

# Banks Community Christmas Concert was a delight for all ages

by Jodi Boylan

The third annual Banks Community Christmas Concert, at Schlegel Hall on December 15, was certainly an event to attend. What was once a coffee shop conversation and an event that could be performed by an elementary school, according to Mariana Knifer, is now a spectacular concert made up of Banks local talent and organizations around city.

Everybody's Home Town Band, which is directed by Knifer was asked to perform at

events outside our local community, including a holiday party at Jenkins Estates as well as other sites. Words cannot express the beautiful sounds that rang from Schlegel Hall during their performance.

Highlights included the Banks United Methodist Choir, Banks Jr. High School Band, and a tribute to the Armed Forces presented by John Kalmbach of Banks Legion Post 90.

Rob Ireland read 'Twas the Night Before Christmas to the

children, with sound effects from the band. The children were nestled all snug in their seats when from the band there arose such a clatter, they sprang from their seats to see what was the matter. Away to their parents they flew like a flash.

The audience roared with laughter as they watched the children sneak back to the

stage to finish listening to the story.

Alena Sheldon, who is recording her new CD in Nashville, returned to her local community and performed Jingle Bell Rock, Rocking Around the Christmas Tree, and an a cappella version of The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire).

The audience joined in with

Everybody's Home Town Band to sing Frosty the Snowman, Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer, and I'll be Home for Christmas.

Everybody's Home Town Band ended the community concert with several all-time-favorite Christmas Carols.

Santa handed out hand-crafted wooden toys to the children.



Above, Santa with Olivia Boylan at the Banks Community Christmas Concert. Right, Rob Ireland reads 'Twas the Night Before Christmas to the children while Everybody's Home-Town Band, directed by Mariana Knifer, is in the background.



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