

# THE SEWANEE MOUNTAIN MESSENGER

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Shenanigans in downtown Seawanee is currently undergoing a renovation to put in a new commercial kitchen. Work should be completed in early 2024.

## Franklin County Schools Resolution Opposes Governor's Scholarship

by Leslie Lytle, Messenger Staff Writer

At the Dec. 11 meeting, the Franklin County School Board voted to endorse a Tennessee School Board Association resolution opposing Governor Bill Lee's proposed Education Freedom Scholarship Act that would siphon money from public education by awarding vouchers for private and homeschool education. The board also approved a budget resolution reimbursing schools for assuming the debt for over \$8,000 in unpaid student lunch charges in the 2022-2023 school year.

"I'm not opposed to private schools, but to public money supporting private schools," said board member Sara Leichty explaining her opposition to the Scholarship Act. The proposed legislation, expected to be voted on when the Tennessee legislature reconvenes in 2024, would award 10,000 vouchers to disabled and disadvantaged students and 10,000 to others in the 2024-2025 school year. Vouchers would become universally available to students in the 2025-2026 school year, projected amount \$7,075 per student. Public schools receive funding based on the number of students enrolled. Board member Sarah Marhevsky pointed out in Florida which adopted a similar voucher program, in the past three years the amount of education funding awarded to the affluent private sector increased from 3 percent to 10 percent, leaving the public schools to educate the economically disadvantaged since the vouchers alone were not sufficient to pay private school tuition. Further criticizing vouchers, Leichty observed private schools were not held to the same accountability and testing standards as public schools.

The resolution stressed that 32 percent of Franklin County public school students came from an economically disadvantaged background and the district offered an

array of programs and services often not available in private schools and the homeschool setting, including special education for the 15 percent of students with disabilities, career and technical education, dual enrollment for college and trade schools, Advanced Placement courses, band, and mental health resources.

"Public education is the bedrock of this country's strength. We are where we are because of education for all," Leichty insisted. "Do not weaken the foundation of public education. [The Education Freedom Scholarship Act] is all about putting money in the hands of private industry."

Marhevsky encouraged concerned community members to contact their state legislators and voice disapproval of the Education Freedom Scholarship Act.

Providing background on the budget resolution to repay schools who assumed \$8,633 in debt for unpaid student lunch charges, Leichty explained during the COVID pandemic all schools offered free lunch; following the pandemic some continued the free lunch program and others did not. "The schools were not the responsible party [for the unpaid charges]," Leichty said. "The money should have come from the fund balance." The reimbursed schools "will move up to the free lunch program in January," said Director of Schools Cary Holman. Only two schools will not offer free lunch. "Those two schools did not close the year with any [lunch charges] debt," Leichty said. "They are small elementary schools, and they have benefactors that take care of them."

Updating the board on the impact of the state sales-tax holiday on school funding, Deputy Director of Finances Jenny Phillips said, "We're doing okay." Revenue was approximately \$34,000 lower

(Continued on page 5)

## 22-Unit Townhouse Complex Coming to Monteagle

by Leslie Lytle, Messenger Staff Writer

At the Dec. 5 meeting, the Monteagle Planning Commission voted to conditionally approve the site plan for a 22-unit townhouse project on Moffat Street pending resolution of two ADA compliance issues and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) approval of the unique drainage strategy. The commission also approved changing minimum square foot requirements for R-2 and R-3 residences, with different standards for single family and multifamily dwellings.

Explaining the drainage strategy at the proposed Willowbreeze Townhomes site, engineer Kimberly Flood said storm water from the 1.41-acre site flowed into a detention pond with three injection wells that pumped the water into the earth facilitating reabsorption on the site. "There won't be any runoff," Flood stressed. "Water will never come to the top of the highest contour. We tested it up to a 25-year storm history."

Commissioner Greg Rollins expressed concern about children falling in the pond. "It's only two feet deep," Flood said.

"It's a good design," commented resident Grant Fletcher, but noted TDEC sometimes hesitated on approving injection well drainage systems. Flood said the developers intended to seek TDEC approval as soon as the commission approved the site plan.

Commissioner Katie Trahan pointed out the law required an additional ADA compliant parking space and recommended the plan also include ADA compliant sidewalks to the building.

The site plan calls for an asphalt shingle roof and a mixture of brick, siding, and stone for the exterior surface. The attached 1,200 square foot units will have two floors, with approximately 600 square feet of living space on each floor.

The long-revisited question of minimum-square-footage for residences led to the commission setting the minimum at 800 square feet for all residences in September then rescinding that decision at the October meeting when some commissioners expressed reservations about holding apartments and condominiums to a 800 square foot minimum. The new rule sets 800 square feet as the minimum size for single family residences; for R-2 and R-3 apartments and condominiums, the minimum size is 600 square feet.

## Frameworks for Repairing Histories of Racial Inequity

There will be a convening of Jessie Ball duPont Fund higher education recipients Jan. 9-11, 2024, titled "Catalyzing Change: Frameworks for Repairing Histories of Racial Inequity."

This will be a convening of universities who are funding awardees of the Jessie Ball duPont Fund in higher education, of which the University of the South are one.

There are four sessions that are open to the public.

Opening Keynote: Conversation with Dr. Tia Brown McNair and Dr. Cynthia Neal Spence — Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024, 7 p.m., Guerry Auditorium

President's Discussion: Dr. Rob Pearigen, University of the South and Mari Kurashi, duPont Fund — Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2024, 5 p.m., Guerry Auditorium

From Research to Healing and Action — Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024, 9:30 a.m., Guerry Auditorium

Where Do We Go from Here?: Undoing Racism in Fundraising and Advancement — Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024, 11:30 a.m., Guerry Auditorium

Register for the public sessions at <<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf00gMWDKdIsBvP1idLDBEC-nJb9Icmni2T6ORkBSAwdVh8Q/viewform>>.

For more information on the speakers, the lectures and topics and for a full convening schedule please visit <<https://www.dupont-fund.org/convening>>.

## Hospitality Shop Operating Changes

The Hospitality Shop Auxiliary Board wants to thank the Seawanee community for a bountiful year. The Shop will close for winter break on Tuesday, Dec. 19, at 1 p.m. It will open again on Saturday, Jan. 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will only be open on Saturdays for the month of January.

After a thoughtful presentation by a Babson Center student research team led by William Hull, the Board has voted to close the children's section at the Shop. To that end, all children's clothing and toys are half price from now until the first of February. We will no longer take donations of children's toys and clothing but will accept children's books. Donors can take children's clothing to Good Samaritan or Life Choices in Winchester.

If the Board can recruit enough new volunteers in January, it has also voted to expand working hours by adding Fridays in February from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., in order to better match student non-class hours. The Board hopes that these hours will be an added convenience for all customers.

## Chief David Green's Operation Noel

In just a few weeks, it will be Christmas. While many are already planning about gifts to buy and food to eat, there are those not so fortunate. In our area, there are children who may not get presents and families that may not have an abundant holiday meal.

Operation Noel is a group that was formed many years ago by Fire Chief David Green to provide help for families in need. They provide food and/or toys during the Christmas season. Local volunteers organize the purchase and distribution of goods.

To be eligible, everyone must fill out an application. Every family needs to fill out a new application whether you have received from us before or not. An application will ensure that we have all the pertinent information so we can provide for everyone in need.

The deadline for returning applications is Friday, Dec. 15. Families eligible for Chief David Green's Operation Noel must live on top of Seawanee Mountain in the following communities: Seawanee, Midway, Jump Off and on Sherwood Road. Please see page 11 in this issue for the application.

To donate money, nonperishable food items or new toys, please take items to the Seawanee Police Department located behind duPont Library, Print Services located in the old Beta House, or the CAC located at St. Mark and St. Paul (formerly Otey Memorial Parish). Checks may also be mailed to Seawanee Operation Noel, 138 Lake O'Donnell Rd., Seawanee, TN 37375. Please donate by Monday, Dec. 18. Donation bins are also located around campus.

Food and toys will be available for pickup in the large parking lot beside Cravens Hall, 435 Kentucky Ave., on Saturday, Dec. 23, from 9-11 a.m. Please stay in your vehicle. Volunteers will be there to assist in loading of the items. Food and toys will not be delivered. They have to be picked up.

If you have any questions, please call (931) 598-0040 and leave a message, or call (931) 308-6534.

P.O. Box 296  
Seawanee, TN 37375

## Letters

### GRATEFUL FOR THE GIFTS

#### To the Editor:

As the holidays approach and 2023 comes to a close, we want to say again that the Community Chest is indeed \*Grateful for the Gifts.\* Contributions toward our ambitious \$120,000 goal are at 53 percent to fund the grant requests for our local not-for-profit organizations such as Folks at Home, Reach Out and Read, and the Sewanee Children's Center and Sewanee Elementary School. Please consider supporting these and so many other vital programs through a year-end gift to the Community Chest.

The Community Chest helps the very youngest and oldest in our community, it funds school supplies and senior meals, helps those in need and provides support for community health and recreation and our beloved Fourth of July celebration. Your entire contribution goes to these organizations and helps fill the gap in a year when many are facing increased requests for help alongside increased costs.

Gifts can be made online at through PayPal Giving <<https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/119597>> or by sending a check to Sewanee Community Chest, P.O. Box 99, Sewanee, TN 37375. University employees may arrange for a payroll deduction by contacting Barbara Schloss in Human Resources. Your donations are tax deductible and the Community Chest is a 501(c)(3).

The Community Chest Stewards and the Sewanee Civic Association's Board of Directors wish you a peaceful and joy-filled holiday season.

We are truly grateful for your gifts,

*John Benson and Emily Puckette, and Stephen and April Alvarez*

### MONTEAGLE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL THANKS

#### To the Editor:

Where do I begin?

Well the rain held off but the fog wanted to play games and played peek-a-boo several times. The wind didn't want to be left out and decided it was just going to stay so it didn't miss out on anything. But we faired pretty well considering the conditions. The sun finally decided it wanted in on the action and showed up just in time for the parade and Santa Claus!

I want to send out some very big thank yous:

First, I want to thank the Mayor, Greg Maloof, for giving the go ahead to have a community Christmas festival.

I want to thank our sponsors Quality Air, Untangled, Mountain Valley Bank and the Favaloros for supporting this event, it would not have happened without you!

I want to thank Dorraine Parmley and Piggly Wiggly for donating the hot cocoa and Sharon Roberts for baking the yummy Christmas cookies. I know they were all very much enjoyed!

I want to thank all the food trucks and vendors that weathered the conditions with us, it wouldn't have been a festival without you!

I want to thank the town employees, Dewayne and Lebron, and all of the volunteers that showed up to set up and take down, to man the booths and pretty much do whatever job I gave them to do, all with smiles on their faces

If there was just one child that walked away yesterday with a smile on their face then it was all worth it!

God bless you all and may you have a very blessed and Merry Christmas.

*Marci Dusseault*

## Messenger Break Ahead

The Messenger will be on break for the upcoming Christmas and New Year's holidays, Dec. 18 through Jan. 5, 2024. The staff will return to the office on Monday, Jan. 8, 2024, with the first issue of the new year on Friday, Jan. 12, 2024.

Important updates will be available on the website <<http://sewaneeemessenger.com>> or on our Facebook page during these breaks.

If your organization or church has a different schedule during these upcoming holidays than we normally post, please send the updates to <[news@sewaneeemessenger.com](mailto:news@sewaneeemessenger.com)> or call the office at (931) 598-9949.



## THE SEWANEE MOUNTAIN MESSENGER

Published as a public service to the community since 1985, this newspaper is printed on Fridays, 47 times a year. Free of charge, copies are distributed to 100 locations, including businesses and post offices across the Plateau. This publication is made possible by the patronage of our advertisers and by contributions from the University of the South (print production) and the Sewanee Community Chest.

Kiki Beavers editor/publisher	Janet Graham publisher emerita
April Minkler office manager	Laura Willis editor/publisher emerita
Emily Ricks proofreader	Geraldine Hewitt Piccard founder, editor/publisher emerita
Leslie Lytle staff writer	
Beth Riner staff writer	

### SUBSCRIPTIONS \$75 first class

418 St. Mary's Lane, P.O. Box 296, Sewanee, TN 37375  
Phone (931) 598-9949 | <[news@sewaneeemessenger.com](mailto:news@sewaneeemessenger.com)>

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## University Job Opportunities

**Exempt Positions:** Advance-ment Officer, University Relations; Assistant Dean of Residential Life, Residential Life; Assistant Director of Operations, Residential Life, Student Success; Assistant Director, Sewanee Fund, University Relations, Sewanee Fund; Assistant/Associate Director for Student Programs, Student Services; Associate Men's and Women's Tennis Coach, Athletics; Content & Communications Strategist, M&C for Admission & Financial Aid, M&C; Energy Specialist, Facilities Management; Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX Coordinator, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Financial Aid Counselor/Senior Financial Aid Counselor, Financial Aid; Lay Chaplain, All Saints' Chapel.

**Non-Exempt Positions:** Catering Team Lead, Sewanee Catering; Childcare Provider, University

Child Care Center; Domain Recreation Post-Baccalaureate Fellow, OESS; Equestrian and Farm Hand, Sewanee Equestrian Center; GIS and Database Technician, Facilities Management; Golf Shop Assistant, (Part-Time) Business Services, Golf Course; Golf Course Greenskeeper (10-Month Position), Grounds and Landscaping; On-Call Catering Attendant, Sewanee Dining; Police Officer (Full-Time), Sewanee Police Department; Second Cook, Sewanee Dining; Sewanee Dining Associate, Sewanee Dining; Tiger Bay Pub, Sewanee Dining Associate, Sewanee Dining; Technology Access and Support Technician, LITS, Technology and Access Support; University Choir Recruitment Coordinator, All Saints' Chapel.

For more information call (931) 598-1381. Apply at <<https://jobs.sewanee.edu>>.

## SERVING WHERE CALLED

Please keep the following individuals, their families and all those who are serving our country in your thoughts and prayers:

Blaze Cassidy Barry  
Brandon Brawley  
Justin Brawley  
James Gregory Cowan  
Mark Gallagher  
Nathaniel P. Gallagher  
Peter Green  
Zachary Green  
Jackson B. Guenther  
Steven Tyler Jeffery  
Gabriel Lloyd  
Waylon Case McBee  
Wiley Colton McBee  
Bailey Jackson McLean  
Andrew Midgett  
Jose D. Ramirez III  
Troy (Nick) Sepulveda  
Zachary Sherrill  
Allison Tucker  
Nick Worley

If you know of others in our Mountain family who are serving our country, please give their names to American Legion and Auxiliary member Shirley M. Lawson at <[slawson@sewanee.edu](mailto:slawson@sewanee.edu)>.

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

### Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor are welcome at the Sewanee Mountain Messenger and are a vital part of our community's conversation. Letters need to be no longer than 250 words and may be edited for space and clarity. We make exceptions from time to time, but these are our general guidelines. We strive to print all letters we receive, but publication is not guaranteed. Letters should be factually accurate. Letters that are deemed unsuitable for publication shall not be printed elsewhere in the newspaper, including as a paid advertisement.

Letters and/or their author must have some relationship to our community. We do not accept letters on national topics from individuals who live outside our print circulation area. Please include your name, address and a daytime telephone number with your letter. You may mail it to us at Sewanee Mountain Messenger, P.O. Box 296, Sewanee, TN 37375, leave it at our office, 418 St. Mary's Ln., or send your email to <[news@sewaneeemessenger.com](mailto:news@sewaneeemessenger.com)>. —KB

### MESSENGER INFORMATION

Phone: (931) 598-9949

**Display Advertising**  
Deadline: Monday, 5 p.m.  
<[ads@sewaneeemessenger.com](mailto:ads@sewaneeemessenger.com)>

**News and Calendar**  
Deadline: Tuesday, 5 p.m.  
Kiki Beavers  
<[news@sewaneeemessenger.com](mailto:news@sewaneeemessenger.com)>

**Classified Advertising**  
Deadline: Wednesday, noon  
April Minkler  
<[classifieds@sewaneeemessenger.com](mailto:classifieds@sewaneeemessenger.com)>

### MESSENGER HOURS

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Thursday—Production Day  
Closed  
Friday—Circulation Day  
Closed

# Upcoming Meetings

## Sewanee Utility District

The Sewanee Utility District of Franklin and Marion Counties Board of Commissioners is scheduled to meet at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 19, at the utility office on Sherwood Road. If a customer is unable to attend but wishes to bring a matter to the board, call (931) 598-5611, visit the office, or call a board member. The board members are Doug Cameron, Johnny Hughes, Donnie McBee, Charlie Smith, and Clay Yeatman.

## Franklin County School Board

The Franklin County School Board is scheduled to meet at 6 p.m., Monday, Jan. 8, at 215 S. College St., Winchester.

## Sewanee Community Council

The next meeting of the Community Council is scheduled for Monday, Jan. 22, 2024, at 7 p.m.

# CAC Pantry Sunday

Pantry Sunday for the Community Action Committee (CAC) is scheduled for the first Sunday of the month, which will be Jan. 7, 2024. All are welcome to contribute. Please bring your food offerings to the Parish of St. Mark and St. Paul for collection or deliver directly to the CAC located at 216 University Ave., Sewanee.

The typical bag of groceries includes beans, pasta, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, vegetables, fruit, and soup.

The CAC is an outreach ministry of the Parish of St. Mark and St. Paul, with generous support from the Sewanee Community Chest, other organizations and individuals across the Mountain. For more than 50 years, the CAC has provided food, financial assistance, and educational support for persons in the greater Sewanee community. For more information contact the CAC at (931) 598-5927.

# MARC 2024 Calendars

MARC 2024 calendars are on sale now for \$20 each. All proceeds go to helping the animals.

If you want a calendar(s) please email to <seccps4@yahoo.com> with the number of calendars you want, your name, phone number, and physical address. Or, text Sue Scruggs at (423) 619-3845.

# Holiday Closings

Federal holidays are Dec. 25 (Christmas Day) and Jan. 1 (New Year's Day). The post office and banks will be closed.

The Fowler Center will be closed on Christmas Day.

duPont Library will be closed Dec. 21 through Jan. 1.

The Sewanee Senior Center is closed from Monday, Dec. 25 through Monday, Jan. 1, 2024, reopening on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024.

The Franklin County Solid Waste Department at Joyce Lane will be closed Dec. 22, Dec. 25, Dec. 29, and Jan. 1. The Franklin County convenience centers will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

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# Birth Announcement

## Harvie Dean Byers

Harvie Dean Byers was born on Dec. 5, weighing 7 lbs., 3.3 oz, and 18.5 inches long to Eden Sells and David Byers of Sewanee.

# Call for SCA Board Nominations

The Sewanee Civic Association invites nominations for open positions on the 2024-25 Board of Directors. Experience working in fundraising and for nonprofits is a plus, but any adult who resides in the area and shares concerns of the community is welcome.

Nominations are due by Monday, Feb. 12, 2024. The slate will be presented at the March 4, 2024 membership meeting. Voting will occur at the annual membership meeting on May 6. For more information, email at <sewaneecommunitychest@gmail.com>.

# Candidate Sought for SUD Board of Commissioners

In January 2024, Sewanee Utility District customers will elect a commissioner for a four-year term. Commissioner Charlie Smith will seek reelection. The board added former commissioner Randall Henley to the slate and is seeking at least one more candidate to meet the three-candidate requirement. All SUD customers are eligible to serve on the board. Customers wishing to be added to the ballot should contact a commissioner or phone the SUD office. The deadline for application is Tuesday, Dec. 19. The SUD board will approve a slate of nominees at the December meeting. Voting will begin at 8 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024 at the SUD office during regular business hours and continue until 4 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024. Final selection will be by the vote of SUD customers.

# Local Food Available

The South Cumberland Farmer's Market has breads, fruits, vegetables, eggs, coffee, meats and more available. Ordering takes place each week online from Friday at 9 p.m. to Monday at 10 a.m. Curbside pickup is on Tuesdays, 4:30-6 p.m., at the Sewanee Community Center. To order go to <https://southcumberlandfarmersmarket.com>.

# Sewanee Holiday Garbage Pickup

Richardson Waste will pick up Sewanee residential garbage on the normal scheduled day for the Christmas and New Year holidays.



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Affiliate  
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*Sewanee Realty wishes A Very Merry Christmas and A Happy, Healthy New Year to All!*



**LAKE FRONT - MLS 2597407**  
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**MLS 2595082 - 776 Georgia Ave.,**  
Sewanee. \$389,500



**MLS 2539919 - 684 Jump Off Mtn.**  
Rd., Sewanee. 19+ac. \$540,000



**MLS 2599861 - 76 Wood Bluff Rd.,**  
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Jump Off Rd., 5+ ac SOLD	2509339	\$60,000
515 Beersheba Springs PENDING	2482328	\$55,000
William B. Martin Rd. 4+ac	2420264	\$60,000
0 Timberwood, #335 SOLD	2495526	\$65,000
0 Timberwood, 6+ac #339	2539084	\$64,900
0 Timberwood, 13+ac #340	2539090	\$128,900

**BLUFF**

Box House Rd. 5.6 ac	2497235	\$108,000
Falling Cliffs Dr., SOLD	2389298	\$119,000
Preservation Dr., 6.63 ac	2349236	\$70,000



**0 Johnny's Way, Tracy City - MLS**  
2410583 - Lot 1. 6.17 ac. \$149,000.



**MLS 2487987 - 18546 S. Pittsburg**  
Mountain Rd., Sewanee. 150 ac.  
\$1,800,000



**MLS 252194 - 244 Rattlesnake**  
Springs Rd., Sewanee. \$435,000



**322 Chase Circle, Fox Run Phase II,**  
Winchester. \$290,000



**Church** (continued from page 4)

Night,” as we leave the historic Sanctuary carrying lit candles. Special music will enhance our time together.

After Christmas, we'll begin 2024 with a new adult discussion group on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. led by John Hille. It will use “Peter, Paul, and Mary (Magdalene),” a book by historian Bart Ehrman, as we explore how the gospels and letters in our Bible and others written about these three in the first 150 years shaped the church. To learn more and receive a copy of the book text (814) 599-5768.

**St. Agnes'**

The congregation at St. Agnes' will gather to celebrate The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord at 4 p.m., Dec. 25. This will be a traditional candle-lit mass with lessons, carols, and Holy Communion. “O come, let us adore him,” and bring a friend or neighbor to join us!

Following the service all are invited into the parish hall for the Father Werlein Memorial Christmas Reception. Join us for snacks, hot cider, coffee, and a joyful time of Christian fellowship. St. Agnes' is located at 105 England St. E.

**St. James Episcopal**

St. James, located at 898 Midway Rd., is a thriving, growing, and warmly welcoming church. Our weekly service is held on Sundays at 9 a.m. followed by a time for fellowship. These services are also live streamed on our Facebook page. On Wednesday, Dec. 20, we will gather for Advent prayer and reflection beginning at 6 p.m. A simple soup supper will be provided. Our Christmas Eve service will be at 6 p.m. All are welcome!

**St. Mark and St. Paul**

The 8:30 a.m. Sunday Holy Eucharist is in the church and is also livestreamed on our Facebook page and remains available there afterward. The second service is at 11 a.m.

Sunday Forum on Dec. 17, 9:45-10:45 a.m., in Kennerly Hall: Michael Thompson will talk about “Sacred Harp: A Community of Voices” at the final St. Mark and St. Paul Sunday Forum of the year. Sacred Harp singing is a tradition of sacred choral music that originated in New England and was later carried on in the American South. Thompson, a life-long Episcopalian, has 25 years of experience with Sacred Harp music and believes that the very act of singing can build community and strong social bonds. He will give a brief history of this songbook of shaped note music and will play excerpted examples from recorded video.

**Sisters of St. Mary**

Sunday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, 8 a.m. Eucharist; 5 p.m. Evensong; 10:45 p.m. Carol Sing and Christmas Mass

Monday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day, 8 a.m. Morning Prayer; 5 p.m. Evening Prayer

Tuesday, Dec. 26 through Friday, Dec. 29, 8 a.m. Morning Prayer; 8:30 a.m. Eucharist; 5 p.m. Evening Prayer

Saturday, Dec. 30, 8 a.m. Morning Prayer; 5 p.m. Evening Prayer

Sunday, Dec. 31, 8 a.m. Eucharist; 5 p.m. Evening Prayer

The convent and chapel will be closed Jan. 1-12, as the Sisters will be in their annual long retreat, with the exception of the following: Saturday Jan. 6, 8 a.m. Morning Prayer; 8:30 a.m. Eucharist; 5 p.m. Evening Prayer

*We're glad you're reading the Messenger.*

**School** (from page 1)

**Good Shepherd/St. Margaret Mary**

The Christmas Mass schedule for Good Shepherd/St. Margaret Mary is as follows:

Dec. 23, 5 p.m., at Good Shepherd (regular Sunday Mass)

Dec. 24, 8 a.m., at St. Margaret Mary (regular Sunday Mass); 10:30 a.m., Bilingual Mass at Good Shepherd (regular Sunday Mass); No 12:30 p.m., Spanish Mass; 5 p.m., Christmas Vigil Mass at St. Margaret Mary; 10 p.m., Mass of Christmas Night at Good Shepherd

Dec. 25, 10 a.m., Mass at Good Shepherd

Dec. 30-31, regular Mass schedule

Jan. 1, 10 a.m., at Good Shepherd (Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God)

than last year, but the schools were receiving a boost from unpaid tax revenue. Since Home Depot opened, Decherd had received \$712,000 in tax revenue that should have gone to Winchester, and half that amount should have gone to the Franklin County public schools. The district also received an \$800,000 growth payment from the state due to increased enrollment.

The school policy standardization review being undertaken by Human Resources Supervisor Linda Foster revealed a policy inaccuracy that did not reflect the state law change several years ago that forbade revoking the driver's licenses of students who did not receive passing grades. The board voted to remove the driver's license revocation clause from the Reporting Student Progress policy.

**Cooper Named Arcadia Program Director**

Arcadia at Sewanee's Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Janet Cooper, a Sewanee resident and University of the South graduate, C'80, has been hired to assume the role of program director for the organization. Janet will share her 40 years of experience in the nonprofit sector, most recently as director of the Plateau's South Cumberland Community Fund.

Arcadia's board continues to make progress with ARCH Consultants' efforts to determine the feasibility of a retirement community located between Kennerly Road and Alabama Avenue in Sewanee. ARCH's conclusions and recommendations will include the topographical suitability of the site, a preliminary site design and architectural renderings of the buildings, and a development budget and financial forecast. The project remains in a very preliminary stage but concrete steps are being taken toward Arcadia's goal of bringing a continuing care retirement facility to Sewanee.

For more information on Arcadia at Sewanee, please go to <<https://www.arcadiaatsewanee.com>>.

**U.S. Postal Service Proposes New Prices for 2024**

The United States Postal Service filed notice with the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) of mailing services price changes to take effect Jan. 21, 2024. The new rates include a 2-cent increase in the price of a First-Class Mail Forever stamp, from 66 cents to 68 cents.

The proposed adjustments, approved by the governors of the Postal Service, would raise mailing services product prices approximately 2 percent. If favorably reviewed by the commission, the price changes would include:

- Letters (1 ounce), 66 cents, increase to 68 cents
- Letters (metered 1 ounce), 63 cents, increase to 64 cents
- Domestic Postcards, 51 cents, increase to 53 cents
- International Postcards, \$1.50, increase to \$1.55
- International Letter (1 ounce), \$1.50, increase to \$1.55

There will be no change to the additional-ounce price, which remains at 24 cents. The Postal Service is also seeking price adjustments for Special Services products including Certified Mail, Post Office Box rental fees, money order fees and the cost to purchase insurance when mailing an item. As inflationary pressures on operating expenses continue and the effects of a previously defective pricing model are still being felt, these price adjustments are needed to provide the Postal Service with much needed revenue to achieve the financial stability sought by its Delivering for America 10-year plan. The prices of the Postal Service remain among the most affordable in the world.

The PRC will review the changes before they are scheduled to take effect. The complete Postal Service price filing, with prices for all products, can be found on the PRC website under the Daily Listings section at <[prc.arkcase.com/portal/home](http://prc.arkcase.com/portal/home)>. The mailing services filing is Docket No. R2024-1. The price tables are also available on the Postal Service's Postal Explorer website at <[pe.usps.com/PriceChange/Index](http://pe.usps.com/PriceChange/Index)>.

*New Year's Eve Soiree*

**SUNDAY DEC. 31**  
**7:30 PM until MIDNIGHT**

*Firefly Gala Ballroom, Franklin House*  
*Boutique Hotel 108 Cumberland St. E, Cowan*

**Charcuterie buffet, craft cocktail and mocktail menu, live music, and DJ**

**7:30-9 Jazzscapes on electric harp and saxophones by Emily Ricks and CP Kitzrow**

**9-Midnight Dance Music & Karaoke DJ**

**Early bird \$35 - includes Charcuterie buffet, 2 complimentary drink tickets**

**Midnight Special \$50 - stay for champagne at midnight - includes Charcuterie buffet, 4 complimentary drink tickets**

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**New Year's Day Brunch**

**Black-eyed peas, creole grits, winter squash, smoked sausages, breakfast dessert, speciality drinks**

**\$25 per person dine-in**

**\$75 for full carryout for 4-6 people**

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## SENIOR CENTER NEWS

The Sewanee Senior Center serves lunch at noon Monday through Friday. The suggested donation is \$4, regardless of your age. Please call (931) 598-0771 by 9 a.m. to order lunch. Menus follow:

**Monday, Dec. 18:** Salmon patty, white beans, turnip greens, cornbread.

**Tuesday, Dec. 19:** Reuben sandwich, chips.

**Wednesday, Dec. 20:** Goulash, Mexican cornbread.

**Thursday, Dec. 21:** Chicken enchiladas, rice, refried beans.

**Friday, Dec. 22:** Ham, hashbrown casserole, steamed broccoli, roll.

Menus may vary. For information call the center at (931) 598-0771.

Chair exercise with Ruth Wendling is from 10:30–11:45 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Game days are from 10 a.m. to noon on Fridays.

The Sewanee Senior Center does not charge any membership fee. All persons 50 or older who take part in any of the activities are considered members.

The Sewanee Senior Center is closed from Monday, Dec. 25 through Monday, Jan. 1, 2024, reopening on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024.

## Brown's Body Shop

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## SEWANEENOW ANDTHEN

*Sewanee Trust for Historic Preservation*



Many will remember the feast that Scrooge sends to the hungry Cratchit family. Just as in the London of Charles Dickens, roast goose and plum pudding had a place at Christmas dinners in the South before the Civil War. The Christmas menus below are from the *The Sewanee Cookbook* (first edition, 1926) compiled and with an introduction by Marina Kirkman Woods known as "Miss Queenie" and illustrated with drawings by Charlotte Moffett Gailor, "Miss Charlotte."

The first menu is Mrs. Stephen Elliott's "Christmas Dinner in Georgia Before the War." The meal began with terrapin soup and zephyrinas (flat baked crackers). Next came baked sheephead in cream sauce followed by dressed turkey and baked ham. Both Irish and candied sweet potatoes were served, along with bowls of rice with salsify, a root vegetable not often seen today. Braised celery in cream and teal duck salad were on the menu. Desserts were many and lavish: plum pudding, fruitcake, almond custard, charlotte russe, and assorted figs, nuts, and raisins. Beverages were claret cup punch and champagne.

At Oak Hill Plantation, home of Jacob Thompson, later War Governor of Mississippi, the custom was to serve not just turkey and ham, but venison and "the festively decorated pig roasted with bright red apples in its mouth," in the words of Miss Queenie. "Every youngster at the Christmas feast was overjoyed to see the little piggy borne in on a platter, presented with much fanfare and placed in honor near the turkey." Desserts were elaborate: floating island, plum pudding, Lady Baltimore cake, fruitcake, pecan crusted pound cake, a huge bowl of eggnog, and country syllabub.

Readers of this article who might wish to make syllabub are directed to a Charleston recipe of 1839: "Mix a half pound of sugar, a pint of fine cider or white wine, and a grating of nutmeg in a large bowl. Take the mixture to the cow where three pints will be milked into it, stirring occasionally. Eat immediately, before the froth subsides, and add a little brandy to improve the mix."

A Christmas dinner in pre-War Virginia included wild Mallard duck, turkey, ham, and venison with currant jelly. Before dinner, every man was offered a hot toddy to take off the chill of the day. One wonders what was offered to the ladies present.

A special Christmas treat in Tennessee between 1849–1925 was spiced round, said to be invented in Davidson County. A round of beef was brined for several weeks, much like corned beef or pastrami.

Spikes of fat were inserted into the meat before cooking, making a checkerboard pattern when carved. Leftover spiced round could be enjoyed for weeks after the Yuletide season sliced paper thin served on wheat bread with mustard pickle. In addition to spiced round, beaten biscuits with Tennessee country ham might be served. The finale would be a holly-topped plum pudding flamed with cognac. Citrus fruits and fresh coconut were rarities in the upland South, especially in winter. Ambrosia, a Christmas specialty, was a cold compote of oranges, grapefruit, cherries and coconut.

In Mobile, before the War, Christmas dinner might start with crab gumbo and oysters from Mobile Bay followed by baked striped bass in truffle sauce. In New Orleans, a Christmas dinner in 1881 featured oysters and pompano, as well as gumbo. Sweetbreads must have been more popular then than now: seven recipes for sweetbreads are found in the first edition of the *Sewanee Cookbook* including one made with sherry and wild mushrooms. Special imports arriving at Southern port cities added delicacies to the local menu: Rhine wine, sherry, Spanish olives, fresh pineapples and kirsch for flavoring orange sherbet might be on the Christmas table in New Orleans, where fresh vegetables such as cauliflower, okra, cucumbers and spinach were available even in winter. For dessert French champagne would accompany elaborate biscuit glacé concoctions used as centerpieces for the table.

At the conclusion of her "Virginia Dinner in the Years Before the War," Miss Mary Buchanan, niece of President Zachary Taylor, offers these words: "Don't let the old life fade away for this makeshift of today."

We hope these treats from the long ago South will inspire your own Christmas and make your meal anything but makeshift. Blessings of the season to one and all!

*Graphic from the Sewanee Cook Book, New Edition, 1958*



COME,  
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*May you find Rest, Renewal, Reconnection this Advent Season.*

[WWW.STMARYSSEWANEE.ORG](http://WWW.STMARYSSEWANEE.ORG)

## SES MENUS

**Monday-Friday,  
Dec. 18 -22  
BREAKFAST**

Each day, students select one or two items.

**Monday, Dec. 18:** Manager's Choice.

**Tuesday, Dec. 19:** Manager's Choice.

**Wednesday, Dec. 20:** Manager's Choice.

**Thursday, Dec. 21:** No Meals Served.

**Friday, Dec. 22:** No School.

### LUNCH

**Monday, Dec. 18:** Manager's Choice.

**Tuesday, Dec. 19:** Manager's Choice.

**Wednesday, Dec. 20:** Manager's Choice.

**Thursday, Dec. 21:** No Meals Served.

**Friday, Dec. 22:** No School.

*A variety of fruit, fruit juice and milk is offered daily for breakfast. Daily offerings for lunch may include yogurt bag, sandwich, wrap, Bento box or pizza munchable. Menus subject to change. Go to <<https://www.fcstn.net/menus-mealpricing>>.*



## Community Chest Sets Goal

The 2023-24 Sewanee Community Chest (SCC) Fund Drive is underway. Sponsored by the Sewanee Civic Association, the SCC raises money yearly for local organizations serving the area. This year's goal of \$120,000 will help 16 local organizations that have requested basic needs funding for quality of life, community aid, children's programs, and those who are beyond Sewanee but still serve the entire community. The following organizations will receive funding when the goal is met.

- Little Bellas, \$250
- Mountain Goat Trail Alliance, \$1,500
- Reach Out and Read, \$2,030
- Early Literacy Ambassadors, \$2,845
- Fourth of July Celebration, \$3,500
- Sewanee Community Center, \$3,600
- St. Mark's Community Center, \$4,000
- Animal Harbor, \$5,000
- Community Action Committee, \$5,000
- Folks at Home, \$5,000
- MARC, \$10,000
- Sewanee Mountain Messenger, \$12,000
- Housing Sewanee, \$12,000
- Sewanee Children's Center, \$12,000
- Sewanee Senior Center, \$14,000
- SES Parent Organization, \$27,275

The Sewanee Community Chest is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and donations are tax-deductible. Send your donation to Sewanee Community Chest, P.O. Box 99, Sewanee, TN 37375.

For more information or to give through PayPal Giving <<https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/119597>> or Giving Matters, go to <[www.sewanee.org](http://www.sewanee.org)>. If you are an employee at the University of the South, you can enroll in the payroll deduction program by contacting Human Resources.

## Historic Sewanee Downtown Exhibit

"Historic Sewanee Downtown, 150 Years" is currently on display in the Museum Gallery of the William R. Laurie University Archives and Special Collections building through Dec. 15, 2023. The Sewanee Historic Downtown Digital Exhibit and Walking Tour of Historic Downtown Sewanee is available at <<https://library.sewanee.edu/archives/exhibits>>.

Hours are 1-5 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by appointment. Support from the University of the South and the Sewanee Trust for Historic Preservation made the research for and presentation of this exhibit possible.

## Christmas Day Program at WMTN-103.1

The WMTN-103.1 radio station will offer a special Christmas Day Programming show. The broadcast will be streaming live to the world at <[www.sasradio.org](http://www.sasradio.org)>.

8-10:20 a.m., A complete recording of the Christmas classic "Messiah," John Eliot Gardiner & the English Chamber Orchestra

10:20-11 a.m., Curated Songs, Poetry, and SAS shows

11 a.m. to noon, "It's A Wonderful Life," the 1947 radio edition with Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed

noon-1:15 p.m., a complete, rebroadcast of "A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols" recorded live from King's College

1:15-2 p.m., Curated Songs, Poetry, and SAS shows

2-3 p.m., Itzhak Perlman's Chanukah Radio Party. The Chanukah story-narrated by the great violinist Itzhak Perlman. From PRX radio, and WQXR.

3-4 p.m., Two Christmas Favorites: Benjamin Britten's "A Ceremony of Carols," Op. 28 (1943), and "A Prairie Home Companion Christmas" Christmas Fire, and A Guy Noir Christmas.

4-5 p.m., The Sounds of Kwanzaa with Garrett McQueen and KVNO Radio.

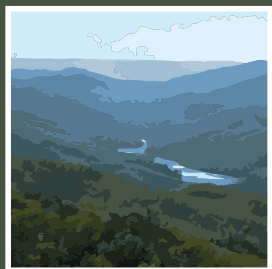
## Branding Yourself: A Tennessee Craft Workshop

Tennessee Craft, is pleased to announce Branding Yourself, a professional development workshop to help artists and arts and culture professionals grow and brand their business. The daylong workshops will be on Jan. 19, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and again Jan. 20, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Frist Art Museum in Nashville. Kelly Porter, design educator and Associate Professor of Graphic Design at East Tennessee State University, will walk participants through the process of defining your brand and creating consistency that will differentiate you and attract your target audience. You'll be learning the process that experts go through, such as establishing your brand voice, creating a compelling brand story, using color theory and typographic choices to express your brand's personality, best practices in design, and building brand assets for marketing yourself. Additionally, Kelly will walk you through her favorite free and affordable design resources including Canva.

Tickets for Sale: Member \$70; Non-Member \$100; Student \$50.

For more information on the workshop and to register, go to <[www.tennesseecraft.org/events/workshops/brandingyourself](http://www.tennesseecraft.org/events/workshops/brandingyourself)>.

Merry Christmas



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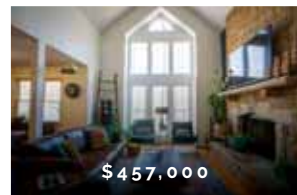
\$600,000

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203 OAK HILL CIR  
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## Sewanee's NCEA Team Ranked 5th After Win Over Berry

The National Collegiate Equestrian Association (NCEA) announced the dual and single discipline rankings through week 10 of competition as Sewanee moved to fifth in the single discipline as announced by the NCEA Selection Committee on Dec. 5.

After beating Berry with a decisive 6-2, the Tigers received a fifth-place ranking. Campbell Flanagan and Emma Sameth received Most Outstanding Player (MOP) for their performances on Saturday. Flanagan posted an 88 in over fences, the highest score of the competition for the day, and besting her opponent by 11. Sameth picked up an 84 in the flat, outscoring her opponent by nine points, she also picked up a point for the Tigers in fences. Jenna McAmis picked up Sewanee's third point in fences. In flat, Clara Juckett and Summer Pilley picked up Sewanee's second and third points to secure the win. The Tigers are ranked behind Sweet Briar, Lynchburg, Dartmouth, and Sacred Heart.

These are the last NCEA rankings of the fall season, so the Tigers will start the spring in fifth place. The Tigers will begin the new year as they take on Bridgewater College on Feb. 17 in Sewanee.

## Mountain Pickle Ball News

Mountain Pickle Ball formed in April 2023 with four aspirants. They are now at 47 players, half of who are regulars.

The University has been very supportive — new nets, new paddles, spotless floors etc. Only fee to play is a \$7 entry fee.

There are now three courts at Fowler, expandable to six as needed. Two more seasonal courts are available, including one at the South Cumberland State Park Visitors Center in Monteagle. A grant request is in the works for six new courts in Monteagle.

The first campus-wide Pickle Ball Tournament was a success as 62 teams participated. Another one will be offered next semester.

The group has engaged Jordan Theron, Sewanee's national tennis champ to tutor/coach us on pickle ball strategy and techniques. Next session is now set for mid-January, 2024.

There is a app available for scheduling, communicating and announcing pickle ball news. For more information and to join the roster, contact Stephen Burnett at <burnett434@bellsouth.net>.

## SAS Girls' Varsity Basketball Update

On Dec. 8, the St. Andrew's Sewanee School girls' varsity Basketball team defeated Lookout Valley, winning 28-27, bringing the team to 1-3 for the season. Keeley Kendrick was the high scorer for the Mountain Lions, with 11 points. Other outstanding performances were by Sarah Maleake and Annabelle Close, with each player scoring six points.

## 2023 SAA Fall All-Sportsmanship Team

The Southern Athletic Association (SAA) has announced its All-Sportsmanship Teams for the 2023 fall sports, cross country, field hockey, football, soccer, and volleyball.

The head coaches for each team select a player who has displayed outstanding sportsmanship during the season to be representatives of their sport for the All-SAA Sportsmanship Team.

The Sewanee 2023 All-Sportsmanship Team:

Men's Cross Country: Lane Gamble

Women's Cross Country: Clara Earley

Field Hockey: Jenna Black

Football: Dagem Samuel

Men's Soccer: Stewart Miller

Women's Soccer: Amy Martin

Volleyball: Kaylee Scharfman

## Women's Hoops Fall in Nail-biter to Bob Jones

Kayla Antoine led the Tigers with 28 points and nine rebounds as they fell just three points short to the Bob Jones Bruins on Dec. 4, in women's basketball action in Greenville, S.C., 83-80.

The Tigers and Bruins played a tight contest as they alternated leads and no team built more than an eight-point lead throughout the game. The Tigers posted 50 points in the paint and tallied an additional 14 points on second-chance points on 13 offensive rebounds.

Cydney Wright tallied 15 points, two rebounds, and an assist, and Olivia Falvey posted 11 points, six rebounds, two assists, and a steal. Antoine also added three assists and a steal to her stand-out performance.

Lilly Phillips opened the game as she sank a three in the first possession of the game and the Bruins answered just 21 seconds later with a layup, proving to be a preview of the game to come. The Bruins found themselves up six with four and a half minutes left in the period, but another three by Phillips cut the lead in half. Falvey tied the game at 16 for the Tigers with just under two and a half minutes on the clock, the Bruins took the lead again as Shea Sherf of Bob Jones sank three from the charity stripe and then connected for two more from a layup. The Tigers answered with a layup in the paint to end the period, 18-21.

After more back-to-back exchanges, the Tigers held the Bruins to four stops and registered 10 points of their own, gaining the lead 31-27. Wright connected on six of the 10 points. The teams then exchanged two back-to-back threes, Wright sinking another three points. A three and a layup from Bob Jones took the lead right

back, but Antoine responded with another jumper. The Bruins then posted five unanswered points off two made layups and a free throw. Antoine posted the last points of the period with another layup in the paint ending the half, 37-40.

Antoine opened the second half cutting the Bruins lead to just one. Sewanee then went on a six-point unanswered run again, gaining the lead and initiating back-and-forth lead changes in the third period. Bob Jones ended on top of the exchange as they ended the period with five unanswered points.

Shay Conn tied the game again with just under eight minutes on the clock for the Tigers, as the Tigers and Bruins stayed competitive until the last seconds of the game. A one-point game with one minute on the clock as both teams fought until the last seconds. Beth Clark of Bob Jones hit a three to pull away by four, but the Tigers found Antoine under the basket for a quick bucket to pull within two. A foul by Sewanee sent the Bruins to the line again with 12 seconds left where they connected for both. The Tigers again connected with Antoine to pull back within two with 3.5 seconds to go. The Tigers sent the Bruins to the charity strip again where they made one of two, but the Tigers were unable to get the last shot off falling in a nail-biter 80-83.

The Bruins hit five threes in the fourth quarter and were 83 percent from the charity stripe for the game, making 19 of 23 which proved to be the difference for the Bruins. The Tigers were only sent to the line twice, collecting three of four.

*We're glad you're reading the Messenger.*



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12 - 3 PM

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## SAS Girls' Middle School Basketball Goes 4-4

On Dec. 4, the St. Andrew's-Sewanee School middle school girls' basketball team secured a decisive victory over Pelham Middle School, 38-2, bringing the team to a 3-4 record for the season. Adeline Pond emerged as the high scorer for the Mountain Lions, showcasing an impressive performance with 13 points. The team's success was not limited to Pond's outstanding contribution, as other players demonstrated their prowess on the court. Aubrey Blosser added eight points, Savannah Blosser contributed five points, Catherine Barnett showcased her skills with six points, Claire Christopher displayed finesse with four points, and Maggie Mayo chipped in two points.

On Dec. 7 the basketball team secured a victory against Swiss Elementary, with a final score of 26-25, bringing the team's season record to 4-4. The high scorer for the Mountain Lions was Catherine Barnett with nine points. Other notable performances included Savannah Blosser with eight points, Claire Christopher with four points, Aubrey Blosser and Maggie Mayo with two points each, and Adeline Pond with one point. Rosa Thompson contributed with two rebounds and demonstrated a strong defensive game.

The team's next game will be away against Tracy City on Jan. 11, 2024, at 6 p.m.

## SAS Boys' MS Basketball Updates

On Dec. 4, the St. Andrew's-Sewanee School boys' middle school basketball team took on Pelham Elementary School at home. The SAS Mountain Lions showcased their talent and determination, taking the lead multiple times throughout the game. Although the team couldn't secure the win, the final score of 31 to 21 doesn't diminish the team's outstanding performance against a team that towered over a young middle school team. Mason Rudder had a stand-out game, leading the Mountain Lions in scoring with an impressive season-high of eight points, closely followed by Ian Tucker with seven

points. Luan Imena also made a significant contribution, marking his first appearance in the scorebook this season with four points.

On Dec. 7, the basketball team hit the road to face Swiss Elementary. The Swiss team was big and powerful, particularly under the basket. Despite a considerable height difference, the SAS boys worked hard for four quarters. Peter Au made the scorebook for SAS for the first time, hitting a three-point shot in the fourth quarter.

SAS is back in action on Jan. 11, 2024 at Tracy City Elementary School.

## Tigers Top Covenant, 63-60

Rashaun Williams collected four huge free-throws in the last seconds to secure the win over Covenant in men's basketball action on Dec. 6, in Lookout Mountain, Ga.

Williams ended the game with 13 points, three rebounds, and a steal for the night. Russ Marr tallied 12 with five defensive rebounds, two steals, one assist, and one block, and Fletcher Bigham collected 10 points, six rebounds, two assists, a steal, and a block.

Marr collected the game's first points as he was fouled under the basket and made both free throws. The Scotts responded with a layup and both teams traded off points, but at eight, Sewanee pulled away and started building a lead. Sewanee maintained the lead for almost the whole first half, Covenant gaining a one-point lead for just several seconds before the Tigers got back on top. Tre Corrigan hit a buzzer-beater three to give Sewanee a six-point lead going into halftime. The Tigers collected 10 points off turnovers and were 46 percent from the field in the first half.

Sewanee came out strong after the half with an 11-to-three run, seven of their points coming from the charity stripe to lengthen their lead to 14. However, the Scotts were able to slowly chip away at their lead and found themselves within four with a minute thirty to go. Both teams were unable to find the basket until 22 seconds left on the clock when Covenant drew the foul to get sent to the line and made both, making it a two-point game. Rashaun Williams was then sent to the line for a one-and-one

but collected both. Covenant was then fouled again and tallied two more points for the Scotts. With five seconds left and a 61-60 game, Williams was fouled again and sent to the line as he produced two huge baskets making it a three-point game. Covenant tried for a last-minute three to tie the game but came up short as the Tigers secured the win. Sewanee collected another seven points of turnovers and recorded four steals but shot only 30 percent from the field in the second half.

Sewanee posted 26 points in the paint, collected seven points off fast breaks, and maintained the lead the whole second half of the game as they came away ahead in the second meeting this season, 63-60.

The Tigers will travel to Rhodes for their last games before Christmas for the Rhodes Holiday Classic as they face LaGrange College and Rhodes in a non-conference game.

*Support local businesses.*

## SAS Varsity Boys' Basketball Goes 3-5 on Season

The St. Andrew's-Sewanee boys' varsity basketball team won against Lookout Valley on Dec. 8, 47-41. SAS was led by Ethan Allen with 17; Elijah Stark eight; Petre Gotsiridze seven; Hatch McNabb seven; Sam Goodpaster four; Raulston Barnett two; Alejandro Miranda two.

The boys' varsity basketball team lost to Grace Baptist in a very tight game on Dec. 9, 42-41. Carson Fisher hit a three point shot with 10 seconds to give Grace the district victory. SAS was led by Petre Gotsiridze 21 points, including four from behind the arc; Hatch McNabb eight; Elijah Stark six; Raulston Barnett three; Alejandro Miranda two; Harper Thompson one. SAS fell to 3-5 on the season.



### HOME GAMES

2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 17, Women's Basketball vs. Whitman College

3 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 20, SAS Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. Chattanooga School for Language and Arts

6 p.m., Friday, Jan. 12, Women's Basketball vs. Oglethorpe University

8 p.m., Friday, Jan. 12, Men's Basketball vs. Oglethorpe



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# NATURENOTES

by Yolande Gottfried



Christmas fern. Photo by Yolande Gottfried

## Christmas Plants

Many plants are associated with Christmas, perhaps especially the holly, as in the carols, “The Holly and the Ivy” and “Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly”. Since those carols come from the British Isles, the holly would be the the English holly, *Ilex aquifolium*. It is similar in appearance to our native evergreen holly, *Ilex opaca*. The verses of the first carol even mention the botanical features of the holly-white flowers (small), red berries, prickles of the leaf margins, and a bitter bark. There are also other species of holly in our woods, but they are deciduous and therefore less conspicuous, unless in fruit.

Also common in our woods is the Christmas fern, although it is not mentioned in any carols that I know. It is probably called Christmas fern since its fronds stay green through the winter, but there are many related memory devices based on the shape of the divisions of the leaf or frond: a Christmas stocking, Santa’s boot, or Santa’s sleigh.

Having mentioned a flowering plant and a fern, there is another plant group with Christmas associations-clubmoss, specifically Southern Running-Pine. As its name suggests, it trails along the ground and stays green in winter. The “clubs” are the upright, spore-bearing structures. Despite the name it is not a moss but a vascular plant. It was used, at least in the past, as a Christmas decoration and its relatives are still used as such in places like Mexico.

Mexico, and parts of Central America, are the native home of the poinsettia. I still remember being amazed by the large poinsettia shrubs in our yard, blooming in January when we first went to Guatemala in 1979. Joel R. Poinsett introduced it to the U.S. in 1828, when he was then a minister in Mexico.

# State Park Offerings

Please note: To confirm that these events will occur as listed go to <<https://tnstateparks.com/parks/events/south-cumberland>>, <<https://tnstateparks.com/parks/events/savage-gulf>> or call (931) 924-2980.

**Christmas Tree Crafts with a Ranger—South Cumberland State Park, Sunday, Dec. 17, 9–10 a.m. CST. Cost, \$5.** <<https://tnstateparks.com/parks/events/south-cumberland>>. Meet at 11745 US 41, Monteagle. Craft your masterpiece ornament to give someone you love or to keep. Christmas tree ornaments will be made from cut up wood from downed trees in the park. There will be many different sizes of wood to choose from to paint and to either hang on your tree or gift someone with.

**Explore the Door—Savage Gulf State Park, Monday, Dec. 18, 10–11:30 a.m. CST. Cost, \$5.** <<https://tnstateparks.com/parks/events/savage-gulf>>. (Registration closes at midnight the day before the event. Please pre-register.) Meet Ranger Todd Childress at Stone Door Ranger Station, 1183 Stone Door Rd., Beersheba Springs, for a moderate 2.5-mile (round trip, approximate) hike surrounded by beautiful views of Savage Gulf and a unique perspective of the Great Stone Door. Wear sturdy shoes in which to hike and bring ample water. Off-trail hiking is only allowed with Park staff and should never be done alone.

**Winter Solstice Day Loop Hike—Savage Gulf State Park, Thursday, Dec. 21, 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Cost \$5, 12 and under, \$10, Adults.** <<https://tnstateparks.com/parks/events/savage-gulf>>. (Registration closes at midnight the day before the event. Please preregister. All times are Central.) Join us on a 5 mile (round trip, approximate) guided hike of the Savage Gulf Day Loop. Bring along desired water and food, as these are not provided. Wear sturdy shoes in which to hike. Weather permitting. This is a basic, introductory hike to the east side of Savage Gulf. The challenge lies mostly in the overall distance. We sometimes discuss what we see, sometimes just chat, and sometimes just enjoy what we see around us. The areas around overlooks can be treacherous in terms of keeping your footing. The potential to slip and fall exists, and extreme care is needed. Attendee cancellations must be made no later than 24 hours prior to the program’s scheduled start in order to receive a refund.

**First Day Hike—Savage Gulf State Park, Monday, Jan. 1, 1–3 p.m. Donations accepted.** <<https://tnstateparks.com/parks/events/savage-gulf>>. Meet at 1183 Stone Door Rd., Beersheba Springs. Every year, Tennessee State Parks joins America’s State Parks in their annual First Day Hike event. This hike is the first in the Signature Hike series for Tennessee State Parks. Visitors can look forward to starting their new year off on the right foot in a fun and healthy way at Savage Gulf. Guests should bring water and wear hiking shoes with weather appropriate clothing. The areas around overlooks can be treacherous in terms of keeping your footing. The potential to slip and fall exists, and extreme care is needed. Attendee cancellations must be made no later than 24 hours prior to the program’s scheduled start in order to receive a refund. Event may be cancelled due to weather.

**First Day Hike—South Cumberland State Park, Monday, Jan. 1, 10 a.m.–noon. Donations accepted.** <<https://tnstateparks.com/parks/events/south-cumberland>>. Meet Ranger Hannah at the Lost Cove East (Sherwood Day Loop) trailhead to start off the New Year in nature and hike off that holiday stress! This hike is an easy 3-mile hike that offers two beautiful overlook views and some amazing geological features. Please wear sturdy hiking boots, bring water, and dress appropriately for the weather. This hike is suitable for ages 8+. Registration for this program is required. Trailhead address: 1900 Old CCC Road, Sherwood, TN 37376 (Old CCC Rd. will dead end at the trailhead parking lot).



Andy



Annie

## MARC’s Mountain Adoptables Meet Andy & Annie

Andy is sweet, loving and full of energy. He loves to run and is always so happy to see his people. Andy would do best in a home with active humans. He is not fond of being alone. He is very eager to please and would make a great companion for a family with older children (only because his energetic activity might knock down a toddler.) Andy is around 11 weeks old, weighs about 25 pounds and is black and white. His hair is longer than his sister Annie’s. Andy is eager to find his forever family.

Annie is sweet, cuddly and timid. She loves to be held and snuggled. Whether Annie is running around outside or lying on the couch, she is just happy being with her people. She would do well in a home with children of all sizes or an adult only home, just as long as she’s snuggled frequently. Annie is around 11 weeks old, weighs about 20 pounds and is black and white. Her hair is shorter than her brother Andy’s. Annie will be so happy to find her forever family.

If you would like to learn more about Andy and Annie, please fill out an Adoption Application on the MARC website <[www.marc4change.org](http://www.marc4change.org)> and/or contact Sue Scruggs, cell phone (423) 619-3845. These pets are fostering on the Sewanee-Monteagle Mountain and are easy to meet. All MARC animals ready for adoption are spayed or neutered and up to date on their vaccines and preventatives.

MARC - Marion Animal Resource Connection is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit animal welfare organization. It is not a shelter and relies on foster homes to save animals. MARC also provides low cost and free spay/neuter procedures for animals and is available for teaching humane care of animals in schools and to community organizations.

Weather stats available on page 11 of this issue.



## WHAT IS YOUR MOST IMPORTANT GOAL FOR 2024?

Good health should be at the top of your list because without it everything else in your life is compromised, including your ability to take care of others! Most of us have a job, kids and often elderly parents that all need our best energy and focus.

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| <b>1 Yoga class with Pippa</b>           | <b>1 hour massage with Matthew</b>                      |
| <b>1 You Fit class with Betsy</b>        |   |

**Normally these services would total \$240 but are being offered for \$200!**

**To help keep you motivated to reach your goals this package will only be available for purchase January 1<sup>st</sup> -March 31<sup>st</sup>. You must use the services in your package within 90 days of purchase or they will expire.**

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- Housing Sewanee
- Sewanee Mountain Messenger



75%

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- Folks at Home
- Community Action Committee
- Animal Harbor
- St. Mark’s Community Center



50%

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- Early Literacy Embassadors
- Reach Out and Read



25%

- Mountain Goat Trail Alliance
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## WEATHER

DAY	DATE	HI	LO
Mon	Dec 04	59	41
Tue	Dec 05	56	37
Wed	Dec 06	52	34
Thu	Dec 07	46	28
Fri	Dec 08	54	34
Sat	Dec 09	59	53
Sun	Dec 10	60	43

Week's Stats:  
Avg max temp = 55  
Avg min temp = 39  
Avg temp = 47  
Precipitation = 1.33"  
Reported by Sandy Gilliam  
Domain Ranger



## DONATIONS NEEDED 4 MARC

Dog treats • Leashes (not retractable)  
Martingale dog collars



DONATIONS DROPPED OFF @  
MARC, 225 Sequatchie Ln., Sequatchie, TN  
Taylor's Mercantile, 10 University Ave., Sewanee, on  
Thursday and Friday before noon  
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## 2023 Chief David Green's Operation Noel Form

Please mail completed form to Tracie Sherrill by  
Friday, Dec. 15

138 Lake O'Donnell Rd., Sewanee, TN 37375 or email all  
information to [sewaneenoperationnoel@gmail.com](mailto:sewaneenoperationnoel@gmail.com)

FAMILY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Family Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Delivery Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

FOOD ONLY: \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

FOOD AND TOYS: \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

Please fill out information below for each child age 16 yrs & under to receive toys.

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

Attach additional sheet if necessary.  
Call (931) 598-0040 for more information.

Merry Christmas and Happy  
New Year from your friends at  
the Sewanee Messenger!

## FROM BARD TO VERSE

by Robin Bates

### The Coming of Christ

Herman Gudger had just shot a three-pronged buck  
Down in Lost Cove last December when he happened to glance up  
And there on the rim of the bluff above him

On a rock ledge watching him intently and slowly  
Waving his tail stood a mountain lion  
Herman was so startled he forgot he had a gun

And besides he said later he  
Wouldn't of shot him noway  
He knew cougars was mighty scarce these days

The mountain lion turned and loped off into the woods  
Herman generally drinks a good deal Saturday night  
And goes to meeting Sunday at the Jump-Off Baptist Church

THE LION OF JUDAH  
WILL BE A DEVOURER OF NATIONS  
HE WILL COME TO JUDGE THE QUICK AND THE DEAD

Out of Egypt  
In the senescence of the year  
Came Jesus ben Panthera

--Scott Bates, Mountain Lion

*Happy Holidays*



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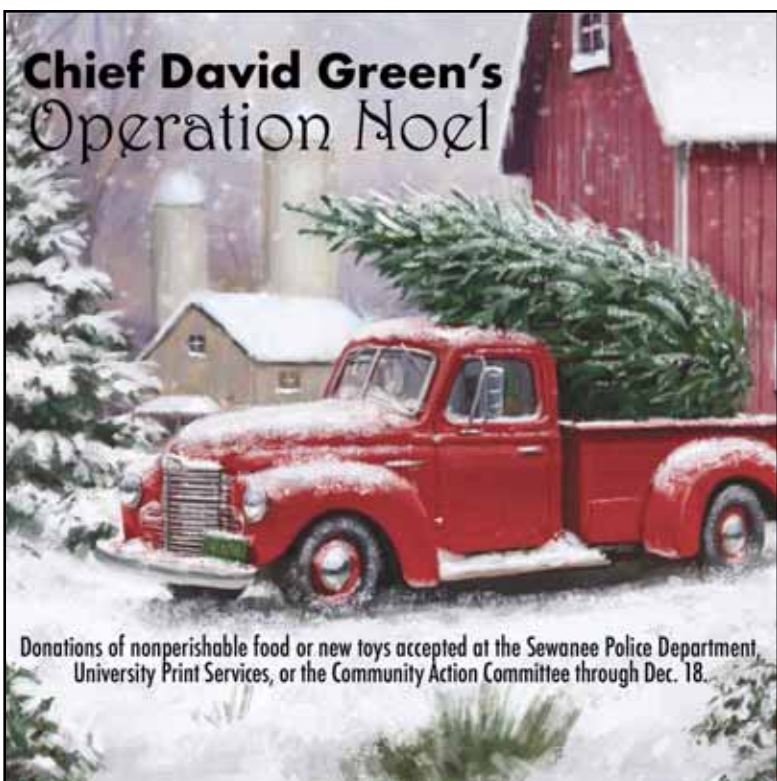
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**Chief David Green's Operation Noel**



Donations of nonperishable food or new toys accepted at the Sewanee Police Department, University Print Services, or the Community Action Committee through Dec. 18.

# Community Calendar

### Friday, Dec. 15

- Deadline for returning Operation Noel applications*
- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
  - 9 a.m. Yin Yoga, Anneli, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 10:15 a.m.
  - 10 a.m. You Fit, Betsy, Community Center; and at noon; sign up required

### Saturday, Dec. 16

- 9:30 a.m. Flow Yoga, Anneli, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 10:45 a.m.
- 10 a.m. Hospitality Shop open, until 2 p.m.
- 1 p.m. 'Being Peacemakers' workshop, (\$30) Camp, High Vibes, 1043 W. Main St., Monteagle, until 3 p.m.

### Sunday, Dec. 17

- 1 p.m. You Fit, Betsy, Community Center; and at 2:30 p.m.; sign up required
- 2 p.m. Knitting Circle, Mooney's, until 4 p.m.
- 4 p.m. Hatha Yoga, Helen, Community Center

### Monday, Dec. 18

- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi, Shao-nian, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 10 a.m.
- 9 a.m. Pilates, intermediate, Kim, 293 Ball Park Rd.
- 10:30 a.m. Chair Exercise, Ruth, Community Center, until 11:45 a.m.
- 4 p.m. Flow Yoga, Anneli, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 5:15 p.m.
- 5:30 p.m. Pilates, intermediate, Bruce, 293 Ball Park Rd.

### Tuesday, Dec. 19

- Deadline for SUD Commissioner board candidate application*
- 8 a.m. GC Food Bank, 114 S. Industrial Park Rd., Coalmont, until 10 a.m.
  - 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
  - 9 a.m. Flow Yoga, Anneli, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 10:15 a.m.
  - 10 a.m. Hospitality Shop open, until 1 p.m.
  - 10 a.m. Pilates, beginners, Kim, 293 Ball Park Rd.
  - 11:30 a.m. Grundy County Rotary, Dutch Maid Bakery, Tracy City
  - noon Pilates, intermediate, Kim, 293 Ball Park Rd.
  - 12:30 p.m. Caregivers' Group, Brooks Hall, St. Mark & St. Paul
  - 4:30 p.m. S. Cumberland Farmers' Market pickup, Community Center, until 5:30 p.m.
  - 5 p.m. Sewanee Utility District, Utility office, Sherwood Road
  - 5 p.m. Vinyasa Yoga, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 6:15 p.m.
  - 5:30 p.m. Easy Flow Yoga, Pippa, 293 Ball Park Rd., until 6:30 p.m.
  - 6 p.m. Social Dance (\$10), Firefly Ballroom, Cowan; Beginner, 6 p.m.; Intermediate, 7 p.m. Text Valerie, (931) 691 3168.

### Wednesday, Dec. 20

- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- 9 a.m. Pilates, intermediate, Kim, 293 Ball Park Rd.
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi, Shao-nian, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 10 a.m.
- 5 p.m. Mobility & Flexibility, (\$15), Camp, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 6 p.m.
- 5:30 p.m. Hatha Yoga, Helen, Community Center
- 6:30 p.m. Kundalini Yoga/Meditation, Pippa, (\$15) High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle

### Thursday, Dec. 21 • Winter Solstice

- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- 9 a.m. Flow Yoga, Anneli, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 10:15 a.m.
- 10 a.m. Pilates, beginner, Kim, 293 Ball Park Rd.
- noon Pilates, intermediate, Kim, 293 Ball Park Rd.
- 4 p.m. Movement to Music, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 5 p.m.

### Friday, Dec. 22

- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- 9 a.m. Yin Yoga, Anneli, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 10:15 a.m.
- 10 a.m. You Fit, Betsy, Community Center; and at noon; sign up required

### Saturday, Dec. 23

- 9:30 a.m. Flow Yoga, Anneli, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 10:45 a.m.

### Sunday, Dec. 24 • Christmas Eve

### Monday, Dec. 25 • Christmas Day

### Tuesday, Dec. 26 • Kwanzaa

- 8 a.m. GC Food Bank, 114 S. Industrial Park Rd., Coalmont, until 10 a.m.
- 9 a.m. Flow Yoga, Anneli, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 10:15 a.m.
- 4:30 p.m. S. Cumberland Farmers' Market pickup, Community Center, until 5:30 p.m.
- 5 p.m. Vinyasa Yoga, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 6:15 p.m.

### Wednesday, Dec. 27

- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- 9 a.m. Tai Chi, Shao-nian, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 10 a.m.
- 5 p.m. Mobility & Flexibility, (\$15), Camp, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 6 p.m.
- 6:30 p.m. Kundalini Yoga/Meditation, Pippa, (\$15) High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle

### Thursday, Dec. 28

- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- 9 a.m. Flow Yoga, Anneli, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 10:15 a.m.
- 4 p.m. Movement to Music, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 5 p.m.

### Friday, Dec. 29

- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- 9 a.m. Yin Yoga, Anneli, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 10:15 a.m.

### Saturday, Dec. 30

- 9:30 a.m. Flow Yoga, Anneli, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 10:45 a.m.

### Sunday, Dec. 31 • New Year's Eve

- 2 p.m. Knitting Circle, Mooney's, until 4 p.m.

### Monday, Jan. 1, 2024 • Happy New Year!

- 4 p.m. Flow Yoga, Anneli, High Vibes, Country Mart, Monteagle, until 5:15 p.m.

### Local 12-Step Meetings

#### Friday

7 p.m., AA, open, Christ Church, Tracy City

#### Saturday

7 p.m., NA, open, Dechard United Methodist

#### Sunday

6:30 p.m., the Wesley House, MMUMC

#### Monday

4 p.m., 12-Step Women's Study Group, Brooks Hall, (931) 327-5551, not on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1, resumes at 5 p.m., Jan. 8

7 p.m., AA, open, Christ Church, Tracy City

#### Tuesday

7 p.m., AA, open, First Baptist, Altamont

7 p.m., AA, open, Trinity Episcopal Church, Winchester

#### Wednesday

10 a.m., AA, closed, Cliff-tops, (931) 924-3493

7 p.m., NA, Dechard United Methodist

#### Thursday

6 p.m., Life's Healing Choice, Grundy County Recovery Alliance, Coalmont

7 p.m., Al-Anon, First UMC, Winchester

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