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Inside {local} December'24







10 IT'S THE HOLIDAY SEASON....

We highlight holiday events planned for the area this season

MESMERIZED BY STARDOM

16

His interest in Elvis led to a lifelong passion for music and collectibles



Milestone for local organization provides children with healthy snacks

LOCAL FOCUS COMMUNITY SNAPSHOTS 8 SERVICE DIRECTORY 20, 21, 22 HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL 27 RECIPE 28

Visit our website. muletownlocal.com

ON THE COVER: Tennessee Artist Ralph McDonald is well-known for his wildlife illustrations, prints, and charming Santa paintings. Experience the joy of the season with his art exhibition, which runs through December 13, at the Pryor Art Gallery on the Columbia State Community College campus. Image used by permission, courtesy of Dawn McDonald Hopkins.

THANK YOU! The staff of Spring Hill Local would like to thank our clients and readers for continued support. Happy Holidays dear friends!

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GM GRANT DRIVES BEAUTIFICATION, SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS IN DOWNTOWN COLUMBIA

The City of Columbia is pleased to announce the successful completion of the Columbia Infrastructure and Greenspace Improvement Project in downtown Columbia. This project, made possible through a partnership with Columbia Main Street, was funded by General Motors through the GM on Main Street Grant. Earlier this year, General Motors awarded five \$50,000 grants to nonprofit organizations and municipal government entities near GM facilities, including the City of Columbia. The improvements enhance both the safety and aesthetic appeal of the downtown district.

Multiple city departments contributed to the success of this project including Development Services, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, and Tourism & Marketing, all playing essential roles in designing and implementing these improvements. Their collaborative efforts with Columbia Main Street were instrumental in transforming the vision into a reality.

"This project underscores Columbia's dedication to people-centered development," stated Mayor Chaz Molder. "By prioritizing pedestrian safety and creating more green spaces, we are enhancing not only the beauty, but also the connectivity of our downtown. I'm grateful for the teamwork and support that made these upgrades possible, and I look forward to seeing our community thrive in this revitalized space."





Providing healthy snacks for students every school day.

Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors!

Your support helps ensure that our students receive the nourishment they need to thrive each day. Together, we're making a lasting impact on young lives and building a stronger community.



the QR code to donate or learn more about our mission to empower kids with healthy snacks!





GIVE THE GIFT OF GLOWING SKIN THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

The holidays can be a rough time on your skin. Between colder, drier weather and travel, it's easy to feel the effects. That's why Harpeth Valley Dermatology has created a skincare line that makes it simple to keep skin healthy, radiant, and protected all season long.



KEEP YOUR SKIN IN TOP SHAPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS:

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Don't Forget SPF! Even with less sun, UV rays are still a factor. Add a hydrating SPF to your morning routine, like our Hydro Essence SPF.

Modulate Your Retinoid Use. Retinoids are key to many routines but can be extra drying in winter. Try using them every other day, with a deep moisturizer on alternate days to keep skin balanced.

Stay Hydrated!

Travel and celebrations make hydration even more important. Drinking plenty of water is key to keeping skin looking its best.



For more information, please go to harpethvalleydermatology.com or call us at 615-905-8083.



Dr. Benjamin Bashline



Dr. Megan Morrison Dr. Pe



Dr. Pezhman Shoureshi



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LOCAL HOLIDAY EVENTS



RALPH MCDONALD ART: SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO MULETOWN

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MONDAY — THURSDAY 8 AM — 7 PM; FRIDAY 8 AM — 4 PM PRYOR ART GALLERY, COLUMBIA STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE COLUMBIASTATE.EDU/PRYOR-GALLERY

Tennessee Artist Ralph McDonald is well-known for his wildlife illustrations, prints, and charming Santa paintings. Experience the joy of the season with this exhibition.



SPRING HILL CHRISTMAS PARADE DECEMBER 14, 5 PM | MAIN STREET SPRING HILL SPRINGHILLTN.ORG/881/CHRISTMAS-PARADE

The 2024 Christmas Parade will be held on Saturday, December 14, Rain or Shine. Come join the annual Spring Hill Christmas Parade, a festive event that brings the community together to celebrate the holiday season. Taking place on Saturday, December 14, at 5:00 pm, this in-person parade promises to be a delightful experience for people of all ages.



COLUMBIA CHRISTMAS PARADE

DECEMBER 7, 6 PM – 10 PM DOWNTOWN COLUMBIA VISIT COLUMBIA CHRISTMAS PARADE ON FACEBOOK

Columbia Main Street, in partnership with the City of Columbia, invites you to attend the annual Christmas Parade scheduled for Saturday, December 7, at 6:00 pm in Downtown Columbia. Gather along West 7th Street and the town square to see local businesses and organizations showcase their creativity with beautifully decorated floats.



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AT FIRST FRIDAYS

DECEMBER 6, 5 PM – 8 PM | DOWNTOWN COLUMBIA VISITCOLUMBIATN.COM

A magical Tree Lighting Ceremony during the monthly First Fridays event on December 6 from 5 pm – 8 pm. This is a special, holiday-themed First Friday blended with the Tree Lighting ceremony hosted by Santa and Mrs. Claus.

A holiday twist that includes festive music from DJ Rio, local craft vendors, food trucks, and other holiday-inspired, family-friendly activities throughout the evening.

LOCAL HOLIDAY EVENTS



MAURY CHRISTMAS HISTORIC HOME TOUR

DECEMBER 6 - DECEMBER 7, 9 AM - 4 PM THE ATHENAEUM, 808 ATHENAEUM STREET MAURYCHRISTMAS.ORG

The Maury Christmas Historic Home Tour is a Maury County tradition dating back to the 1950s. A variety of public and private homes will open their doors to guests during this weekend event. Tour times are 9 am to 4 pm on both days. One \$25 ticket gives tour-goers access to all of the tour sites. For more information, call (931) 797-3316.



ONE CHRISTMAS EVENING CHILDREN'S BENEFIT WITH FOSTER PARTY OF 8

DECEMBER 14, 7 PM | THE MULEHOUSE, 812 S HIGH ST, COLUMBIA THEMULEHOUSE.COM

Foster Party of 8 is a combo band/orchestra/choir that will wow you with a selection of audience favorites, holiday music & uplifting gospel songs, all supporting Maury County's "Shop With A Cop" children's charity program.

MT. PLEASANT ROTARY CHRISTMAS PARADE

DECEMBER 9, 6 PM MT. PLEASANT

The annual Mt. Pleasant Rotary Christmas Parade will be held on Monday, December 9, at 6



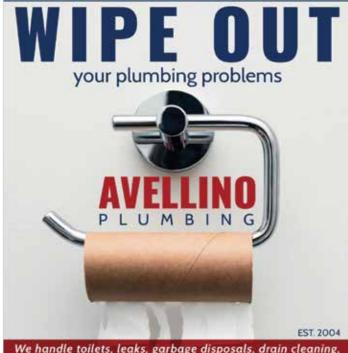
pm. The theme this year for the parade will be "Home for the Holidays. Line up for the parade will begin between 5-5:30 pm on Tiger Trail in front of the Mount Pleasant Community Center. This year, the parade will be taking a different route. Please see the new route shown abave.



A HOLIDAY TRADITION: DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 14 – 15 MAIN STREET IN DOWNTOWN FRANKLIN WILLIAMSONHERITAGE.ORG/EVENTS/DICKENS-OF-A-CHRISTMAS

The Dickens of a Christmas, presented by Wilson Bank & Trust, recreates the time of Charles Dickens using historic downtown Franklin's charming architecture as the backdrop. Various musicians, dancers, and Dickens characters will fill the streets. Expect to see and interact with the nefarious Fagin from Oliver Twist; Jacob Marley, Ebenezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim, and the rest of the Cratchit family from A Christmas Carol; and of course, a Victorian Father and Mother Christmas with treats for children. The event will include arts & crafts, food & beverage vendors, a Victorian village with holiday dancers, characters, carolers, music stages, and more.



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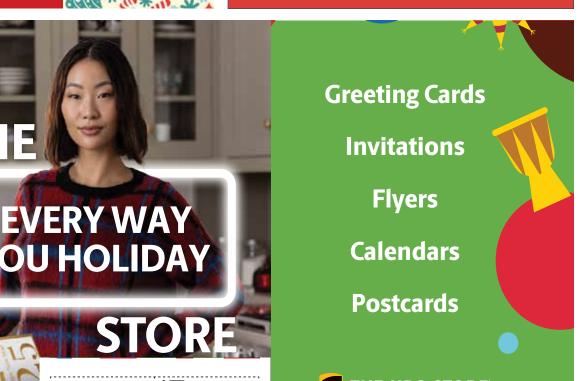
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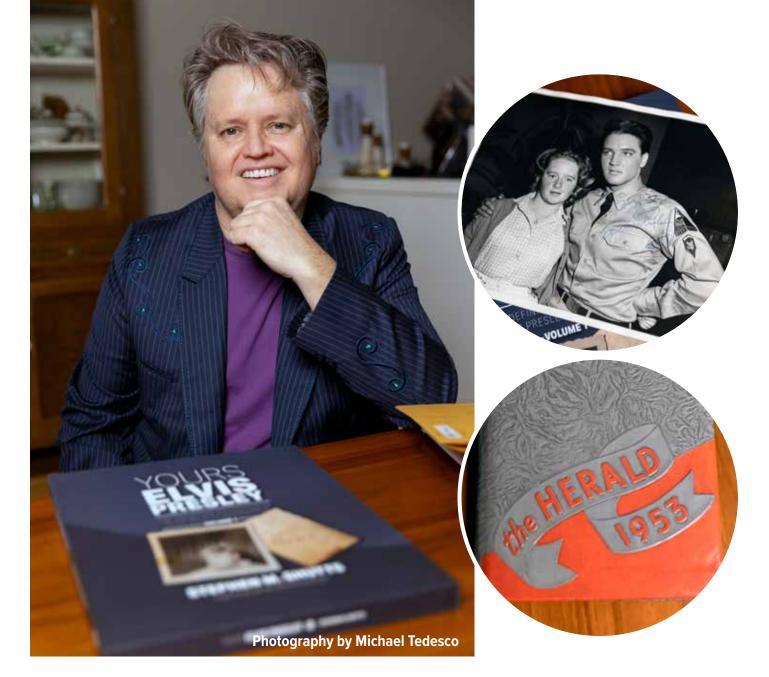
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ALL THINGS ELVIS

PAM WINDSOR

Franklin resident, Stephen Shutts was very young when he first discovered Elvis.

"I was mesmerized as a young kid and I begged my dad to take me to see him in concert," he recalls. "So, my dad became a fan, and we went to four Elvis concerts in Ohio where I grew up. Then I went to college near Memphis because of the history and that sort of thing."

As he learned more about Elvis, his interest became a passion that evolved into a lifelong business. Shutts became a collector of all things Elvis and began buying, selling, and curating items once owned by the King.

"Things like jumpsuits, jewelry, and other clothing," Shutts

says. "I've had a TV he shot out, I've had several of his vehicles. I have one of his snowmobiles sitting in my living room right now. Elvis gave it to a detective in Denver after a snowmobiling trip. I had a ski boat I found in a barn in Arkansas that's currently on display in Graceland."

He also began collecting Elvis' autographs and became an expert on authenticating Elvis' handwriting.

"Elvis never turned anyone away, so he signed thousands upon thousands of autographs. But there are also a lot of forgeries out there. And because he got immense amounts of mail and couldn't sit down and sign everything, his secretaries would also often sign for him."

Shutts has written a book that delves deeper into Elvis au-

PAGE 18 >



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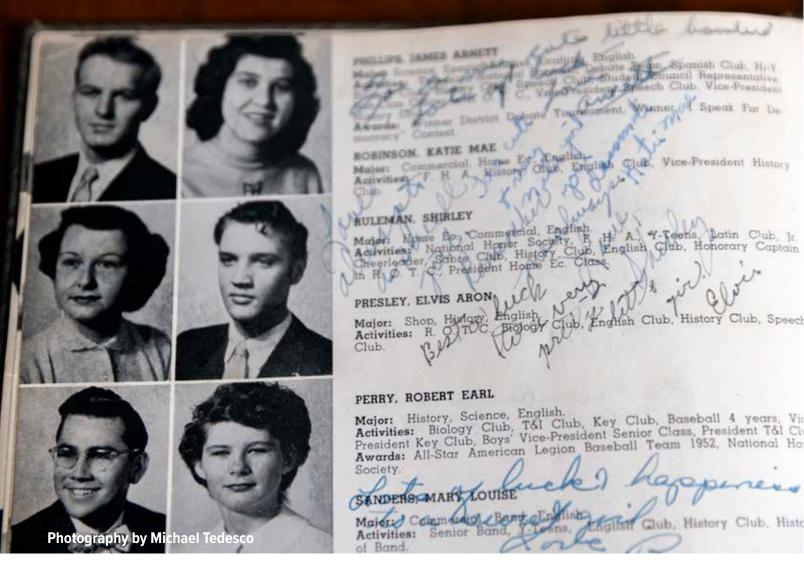


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< FROM PAGE 8

tographs in several ways. The book "Yours Elvis Presley" offers guidance in authenticating an Elvis signature, while also sharing personal accounts of people who got his autograph in person.

"The book is all about the encounters and the autographs obtained by people, and the stories they recall having met him. Then there's a study guide, a separate booklet that goes along with it, that breaks down how to analyze Elvis' autograph if you want to collect or study his handwriting."

Nearly 50 years after his death, an Elvis autograph remains extremely valuable. Depending on the type and circumstances surrounding it, one can sell for anywhere between \$1500 and \$30,000.

Shutts, who never got to meet Elvis personally, says he's amazed by what he hears from those who did. Those experiences remain vivid even decades later.

"I've met so many people who were gate gals, people who hung out at the gates, or people who got to meet him backstage, and I wanted to document these stories in the book. Women can remember what he smelled like, what he wore, just everything. And guys recall a lot of things, too, because they thought he was cool."

While Shutts spends a lot of time working with Elvis Memorabilia (he has a pop-up shop offering items for sale on his Rockology Facebook page every weekend), his expertise stretches into other areas, as well.

"I also deal in a lot of historic country," he explains. "Patsy Cline, Johnny Cash, Hank Williams, and then a lot of contemporary country as far as personal items and stage clothing. I handled the Charlie Daniels estate recently as far as partial liquidation, Jerry Lee Lewis and B.J Thomas, so I do a lot of celebrity estates and collections."

He also had a show for several years on CMT that dealt with the search for memorabilia.

He enjoys it all, but there's something special about Elvis. "I think because of his undeniable, incredible looks and charisma, he was clearly in his own class."

It's a fascination he shares with many around the world, including those he highlights in the book who actually met him.

"It's like his presence is still here today when you talk to these people," Shutts says. "When people recall having met him, it's never sloughed off; it's like 'I met Elvis, let me tell you about him.' Sadly, it's a dwindling class of people just because of age, but they all have a common thread of adoration and are fascinated with having met him. And a lot of times, he changed their lives in a lot of different ways."

To learn more or connect with Shutts, check out his Rockology Facebook page or website at **www.rockologyllc.com.** COLUMBIA MOTOR COMPANY

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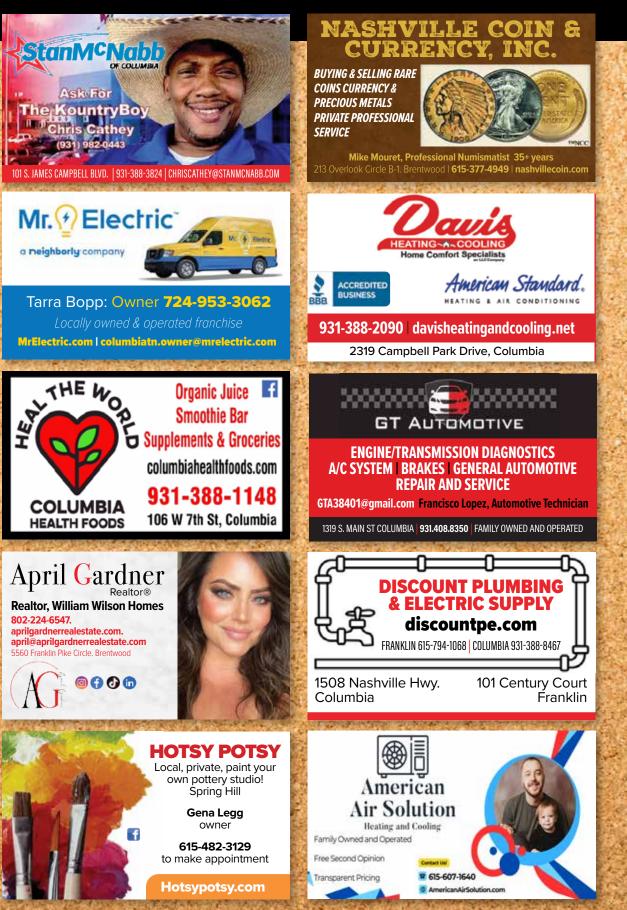
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BRIGHT APPLE MILESTONE: 1 MILLION STUDENT SNACKS

The mission of Bright Apple shined brightly at the inaugural Apple Fest held on Saturday, November 2, at Iglesia Una Esperanza Viva Church in Columbia. The event was held to raise funds to support Bright Apple's mission of providing healthy snacks for students in Maury County.

Board members, volunteers, supporters, and sponsors alike came together to celebrate the organization's success and garner support for the future. To kick off the event, Bright Apple's Executive Director Bradd Kimes announced a new milestone achievement of 1 million snacks served!

"When we embarked on this mission five years ago, I don't think we could have imagined we would be here at this moment having served over 1 million snacks to students," said Kimes. "This is an exciting time. The best is yet to come."

"We are able to serve these students because of the people here today," said Lisa Ciesliga, Director of Development for Bright Apple. "This mission truly takes a village, and we have a wonderful community to help us move toward a bright future."

Hyundai of Columbia and Ford of Columbia were the event's presenting sponsors. Chris Alexander, Dealer Partner and General Manager, and Patrick Robertson, Assistant General Manager, were in attendance and shared their passion for the mission of Bright Apple. Other sponsors of the event were Columbia Collision, Wire-Masters, WKOM 101.7 FM, Muletown Local, Grace Elizabeth Designs, McDonald's, Main Street Media, Lifetouch, the UPS Store, Destiny Church, Boys & Girls Clubs of South Central Tennessee, and Country Financial. Una Esperanza Viva Church provided the location and the delicious taco lunch for the event.

"We are so thankful for the support of every individual and business who has contributed to this cause," said Ciesliga. "We couldn't do what we do without the support of the community. Every dollar makes a difference. We focus on feeding children so they can focus on learning."

Bright Apple is a nonprofit organization that provides healthy snacks for students in Maury County each school day. Many of the students experience food insecurity and are not able to bring a snack from home.

Since 2019, Bright Apple has provided over 1 million healthy snacks to students in Maury County. It costs just \$5 a month to provide snacks for one student each school day.

For more information about how you can help, visit BrightApple.org or send an email to info@BrightApple.org.

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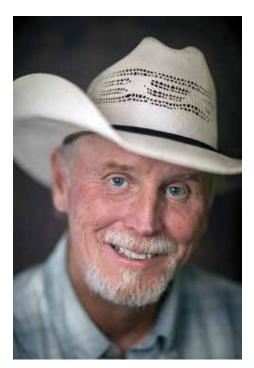
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lov. 23		Ezell-Harding
	26 Away	Ravenwood (girls)
	25 Away	Friendship (boys)
	'30 Away	Ezell-Harding (girls)
)ec. 3		Marshall Ctv
)ec. 6	.,	Middle TN Christian
)ec. 9		Hickman Cty
)ec. 10		University School
)ec. 13		Webb
	/21 Away	FRA
an. 3	Home	Grace Christian
an. 7		Providence Christian
an. 9	Home	Fairview
		FRA
an. 10		
an. 14	Home	BGA
an. 17	Home	Middle TN Christian
an. 21	Home	University School
an. 24		Webb
an. 28	Away	Grace Christian
eb. 1	Home	FRA
eb. 4		Providence Christian
eb. 7	Away	BGA

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Agathos (Girls)

Franklin Classic

Hampshire (Girls)

Forest Vs Battlecrek

Forrest

Hampshire

Richland

Giles Cty

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Lewis Ctv

Cascade

Zion

Loretto

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BCHS

Loretto

Lewis Ctv

Christmas Tourney (Boys)

Christmas Tourney (Boys)

Nov. 18 Away

Nov. 19 Away

Nov. 26 Away

Nov. 29 Home

Nov. 30 Home

Dec. 2 Away

Dec. 3 Home

Dec. 6 Away

Dec. 9 Away

Dec. 10 Home

Dec.13 Away

Dec. 16 Away

Dec. 20 Home

Dec. 21 Home

Jan. 3 Home

Jan.7 Home

Jan. 10 Away

Jan. 14 Home

Jan. 17 Home

Jan. 21 Home

Jan. 24 Away

IAn. 25 Home

lan 28 Away

Jan. 31 Away

Feb. 4 Away

Feb. 11 Home

Feb.13 Away



BATTLECREEK

Nov. 9

Nov. 12

Nov. 14

Nov. 15

Nov. 18

Nov, 19

Nov. 21

Nov. 22

Nov. 25

Nov. 29

Nov.30

Dec. 3

Dec. 6

Dec. 10

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Dec. 17

Dec 20

Dec. 27

Dec. 28

Jan. 2

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Jan. 10

Jan. 14

lan, 17

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Jan. 23

lan, 27

Jan. 28

Jan. 31 Home

Nov. 19	Away	Hickman County
Nov. 23	Away	Murfreesboro Central
Nov. 29	Away	Boys Cascade
Nov. 29	Away Girls	Mt. Pleasant
Nov. 30	Away Boys	Community
Nov. 30	Away Girls	Mt. Pleasant
Dec. 5	Away	Lawrence County
Dec.	Away	East Hickman
Dec. 12	Away	Fairview
Dec. 13	Away	Summertown
Dec. 17	Away	Santa Fe
Dec. 20	Away	Boys FCA
Dec. 21	Away Boys	Franklin Classical
Dec. 27	Away Girls	Moore County
Dec. 28	Away Girls	Moore County
Jan. 10	Away	Spring Hill
Jan. 17	Away	Loretto
Jan. 21	Away	Mt. Pleasant
Jan. 27	Away	Forrest
Feb.7	Away	Lewis County



SPRING HILL NOV.26 Home Marshall County Dec. 2 Home Giles Cty Dec. 6 Away Marshall Ctv Nolensville Dec. 9 Away Jan. 10 Home **Battle Creek** Jan.14 Home

Warren Ctv lan, 17 Away Lincoln Ctv Jan. 25 Away Columbia Central Jan, 31 Home Warren Cty Lincoln Cty Feb. 4 Home Feb. 7 Home Columbia Central



*Schedules may be incomplete due to press deadlines



Nov. 21 Away

Nov.22 Away

Nov. 25 Away

Nov. 26 Away

Dec. 3 Home

Dec. 6 Home

Dec. 10 Away

Dec. 13 Away

Dec. 17 Home

Dec. 20 Away

Dec. 21 Away

Jan. 3 Away

Jan. 14 Home

Jan. 17 Away

Jan. 28 Home

Jan. 31 Away

Feb.7 Away

Feb. 11 Home

Feb. 13 Away

Away

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Jan. 10

Jan. 24 Home

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Feb. 4 Home

ZION CHRISTIAN

Away	FC Boyd
Home	Riverside Christian
Home	Franklin Classical
Away	Lancaster Christian
Home	FC Boyd
Away	Grace Christian
Home	FRA
Away	Culleoka
Away	Hampshire
Neutral	TBD
Neutral	TBD
Away	Riverside Christian
Home	Franklin Christian
Away	Mt. Pleasant
Home	Culleoka
Away	Franklin Rd Christian
Away	Dickson Christian
Neutral	TBD
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Homemade Donuts From the Kitchen of Ashley Gilles

INGREDIENTS:

2 1/4 TEASPOONS (1 PACKET) ACTIVE DRY YEAST • 1/4 CUP WARM WATER (105°F TO 115°F)

1/4 CUP GRANULATED SUGAR, PLUS 1 TEASPOON • 1/4 CUP UNSALTED BUTTER, MELTED

1/2 CUP WHOLE MILK, LUKEWARM 1 LARGE EGG 1 TEASPOON VANILLA EXTRACT 2 1/2 CUPS ALL-PURPOSE FLOUR 1/2 TEASPOON SALT FOR THE GLAZE: 2 CUPS POWDERED SUGAR 1/4 CUP MILK 1 TEASPOON VANILLA EXTRACT



PREPARATION:

Prepare the Yeast Mixture

In a small bowl, dissolve the yeast and 1 teaspoon sugar in warm water. Let it sit for 5-10 minutes until frothy.

MAKE THE DOUGH

In a large bowl, mix together the melted butter, lukewarm milk, egg, vanilla extract, and the yeast mixture.Gradually add the flour, 1/4 cup sugar, and salt, mixing until a soft dough forms.Knead the dough on a floured surface for about 5 minutes until smooth and elastic.Place the dough in a greased bowl, cover, and let it rise in a warm place until doubled in size, about 1 hour.

SHAPE THE DONUTS

Roll out the dough to about 1/2 inch thickness. Cut out donuts using a donut cutter or twodifferently sized round cutters. I used a cleaned



medicine bottle top and a mason jar mouth band.Place the cut donuts on a parchment-lined baking sheet, cover, and let them rise again until doubled, about 30 minutes. I just left them on the counter with a large rag over them!

FRY THE DONUTS

Heat vegetable oil in a deep fryer or large pot to 375°F (190°C). Fry the donuts in batches, about 1 minute per side, until golden brown. Remove and drain on paper towels.

MAKE THE GLAZE

Whisk together powdered sugar, milk, and vanilla extract in a bowl until smooth.

GLAZE THE DONUTS

While the donuts are still warm, dip each into the glaze, coating both sides. Place on a wire rack to let excess glaze drip off.

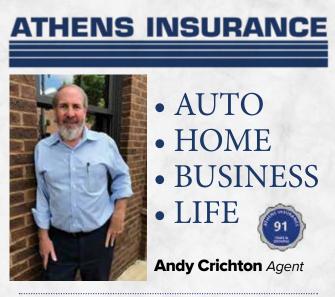
SERVE

Serve the donuts warm for the best experience.



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