

SETTING THE BEAT — A reliable staple of Christmas parades in Obion County is the Obion County Central High School marching band. For several years, the Marching Rebels have made appearances in almost every parade in the county, providing the tempo for the colorguard and

bandmates. Setting the beat for the band is something the drumline is used to, but for the Christmas parades the bass drums set the tone with battery-powered lights to adorn their instruments with a little Christmas spirit.



GOLDEN TUNES - Members of the Union City High School Band, including (from left) assistant director Ryan Wilkerson and students Caroline Martinek,

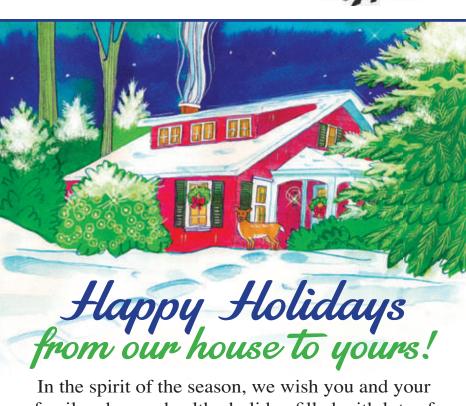
Caleb Parker, Joyner Caldwell, Christopher Pituch and Nijel Smith, participated in the Union City Christmas Parade up First Street on Nov. 30.



MARCHING TO THE BEAT — South Fulton High School's marching band traveled to Troy recently to participate in the town's annual Christmas Parade.

Following the parade, Troy treated everyone to cupcakes and cookies, and trophies were handed out the winners at the Troy Senior Center.





family a happy, healthy holiday filled with lots of good food, good friends and good news. We feel fortunate to have such good neighbors like you.



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Last minute gift ideas

(StatePoint) Holiday shopping can be a source of stress for anyone, but particularly for procrastinators. Need some last-minute gift ideas? Think about readily accessible, yet thoughtful items that don't require a lengthy shipping process.

Let these five ideas help solve your 11th-hour gift-

giving woes.

1. DIY-it. DIY gifts can be heartfelt, and many items can be made in a pinch. Bake a tray of Christmas cookies and tie them up with a bow; make seasonally scented homemade candles; or knit a scarf. The possibilities for crafty folks are endless.

2. Get accessorized. Don't get stumped. Consider a classic fashion accessory, such as a Casio Vintage Watch, which can be found in many national retailers, in a range of affordable prices. Functional and fashionable, these water-resistant timepieces that feature both an alarm and stopwatch will complement an array of style preferences.

3. Head to the box office. Quickly check the schedule of your gift recipient's favorite band, team or theater company for tickets to an experience, such as a musical, concert or game. This thoughtful gift can be purchased and received in an instant, thanks to e-ticketing.

4. Pamper them. The holidays are stressful. Help your loved ones unwind during a busy time of year. Consider a gift certificate for a spa or beauty treatment somewhere local to your recipient. The gift can be enjoyed exactly when it's needed most.

5. Let them pick. When you're really in a pinch and you've waited until the last minute, don't stress. A gift card can be a great way to show you thought of someone, without having to spend too much time or energy in search of the perfect item.





