

December 9, 2009

Dear Editor,

On behalf of Tuscaloosa County Park and Recreation Authority, I extend a hearty *Thank You* to our community who enthusiastically supported the 34th annual West Alabama Christmas Parade and made it a huge success. With the assistance of hundreds of volunteers and public employees the parade ran very smoothly and safely on its route. Special thanks to these few and many other volunteers who put in hours of hard work to make this Christmas parade the biggest and best in West Alabama.

- The Volunteers of Kentuck represented by Carrie Fitts and Emily Leigh – 2009 Grand Marshals
- Tuscaloosa County Commission, courthouse maintenance crew and Bobby Wooldridge for sponsoring the Tree Lighting Ceremony and Sara Weidenback for the Christmas tree
- Choristers from Tuscaloosa Academy and Tuscaloosa Children's Theatre
- Parade judges: Ava Buchanan, Lisa Waldrop, Carla Stovall and Elizabeth McGuire
- Santa and Mrs. Claus
- McAbee Construction and their employees
- The Tuscaloosa News, Piggly Wiggly, Southmark Design, Drake Printers, many corporate partners and costume sponsors
- Tuscaloosa Police Department, Tuscaloosa Department of Transportation and Northport Police Department
- Officials of the City of Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County Commission and City of Northport
- The Jemison-Van De Graaff Mansion, American Christian Academy-Jr. Honor Society and Honor Society, Party Makers and Schlotzky's Deli
- Downtown Tuscaloosa businesses for their patience with the parade route
- Many parade participants and volunteers
- PARA Staff

Congratulations to our 2009 parade entry winners. A complete listing of winners is available by visiting www.tcpara.org.

May this Christmas bring more wisdom to the way we look at the world and more love to the way we live in it.

Sincerely,
Gary Minor
Christmas parade chairman
PARA superintendent of recreation
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