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COURTS

CASE CLOSED: Ballenger pleads guilty to felony murder in death of Baby Hoss, receives 40 years

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – It's the end of a tragic case that began more than five years ago, when 1-year-old Hoss Benham was pronounced dead on his first birthday. Crystal Vialonda Ballenger, 28, of Cullman pleaded guilty Thursday to felony murder in the death of Baby Hoss, her son, who died in March 2014. The charge was reduced from capital murder of a child under 14 years of age, preventing a possible death sentence.

Ballenger, represented by local attorneys Melvin Hasting and Michael D. Haynes in front of Circuit Court Judge Gregory Nicholas, received a 40-year sentence in state prison, equal to that of her co-defendant Jeffery Hugh Brown, who, The Tribune exclusively reported last week, pleaded guilty to the same charge last Friday, Dec. 13.

Ballenger and then boyfriend Brown were indicted Oct. 20, 2015 on charges of capital murder of a child under 14 years of age, capital murder during sexual abuse, aggravated child abuse and sexual torture in the death of Baby Hoss, who died on his first birthday; examination of his body indicated blunt force trauma and multiple signs that he was tortured in a sexual manner.

Brown and Ballenger initially told authorities that Baby Hoss drowned in their home at Monk's Trailer Park on U.S. Highway 31 in Vinemont, but they gave conflicting stories. Baby Hoss was pronounced dead » PAGE 5



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Crystal Vialonda Ballenger

Fire destroys home on city's NE side



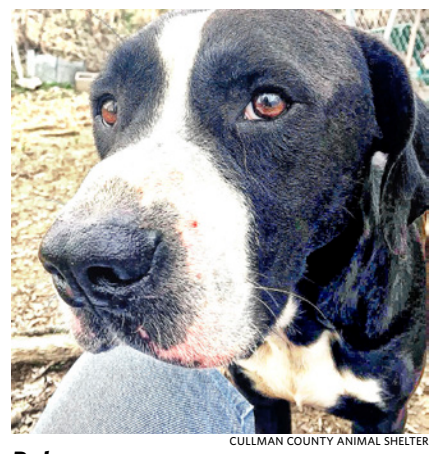
MAGGIE DARNELL/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

A fire destroyed a home on 13th Street Northeast in the city of Cullman Friday morning.

» PAGE 5

(BONUS) PET OF THE WEEK

Have yourself a merry little Bob!



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Bob

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman County Animal Shelter has had a wonderful holiday season. Things are going so well, The Tribune's last Pet of the Week, Bruno, was adopted before our Tuesday paper even hit the newsstands! There are still animal companions waiting for their merry Christmas, though, so Donna Ruttkay shares a bonus Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week:

Bob is a 1-year-old bobtailed Bulldog mix. He's a laid-back, low- to medium-energy pet who enjoys human company without crowding his people. Ruttkay describes him as an "unassuming fellow who is patient and very quiet in his kennel." He's developing his leash skills and has a good appetite.

Bob has the makings of a good therapy, hiking or companion dog.

Bob's adoption fee is $90 which includes: DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet, neutering, microchip, free 30-day health insurance policy issued by 24PetWatch (with valid email only) and a free bag of food from Cullman Pet Depot (you must pay sales tax).

Animal shelter staff and volunteers work with their dogs to make sure they are accustomed to being around people, walking on a leash and practicing good behavior. Several of the shelter's dogs have even been "hired" to work as therapy and special needs service dogs.

Please consider adopting, to give a rescued pet a chance at a happy and healthy life.

Contact the Cullman » PAGE 5

'All clear' given after courthouse bomb threat

Christy Perry
christy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The "all-clear" was given by Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry and Cullman Police Chief Kenny Culpepper following an interior and exterior search after a bomb threat was called in to the Cullman County Courthouse Friday morning.

The Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) searched the interior, while the Cullman Police Department (CPD) secured the perimeter, according to Culpepper.

The bomb threat mentioned a suspicious package, according to authorities. Nothing was found.

Personnel from the CCSO, CPD, Cullman EMS, Cullman Fire Rescue and Vinemont-Providence Volunteer Fire Department all responded. The firefighters had also worked a structure fire along 13th Street and were in the area.



CHRISTY PERRY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman County Courthouse is seen after being evacuated for a bomb threat Friday morning.

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STATE

Alabama hits record low unemployment rate of 2.7%; Cullman County's rate is 2.2%

State gains 50,000 jobs over the year, attains highest job growth rate of 2019

Tara Hutchison
maggie@cullmantribune.com

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Alabama Department of Labor Secretary Fitzgerald Washington announced Friday that, for the seventh month in a row, Alabama has reached a new record low unemployment rate. Alabama's preliminary, seasonally adjusted November unemployment rate is 2.7%, down from October's previous record rate of 2.8%, and well below November 2018's rate of 3.8%.

Cullman County's rate for November 2019 is 2.2%, up just slightly from 2.1% in October 2019 and down from 2.9% in November 2018.

"For seven months in a row now, we have announced record-breaking jobs numbers in Alabama," said Governor Kay Ivey.

"We are consistently seeing yearly drops that are the highest in the nation. Our jobs count continues to break records and beat expectations.

"More than 80,000 Alabamians are working today that weren't last year. All this data combines to paint a picture of economic health in Alabama.

"We have one more month to report on for 2019, but it's certainly shaping up to be a banner year!"

November's rate represents 2,203,495 employed persons, a new record high, and represents an over-the-year increase of 82,609. 61,963 people were counted as unemployed, a new record low, down from 83,298 in November 2018.

The civilian labor force also reached a new record high of 2,265,458, representing an over-the-year increase of 61,274.

"The number of jobs our economy is supporting is, yet again, at a record high. We've seen a gain of more than 50,000 jobs since this time last year," said Washington.

"Our job growth rate in November is the highest it's been all year, and we've once again surpassed the national job growth rate."

Over the year, wage and salary employment increased 50,400, with gains in the professional and business services sector (+14,900), the leisure and hospitality sector (+8,800), the government sector (+6,900), and the manufacturing sector (+4,900), among others.

Wage and salary employment grew in November by 9,100. Monthly gains were seen in the trade, transportation, and utilities sector (+5,500), the government sector (+3,800), and the education and health services sector (+900), among others.

"Manufacturing employment in Alabama is at its highest level in 11 years," continued Washington.

"Other sectors are currently experiencing their highest levels of employment in history.

"Employers are hiring, and people are finding work."

SECTORS WITH RECORD HIGH EMPLOYMENT LEVELS

Manufacturing: 273,700
• Motor Vehicle Manufacturing: 14,600

Service Providing: 1,736,700
• Professional and Business Services: 261,000
• Education and Health Services: 252,900

Manufacturing employment measures 273,700 in November, its highest level since November 2008.

The motor vehicle manufacturing (14,600), service providing (1,736,700), professional and business services (261,000), and education and health services (252,900) sectors are registering record high levels of employment.

Alabama's job growth rate for November is 2.4%, the highest recorded in 2019. It surpasses the national job growth rate of 1.5%.

This marks the tenth month that Alabama's job growth rate has matched or exceeded the national rate.

Wages also increased, both over-the-month and over-the-year.

Average weekly earnings in November were $863.11, up $1.06 from October, and up $21.56 from November 2018.

Counties with the lowest unemployment rates are: Shelby County at 1.8%, Marshall County at 2.0%, and Limestone and Madison Counties at 2.1%. Counties with the highest unemployment rates are: Wilcox County at 6.3%, Clarke County at 4.8%, and Greene and Lowndes Counties at 4.7%.

Major cities with the lowest unemployment rates are: Homewood and Vestavia at 1.6%, Northport at 1.7%, and Alabaster, Hoover, and Madison at 1.8%.

Major cities with the highest unemployment rates are: Selma at 5.0%, Prichard at 4.8%, and Anniston and Bessemer at 3.6%.

Arrests and incidents reported Dec. 20

Maggie Darnell
maggie@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported Dec. 20, 2019. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

GJ = grand jury; **FTA** = failure to appear

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No incidents or arrests reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Dec. 19
• fraudulent use of a credit/debit card; person; misc. charges; unknown amount of property value
• third-degree criminal mischief; Wells Fargo Bank; 2nd Ave. SW; damaged door; $1,500

ARRESTS

Dec. 19

Champion, Jennifer L., 35
• FTA- fourth-degree theft of property (3 count)
• FTA- third-degree criminal trespassing

Smith, Daniel S., 24
• GJ- possession of burglar's tools

Webber, Terry M., 34
• fourth-degree theft of property

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No incidents or arrests reported.

Find arrest reports online Monday-Friday at www.CullmanTribune.com.

BUSINESS

Cyber Broadband, granted $113K, to offer fiber internet to Sipsey Pines community

Melissa Fuller
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Regional internet provider Cyber Broadband, Inc. announced this week it will offer fiber-to-the-home internet to the Sipsey Pines community in 2020. CEO Jay Fuller said the project will provide state-of-the-art, fiber-to-the-home internet to approximately 200 homes in the unincorporated community on Smith Lake in Winston County.

The project will be partially funded by a grant provided by the Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund, administered by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA).

The grant, in the amount of $113,680, will fund 20% percent of the cost of the new network, with the majority of the project being funded by Cyber Broadband, which applied for the grant in 2019 and was awarded the grant through a competitive application process.

The grant was only available to existing internet providers, and to areas unable to receive a minimum broadband speed set by the Federal Communications Commission.

Cyber Broadband currently provides high-speed internet via fixed wireless technology to several counties in northern Alabama, including Cullman, Franklin, Lawrence, Winston and Walker.

The new fiber network will provide speeds up to 300 meg, with future upgrades allowing even higher speeds.

Fuller said Cyber Broadband started in 2004 with the intention of providing internet to rural and underserved communities in Cullman County.

"There is still more work to be done," said Fuller.

"We still have communities in northern Alabama that could benefit from our service."

Cyber Broadband, Inc. is a member of the Wireless Internet Service Providers Association (WISPA) and FISPA. For more information, call 256- 734-1077 or visit www.cyberbroadband.net.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Dec. 21 - 24

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament Christmas Open House and 20th Anniversary Celebration
• Saturday, Dec. 21, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
• Wagon rides: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. (Call 256-787-4121 for reservations)
• Talk on the 20th anniversary- 9:30 a.m. & 2 p.m.
• Shrine hours- 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
• Gift shop hours- 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
• Complimentary hot chocolate, coffee and cookies provided. No visiting fee. Funnel cakes for $5
• 3224 County Road 548, Hanceville, AL 35077

Sportsman Lake Park Winter Wonderland
• 5-9:30 p.m. Guests can drive through the park or park and experience the extra attractions including train rides, carriage rides and sleigh rides. Parents can take pictures of their kids with Santa or purchase a 5×7 photo in a souvenir frame for $5. The cost is $10 (cash only) per vehicle, regardless of how many people are in it.
• The schedule for the Sportsman Lake Park Winter Wonderland: December- Wednesday-Sunday: 5-9:30 p.m.; Dec. 23 is the last day for Santa and the train; Closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day; Dec. 26-29- Drive through only: 5-9:30 p.m.
• For more information, visit www.facebook.com/events/395857437714080 or call 256-734-3052.

Free Christmas Wagon Rides at The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament
• See the tranquil grounds of the Shrine from a wagon drawn by genuine draft horses.
• Rides will be offered through Dec. 28. To reserve a ride, contact the Shrine at 256-787-4121. The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament is located at 3224 County Road 548, Hanceville, AL 35077.
• There will be no rides Dec. 22 or 24-26.
• For more information, contact the Shrine at 256-352-6267 or 256-787-4121 or visit https://olamshrine.com/.

Christmas at The Grotto
• 5-9 p.m. Come celebrate the Christmas season at Ave Maria Grotto!
• Experience the Grotto Park decorated for Christmas and enjoy Bro Joseph's magnificent art with your family and friends! Coffee and cookies will be available. Johnny's Bar-B-Q will have a food truck on Saturday evening. Bring your family and friends and be blessed at this most special time of year!

Dodge City Christmas in the Park
• Perry Ray Park, 120 Howard Circle, Dodge City, AL
• Cookies and hot chocolate with Santa
• 6-9 p.m.
• Free gift for every child
• Call 256-287-0364 for more info.

Christmas Cantata
A Christmas cantata will be held at Mount Hermon Baptist Church Saturday, Dec. 21 at 6 p.m. Refreshments will be served. 4312 County Road 1570, Baileyton, AL 35019

Cards in The Park
Cards in The Park Display (Dec. 7-31), Governor's Park in Holly Pond

SUNDAY, DEC. 22

Special Needs Free Swim at the Aquatic Center
• 3-5 p.m. at the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center-Free Swim Hosted by Cullman Parks, Recreation and Sports Tourism
• Free swim is for those with special needs and immediate family members. All guests must sign in at the CWAC front desk before entering the pool. Parents/guardians/caregivers must stay in the pool area at all times during the therapeutic recreation swim time.

Sportsman Lake Park Winter Wonderland
• 5-9:30 p.m. Guests can drive through the park or park and experience the extra attractions including train rides, carriage rides and sleigh rides. Parents can take pictures of their kids with Santa or purchase a 5×7 photo in a souvenir frame for $5. The cost is $10 (cash only) per vehicle, regardless of how many people are in it.
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Cards in The Park
Cards in The Park Display (Dec. 7-31), Governor's Park in Holly Pond

MONDAY, DEC. 23

Cards in The Park
Cards in The Park Display (Dec. 7-31), Governor's Park in Holly Pond

Free Christmas Wagon Rides at The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament
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Cards in The Park
Cards in The Park Display (Dec. 7-31), Governor's Park in Holly Pond

Free Christmas Wagon Rides at The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament
• See the tranquil grounds of the Shrine from a wagon drawn by genuine draft horses.
• Rides will be offered through Dec. 28. To reserve a ride, contact the Shrine at 256-787-4121. The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament is located at 3224 County Road 548, Hanceville, AL 35077.

Rides will be available on the following dates:
• Dec. 27 from 1-5 p.m.
• Dec. 28 from 10-11:30 a.m. and 1-5 p.m.
• For more information, contact the Shrine at 256-352-6267 or 256-787-4121 or visit https://olamshrine.com/.

TUESDAY, DEC. 24

Happy Christmas Eve!

Cards in The Park
Cards in The Park Display (Dec. 7-31), Governor's Park in Holly Pond

UPCOMING...

Sportsman Lake Park Winter Wonderland
• 5-9:30 p.m. Guests can drive through the park or park and experience the extra attractions including train rides, carriage rides and sleigh rides. Parents can take pictures of their kids with Santa or purchase a 5×7 photo in a souvenir frame for $5. The cost is $10 (cash only) per vehicle, regardless of how many people are in it.
• The schedule for the Sportsman Lake Park Winter Wonderland: December- Wednesday-Sunday: 5-9:30 p.m.; Dec. 23 is the last day for Santa and the train; Closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day; Dec.

FUNNY THINGS FROM YESTERDAY

I've found them! I've found our Christmas presents!

Robert N. Tidwell, Sr.
robertntidwellsr@gmail.com



Seems like today children don't look forward to Christmas like we did when we were growing up. Back in those days, we only got a present twice a year - on our birthday and again at Christmas. We started waiting on our birthday the first day of January and after our birthday present was worn out, we started looking forward to Christmas and wondering what present we might get.

Dale and I were notorious for finding our Christmas presents before Christmas. About the middle of November, we would start to check all the secret hiding places to see if anything was there. After a few years of this, mother got wise to us and started leaving our presents at Aunt

I.V.'s house for safe keeping. Aunt I.V.'s house was only two houses down the street from us.

One day in late November, or early December, Dale was at Aunt I.V.'s house and had to use the bathroom. The way all the houses were arranged this gave a clear view from the bathroom, across a hallway, through the kitchen into a bedroom. As Dale used the potty, he looked toward the bedroom. Lo and behold, Dale saw two items under the bed that looked like toys. When he finished his job, he immediately went to the bedroom to investigate his find.

In a few minutes Dale came to the house all excited and said, "I found them! I found our Christmas presents!" We ran back to Aunt I.V.'s; of course, there was no one at home. We pulled out two scooters and rode them for about 30 minutes. Then we put them back.

I don't know exactly how Mother and Aunt I.V. found out about this visit to her house, but someone must have snitched on us. Aunt I.V. explained that the scooters we found were for some of Uncle Robert's nephews and we should not be riding them.

Christmas finally arrived and Santa Claus must have had an excess of scooters that year, for Dale and I received two scooters just like the ones we had ridden earlier.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

The real story of Christmas

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



Once upon a time, long, long ago, there lived a young lady named Mary. Mary was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph. Before they were married, and while she was still a virgin, Mary was found to be with child. God sent an angel named Gabriel to explain to Mary what was happening. Gabriel said, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. You will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus."

Mary asked, "How can this be since I have not known a man?" And the angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God."

Joseph, being a just man, and not wanting to make Mary a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.

But while he thought about these things, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.

"And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

Now it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered to pay taxes.

Everyone went to the city they were from to be registered. Joseph went from Nazareth, in Galilee, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David. Mary accompanied him.

So, while they were there in Bethlehem, the time came for Mary to deliver her baby. Because so many had come to Bethlehem to register, there was no room for Mary and Joseph in the inn. So Mary brought forth her first born Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger.

Now there were in the same country shepherds out in the fields watching over their sheep by night. An angel of the Lord appeared before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them and they were greatly afraid.

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign to you. You will find a Babe wrapped in saddling cloths, lying in a manger."

Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

After the angel left them, the shepherds went to Bethlehem to see this great thing that had happened. Just as they had been told, there they found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. Now when they had seen Him, they told everyone what they had been told about this Child.

All who heard them marveled at those things. The shepherds returned home glorifying and praising God for what they had seen and heard. Others, including wise men from the East, came to see Jesus too.

While many fun and interesting story have sprung up around Christmas, this is the real story of Christmas. I wish each and every one of you a blessed merry Christmas.

Bill King can be reached at bkpreach@yahoo.com or 334-745-0588 (office) or 334-728-5514 (cell).

Tribune Files from Yesteryear

From The Files Of 1900

Miss Minnie Boyd and J. Adams were married on August 6th.

Otis and Avery Kinney took in the singing at Sandlin's Chapel, on Sunday.

A.L. Cameron and John Britt have returned from Shelby County.

W.M. Adams has opened a new store at Midway and is selling goods at Cullman prices.

At best, a half crop is all we will make.

From The Files Of 1936

Miss Margarie Jackson is spending her vacation on Sand Mountain with relatives.

The party given by Mr. and Mrs. Felton Parker was enjoyed by a large crowd.

Mr. and Mrs. R.A. Gray have moved into their new home.

Mabel Marty spent Saturday night with Christine Styles.

Clyde Pierce, of Nesmith, visited his aunt and uncle, the S.Y. Styles, of Baldwin.

Travis Styles, of Bethsadia, spent Saturday night and Sunday, with the Young Styles.

Mr. and Mrs. Jewel Hill visited the R.C. Calloway family this weekend.

Mr. Raymond Rakestraw, 24, married Miss Gertrude Federer, 18, on August 1st.

The little son of the Chief of Police and Mrs. Jack Tucker is reported to have developed infantile paralysis this week.

Mr. and Mrs. J.K. Goodson and small daughter, Joyce, were the dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bentley in Welti.

The Hugo Schinerts visited their daughter, Mrs. Homer and Howard Thomas, recently.

H. Maxie Johnson has accepted a job in Birmingham.

Helping in the revival at Macedonia were: J.T. Tyree, of Helicon, Reverend Harbison, of Jasper, Reverend Ben McCain, of Crane Hill, Reverend Sizemore, of Cullman, Reverend E.J. Jean, of Cullman, Reverend Willie Thompson, of Blair, Reverend Armon Briscoe, of Bethlehem and Reverend Charlie Wisener, of Salem.

The wedding of Miss Grace Shoemaker and Mr. Jay A. Cole had the vows read by W. Glenn Bartee.

The little son of W. Marvin Scott had his tonsils removed.

Doctor and Mrs. C.E. Herrin will leave on Saturday for Orange Beach. They will be joined by Reverend and Mrs. J.S. Blackburn for several days of fishing.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rainey and Helen have been in Florida for two weeks on vacation.

Conrad Howard will spend next week fishing on the Gulf Coast.

A bridal shower was given for Mr. and Mrs. Ova Calvert on Friday at the home of Mrs. H.H. Segler. They received many gifts. Could we not all try to be special people?

From The Files Of 1930

$200 worth of tobacco was stolen from A.Z. Bailey's Grocery Company last Monday night.

At the annual meeting of the Alabama Press Association in Auburn last weekend, The Tribune, of Cullman, published by J.C. Norwood, was selected as one of the states twelve outstanding weeklies.

A.B. Jones, of Route Four, Cullman, up to last Saturday had sold 400 watermelons in Cullman this season.

The first bale of cotton in the county was raised by S.M. Whatley, of Route One, Hanceville and was sold to Griffith and Warren. A premium of 13 cents was paid for this first bale, which weighed 414 pounds.

Mildred Gay has returned from a visit to Akron, Ohio.

Poet's Corner

Mary's Song

By: Randy C. Hale

Based upon Luke 1:46-55

Oh, peaceful hymn we hear,
the Mother Mary sing.
And in our heart we cheer,
the presence of the King.

In her Holy Womb, a gift
of blessings from our Lord.
And peace for ages yield
and good will restored.

Mother Mary, child of God,
just a virgin girl.
Give Holy birth on earth,
the priceless precious pearl.

And Kings shall bow before him,
low Shepherds from the fields.



The Angel Choir shall praise him,
for this one life to live.

Though silently the shadow falls
outside Jerusalem gates,
the savior's blood to shed,
because a world of hate.

But that is not the end,
let earth and heaven know.
He shall rise from the grave,
the Father wills it so.

And you and I will sing,
His proclamation on.
Jesus Christ He Lives
as in His mother's song.

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LEGAL

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by NANCY E. MCWHORTER to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR THE MORTGAGE OUTLET, INC., dated October 24, 2008 said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, in Book MTG 1581, Page 925 and modified by that Loan Modification recorded in Book MTG 1816 Page 356. Said mortgage was subsequently sold, assigned and transferred to U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION. Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the undersigned, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse in the City of Cullman, Cullman County, Alabama on February 21, 2020, during the legal hours of sale, all of its right, title, and interest in and to the following describe real estate situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

COMMENCING AT A RAILROAD SPIKE AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 36 TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 1 EAST. THENCE WEST 1320.00 FEET TO A ONE-INCH IRON. THENCE NORTH 3 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 39 SECONDS WEST 645.73 FEET TO A ONE-HALF INCH CAP RE-BAR SET NO. CA-0078 SAID POINT BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING TO A 20-FOOT NON-EXCLUSLVE INGRESS-EGRESS EASEMENT. THENCE ALONG SAID EASEMENT SOUTH 86 DEGREES 25 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST 231.33 FEET TO A ONE-HALF INCH CAP RE-BAR SET NO. CA-0078. THENCE CONTINUE ALONG SAID EASEMENT NORTH 83 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 14 SECONDS WEST 97.21 FEET TO A ONE-HALF INCH CAP RE-BAR SET NO. CA-0078. THENCE CONTINUE ALONG SAID EASEMENT NORTH 72 DEGREES 36 MINUTES 41 SECONDS WEST 69.18 FEET TO A ONE-HALF INCH CAP RE-BAR SET NO. CA-0078 BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THENCE NORTH 39 DEGREES 31 MINUTES 26 SECONDS EAST 66.91 FEET TO A ONE-HALF INCH CAP RE-BAR SET NO. CA--0078. THENCE NORTH 37 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 53 SECONDS WEST 96.12 FEET TO A ONE-HALF INCH CAP RE·BAR SET NO. CA-0078. THENCE SOUTH 75 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 56 SECONDS WEST 172.51 FEET TO A ONE-HALF INCH CAP RE-BAR SET NO. CA-0078. THENCE SOUTH 33 DEGREES 17 MINUTES 51 SECONDS EAST 204.77 FEET TO A ONE-HALF INCH CAP RE-BAR SET NO. CA-0078. THENCE NORTH 39 DEGREES 31 MINUTES 25 SECONDS EAST 111.24 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. PROPERTY BEING IN CULLMAN COUNTY AND CONTAINING 0.57 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. PROPERTY SUBJECT TO ALL EXISTING RIGHTS OF WAY AND/OR EASEMENTS THAT ARE RECORDED OR UNRECORDED.

ALSO:

A NON-EXCLUSIVE 20 FOOT INGRESS-EGRESS EASEMENT MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT A RAILROAD SPIKE AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 36 TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 1 EAST. THENCE WEST 1320.00 FEET TO A ONE-INCH IRON. THENCE NORTH 3 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 39 SECONDS WEST 645.73 FEET TO A ONE-HALF INCH CAP RE-BAR SET NO. CA-0078 SAID POINT BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING TO A 20-FOOT NON-EXCLUSIVE INGRESS-EGRESS EASEMENT. THENCE ALONG SAID EASEMENT SOUTH 86 DEGREES 25 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST 231.33 FEET TO A ONE-HALF INCH CAP RE-BAR SET NO. CA-0078. THENCE CONTINUE ALONG SAID EASEMENT NORTH 83 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 14 SECONDS WEST 97.21 FEET TO A ONE-HALF INCH CAP RE-BAR SET NO. CA-0078. THENCE CONTINUE ALONG SAID EASEMENT NORTH 72 DEGREES 36 MINUTES 41 SECONDS WEST 69.18 FEET TO A ONE-HALF INCH CAP RE-BAR SET NO. CA-0078 BEING THE END OF SAID EASEMENT.

THE ABOVE DESCRIBED REAL PROPERTY INCLUDES A 1999 MANUFACTURED HOME MAKE: BUCCANEER, MODEL: 5238C, SERIAL NUMBERS: ALBUS28026A and ALBUS28026B, SIZE: 26.3 X 76.5, WHICH IS PENNANENTLY AFFIXED TO SAID REAL ESTATE.

Property Street Address for Informational Purposes: 192 County Rd 1856, Arab, AL 35016

Said property will be sold "AS IS". NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, IS MADE AS TO THE TITLE OF SAID PROPERTY. Said property is subject to any title deficiencies including but not limited to: any outstanding ad valorem taxes - including taxes which are a lien but not yet due and payable, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Mortgage first set out above. Said property will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand the rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.

This sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in said Mortgage and by Alabama law. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation.

This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained may be used for that purpose.

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Mortgagee or Transferee
Sady D. Mauldin
ALAW
One Independence Plaza, Suite 416
Birmingham, AL 35209
Attorney for Mortgagee/Transferee
19-007205
A-4712742 12/14/2019, 12/21/2019, 12/28/2019

PREP BASKETBALL

Bulldogs, Lady Bulldogs sweep Holly Pond at home

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Hanceville hosted Holly Pond in Thursday night hoops action and the Lady Bulldogs and Bulldogs each picked up big home wins. Hanceville's girls rolled past Holly Pond 65-33 while the Bulldogs held off a late Bronco comeback to take the game 67-57 and extend their win streak to seven games.

Hanceville 65 - Holly Pond 33 (varsity girls)
Hanceville got 10 points from Kelly Pickett in the opening period and also got a three each from Cassidy Campbell and Victoria Stanley, but a trio of three-pointers from Holly Pond's Tate Duke and a three from Kaylee Stallings helped keep the Lady Broncos in the game early. The Lady Bulldogs held an 18-15 lead after one.

Hanceville took over the game to start out the second period as Campbell scored 10 points in the quarter, Pickett scored five and Zoe Joles added a three. The Lady Bulldog defense really shut down the Lady Broncos, holding them to just seven points in the second to take a 36-22 lead into the locker room at halftime.

Holly Pond couldn't get anything going offensively in the second half as Hanceville's defense got even more disruptive, holding the Lady Broncos to just six and five points in the final two quarters.

The Lady Bulldogs put up 14 and 15 points respectively in the final two periods to pull away and win the game convincingly, 65-33.

Pickett led the way for Hanceville (7-5) with 28 points. Campbell added 18 points, Stanley ended up with 11, Joles added six and Jessica Thompson chipped in with two.

For Holly Pond (6-9), Sarah Finley finished with 11 points, Duke added 10, Stallings ended up with six, Elizabeth Miller added four and Quincey Marks chipped in with two.

Hanceville will take a long break before getting back on the court January 3 and will travel to take on Glencoe.

Hanceville 67 - Holly Pond 57 (varsity boys)
Hanceville had six different players score in the opening period and that helped the Bulldogs take an 18-11 lead after one.

Each team saw a combined 11 players find the scoring column in the second quarter, but the Bulldogs held a 35-30 lead at the half.

Hanceville's defense picked up in the third period as the Bulldogs outscored Holly Pond 15-8 in the quarter and wound up taking a 50-38 lead going into the final period.

A three-point play by Brodie Malcom stretched the Bulldog lead to 56-40, then three straight from the line by Tyson Bellmon made it a 59-40 game.

Holly Pond went on a 7-0 run behind Jordan Allbright and Kyler Chaney to cut the deficit to 59-47.

Later in the fourth, a three by Parker Sellers, followed by four straight points from Chaney, cut the Hanceville lead to single digits at 61-54. With 47 seconds left in the game, Allbright hit a pair from the line to make it a two-possession game at 63-57, but Bellmon hit four straight free throws to seal the game for the Bulldogs, 67-57, securing their seventh straight win.

Malcom finished with 19 points for Hanceville (9-5). Bellmon added 15 points, Zachary Campbell ended up with eight, Ephram Milne finished with six, as did Cainon Moore.

Raiden Morgan ended up with five, Izayah Glenon and Ben Johnson each added three and Matt Cornelius chipped in with two.

Holly Pond (3-11) was led by Chaney, who finished with 16 points. Allbright added 13 points, Casey Brown ended up with six, Shannon Kitchens, Sellers and Jayden Perkins each added five, Landon Rowell ended up with four and Jaxon Olinger chipped in with three.

Hanceville will participate in the Christmas Classic at Wallace State Community College on Saturday and will play Cold Springs at 1:30 p.m. while Holly Pond will host Randolph Friday night.



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Hanceville's Brodie Malcom attempts a shot during the Bulldogs' 67-57 win over Holly Pond.

Other Thursday scores:
- Hartselle 55 – West Point 49 (varsity girls)
- Hartselle 77 – West Point 55 (varsity boys)
- Cold Springs 62 – Good Hope 40 (varsity girls)
- Good Hope 66 – Cold Springs 54 (varsity boys)
- Vinemont 51 – Athens Bible 21 (varsity girls)
- Vinemont 44 – Athens Bible 35 (varsity boys)
- Signal Mountain Middle High School 54 – Cullman 44 (varsity girls)
- Meek 60 – Brilliant 30 (varsity boys)
- Central 72 – Addison 60 (varsity boys)

UAB and No. 20 Appalachian State set for R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl

Ted Feeley
UAB Athletics

NEW ORLEANS – The UAB football team concludes its 2019 season on Saturday, Dec. 21, against No. 20 Appalachian State in the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl. Kickoff inside Mercedes-Benz Superdome is set for 8 p.m. CST on ESPN.

The Blazers (9-4) are playing in their third-consecutive bowl game since returning to action in 2017.

UAB looks for back-to-back bowl victories for the first time ever after winning the program's first bowl game last year with a 37-13 victory over NIU in the Cheribundi Boca Raton Bowl.

The Mountaineers (12-1) won the Sun Belt Conference for a second straight year and are the defending New Orleans Bowl Champions. Appalachian State defeated Middle Tennessee 45-13 in last year's bowl game.

Who: UAB (9-4) vs. No. 20 Appalachian State (12-1)

Where: New Orleans, La. – Mercedes-Benz Superdome

When: Saturday, Dec. 21 – 8 p.m. CST

Watch: ESPN

On the Call: Beth Mowins (play-by-play), Anthony Becht (color), Rocky Boiman (sideline)

Listen: WJOX2 100.5 FM

On the Call: David Crane (play-by-play), Steve Irvine (color), Trey Ragland (sideline)

Listen: ESPN Radio

On the Call: Sean Kelley (play-by-play), Barrett Jones (color), Ian Fitzsimmons (sideline)

Series: First Meeting

WHAT TO WATCH FOR:
• UAB will be playing its first ranked opponent since The Return, and if the Blazers come out victorious it would mark UAB's first win over a nationally ranked opponent since 2011.

• Led by First Team All-Conference USA selections Kristopher Moll and Garrett Marino, the UAB defense has been the catalyst for the Blazers' success this season. UAB finished the regular season ranked fifth nationally in total defense and enters the bowl game at No. 9 overall following the C-USA championship game.

• Moll is four tackles away from 100 on the season. Despite missing the first game of the year, the Miami native has had a monster year, compiling 96 tackles, 16.0 TFL, 9.0 sacks, four forced fumbles, six quarterback hurries, one interception, one fumble recovery and one pass breakup.

• The defense will be facing one of its toughest tests of the year in Appalachian State, who ranks ninth nationally in scoring offense (39.4/game) and averages 435.5 yards per game.

• UAB wide receiver Austin Watkins Jr. enters the contest with 47 catches for 933 yards and five touchdowns. He needs 67 yards to eclipse 1,000 for the season, and if he can do so he would be just the third player in program history to accomplish that feat along with Derrick Ingram (twice) and Roddy White.

• A win would also give UAB back-to-back 10-win seasons. The Blazers set a school record with 11 victories last season and won their first Conference USA Championship.

• The Blazers have won the C-USA West Division in consecutive seasons and are the winningest team in Conference USA since the start of 2017. In three seasons, the Blazers have compiled an overall record of 28-12, a C-USA mark of 20-6 (including two C-USA championship games) and a West Division record of 16-2.

• Appalachian State has been one of the best teams in the nation since moving from FCS to FBS. Since 2015, the Mountaineers are No. 5 nationally in winning percentage (81.5). They are also 18-1 in their last 19 games, joining only Clemson and Ohio State who have won at least 18 of their last 19 games. They are the first Sun Belt team ever to win 12 games.

• This will be the first game for new Appalachian State head coach Shawn Clark. Clark was named head coach just six days ago on Dec. 13.

Crimson Tide Continues Citrus Bowl Installation on Thursday

UA Athletics
Contributor

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. – The Alabama football team held its fourth workout of the postseason on Thursday, working for two hours outdoors on the Thomas-Drew Practice Fields.

Today's afternoon session was the fourth of seven bowl practices in Tuscaloosa before the holiday break and No. 4 out of a total of 12 practices prior to Alabama's matchup against No. 14 Michigan in the Vrbo Citrus Bowl at Camping World Stadium in Orlando, Fla.

The Crimson Tide will face the Wolverines on Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020, with the game airing live on ABC at 12 p.m. CT.

Dave Pasch and Greg McElroy will call the matchup from the booth while Tom Luginbill will work the sidelines.

The Crimson Tide and Wolverines will meet for the fifth time in the history of the series that dates back to 1988.

Both teams have claimed two victories apiece with the most recent pairing featuring a 41-14 Alabama win over Michigan in the 2012 Cowboys Classic in Arlington, Texas.

Get all the latest information on the team by following @AlabamaFTBL on Twitter and Facebook and AlabamaFBL on Instagram.

General athletic news can also be found at UA_Athletics on Twitter and Instagram and AlabamaAthletics on Facebook.

Late run sparks No. 12 Auburn in 79-73 win over NC State

Greg Ostendorf
AU Athletics

AUBURN, Ala. – It was physical all night. A back-and-forth battle between two quality teams. For a brief moment down the stretch, Auburn gave up the lead. Nobody flinched.

The Tigers responded with a 10-0 run over the next three minutes and eventually pulled away for a 79-73 victory over North Carolina State on Thursday night in front of a sold-out crowd at Auburn Arena to avenge last year's loss to the Wolfpack in Raleigh.

"A really good win," Auburn head coach Bruce Pearl said. "Great win for our league, our league needed it. We obviously needed it. We're trying to make history. We're just grinding. But the good news is we can get a lot better, we can execute a lot better."

With the win, No. 12 Auburn kept its perfect record intact at 10-0 this season.

The 10-0 run started with Samir Doughty making a tough basket to tie the game.

Then following a North Carolina State turnover, Austin Wiley gave the Tigers the lead with a thunderous dunk in transition. After four straight made free throws, J'Von McCormick brought the crowd to its feet once again with a layup plus the foul to make it 10 straight Auburn points.

Doughty, who sealed the victory with a 3-pointer in the final seconds, finished with a game-high 24 points. The senior was 6 of 12 from the field and made 9 of his 12 free-throw attempts.

It was the second-most points scored this season by Doughty, who currently leads the Tigers with 18 points per game through the team's first 10 games.

Wiley scored 10 points and was perfect on the night, making all four of his shots from the field and both of his free-throw attempts. The senior big man also added a team-high eight rebounds and made his presence felt on the defensive end with three blocks and three steals.

"Austin Wiley had a very strong game," Pearl said. "I should have played him more. He was dominant on both ends.

"This is the kind of game where a year ago they would have brought Austin out on ball screens, and it would have been a challenge. It wasn't. Austin was up attacking the ball screen. He was back changing at the rim. He was a factor in there."

McCormick made it three players in double figures as he added 14 points.

In the first half, Auburn jumped out to an early 25-16 lead thanks to a 12-0 run that included seven straight points from Jamal Johnson. The sophomore guard drained a 3 and drew the foul to make it a 4-point play, and then knocked down another long ball on the very next possession. He finished with eight points off the bench.

Heading into the locker room at the intermission, the Tigers clung to a 38-37 advantage.

In last year's game, North Carolina State's backcourt duo of Markell Johnson and Braxton Beverly combined to score 42 points. On Thursday night, Auburn's defense held Johnson and Beverly to just 19 points and forced eight turnovers between them.

McCormick and Doughy played a major role in that defensive effort, but the freshmen duo of Isaac Okoro and Allen Flanigan also stepped up the intensity on that end. As a team, Auburn forced 18 turnovers and held the Wolfpack to 10 points below their season average.

"That was the difference," Pearl said. "The difference was the 10-point difference. We played hard. Our length was a factor. We turned them over. We scored off their turnovers. Last year's team couldn't beat this team, and this year's team did."

It will be a short break for the Tigers who return to Auburn Arena on Saturday to face Lehigh at 5 p.m. CT. The game will be televised on SEC Network.



STATE

ALDOT limits road construction and lane closures during holidays

Drivers should plan ahead for Christmas and New Year's travel

Allison Greene
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Drivers planning to be on Alabama roads during the Christmas and New Year's holidays should expect increased traffic and allow extra time to reach their destinations. For the safety of the traveling public and Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) construction and maintenance crews, there will be no temporary lane closures on Alabama interstates after 6 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 24 through 6 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 26. For the New Year's holiday, there will be no temporary lane closures from noon, Tuesday, Dec. 31 through 6 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 2.

"Safety is in the hand of drivers, as they are out enjoying their holiday celebrations," said Allison Green, Drive Safe Alabama coordinator with ALDOT. "Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs can wreck your holiday and have serious consequences that continue long past the new year."

ALDOT encourages drivers to:

- Always designate a sober driver.
- Wear a seat belt. Alabama law now requires all passengers in a vehicle to buckle up.

Safety check

People are almost seven times more likely to die in a crash when the driver who causes the crash is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, as shown in the Alabama 2018 Crash Facts publication.

Surviving a crash is more likely when wearing a seat belt. The latest statistics from Drive Safe Alabama show that almost 60% of people killed on Alabama highways were not wearing seat belts.

Traffic and road conditions

Motorists planning their holiday travel routes can find Alabama traffic and road condition information at www.ALGOtraffic.com or by downloading the ALGO Traffic app. ALDOT asks motorists to use ALGO Traffic responsibly. Drivers should never text, tweet or use a mobile device while operating a vehicle.

Fire (from Front)

Maggie Darnell
maggie@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – A home was destroyed by fire on the northeast side of the city of Cullman just after 11 Friday morning. The house is located at 96 13th St. near Main Avenue.

"About 10 after 11, we received a call of a fully-involved house fire, and on arrival we had heavy fire showing.

"The guys made an attack on the fire, got it contained," said Cullman Fire Rescue Chief Brian Bradberry.

"We had no injuries; everyone was out of the house on arrival so that's positive, a real good thing."

Bradberry said all three Cullman Fire Rescue stations responded to the call.

"It's under control," he said just after 12:30 p.m. "We're trying to determine cause at this time, but we're just happy everybody got out and not hurt.

"Like I said, we have no reported injuries from anybody, the homeowners or any of our firefighters at this time.

"If you would, keep everyone in prayer that was in there.

"We had Red Cross come out to help them out."

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Bob (from Front)

County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448 or cullmancountyanimalshelter@gmail.com. Visit the shelter at 935 Convent Road NE.

Ballenger (from Front)

March 11, 2014. Examinations later showed he had multiple severe injuries all over his body.

Baby Hoss' injuries were detailed in court records; however, due to their heinous nature, they will not be printed here.

When Ballenger pleaded guilty to felony murder, the charges of aggravated child abuse, capital murder during sexual abuse and sexual torture were dismissed.











SATURDAY EVENING

MOVIES

DECEMBER 21, 2019

		5 PM	5:30	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
WABM-MyTV	2	Mike & Molly "Surprise"	Mike & Molly	Ring of Honor Wrestling (N)		⋆ "An Accidental Christmas" (2007) Cynthia Gibb, David Millbern. Two children scheme to reunite their estranged parents.				World's-Weath	World's-Weath	The Immortals	The Short List
WBIQ-PBS	4	This Old House	PBS NewsHour Weekend	The Lawrence Welk Show "Christmas" Christmas music.		Classic Gospel Honoring Howard and Vestal Goodman.		Keeping Up Appearances	(:32) As Time Goes By	(:05) Doc Martin Pauline decides to confront Martin.		Austin City Limits A 1979 performance by Tom Waits.	
WVTM-NBC	5	WVTM 13 News at 5p	NBC Nightly News - Holt	WVTM 13 News at 6p (N)	Soledad O'Brien	Dateline NBC		Dateline NBC		Saturday Night Live From December 15, 2018: Matt Damon.		WVTM 13 News at 10p	(:29) Saturday Night Live (N)
WBRC-FOX	7	Judge Judy	Paid Program	Judge Judy	Relieve Your Foot Pain	Boxing PBC Fight Night: Tony Harrison vs. Jermell Charlo II. (N) (Live)				WBRC FOX6 News at 9pm	WBRC FOX6 News	WBRC FOX6 News at 10pm	24 Hours to Hell and Back
WIAT-CBS	8	(4:15) College Basketball Ohio State vs Kentucky. From T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas. (N) (Live)				Young Sheldon	The Unicorn "Pilot"	Carol's Second Act	Bob Hearts Abishola	48 Hours (N)		The CBS 42 News (N)	(:35) Jeopardy!
WTTO-CW	9	Modern Family "The Help"	Modern Family	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs "Double Dare"	Family Guy (Part 1 of 2)	Family Guy (Part 2 of 2)	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	The Andy Griffith Show	Alabama Upstarts
WPXH-ION	11	(4:00) "A Christmas in Vermont" (2016) Abigail Hawk.		"12 Pups of Christmas" (2019) Charlotte Sullivan. Premiere. A business owner struggles to keep his company afloat.				"A Beauty & the Beast Christmas" (2019) Leah Pipes. An influencer is convinced by her agent to fake a holiday romance.				"A Royal Christmas Ball" (2017, Romance) Tara Reid.	
WABM2-ABC	12	College Football: Cheribundi Boca Raton Bowl		Coll. Football	College Football Mitsubishi Motors Las Vegas Bowl -- Boise State vs Washington. (N) (Live)							ABC 33/40 News at 10PM	(:35) America This Week (N)
A&E	42	(3:00) Live PD "Live PD -- 12.14.19"		Live PD "Top 40 Moments of 2019, Part 1" The year's top moments recalled. (Part 1 of 2)				Live PD "Top 40 Moments of 2019, Part 2" The year's top 40 moments recalled. (N) (Part 2 of 2)				(:04) Live PD The year's top moments recalled. (Part 1 of 2)	
AMC	53	⋆⋆⋆ "Elf" (2003, Children's) Will Ferrell, James Caan. A man leaves Santa's workshop to search for his family.				⋆⋆⋆ "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" (1989, Comedy) Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo, Randy Quaid.				(:15) ⋆⋆ "Christmas With the Kranks" (2004, Comedy) Tim Allen. A couple scramble to assemble a holiday celebration.			
ANPL	47	Crikey! It's the Irwins Robert feeds 44 hungry alligators.		Crikey! It's the Irwins: Extra Bites "Turtles Take Flight" (N)		Crikey! It's the Irwins "Bindi Says Yes!" Bindi gets a surprise proposal. (N)				(:03) The Secret Life of the Zoo (N)		(:03) The Secret Life of the Zoo	
BET	55	(4:00) ⋆⋆⋆ "What's Love Got to Do With It" (1993) Angela Bassett. The life of singer-actress Tina Turner.				⋆⋆⋆ "Dreamgirls" (2006, Musical) Jamie Foxx, Beyoncé Knowles, Eddie Murphy. Three singers learn that fame has a high price.							"Welcome Hme"
BRAVO	58	Chrisley Knows Best	Chrisley Knows Best	(:01) Chrisley Knows Best	(:32) Chrisley Knows Best	(:03) Chrisley Knows Best	(:34) Chrisley Knows Best	(:05) Chrisley Knows Best	(:36) ⋆⋆ "Cheaper by the Dozen" (2003, Comedy) Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt, Piper Perabo. A man must handle the chaos surrounding his 12 children.				
CMTV	61	The Great Christmas Light Fight (N)		⋆⋆ "Where the Heart Is" (2000, Comedy-Drama) Natalie Portman, Ashley Judd, Stockard Channing. Kind townspeople befriend an abandoned teen and her infant.						⋆⋆⋆ "Little Women" (1994, Drama) Winona Ryder. Four New England sisters embrace life during the Civil War.			
CNBC	35	Undercover Boss Armando Montelongo goes under cover.		Undercover Boss Alfred Angelo President Paul Quentel.		Undercover Boss Bosses discuss their experiences.		Undercover Boss Stephen J. Cloobeck goes under cover.		Undercover Boss The president and CEO of Taco Bueno.		Undercover Boss CEO Lowell Hawthorne.	
CNN	37	S. E. Cupp Unfiltered (N)		CNN Newsroom With Ana Cabrera (N)		CNN Newsroom With Ana Cabrera (N)		Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown "Cuba"		Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown "Quebec"		Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown "Oman"	
COM	56	(:15) ⋆⋆⋆ "Meet the Parents" (2000, Comedy) Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller, Blythe Danner. A man spends a disastrous weekend with his lover's family.					(:45) ⋆⋆⋆ "The Wedding Singer" (1998, Romance-Comedy) Adam Sandler, Drew Barrymore. A 1980s wedding crooner attempts to find true love.					(:05) ⋆ "Dirty Grandpa" (2016) Robert De Niro.	
DISN	49	Liv and Maddie: Cali Style	Stuck in the Middle The family travels to Florida.	Holiday Party	Big City Greens	Big City Greens	Big City Greens	Big City Greens	Big City Greens	Gabby Duran	Sydney to the Max	Raven's Home	Just Roll With It
DSC	43	Street Outlaws Lizzy and Kye are hot on Ryan's heels.		Street Outlaws Round two hits the racers. (N)		Street Outlaws "Fireball Flameout" Drivers hustle to rack up points. (N)				Street Outlaws "Don't Choke" Ryan is at the top of the leaderboard. (N)			
E!	21	"The Devil Wears Prada"	⋆⋆ "Sweet Home Alabama" (2002, Romance-Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Josh Lucas. A New York fashion designer has a secret in the South.					⋆⋆ "Sweet Home Alabama" (2002, Romance-Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Josh Lucas. A New York fashion designer has a secret in the South.				⋆ "Coyote Ugly" (2000)	
ESPN	29	(4:30) College Football Camellia Bowl -- Florida International vs Arkansas State. (N) (Live)						College Football R&L Carriers New Orleans Bowl -- Appalachian State vs Alabama-Birmingham. (N) (Live)					
ESPN2	30	(4:30) College Basketball Minnesota vs Oklahoma State. From BOK Center in Tulsa, Okla.		NCAA Studio Update (N)		Women's College Volleyball NCAA Tournament Final: Teams TBA. (N) (Live)				College Basketball Al Attles Classic -- St. John's vs Arizona. From Chase Center in San Francisco. (N) (Live)			
FOOD	45	Holiday Baking Championship		Holiday Baking Championship "The Great Holiday Cake-Over"		Holiday Baking Championship "Great Holiday Traditions"		Holiday Baking Championship "Gingerbread Worlds"		Ultimate Hanukkah Challenge (N)		Christmas Cookie Challenge A slice-and-bake challenge.	
FREE	48	(4:05) ⋆⋆⋆ "The Santa Clause" (1994) Tim Allen.		(:10) ⋆⋆ "The Santa Clause 2" (2002) Tim Allen, Elizabeth Mitchell. Santa must get married in order to keep his job.				(:15) ⋆⋆ "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas" (2000, Children's) Jim Carrey, Jeffrey Tambor, Christine Baranski. A curmudgeon hates the Christmas-loving Whos of Whoville.					
FS1	20	Boxing PBC Fight Night: Hugo Centeno Jr. vs. Juan Macias Montiel. (N) (Live)				Herd for the Holidays		College Basketball LSU vs USC. From Staples Center in Los Angeles. (N) (Live)				College Basketball Kansas at Villanova. (N Same-day Tape)	
FSEE	32	NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Brooklyn Nets. From Barclays Center in Brooklyn, N.Y. (N) (Live)					Hawks Live! Postgame (N)	Hawks 4th Quarter	Pro Football Weekly	Raceline	Sports Stars of Tomorrow	NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Brooklyn Nets.	
FX	28	⋆⋆ "The Night Before" (2015) Joseph Gordon-Levitt. Three lifelong friends party in New York on Christmas Eve.				⋆⋆ "Office Christmas Party" (2016, Comedy) Jason Bateman, Olivia Munn, T.J. Miller. Two co-workers throw an epic Christmas party.					(:16) ⋆⋆ "Office Christmas Party" (2016, Comedy) Jason Bateman, Olivia Munn.		
GOLF	82	(2:00) PGA Tour Golf		Golf From July 11, 2019 at Edgewood Tahoe Golf Course in Stateline, Nev.						European PGA Tour Golf Australian Championship, Final Round. (N) (Live)			
HALL	72	"Christmas at Dollywood" (2019, Comedy) Niall Matter. An event planner organizes the Christmas celebration at Dollywood.				"Double Holiday" (2019, Romance) Kristoffer Polaha. Premiere. Rebecca must throw the company party with her office rival.				(:03) "Christmas at the Plaza" (2019) Elizabeth Henstridge. Historian Jessica is hired to create the Plaza's Christmas display.			
HGTV	46	Good Bones Mina and Karen find rot and termites.		Good Bones The duo take on a home in need of work.		Beachfront Bargain Hunt	Beachfront Bargain Hunt	Caribbean Life (N)	Caribbean Life (N)	Island Life (N)	Island Life (N)	Hawaii Life	Hawaii Life
HIST	40	Ancient Aliens Alien visitors and deadly disasters.		Ancient Aliens A look at the travels of ancient Druids.		Ancient Aliens: Declassified "Forbidden Sites" A look at the Storm Area 51 movement. (N)							
LIFE	23	"Christmas Love Letter" (2019) Ashley Newbrough. Premiere. Amalie receives an unsigned love letter in a Christmas card.				"Christmas Hotel" (2019) Tatyana Ali, Sean Patrick Thomas. Premiere. A big city hotelier must pull off a major project.				(:03) "A Very Vintage Christmas" (2019) Tia Mowry-Hardrict, Jesse Hutch. An antique shop owner finds a hidden box.			
MSNBC	36	MSNBC Live With Richard Lui		Hardball With Chris Matthews		All In With Chris Hayes		The Rachel Maddow Show		The Last Word With Lawrence O'Donnell		The 11th Hour With Brian Williams	
NGC	22	Aryan Brotherhood A secretive criminal gang.		Surviving Maximum Security: Back Inside		World's Most Dangerous Gang: Power of Fear		World's Most Dangerous Drug: Super Meth		World's Toughest Prisons Prisons in Mexico and Peru.		World's Most Dangerous Gang: Power of Fear	
PARMT	57	(:15) ⋆⋆⋆ "Coming to America" (1988, Comedy) Eddie Murphy, Arsenio Hall, John Amos. An African prince and his royal sidekick come to Queens.					(:40) ⋆ "Grown Ups" (2010, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Kevin James, Chris Rock. Five friends learn that age and maturity do not, necessarily, coincide.					⋆ "Grown Ups" (2010) Adam Sandler, Kevin James.	
TBS	25	Seinfeld "The Pick"	Seinfeld "The Race"	Seinfeld "The Gum"	Seinfeld "The Strike"	Dr. Seuss' Grinch	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	Full Frontal	The Misery Index
TCM	79	⋆⋆⋆ "Father of the Bride" (1991) Steve Martin, Diane Keaton. A doting dad deals with his daughter's impending wedding.				⋆⋆ "Losing Ground" (1982) Bill Gunn. A woman is jealous of her artist husband's model.		(:45) ⋆⋆⋆ "The Sandpiper" (1965, Drama) Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton, Eva Marie Saint. An artist falls in love with her son's headmaster.					
TLC	24	Say Yes to the Dress	Say Yes to the Dress	Say Yes to the Dress Twins Marlo and Margo return.		90 Day Fiancé "Darcey's Continuing Journey" A look back at Darcey's journey.						Unpolished Lexi spills what's been bothering her.	
TNT	26	(3:55) ⋆⋆⋆ "Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith" (2005, Science Fiction) Ewan McGregor, Natalie Portman, Hayden Christensen.				⋆⋆⋆ "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story" (2016, Science Fiction) Felicity Jones, Diego Luna, Alan Tudyk. Resistance fighters unite to steal plans for the Death Star.						(9:58) ⋆⋆⋆⋆ "Star Wars: A New Hope" (1977) Mark Hamill.	
USA	27	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Ballerina"		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Valentine's Day"		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Poisoned Motive"		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Transgender Bridge"		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Brothel"		Modern Family	Modern Family
WE	71	Criminal Minds "X" The team welcomes agent Kate Callahan.		Criminal Minds A vengeful suspect who was abused.		Criminal Minds A passenger jet crashes in Colorado.		Criminal Minds A body is found covered in scratches.		Criminal Minds A missing child reappears after a year.		Criminal Minds J.J. struggles with her sister's death.	
HBO	518	(4:40) ⋆⋆⋆ "A Star Is Born" (2018) Bradley Cooper. A country music star falls in love with a talented singer. 'R'				⋆⋆ "The Sun Is Also a Star" (2019, Romance) Yara Shahidi. Premiere. 'PG-13'			(:40) His Dark Materials Lyra must outwit a formidable foe.		(:40) Watchmen "See How They Fly" Everything ends for real this time.		
MAX	549	(4:30) ⋆⋆⋆ "Traffic" (2000) Michael Douglas. The war on drugs brings many casualties and few victories. 'R'				⋆⋆ "Armageddon" (1998, Science Fiction) Bruce Willis, Billy Bob Thornton, Liv Tyler. A hero tries to save Earth from an asteroid. 'PG-13'				(:35) ⋆⋆⋆ "Hanna" (2011, Action) Saoirse Ronan, Eric Bana, Cate Blanchett. 'PG-13'			
SHOW	578	(:15) Shameless Frank and Liam get wined and dined.		(:15) ⋆ "Peppermint" (2018, Action) Jennifer Garner. A vigilante seeks justice against her family's killers. 'R'				⋆⋆ "El Chicano" (2018, Action) Raúl Castillo. Premiere. Masked street legend El Chicano sets off a bloody turf war. 'R'				The L Word: Generation Q "Let's Do It Again"	
TMC	598	(4:00) "The Appearance" (2018) Jake Stormoen. 'NR'		⋆⋆⋆ "Scream" (1996, Horror) Neve Campbell. Premiere. A psychopath stalks the teens of a sleepy California town. 'R'				⋆⋆ "You Better Watch Out" (1980) Brandon Maggart. Killer Santa on the loose. 'R'		(:35) ⋆⋆ "The House on Sorority Row" (1983, Horror) Kathryn McNeil. 'R'			

Sports

11:30 a.m. WVTM Premier League Soccer Manchester City FC vs Leicester City FC. (Live)
1:00 p.m. WBRC College Basketball Texas at Providence. (Live)
ESPN College Football New Mexico Bowl — Central Michigan vs San Diego State. (Live)
ESPN2 College Football NCAA FCS Championship — Montana State at North Dakota State. (Live)
FSEE College Basketball UCF at Oklahoma. (Live)
1:30 p.m. FS1 College Basketball Orange Bowl Classic — Utah State vs Florida. (Live)
2:00 p.m. WVTM FIS Snowboarding Visa Big Air World Cup. (Live)
WIAT College Basketball UCLA vs North Carolina. (Live)
2:30 p.m. WABM2 College Football Cheribundi Boca Raton Bowl — SMU vs Florida Atlantic. (Live)
3:00 p.m. WVTM FIS Snowboarding U.S. Revolution Tour: Halfpipe. (Live)
4:00 p.m. WVTM Swimming Toyota U.S. Open, Finals. (Taped)
4:15 p.m. WIAT College Basketball Ohio State vs Kentucky. (Live)
4:30 p.m. ESPN College Football Camellia Bowl — Florida International vs Arkansas State. (Live)
ESPN2 College Basketball Minnesota vs Oklahoma State. (Live)
5:00 p.m. FS1 Boxing PBC Fight Night: Hugo Centeno Jr. vs. Juan Macias Montiel. (Live)
FSEE NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Brooklyn Nets. (Live)
6:30 p.m. WABM2 College Football Mitsubishi Motors Las Vegas Bowl — Boise State vs Washington. (Live)
7:00 p.m. WBRC Boxing PBC Fight Night: Tony Harrison vs. Jermell Charlo II. (Live)
ESPN2 Women's College Volleyball NCAA Tournament Final: Teams TBA. (Live)
8:00 p.m. ESPN College Football R&L Carriers New Orleans Bowl — Appalachian State vs Alabama-Birmingham. (Live)
FS1 College Basketball LSU vs USC. (Live)
9:00 p.m. ESPN2 College Basketball Al Attles Classic — St. John's vs Arizona. (Live)
GOLF European PGA Tour Golf Australian Championship, Final Round. (Live)
10:00 p.m. FS1 College Basketball Kansas at Villanova. (Same-day Tape)
FSEE NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Brooklyn Nets.

Movies

8:40 a.m. FREE "Arthur Christmas" ⋆⋆⋆ (2011) Voices of James McAvoy. Animated. Santa's youngest son sets out on an urgent mission to deliver a present to a forgotten child before Christmas morning dawns.
8:50 a.m. MAX "Slumdog Millionaire" ⋆⋆⋆½ (2008) Dev Patel Flashbacks reveal how a poor youth came to be a prize-winning contestant on one of India's most-popular game shows.
9:00 a.m. HIST "Hacksaw Ridge" ⋆⋆⋆½ (2016) Andrew Garfield. During World War II's Battle of Okinawa, U.S. Army medic Desmond Doss braves bullets, grenades and snipers while single-handedly evacuating the wounded from behind enemy lines.
10:00 a.m. WPXH "A Christmas Kiss" ⋆⋆⋆ (2011) Elisabeth Röhm. Trapped in an elevator, a designer shares an impulsive kiss with the boyfriend of her new boss.
10:50 a.m. FREE "Toy Story 2" ⋆⋆⋆⋆ (1999) Voices of Tom Hanks. Animated. When a toy collector kidnaps Woody, Buzz Lightyear and the other toys band together to bring him home.
11:00 a.m. TCM "The Front Page" ⋆⋆⋆½ (1931) Adolphe Menjou. The managing editor of a Chicago newspaper stalls his ace reporter with a story.
11:30 a.m. TMC "In the Line of Fire" ⋆⋆⋆ (1993) Clint Eastwood An assassin toys with a White House Secret Service agent haunted for 30 years by his failure in 1963 Dallas.
12:05 p.m. PARMT "Beverly Hills Cop" ⋆⋆⋆ (1984) Eddie Murphy. A hip Detroit detective drives out to Los Angeles and shows local police how to catch a killer.
12:45 p.m. COM "The 40-Year-Old Virgin" ⋆⋆⋆ (2005) Steve Carell. Three dysfunctional co-workers embark on a mission to help their newfound friend lose his sexual innocence.
1:00 p.m. TCM "His Girl Friday" ⋆⋆⋆⋆ (1940) Cary Grant. An ace reporter's editor tries to stop her from remarrying in this remake of director Lewis Milestone's "The Front Page."
1:40 p.m. TMC "Rosemary's Baby" ⋆⋆⋆⋆ (1968) Mia Farrow (Premiere) A pregnant woman's husband and their satanic neighbors want her baby to be the Antichrist.
2:35 p.m. PARMT "Coming to America" ⋆⋆⋆ (1988) Eddie Murphy. Pampered Prince Akeem of Zamunda comes to New York with his royal sidekick to find a true-love bride.
3:00 p.m. WTTO "Chasing Christmas" ⋆⋆⋆ (2005) Tom Arnold. Holiday spirits visit a single father who has boycotted Christmas since his wife left him.
E! "The Devil Wears Prada" ⋆⋆⋆ (2006) Meryl Streep. A recent college graduate lands a job working for a famous and diabolical editor of a New York fashion magazine.
TCM "Father of the Bride" ⋆⋆⋆⋆ (1950) Spencer Tracy. An overwhelmed patriarch sums up his daughter's wedding, from engagement to reception.
3:05 p.m. SHOW "The Fugitive" ⋆⋆⋆½ (1993) Harrison Ford A U.S. marshal hunts a doctor on the run who was convicted of murdering his wife.
3:10 p.m. COM "Easy A" ⋆⋆⋆ (2010) Emma Stone. The escape of a little white lie teaches a clean-cut teenager to use the high-school rumor mill to her advantage.
3:55 p.m. TNT "Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith" ⋆⋆⋆ (2005) Ewan McGregor. Seduced by the dark side, Anakin Skywalker turns against his mentor, Obi-Wan Kenobi and becomes Darth Vader.
4:00 p.m. BET "What's Love Got to Do With It" ⋆⋆⋆ (1993) Angela Bassett. Anna Mae Bullock meets singer/songwriter Ike Turner and goes into show business under the stage name Tina.
4:05 p.m. FREE "The Santa Clause" ⋆⋆⋆ (1994) Tim Allen. An adman takes over for the bearded, big-bellied fellow after a rooftop mishap on Christmas Eve.
4:30 p.m. MAX "Traffic" ⋆⋆⋆½ (2000) Michael Douglas While a judge's anti-drug campaign leads him to his own daughter, a DEA agent targets a trafficker's wife, and a policeman fights corruption.
4:40 p.m. HBO "A Star Is Born" ⋆⋆⋆½ (2018) Bradley Cooper Hard-drinking country music star Jackson Maine discovers — and falls in love with — a struggling but talented singer named Ally. As her career quickly takes off, Jackson starts to realize that his best days may be behind him.
5:00 p.m. AMC "Elf" ⋆⋆⋆ (2003) Will Ferrell. Adopted as a baby by one of Santa's elves, a man leaves the workshop to search for his family in New York.
TCM "Father of the Bride" ⋆⋆⋆ (1991) Steve Martin. A harried patriarch faces separation anxiety, exorbitant costs and more as he prepares for his daughter's wedding.
5:15 p.m. COM "Meet the Parents" ⋆⋆⋆ (2000) Robert De Niro. When a woman brings her boyfriend home for her sister's wedding, her father, a former CIA agent, takes an instant dislike to him.
PARMT "Coming to America" ⋆⋆⋆ (1988) Eddie Murphy. Pampered Prince Akeem of Zamunda comes to New York with his royal sidekick to find a true-love bride.
6:00 p.m. TMC "Scream" ⋆⋆⋆ (1996) Neve Campbell (Premiere) A psycho killer targets a past victim's daughter, while a tabloid TV reporter homes in on his identity.
7:00 p.m. AMC "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" ⋆⋆⋆ (1989) Chevy Chase. The Griswolds spend the holiday in a garish way, especially when a country cousin pulls up in an RV.
BET "Dreamgirls" ⋆⋆⋆½ (2006) Jamie Foxx. After an ambitious manager gives them a shot at stardom, three singers learn that fame can carry a high personal cost.
TNT "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story" ⋆⋆⋆ (2016) Felicity Jones. Recruited by the Rebel Alliance, Jyn Erso joins forces with a spy and other resistance fighters to steal the Empire's plans for the most powerful weapon in the galaxy, the Death Star.
7:45 p.m. COM "The Wedding Singer" ⋆⋆⋆ (1998) Adam Sandler. A spirited entertainer and a waitress with a boorish fiance work at the same weddings.
8:45 p.m. TCM "The Sandpiper" ⋆⋆⋆ (1965) Elizabeth Taylor. A free-spirited artist, who lives near California's Big Sur, meets the administrator of the parochial school that her young son attends and lures the cleric away from his wife.
9:00 p.m. CMTV "Little Women" ⋆⋆⋆½ (1994) Winona Ryder. Louisa May Alcott's classic story of the lives, loves and triumphs of four sisters in Civil War-era New England.
9:35 p.m. MAX "Hanna" ⋆⋆⋆ (2011) Saoirse Ronan A teenage assassin faces startling revelations about her existence and questions about her humanity as she makes her way across Europe to carry out a hit.
9:58 p.m. TNT "Star Wars: A New Hope" ⋆⋆⋆⋆ (1977) Mark Hamill. Robots and other allies help a youth and a space jockey rescue a rebel princess and battle dark forces bent on intergalactic rule.

Best Bets

5 p.m. on LIFE
Movie: Christmas Love Letter

In the course of her job as a relationship advice columnist, Amalie Hess (Ashley Newbrough) gets a lot of mail, so she isn't that surprised when she gets a Christmas card among all the other envelopes. When she opens it, however, she finds a love letter, unsigned, inside. Puzzled, then intrigued by this turn of events, Amalie returns to her hometown in search of clues she hopes will reveal who sent the note and why. Tilky Jones, Chanté Bowser, Izzy Herbert and Pierce Lackey star in this 2019 romance.

7 p.m. on LIFE
Movie: Christmas Hotel

Erin (Tatyana Ali) works tirelessly at New York's high-end Windsor Hotel, hoping to land a management position at the chain's upcoming hotel in Rome. She's surprised, then, when instead she's tasked with opening a brand-new hotel in her Christmas-loving hometown of Garden Grove. She understands why as soon as she arrives, since the locals are vocally against a chain hotel intruding on their community. In fact, Erin's childhood friend Connor (Sean Patrick Thomas) is the opposition leader. Sheryl Lee Ralph and Telma Hopkins co-star in this 2019 drama.

8 p.m. on SHOW
Movie: El Chicano

Director and co-writer Ben Hernandez Bray's 2019 action thriller has been dubbed "the first Latino superhero movie" for its story about a Los Angeles police detective (Raúl Castillo) who decides to assume the identity of a masked vigilante named El Chicano in order to repel a Mexican cartel that's attempting to reclaim Southern California as Mexican territory. He also seeks to win vengeance against a gang leader (David Castañeda) for the murder of his brother. Aimee Garcia and Jose Pablo Cantillo also star.

8 p.m. on HMM
Movie: Christmas on My Mind

After a bump on the head leaves her with amnesia, Lucy Lovett (Ashley Greene) is frustrated by several important blank spots in her memory, one of which involves an unexplained wedding dress. Lucy is aware that she has broken up with longtime sweetheart Zach Callahan (Andrew Walker), but she's shocked by the discovery that she seems to be engaged to Brad Martin (Clayton James), a top executive at the art foundation Lucy runs. She finds some answers when she returns to her Maine hometown. Jackée Harry also stars.

9 p.m. on FOOD
Ultimate Hanukkah Challenge

Molly Yeh hosts Food Network's first special Hanukkah-themed competition, in which four seasoned chefs are expected to pull out all the stops as they craft innovative dishes inspired by the Festival of Lights, hoping to impress judges Duff Goldman and Sharone Hakman. As this hour-long special unfolds, the challenges encompass such Hanukkah staples as crispy potato pancakes, juicy brisket and fried jelly doughnuts. The last cook standing at the end of the hour wins a trip to Paris and bragging rights as Ultimate Hanukkah Champion.

10:29 p.m. on WVTM
Saturday Night Live

One of the biggest stars to emerge from "Saturday Night Live" in the show's history returns as host for the first time in 35 years in an episode that's likely to be among the highest rated of this season. While the primary draw will be a chance to see Eddie Murphy interacting with such current first-tier "SNL" cast members as Kate McKinnon, Kenan Thompson and Aidy Bryant, there's also an A-list musical guest: Lizzo, the breakout singer and rapper who's up for eight awards in January's Grammy Awards ceremony.



Eddie Murphy is the guest host of NBC's "Saturday Night Live."

Letters to Santa

All of these letters are from Mrs. Casey Doering's First Grade Class at Cullman City Primary School. They are all ages 6 or 7.

Dear Santa,
Thank you for being nice. Do you like the cookies and milk? I like your reindeers. For Christmas please give me baby turtles.
Your Friend,
Delton

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the presents. Do you like cookies? I like your presents. For Christmas please give me real football gear. The team is LSU and the jersey is Jamarr Chase.
Your Friend,
Spencer

Dear Santa,
Thank you for giving us gifts. Do you like animals? I like your elves. For Christmas please give me some real life baby boxer turtles.
Your Friend,
Ashton

Dear Santa,
Thank you for giving me my family. Do you know my teacher? My teacher helps me. I like your hat. For Christmas please give me fun.
Your Friend,
Akari

Dear Santa,
Thank you for being jolly. Do you like chocolate chip cookies? I like your reindeer. For Christmas please give me cars.
Your Friend,
Jaxon

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the gift. Do you have 15 reindeers? I like your reindeer Rudolph. For Christmas please give me more Schlikes.
Your Friend,
Nora Kate

Dear Santa,
Thank you for making kids happy. Do you know that it was Jesus' birth? I like your Christmas magic. For Christmas please give me an American Girl doll.
Your Friend,
James

Dear Santa,
Thank you for my presents. D0 you like your present from last year? I like your reindeers. For Christmas please can I have a teddy bear?
Your Friend,
Trevor

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the present. Do you like chocolate chip cookies? I like your elfs. For Christmas please can I get an X Box 36d?
Your Friend,
Max

Dear Santa,
Thank you for presents. Do you know everything? I like your sled. For Christmas please bring me a LOL home.
Your Friend,
Jocelyn

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the presents. Do you eat all the cookies? I like your reindeer. For Christmas please can I have a barbie dream house and money and LOLs?
Your Friend,
Caroline

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the Christmas that we love. Do you like my cookies? I like your elves. For Christmas please I love love your presents.
Your Friend,
Paisley

Dear Santa,
Can you give me an elf for Christmas?
Your Friend,
Joseph

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the elf from last year. Do you like the elf that watches me? I like your deer called Rudolph. For Christmas please help people be better.
Your Friend,
Bryson

Dear Santa,
Thank you for bringing presents. Do you know about Jesus? I like your reindeer. For Christmas please give me a Christmas tree.
Your Friend,
Zoe

Dear Santa,
Thank you for making everything happy. Do you like the chocolate? I like your slay. For Christmas please give me a llama toy.
Your Friend,
Jacob

Dear Santa,
Thank you for elf on the shelf. I love you Santa. Do you want something? I want blue tennis shoes. I like your elf on the shelf. For Christmas give me a toy dog.
Your Friend,
Laklynn

Dear Santa,
Thank you for giving me gifts. Do you like your belt? I like your hat. For Christmas please give me an LOL.
Your Friend,
Ava

Dear Santa,

How are you? We hope that you are keeping warm. Please tell Mrs. Claus "Hello" for us.

We have tried to be very good boys and girls this year. We have been working very hard at school. Ms. Pierce says that we are doing super good work!

Thank you for all the things that you brought us last year. We will leave you some milk and cookies for you and reindeer food for the reindeer. Please have a safe trip!

We Love you bunches,
Ms.Pierce's Kindergarten Class
Holly Pond Elementary School

Our Wish List

RoseAnna- Kid 4-wheeler
Dezirae- LOL Doll
Carson- Kid 4-wheeler
Jackson- IPhone7
Lilly- LOL Doll
Jazmine- Baby Doll
Leelah- Tablet
Declan- Kid 4-wheeler
Josie- Football Set
Elijah- Ear Buds
Brindlee- Earrings & a necklace
Preston- Toy T-Rex
Natalie- Ear Buds
Karissa- Earrings
Kooper- Football Set
Kayson- Real Elf
Gracelyn- Earrings & a necklace
Olivia- Toy phone
Kameron- PowerRanger Set

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Obituary Announcements: Dec. 21

Memorial services for Larry Vail Hall, 33, of Hanceville, AL will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28, 2019 at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mr. Hall was a selfless and compassionate individual who loved nothing more than to be surrounded by the family and friends he thought so highly of. Mr. Hall was an employee of TQI where he worked as a box handler for several years. His job was his passion and he desired nothing more than to be at work every day. He was a huge Alabama Football fan and loved his president, Donald J. Trump. Mr. Hall is loved and will be missed by everyone. Mr. Hall is survived by his parents Larry Hall Sr. and Tamela Hall; siblings Demetrus Hall, Jasmine Hall and Timothy Cook; aunts and uncles Deryll (Yvonne) Thomas, Marie (Charles) Turner, Sonja (Charles) Morrison, Gregory Thomas, Yevette (Dennis) Wolfe, Sandra Thomas, Lewis (Jackie) Thomas, Sherrell Ervin, Michelle Hall, Shereal Hall, Jeffrey Hall, Thomas Hall and Laverne Davis; niece Everleigh Smith; nephew Bryson Smith; and a host of many cousins. Mr. Hall is preceded in death by his grandparents Eugene and Maude Thomas and Tommy and Sallie Hall.

Mary Elizabeth Patterson, 86, of Cullman passed away Friday, Dec. 20, 2019. She was born April 6, 1933 in Clay County to Arthur and Erlene Brown Patterson. Ms. Patterson is preceded in death by her parents, brothers and sisters. Mary is survived by her daughter Rhonda (Rodney) Hooper; grandchildren Tera Bethany Hooper and Clayton Rodney Hooper; and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins. Funeral services for Ms. Patterson are at 1 p.m., Monday, Dec. 23, 2019 in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in Brooklyn Cemetery. Friends may visit with the family for an hour prior to services, from noon until services begin. The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff of Hanceville Nursing Home for the care and compassion shown to Ms. Patterson. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Patterson family.

Funeral services for Robert Leroy "Pops" Sutter, 63, of Cullman will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 23, 2019 at Redeeming Grace Church with Dr. Jeff R. Steele officiating, interment in Emeus Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Sutter passed away Thursday, Dec. 19, 2019 at his residence. He was born Wednesday, Oct. 10, 1956. He was preceded in death by his fathers Clay Robert Bailey and Albert Leroy Sutter; mother Florene Sutter; and brother Steve Sutter. Survivors include his wife Amelia Sutter; sons Robert Wayne "Butch" Sutter and Hutch (Katie) Sutter; daughters Amanda Sutter and Brittney (Ben) Stevens, Dallas Sutter, Anika Sutter, Bailey Sutter, Rawlin Sutter, Brooklyn Sutter, Kip Sutter, Ryder Kai Sutter and Madison Stevens; sisters Patricia Taylor and Sandi Johnson; and a host of extended family and friends. His grandchildren knew and loved him as "Pops." Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22, 2019 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. To know him was to love him. Be strong. Be brave. #But God.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE • ALABAMA'S OLDEST CONTINUOUSLY PUBLISHED WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

"THE 67-COUNTY, ALABAMA GARDEN PARTY"

CHILTON COUNTY

Ben Johnson South
Tribune Correspondent

What is your earliest memory of tasting something delicious? It could even be before you spoke a recognizable word. But, BABY YOU said, "Mmmm..."

Chilton County peaches may be the first time I connected A SPECIAL PLANT + A SPECIAL PLACE. My childhood home was in north Alabama where the soil is very fertile, but it's not hot enough for most varieties of peaches to thrive.

Peaches (Prunus persica) were an exotic fruit that "came from away." My dad worked with the lawmakers in Montgomery and one mid-1950s summer Mama added a note to his "Honey Do List" for him to stop in Clanton on his way home and bring her Chilton County peaches to preserve and for us to crank ice cream.

I remember the perfumed fragrance Dad's pre-factory air-conditioned Oldsmobile had from the peaches. Taste is 90% smell, and I recall the luscious delight of my senses as the sweet-dripping peach juice gushed out the sides of my smiling mouth tickled by the peach fuzz on those golden orbs.

"Persikorna ar de basta." That is Swedish for "The peaches are the best." Why Swedish on the 67-County Alabama Garden Party? It was Scandinavian farmers settling in Chilton County who planted the first peach orchards and launched our state's successful cultivation of superior peaches. Oh, you thought of Georgia and peaches. We Alabamians find Georgia peaches so hard we imagine Tiger Woods practices with them in Augusta.

"Meet me at 'The Peach'" is a common phrase for folks connecting in the middle of Alabama in the 21st century. The water tower which is prominent on Interstate 65 near Clanton is in the shape of a giant, sunset yellow peach. Those stereotypically stoic peach farmers from Sweden, Norway, Finland and Denmark would be so charmed by this public salute they might actually flash some pearly teeth when they proudly smiled.

Thorsby, Alabama was the first planned community in Chilton County. The locals affectionately called it "Swede Town." The original founders were three Swedes: Theodore Thorson, John Peterson, John Hedberg, and a Norwegian, K.G. Faegre.

Thorsby was founded in 1895 and incorporated in 1901. What attracted the farmers to this part of the United States was the promise of good soil, plenty of fresh water, warm temperatures and a long season for crops to grow. Alabama had two other Scandinavian colonies at the turn of the 20th century: Fruithurst in Cleburne County and Silver Hill at the southernmost tip of the state in Baldwin County.

Alabama has some of THE BEST FOOD IN THE WORLD because of our rich diversity of cultures. On one bountiful sideboard you can find bowls of British vegetables, French sauces from Mobile and Demopolis, native African okra and collards, German beer and sauerkraut from Cullman, and your dessert should be Chilton County, Scandinavian peach cobbler with another dish of Chilton County peach pie topped with a generous dollop of Chilton County peach ice cream. "Persikorna ar de basta, Y'ALL."

Here are other positive and pleasurable PLANTS + PEOPLE things to explore in the middle of the state on the 67-County Alabama Garden Party, including one of our gifted cook Laurie Johnson's favorite recipes in this entire series, Chilton County Peach Bruschetta:

• **DURBIN FARMS MARKET**- 2130 Seventh St. S, Clanton, AL 35045; also ask about their U-Pick farm.



The Alabama honeysuckle border was inspired by an 18th century, Southern applique quilt.

• **CHILTON COUNTY FARMSTANDS**- Charles Bean (Thorsby), Harrison Fruit Farm (Maplesville), JJ's Produce (Maplesville), Jimmie Harrison (Maplesville), Lawley's Fruit Stand (Maplesville), Mack Patterson (Clanton), McGraw Farms (Maplesville), Pierce Farms (Clanton), Todd's Produce (Clanton)

• **PETALS FROM THE PAST**- Master Gardener groups across the state make day trips to this nursery for heirloom roses, berry bushes and plant lectures; 16304 County Road 29, Maplesville, AL 35085, 205-646-0069; the owner is the friendly, knowledgeable Jason Powell.

• **CHILTON COUNTY U-PICK FARMS**- Bentley Farms, Sunshine Farms, Andrews U-Pick-It Fruits and Vegetables Farm, Culp Fruits, Raymond Cooedy Farms, Rocky Top Peach Farm (Maplesville)

• **CHILTON COUNTY BLUEBERRIES**- Roland and Elizabeth Miller, 9502 County Road 15, Clanton, AL 35045, 205-755-3681

• **CHILTON COUNTY BLACKBERRIES**- Weeks Blackberry Farm, 314 County Road 114, Randolph, AL, 205-688-2805

• **CHILTON COUNTY PLANTS ADVICE/EDUCATION**- Alabama Cooperative Extension System local office at 504 First Ave. N, Clanton, AL 35045, 205-280-6268

• **PLANTING AN IDEA**- What if there were an actual garden party created by several great cooks across the state? This could be like a "moveable feast" where you enjoy dishes in different locations, or my vote would be to come together in the middle of Alabama and "Meet at the Peach." Food heritage over the last 200 years, at least, would involve tastes from the Scandinavian settlers of Chilton County, the French settlers of Mobile, the Native Alabamians perhaps from Moundville in Hale County, or the Poarch Indians of Escambia County, and those foods of African origin and so on. PARTY ON, ALABAMA!

Y'ALL COME to Chilton County on your 67-County Alabama Garden Party tour where everything is just peachy!

The Cullman Tribune is celebrating the Alabama Bicentennial (1819-2019) with statewide field reporting by Alabama Master Gardener/Botanical Artist Ben Johnson South. This year-long feature, "The 67-County Alabama Garden Party," will spotlight different counties each week. Each county will get its own "quilt block," along with a historical profile, and we'll share a recipe specific to the area. At the end of the year, all 67 counties will be put in a book to commemorate the Bicentennial.



Chilton County

FRESH PEACH BRUSCHETTA WITH A SOUTHERN PEACH JULEP

One large peach makes 5 bruschetta slices and 2 juleps – multiply as needed.

While not published until the fall, this recipe was developed and devoured in the heart of Chilton County peach season, when the freshest peaches are eagerly anticipated by Alabamians. Simple, yet elegant, this easy appetizer marries fresh peach flesh with creamy Alabama goat cheese, fresh mint, a hint of hot jalapeno and a honey balsamic drizzle. The accompanying Southern Peach Julep is a variant of the standard and "makes" the cocktail hour at any proper (or improper) garden party!

INGREDIENTS FOR BOTH BRUSCHETTA AND JULEP:

- French bread baguette sliced into half-inch slices, as many pieces as you want
- Butter
- Goat cheese, softened to spreading consistency (herb or garlic flavored)
- 1 ripe peach for each of the 5 slices of bruschetta and 2 juleps – multiply as needed
- A bunch of fresh mint leaves – both for the bruschetta and the julep
- Thinly sliced fresh jalapeno (seeds removed)
- Local honey (jalapeno-infused if you can get it) mixed with balsamic vinegar (about a 3:1 honey to balsamic ratio)
- For the julep – in addition to the peach and mint – you need your choice of whiskey, peach schnapps, a squeeze of lime juice, simple syrup (1 cup sugar dissolved in 1 cup water) or honey

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BRUSCHETTA

1. Rub butter stick on both sides of baguette slices. Rub a bit more butter onto the surface of a hot grill pan and grill the bread slices until lightly toasted on each side (~ a minute per side). Place onto a serving plate and spread each with softened goat cheese.
2. Slice one half of a peach (with peel on) into 5 slices (one per piece of bruschetta). Rub the grill pan with a little more butter and grill the peach slices on each side lightly.
3. Place two mint leaves on each slice or the cheese-topped bread, top with a grilled peach slice, a sliver of jalapeno and drizzle with a little honey/balsamic mixture. Bruschetta DONE so fast!

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SOUTHERN PEACH JULEP

1. Using the other peach half – prep two slices for garnish with peel still on. Peel the other part of the peach and mash into a puree with a fork or other suitable mashing instrument.
2. Chop ~ 4 mint leaves into the peach mash and muddle/mash/puree again.
3. In a cocktail shaker, mix puree with 4 jiggers of whiskey, 2 jiggers of peach schnapps, lime juice, 1/2 jigger of simple syrup or honey. Shake, then add some crushed ice and shake again.
4. Strain drinks into half ice-filled julep cups or glasses, garnish with a peach slice and a mint leaf and enjoy your Southern Garden Party cocktail hour!