



# THE COLUMBIANA BUGLER



Columbiana Senior Center

## Community Calendar

December

- 3 City Council at City Hall at 6pm
- 5 Christmas Parade on Main Street at 7pm
- 7 Tour of Homes from 11am – 3pm  
Shelby County Arts Council Artist Market from 9am -3pm
- 14 Breakfast with Santa at Bernies on Main from 8am – 11pm
- 17 City Council at City Hall at 6pm
- 21 Santa visits the Columbiana Public Library at 10am
- 24 Christmas Eve - City Hall closed
- 25 Christmas Day – City Hall closed

For further information and a complete list of events, please visit [cityofcolumbiana.com](http://cityofcolumbiana.com)



Andrew Melsen – Shelby County High School Marching Band member picked to participate in the 2013 Macy's Great American Marching Band.



Quilts on display at the Columbiana United Methodist Church during the Columbiana Quilt Walk



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**I**t's Holiday Season in Columbiana. I feel fortunate to live in a city that celebrates and shares during the holiday season like Columbiana does.

Our streets and storefronts are so festive, it's very difficult to be in town and not feel the holiday spirit.

Our Churches, our merchants and professionals, our civic clubs, our city employees, our elected officials and our citizens all join together to make the holidays special in Columbiana.

It starts with Fall decorations in the shops and outside the stores. You'll have to go some to find anything as unique as our pumpkin people (thank you Leigh Ann) the street is filled with goblins and Halloween merriment as downtown is transformed into a Halloween festival to behold. Columbiana and surrounding areas come downtown to socialize and celebrate together.

As fall blends into winter, Columbiana's appearance changes from a Fall and Thanksgiving theme to a Winter and Christmas theme. What a beautiful City we have to celebrate the holidays in. What a wonderful group of people to celebrate with.

Columbiana has the Christmas Parade, Tour of Homes, several of the Churches put on holiday productions, the Arts Council has several nights of entertainment planned and I'm told



Christmas Breakfast with Santa will be a treat again this year. We will all enjoy the City Christmas tree in the center of town (thank you Susan Conn).

In the spirit of holiday giving I'm sure the Luther Fowler Sunday School class will tend the Skillet Bird Fund to raise gifts for those in need, as will other groups throughout our town. Our churches will have many venues available for us to celebrate Christ birth.

Many people will be home for the holidays and there will be private

parties and celebrating until the New Year has come.

Enjoy the holidays in Columbiana, we have plenty to celebrate!!!

We're all in this together.

Mayor Stencil Handley  
Mayor@cityofcolumbiana.com

## In touch ...

### To contact us

Telephone 205-669-5800  
Address 107 Mildred Street  
Columbiana, Alabama 35051  
Fax 205-669-5811  
Website www.cityofcolumbiana.com  
Facebook City of Columbiana  
Twitter https://twitter.com/  
ColumbianaNews

### City Council

Mayor Stencil Handley 205-669-5800  
mayorhandley@cityofcolumbiana.com  
Ouida Mayfield Ward 5  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Leslie Whiting Ward 1  
Barbara Moore Ward 2  
Ricky Ruston Ward 3  
Kim King Ward 4

### Important Numbers

Emergency 911  
Police Department 205-669-5800  
Library 205-669-5812  
Senior Center 205-669-3969  
Columbiana 205-669-5805  
Water Works  
Alabama Gas 205-326-8200  
Alabama Power 800-245-2244  
AT&T 888-757-6500

The Columbiana Bugler is published by the city of Columbiana to keep residents and businesses informed about city programs, services and activities. The City of Columbiana would like to thank the businesses that participating in making the Columbiana Bugler possible. *Your suggestions and comments are welcome!* Contact Helen Dean, Marketing Coordinator at hdean@cityofcolumbiana.com or by phone at 205-669-5800.

Wishing you a  
Merry Christmas



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# Holiday Season Safety Tips

Lt. Brian Stevens

Columbiana Fire Department

As the Christmas Season draws near, many families begin the task of decorating their homes and businesses. Although Christmas is an exciting time of year, it can also be a dangerous one. For your safety and your families, here are a few tips for Fire Safety when decorating and preparing for the holiday season.

## Christmas Tree:

- ▶ Live trees should be fresh cut. If needles fall off to the touch it is to dry.
- ▶ Always keep your live tree watered daily.
- ▶ Artificial trees should be labelled from the manufacturer as flame retardant. Always check warning instructions on the tree purchased.

▶ Christmas trees should be placed at least 3 feet away from any heat source (i.e. Fireplace, stove, furniture, portable heaters).

## Christmas Lights:

- ▶ Before placing lights on a tree, always check for broken bulbs, burned out bulbs, frayed or bare wires.
- ▶ Only use lights labelled for indoor use on inside decorations (outside lights may burn hotter and melt decorations).
- ▶ Never plug in more than 3 strands of bulbs together and always plug into an extension cord.
- ▶ Always unplug and turn lights off before leaving house or going to bed.

## Candles:

- ▶ Never put candles on Christmas trees.

▶ Keep all candles out of windows. Curtains or drapes could catch on fire and any draft could spread the flame.

▶ Keep all candles up and out of reach of small children.

## Fireplace/Stove/Portable Heaters:

- ▶ Keep all objects at least 3 feet away from all heating sources.
- ▶ Keep fireplace screens in place.
- ▶ Never leave fireplaces or stoves burning when leaving the house or going to bed.
- ▶ Plug all portable heaters with missing or broken pieces (check all ceramic tiles).

The members of the Columbiana Fire Department want to wish all the families of Columbiana a safe and happy Holiday Season.

## Upcoming Holiday Events

### COLUMBIANA CHRISTMAS PARADE

The 11th annual Columbiana Christmas Parade will be Thursday, December 5 at 7pm. The theme for the 2013 Christmas Parade is 'Columbiana, a Southern Christmas'. Christmas Carols will begin at 5:45pm downtown. Prior to the parade Dream Makers Dancers will be performing on Main Street. Antique cars, fire engines, beauty queens, floats, rescue vehicles, will all be a part of the parade and Santa Claus will be at the end to finish the Christmas Parade. Don't forget your camera! At the City Christmas Tree, Santa Claus will be available after the parade for children to have their photos made with Santa. The Columbiana Christmas Parade is sponsored by the City of Columbiana and the Columbiana Merchants & Professionals. Anyone interested in becoming a part of the parade should contact Oudia Mayfield at 669-7813 or Helen Dean at City Hall 669-5808.

### 2013 CHRISTMAS TOUR OF HOMES

The Columbiana 2013 Christmas Tour of Homes will be Saturday, December 7, 2013 from 11am – 3pm. Come and view some beautifully decorated homes during this annual tradition hosted by the Columbiana Beautification Board. Advanced

Tickets \$10 and can be purchased at Busy Hands, Dr. Stencil Handley, and Dales Beauty Salon.

### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Breakfast with Santa hosted by the Columbiana Merchants and Professionals will be held Saturday, December 14 at Bernies on Main. Let your child experience the magic of Santa! Pancake breakfast for your child, visit with Santa and picture. For more information and ticket prices, please visit [www.columbianamerchants.org](http://www.columbianamerchants.org)

### LAY LAKE CHRISTMAS PARADE

On Saturday, December 14, The 16th Annual Lay Lake Christmas Boat Parade, sponsored by the Lay Lake Homeowners and Boat Owners Association, will be held. The parade will start at Beeswax Creek at 4:30 p.m. It will circle the Beeswax Public Boat Launch area at 5:15 p.m., where the public can view the parade. The parade will also be viewed at Paradise Point by 5:50 p.m., Cedar Creek by 6:30 p.m., Okomo Marina at 7 p.m. and Bozo's Marina at 7:35 p.m. All times are approximate. If interested in participating in the parade, contact Joe Sullivan at [Joe@sullivancomm.com](mailto:Joe@sullivancomm.com) or Facebook at Lay Lake Christmas Boat Parade.

### SCHOOL NEWS

Elvin Hill Elementary, Columbiana Middle School and Shelby County High School dismiss at 1:00pm on December 20, 2013 for Christmas Holidays. School resumes January 6, 2014.

### PETS AND PEOPLE FOOD DRIVE

The Elvin Hill Elementary School Student Council will be holding their our annual Pets and People Food Drive. All items should be brought to the school office. This drive will begin on December 2. In the past years of the Pets and People Food Drive, the effect of giving and sharing have blessed many families and shelter animals in the community.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Christmas Outreach to the Shelby County Jail Inmates. What: Manufactured pre-packaged individual items only (cakes, honey buns, cookies, no nuts or fruit). When: December 12, 2013 (Thursday) from 6:00pm – 9:00pm. Where: Shelby County Sheriff Dept. Training Facility (on the left past the jail). Contact: Chaplain Leslie Whiting (205)669-5208 or (205)296-6654.



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## Columbiana Chronicle, Thursday, Sept. 17, 1896

At a special meeting of the board of commissioners on last Friday the question of how the county buildings could be put in better sanitary condition and thereby prevent injury to the health of the inmates and the town at large, came up for earnest consideration. John A. Edwards, of Childersburg, submitted a carefully prepared plan for a system of water works that would effectually remove this menace to our town, which has been neglected for year to year until it had grown to alarming proportions. His plan was accepted, the amount of his bid being \$3,100. He proposed to bring water from the Weaver springs on the side of the mountain through a 2-inch pipe sunk deep enough in the ground to be beyond the danger of freezing. A rock dam will be built below the springs to impound the water. A large cypress tank, capacity 17,000 gallons, is to be erected on a brick tower 40 feet high between the court house and jail. A sufficient number of closets will be placed in both buildings, fitted with automatic flush tanks, all of which will empty into a 8-inch sewer which will empty into the Verchot branch about 400 or 500 yards below town. The system is to be a very complete one put up in a thoroughly substantial manner, and the date of its successful inauguration will be a day of rejoicing in Columbiana. We all feel that a great burden has been lifted from our shoulders. Mr. Edwards has offered all the material and will begin working once upon its arrival. He says 60 days is all he wants to complete the job. Thanks to the commissioners for this concession.

*The Columbiana Chronicle*  
Thursday, October 8, 1896

Dirt was broken yesterday as a starter for Shelby County's water works. Most of the material has arrived, and in the course of sixty days we hope to see the system in successful operation.

*The Columbiana Chronicle*

Thursday, November 5, 1896

In the course of two weeks the court house and jail will be supplied with good spring water. The contractor, Mr. J.A. Edwards, is pushing the work on the water works and will soon have it completed.

*The Columbiana Chronicle*  
Thursday, November 12, 1896

J.F. Varderman, foreman of the water works gang, was called to his home in Sylacauga Sunday by the illness of his little boy, who has since died. Mr. Varderman has only been with us a short time but has made many friends in our midst who deeply sympathize with him.

*The Columbiana Chronicle*  
Thursday, December 3, 1896

Contractor John Edwards informed us yesterday that but for the severe weather of the last few days the water works plant would have been completed this week. He says, though it will be in successful operation early next week. The reservoir (some people will say tank) is now full of pure spring water. The court house officials can soon put on city airs—at any rate they will have water on tap in their offices.

*The Columbiana Chronicle*  
Thursday, December 10, 1896

Yesterday afternoon Contractor Edwards informed us that the water works plant had been completed. In company with him we looked it over carefully and our opinion is that it is an unqualified success. It is the first and only water system we ever saw that was automatic and was supplied solely by gravitation. It is able to take care of itself without any assistance whatever. The water is piped from two springs on the mountain east of town, about a mile and a quarter, which are 116 feet higher than the base of the tower supporting the reservoir. The tower is forty feet high. The pressure is ample to throw a stream of water over any building in the town. The water is clear, pure freestone, the finest and purest to be had any-



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHELBY COUNTY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES BY BOBBY JOE SEALES

Columbiana Water Tower. It is said that at the foot of this tank was a water hydrant and people from over the City of Columbiana would come and fill their water buckets and take back to their home. The *Columbiana Chronicle*, Thursday, September 17, 1896

where. We are as proud of this plant as a child is of a new doll and we want to say of our own accord, without a suggestion or intimation from any one that Mr. Edwards has not only fulfilled his contract to the letter, but he has done more. He has been even generous—a strange freak for a contractor. We congratulate him heartily on his success.

*The Columbiana Chronicle*  
Thursday, December 17, 1896

The Commissioners court was called to meet Tuesday in extra session for the purpose of inspecting and receiving the water works plant. They looked it over carefully and feeling confident of its complete efficiency received it and ordered that Mr. Edwards be paid the contract price. He guarantees the work for a year. So far it works like a charm, and we are decidedly of the opinion that the money spent by the county in putting in this system could not have been expended more wisely.

HISTORY NEVER WRITTEN IS SOON FORGOTTEN

## Between the pages

*Columbiana Library News*

### December Schedule

- ▶ Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. — Storytime with Ms. Jennie
- ▶ Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. — Loose Stitches Knitting Group
- ▶ Fridays at 9:15 a.m. — Bridge Club at Bernies on Main Street
- 10 — Friends of the Library Meeting and Cookie Swap 1:00pm
- 13 — Crafts, Cookies and Cocoa from 3:30pm – 4:30pm
- 17 — Loose Stitches Knitting Christmas Party from 9:30am – 1:00pm
- 21 — Santa Claus visits the Library at from 10:00am – 12:00pm
- 23 — Movie How the Grinch Stole Christmas at 2:00pm
- 24-25 — Library Closed

### Library Hours

M, W, F 9 a.m. – 4:50 p.m.  
T, Th 9 a.m. – 7:50 p.m.  
Sat 9 a.m. – 12:50 .m.

## Chevron Food Mart



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## Yard of the Month



CONTRIBUTE

**LEFT:** Beeston Square was awarded Business Yard of the Month. **RIGHT:** David and Kathy Mitchell was awarded Residence Yard of the Month.

# Red Velvet Cake

*Courtesy of Fran Sammons  
Assistant City Clerk*

### Ingredients:

- 2 ½ cups self-rising flour
- 2 eggs
- 1 ¾ cups sugar
- 2 cups oil
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 teaspoon vinegar
- 1 teaspoon cocoa
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 3 tablespoons red cake coloring

### Directions:

Cream together eggs and sugar. Add remaining ingredients one at a time. Pour into 2 round greased and floured cake pans. Bake at 350 degrees until toothpick inserted in middle comes out clean (30-35 minutes). Let cool completely.

### Frosting:

- 1 stick butter or margarine
- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 1 box confectioners' sugar (sift to remove lumps)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup pecans

Cream together butter and cream cheese. Add sugar and vanilla. Add pecans last. Frost and store lightly covered for a deliciously moist cake.

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# 2013 Christmas Tour of Homes

The Columbiana 2013 Christmas Tour of Homes will be Saturday, December 7, 2013 from 11am – 3pm. Come and view some beautifully decorated homes during this annual tradition hosted by the Columbiana Beautification Board. Advanced Tickets \$10.00 and can be purchased at Busy Hands, Dr. Stancil Handley, and Dales Beauty Salon.

COLUMBIANA, AL  
*Tour of Homes*

**TICKETS**  
\$10  
IN ADVANCE  
\$12  
AT THE DOOR

Tickets can be purchased from  
Busy Hands Gallery, Dr. Stancil Handley's  
Office and Dale's Beauty Salon

Please join us this special time of year for the  
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**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2013**  
from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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## Shelby County Arts Council Schedule

**December 7**  
**5th Annual Artist Market**  
9:30am – 3:00pm

Free Admission. Over 20 artist will have their original artwork available for purchase. Items available include pottery, jewelry, hand-made scarves, photo-calendars, oil paintings, photography and more!

**December 14**  
**The Hot Tamales, 7:00pm**  
Tickets: \$20.00

Two of Birmingham area's favorite entertainers are taking the stage for our Holiday Show. Jan D. Hunter and Kristi Tingle

Higginbotham will take the stage in their signature "Hot Red Heels" performing your favorite Christmas Carols, with their own unique 'twist'.

**December 31**  
**Ring in the New Year with the Shelby County Arts Council featuring the music of Rollin' in the Hay, 8:00pm – 12:30am**  
Tickets: \$40 per person/ \$70 per couple. Join us New Year's Eve for a fun evening with regional favorites "Rolling in the Hay". Your ticket will include Hors d' oeuvres and a champagne toast, other bev-

erages will be available as well. Your ticket price guarantees you a unique, relaxed evening out in our beautiful little town and also helps support the mission of the Shelby County Arts Council. Doors open at 8 pm. Show starts at 9pm. Ends at 12:30 am.

**New music and voice lessons start in January!**  
To purchase tickets and to learn more about any of our upcoming events, performances or classes visit our website at [www.shelby-countyartsCouncil.com](http://www.shelby-countyartsCouncil.com) or call our office 205-669-0044.

To purchase tickets and to learn more about any of our upcoming events, performances or classes visit our website at [www.shelbycountycouncil.com](http://www.shelbycountycouncil.com) or call our office 205 669 0044



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# Made in Columbiana

## A Fine Wine Takes Time

In 2007, the Lewis family planted the first vineyard at Lewis Lake Vineyards in Columbiana. It wasn't until late August 2013 that actual production of Lewis Lakes Vineyard Wine began. On this five acre vineyard, the first year's crop yielded 10 pounds of fruit per plant. Each year we added more plant. This year's crop yielded 75 pounds of fruit per plant. We recently sat down with Bill at the Vineyard to find out more.

### Bill, why Columbiana?

I knew I wanted property in Shelby County. A Real Estate Agent called me to come and look at property here in Columbiana. After my first time of walking the property, the deal was closed. At that time, I didn't know I would be planting a vineyard, I was just wanting the property for a weekend place.

### What led you to plant a vineyard on your property?

My interest was piqued by visits to Vineyards in California. We took it on as a challenge. They kept telling me you couldn't make good wine in Alabama. We were set to prove them wrong.

### How did you name your wine the Lewis Lakes Vineyards?

There are 2 lakes on the property. We use the lakes as a drip irrigation system to water the vineyards.

### What makes your wine different from the other local wineries?

Most local wineries offer a sweet muscadine wine. Lewis Lakes Vineyards offer a dry white and red wine that is similar to a Merlot. We also offer a wine called Blushing Bride, a blush, which is produced from a Creek muscadine. We also pick our own fruit. All of the fruit used in our wine is either picked here or picked somewhere in Alabama. We pick it here, produce it here, bottle and label it here on the property.



### Where can we find Lewis Lakes Vineyards Wine?

Currently, the wine is available for purchase here at the Winery or at ABC Stores.

### Is Lewis Lakes Vineyards open to the public?

Yes! Right now we are open from 11am - 5pm on Saturdays for tastings and sales. We also are open by appointment. After the first of the

year we hope to expand our hours.

### Where can people find out more about the Vineyards?

Our website is currently under construction. It is [www.lewislakevineyards.com](http://www.lewislakevineyards.com).

Lewis Lakes Vineyards

Bill Lewis

205.531.8678

1075 Chelsea Road

Columbiana, Alabama 35051

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