supporter of WRCL, and he will be missed.

On December second, a group of friends gathered to decorate the auditorium for Christmas and enjoy a pizza party together. *Merry Mountain Christmas* will take place Friday, December 15 from 5 – 9 PM. We invite everyone to come and enjoy an old-fashioned, family-friendly celebration. Kids 3-13 can enter their gingerbread houses in a contest to win prizes. Come visit with Santa and enjoy children's crafts, along with the lights, music, hayrides, bonfire, and caroling. Roast your own hot dog, or buy one ready-made, and make s'mores. There will be hot chocolate, coffee, soft drinks and special Christmas treats. *Merry Mountain Christmas* is bringing the community together for the third year. There is no admission charge. Donations are welcome. We would love to see you there.

Karen Stone, WRCL Publicity & Membership Chair