

Marshall County **Tribune**

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Cornersville hosts second annual Main Street Christmas

By **Hannah Davis**
Tribune Correspondent

Last weekend, Cornersville celebrated its second annual Christmas Festival on Main Street. Though the event was almost canceled due to the excessive rain throughout the previous week, the many organizations sponsoring the event ensured that Cornersville still had its Christmas celebration. The event included food trucks, booths and games for children, vendors featuring local businesses, and special holiday treats and events for anyone. The rain held out and the event went off without

a hitch, starting with a special reading of "The Night Before Christmas," by Colleen Clift, a member of the Lions Club. "The Lions Club sponsored milk and cookies and a reading of "The Night Before Christmas" with Mrs. Claus for all the children who came today," said Clift. A current member of the Lions Club, she volunteered for the position to play Mrs. Claus for the special event. Clift's counterpart for the Christmas festivities was Glen Levy, who posed as Santa Claus. The town of Cornersville set up a chair and a candy cane lane for children to travel down

to see Santa Claus. Levy has been playing Santa Claus for two years now, but played Santa Claus for the local church for the past five years prior to this. "For me, it's about all the smiles. It's for the kids," said Levy. Capturing the momentous occasion with local kids was local photographer Shallin Bennett. "It's my first year taking photos here, but I couldn't pass up the opportunity to help give people all of those memories. I love to see them all together," said Bennett. The Cornersville



Judy Stewart (red coat) lit the Cornersville Christmas tree on Saturday as her first official act after she was presented with the inaugural Cornersville Citizen of the Year award for her many years of service and contributions to the town, especially for her years of service on the town's planning commission.



Photo submitted
First Commerce Bank announced that current Chief Operating Officer Luke T. Buckley (center) will assume the roles of president and chief executive officer, effective January 1. Joining Buckley are First Commerce Bank Chairman of the Board Bill Marsh (left) and current President and Chief Executive Officer Eddie Wiles (right).

Buckley named President/Chief Executive Officer

First Commerce Bank's Board of Directors announced Chief Operating Officer Luke T. Buckley will become President/Chief Executive Officer effective January 1, 2023, replacing longtime banker Eddie Wiles. Wiles will remain on a part-time basis as an executive officer of the bank and as vice chairman of the board. "Luke has a lifelong background in community banking, and this promotion is well deserved. He will focus on providing traditional banking services in our local communities and will do a tremendous job," stated Wiles. "Luke is well prepared to lead our bank in the years to come. He and the management team at First Commerce Bank know the importance of customer service which was why the bank was originally started in 2002. I am extremely proud of Luke's

abilities as a leader for our bank and within our community," said Chairman of the Board Bill Marsh. "I am honored and appreciate the confidence of the board in me to assume this role with First Commerce Bank," said Buckley. "I have worked alongside Bill and Eddie for many years, and I couldn't have more honorable and respected mentors. I value all they have done for me and look forward to the future of our bank with our talented team of employees as we continue to serve our customers." First Commerce Bank currently has assets of \$570,000,000 and is locally owned with over 1,000 shareholders. First Commerce Bank operates two offices in Lewisburg, one in Chapel Hill, one in Fayetteville, and one in Murfreesboro.

Lewisburg City Council paused on annexation, development issues

By **Scott Pearson**
Associate Editor

The Lewisburg City Council paused on annexation and development issues at Tuesday's monthly meeting. Four of the five resolutions scheduled for a public hearing prior to the meeting were withdrawn at request of the developers. They dealt with the second readings and plans of service for annexation requests for parcels along West Ellington Parkway and between Holly Grove Road and Finley Beech Road. Those requests could reappear on a future agenda. Council did approve the remaining item, an ordinance adjusting some of the city's planned urban development guidelines, including removing the "high density" category. The remainder of the agenda mostly concerned revisions to four different titles with the municipal code, allowing more flexibility in future for alcohol service at special events on city property. The amended language opens the door for alcoholic beverage permits at festivals or special events held in



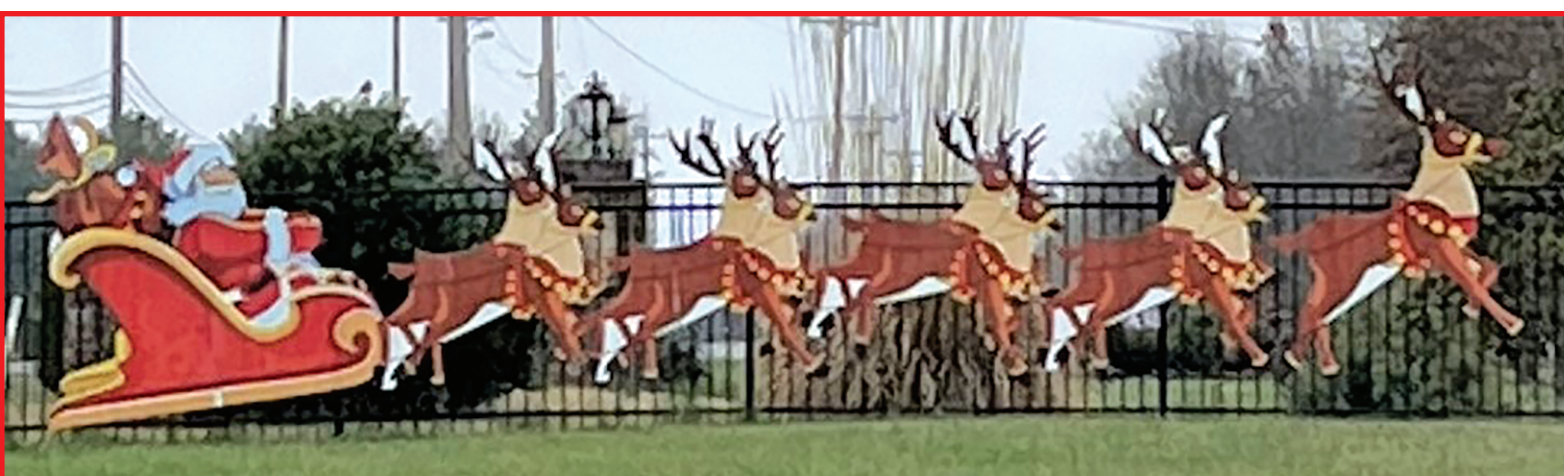
Tribune photo by Scott Pearson
At Tuesday's monthly council meeting, Lewisburg Mayor Jim Bingham and the city council presented Barbara Woods (left) and Lisa Jackson (right) with certificates of appreciation for their 20-odd years of volunteer work as the city's beautification committee, decorating the square for Christmas and other occasions.



Lewisburg veteran Jon Faill (left) joined with representatives of local veterans groups on Tuesday to recognize the city for its contributions to veteran welfare. Lewisburg has, for several years, funded transportation for local veterans to Veterans Administration medical appointments through an agreement with the South Central Area Transit Service.



CH PARADE RESCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY AT 4 P.M.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year