

**SOCIAL LITES**

# April Sound



**Ann Marie Ricci**  
APRIL SOUND

There has been so much going on in December, I hardly know where to start with this article. First

off, on Dec. 3, the April Sound Ladies Association hosted the annual holiday Gala. As ASLA President Penny Grasse-donio said, "December 3, 2022 will go down in ASLA's history as one of the most amazing Galas ever!" This special party is open to all members of ASLA and their chosen guests. The Gala Committee was comprised of six very talented ladies, Brenda Capps-Aucutt, Barb Moody, Sandi Preddy, Regina Symons, Brenna Taylor and Cindy Venable. Back in February 2022, they had already started planning and preparing for this one special evening. The outcome of all the work was amazing, and their decorations were just beautiful. The combination of the gorgeous room, the great band, the food and drinks, everyone dancing, taking photos and just enjoying visiting and having fun together made for a perfect evening! Thank you to all concerned for a job well done!

On Sunday evening, Dec. 11, we enjoyed attending the Walden Church's Christmas Choir Concert, "Jesus! The Advent of the Messiah." The evening began with the beautiful piano music of Marna Leasure, then Director of Music Mike Morgan led over 30 singers, and narrators Wil and Julie Fauble as they presented the lovely collection of familiar carols and songs telling the Christmas story in a very

memorable way. Adding to the evening was the meaningful message given by Pastor Reverend David Kenney. Congratulations all!

At noontime on Wednesday, I could not have felt prouder of the members of the April Sound Ladies Association. As Chairperson for the Salvation Army, part of my job is to put a decorated jar on each table at the monthly luncheon so attendees can contribute their extra coins and bills. You'd be surprised how much this counts up with just the ladies putting their change into the jars each month. Then, in November, I visit my friend Debra at the Salvation Army headquarters to pick up the Angel tags. This year, I wanted to add to our count and asked for 45 seniors and 145 children ages from birth to twelve. When putting all the tags out at the November luncheon, I was worried that maybe we wouldn't be able to satisfy 170 tags. But, the ladies stepped up completely, and I only had a few left at the end of the luncheon. Those were soon taken after President Penny Grasse-donio sent out a message. On Wednesday, the Salvation Army truck arrived a little before 10:00, and by noon Mark and Rick and I had logged all but two returns which came the next day. Lt. Claudia Guzman gave a short speech at the luncheon explaining all the work the organization does in our greater Conroe community, and we presented her with a check for \$2,344 — a part of the luncheon jar collections. The April Sound Church's Choir Cantata begins at 9 this morning (Sunday). Come join us!

- Ann Marie Ricci

Send April Sound news to [jamricci@consolidated.net](mailto:jamricci@consolidated.net).



Jason Fochtman/Staff photographer

The Corner Pub in downtown Conroe will host live music on New Year's Eve.

## Historic Downtown Conroe



**Margie Taylor**  
DOWNTOWN CONROE

Christmas week is for shopping local!

The last Sip Shop and Stroll in Downtown Conroe is this Thursday,

Dec. 22, from 5 to 8 p.m. Shop the retail stores, find great last minute purchases and taste light bites and drink. Enjoy live music in the street while you check out the

local vendors and food trucks. Starts on Main Street in downtown Conroe through Founder's Plaza Park by the Owen Theatre.

Shop unique Christmas koozies and beanies at Fass Brewing while attending the Sip Shop and Stroll. Cold front is on the way! And there is still time to get an item from Brownlee Jewelers for that special person who deserves the best in jewelry!

**The Conroe Art League** annual "Christ-

mas Is for Giving" exhibit continues at the gallery at 127 Simonton Street making it easy to shop for one-of-a-kind items all made by local artists. In addition, there are 70 works of art by 38 artists, each priced at \$150 or less through Jan. 2. The gallery is open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturdays.

What are your plans for New Year's Eve?

Choices in Downtown Conroe:

202 Main - DJ, gourmet food and drinks

The Corner Pub - Live music

The Red Brick Tavern - Live music plus a special menu

Pacific Yard House - Johnny and the Sensations will play all your favorite songs from the 70s forward

More events with details next week!

Enjoy the Holiday Season

- Margie Taylor

Send Historic Downtown Conroe news to [margie@taylorizedpr.com](mailto:margie@taylorizedpr.com).

## Good news



Courtesy photo

**Jerry O'Neal addresses the grave of Sgt. Luther Dorsey and says a prayer and thanks for a life well lived in the service of his country and community. Luther Dorsey is the only known veteran buried in the Conroe Community Cemetery and the only known Buffalo Soldier buried in Montgomery County. The wreath laying is a part of the Wreaths Across America ceremony this year. Wreaths Across America's mission is to remember our fallen US veterans, honor those who serve and teach your children the value of freedom. Thanks to the SAR Freedom Chapter for purchasing the wreath.**

## Bentwater



**Bruce**

At the risk of wearing you slam out with this topic, thank you,

forever. And, truth be told, the person giving often tends to gain most from the experience. How else would one explain why so many of you bothered to buy toys and