

Walden's Ridge Civic League Report to the Town of Walden December 14, 2021

Thank you for the opportunity to report on activity at the Walden's Ridge Civic League.

Our Family Holiday Photo Sessions were successful as a fundraising activity. We want to thank McCoy Farm & Gardens for their cooperation. The photo shoots were a good opportunity to showcase the beautifully decorated house and the manicured grounds. Professional photographer Tara Randolph of Randolph Retreat enjoyed working with her subjects in front of the handsome fireplaces and staircase in the McCoy home and outside too. We certainly hope this relationship continues to the benefit of both our Walden community assets.

Mountain Opry performances have been well received and their board has asked to continue using the Civic League on the 4th Saturdays of the month, with the next performance being on January 1. Their Special Show, "Real Men Wear Pink," raised over \$1200 to fight breast cancer.

Volunteers have worked hard to clear dead and unwanted trees and to install lighting for safety and ambiance in our parking area which is expanded and more useful. Thanks to the members of Wayside Presbyterian Church who are kind to share their parking spaces, our guests now can find suitable spots for their cars. The Civic League is reciprocating by sharing our parking space during the church's music program this weekend.

A Very Opry Christmas on Saturday, December 11 was a big success. We planned meals for 300, and about that number came, so we were very happy. In our auditorium, musical performances continued from 3:00 on, featuring the As Isaac Band, SMMHS Chorus with Megan Wagner, Champion fiddler Connor Steven Vietstra with Trevor Holder, and Mountain Cove Bluegrass Band. An open mic jam session topped off the evening with some remarkable new talent.

In the Women's Building, Lolly Durant offered her popular marbling. Swing Through Time toy store intrigued parents and kids alike. Folks viewed the homemade Gingerbread houses and voted for their favorites. Santa visited with the children 4:00 till 6:00. Then he lit the Christmas tree, Nine vendors sold their wares, and over 20 door prizes were given away.

The next upcoming events are the Walden's Ridge Guild Christmas party on Thursday, and the Chattanooga Symphony String Quintet on January 20. You will hear a report on those and other events at the next Town meeting.

Karen Stone, President