



Lee Nickels, Agent
13760 Highway 43 Ste 6
Russellville, AL 35653
Bus: 256-332-0052
lee.nickels.wmy5@statefarm.com

PRSR7 STD US POSTAGE
PAID Franklin Free Press
113 Washington Ave. NW
Russellville, AL 35653

8-inch Mattresses
by Ashley

\$267
King

Queen \$197.77
Full \$168.40
Twin \$129.97



Hours: 10-5 Monday thru Friday, 10-2 on Saturday

Jackson-Royal Furniture
Franklin Center • Russellville
256-460-0924 • 256-332-6721

Hargett retires from ACCU after 32 years

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

When Missy Hargett was hired by Alabama Central Credit Union 32 years ago, she hoped it would be the beginning of a long career, and it was.

Hargett retired from ACCU at the end of December, to start a new professional chapter as the bookkeeper at Russellville High School. She began her new position January 4th.

ACCU officials held a retirement reception honoring Hargett's 32 years of service to the company on December 29th. As she stood in the lobby of the company's beautiful new Russellville building, Hargett reflected on what she most enjoyed about being a part of ACCU.

See 'HARGETT,' page 3



PHOTO BY JOHN PILATI
Hillary Hall, ACCU Russellville branch manager, Franklin County Probate Judge Barry Moore and Missy Hargett at the December 29th retirement reception held in Hargett's honor.

Britton becomes second local optometrist to serve as ALOA president

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

As the official state organization for optometrists, the Alabama Optometric Association (ALOA) serves as the profession's voice across Alabama. And Russellville optometrist Dr. David Britton recently completed his term as ALOA president in the most unusual year of 2020.

The ALOA has a pathway of five years its members must follow in order to become president. That

includes serving two years on the board of directors, followed by a year as secretary/treasurer, vice president and president elect before ascending to president.

When Britton joined the ALOA in 2014, he realized if he wanted to serve as president in 2020, he would have to get on the board right away, which he did.

2020 was supposed to be a professional celebration of 'the year of perfect vision.' Instead, a health pandemic washed away that plan as well

See 'BRITTON,' page 8



Store Hours!

Mon-Fri: 5 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sat: 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sun: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Come see Stratt and the friendly folks at Cedar Creek Chevron!
11477 Highway 43 South, Russellville
256-332-0104

Taking care of your family's dental needs
Brett M. Bowen, DDS



Bowen Family Dentistry
243 Underwood Road • Russellville 256.332.4000

RUSSELLVILLE DENTAL CARE
Everyone Deserves To Smile!



Dr. Steve Hammack & Staff
Se Habla Español

NEW LOCATION!
510 Engle Dr SE
(256) 332.6073

100%

That's Right, 100%

of Russellville households receive the Franklin Free Press each week!

YOUR CUSTOMERS AND POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS ARE HERE—and waiting to hear from YOUR BUSINESS!

For Advertising Information, please call our office at 256-332-0255 or Publisher John Pilati at 256-668-2708.

YOUR BUSINESS could be in next week's Franklin Free Press. Call and find out how we can help your business grow!



FRANKLINFREEPRESS.NET

Our team is ready to serve you!

SINGING RIVER DENTISTRY

531 St. Clair St., Russellville

Call 256.332.6888 to schedule your appointment today!



Hablamos Espanol

SingingRiverDentistry.com

FAMILY Pharmacy GROUP
BlueCross BlueShield of Alabama



Family Pharmacy of Russellville
Accepting Tricare and BCBS
Hwy 43 & Underwood Rd
256.332.5545
familypharmacygroup.com



MARTY'S MEAT MARKET

This Week's

Specials

Boneless Bottom Round Roast
\$3.99 lb.

Fresh Lean Ground Beef
\$2.49 lb./ Family Pack

Boneless Ribeye Steak
\$10.99/lb.

Quarter Loin Pork Chops
\$1.69/lb.

Country Style Pork Ribs
\$1.79/lb.

Boston Butt Pork Roast
\$1.39/lb./ 2-pack

Boneless Chicken Thighs -
\$1.49/lb.

Pick 5 - \$19.99

Farmer's Pride Smoked Sliced Bacon -
\$19.99/5 lb.

Breaded Chicken Nuggets -
\$7.99 - 5 lb.

Cut Fresh Daily!

**Come enjoy these great deals!
We thank you for your business!**



256-331-9285 • 85 Scotty Moore Dr
Mon.-Sat. 8 to 6 and Sunday 10-6



FRANKLIN MEMORY GARDENS



We offer ground burial, mausoleum and cremation spaces. All may be purchased at need or pre-need to include the burial vault and bronze memorial.

Providing a peaceful, beautiful and serene cemetery for the people of Franklin County.

Carolyn Atkins Porter *Since 1960*
2710 Waterloo Road • 256.332.2115

*"In Memory of our loved ones..."
brought to you by Atkins Marble and Granite Works
and Franklin Memory Gardens*

William Elbert Berryman, 90, of Russellville, passed away on Friday, January 1st. Interment at Franklin Memory Gardens.

James Columbus "Sam" Creekmore, 70, of Russellville, passed away on Thursday, December 31st. Interment at Spruce Pine Cemetery.

Eric Trapp Crumpton, 49, passed away on Sunday, December 27th. Interment at East Franklin Cemetery.

Terry Lynn Edwards, 63, of Russellville, passed away on Wednesday, December 30th. Interment at Bethlehem Cemetery.

Leroy Oliver, 73, of Phil Campbell, passed away on Wednesday, December 30th. Interment at Liberty Hill Cemetery.

William Jeffrey "Jeff" Peppers, 58, of Phil Campbell, passed away on Wednesday, December 30th. Interment at Mountain View Cemetery.

James L. Thompson, 90, of Russellville, passed away on Monday, December 28th. Interment at Franklin Memory Gardens.

Carlos Quintana, 21, of Russellville, passed away on Friday, December 25th. Akins Funeral Home assisted the family.

North Highlands Church of Christ
in partnership with Food Bank of North Alabama

FREE Every 3rd Saturday of each month
Saturday, January 16th

9:00am-11:00am
North Highlands Church of Christ Fellowship Hall

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat Matthew 25:35"

For updates on news and sports throughout the week, visit us on the web at www.franklinfreepress.net! Send your guest columns, recipes, cartoon panels, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to franklinfreepress@yahoo.com.

'HARGETT,' from page 1

"I love working with our members and helping my members with all their needs," Hargett said. "That's what I'll most—the interaction with all the members. I've gotten to know people across the state and of course I'll also miss my great family here at the credit union. They have been wonderful to work with."

When Hargett was hired as a teller, ACCU's Russellville office was in the building now occupied by Thorn Florist. The credit union moved to its location by Russellville Pools in 1999, and the new building, next to Akins Funeral Home, was completed this year.

Hargett became the Russellville branch manager in 1995, and was promoted to vice president of branch operations in 2003. ACCU has nine locations across the state.

While she traveled regularly to all ACCU locations, Hargett's routine in COVID-19 plagued 2020 saw her stay in Russellville or her Florence office most of the year.

"COVID slowed me down on travel this year and I decided I liked

that to some degree. I thought about retiring but wanted to wait until my two kids graduated from school," Hargett said.

Hargett and her husband Mike have two sons, Evan, a Russellville attorney, and Levi, a machinist at G&G Steel.

"I was ready to retire from this chapter of my life but not ready to just go home, so working for Russellville City Schools allows me to still work with the public and I'm definitely a people person," Hargett said.

Among those in attendance at Tuesday's reception were Joe Kiser, former ACCU chief operating officer, who hired Hargett 32 years ago, and ACCU's president and chief executive officer, Brad Haddock.

Haddock said Hargett's 32 years with the company were a testament to her work ethic and the commitment she had for customer service to their members.

"The care she has for our members every day has always been Missy's number one commitment," Haddock said. "I've always admired the way she cares for our members and her employees. She's just a caring person."

"I'll miss her a lot. She did so much when I was hired to help me understand the nuances of a credit union, as that was new to me. I'll always appreciate the way she helped me and the way she cared for her customers," he added.

Stay warm this winter!

A&L carries Superior Fireplaces, vent-free natural gas & LP and wood burning fireplaces!

Lots of styles to match any décor!!



256.332.8181

HWY 43 • Littleville

George Evans, MD

Offering general medical care services for the entire family



SHOALS PRIMARY CARE



256.383.4473 Ext. 2021

340 Cox Blvd • Sheffield, AL

REWARD YOURSELF...

GIFT CARDS Available



OR SOMEONE YOU LOVE

Angel Harris

Licensed Massage Therapist LMT #1495

Reiki Practitioner II



256.332.4220

Creative Image Salon
7129 Hwy 43 • Spruce Pine

Send your guest columns, recipes, cartoon panels, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to franklinfreepress@yahoo.com.

For updates on news and sports throughout the week, don't forget to visit us online at www.franklinfreepress.net!

City of Russellville looking to hire full-time municipal court employee

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

The Russellville City Council will soon take applications for the newly-created position of magistrate for Russellville Municipal Court, after the council approved the job description at its December 21st meeting.

Currently, Lisa Freeman serves as the Municipal Court Clerk/Magistrate in a full-time capacity with two part-time employees. The new position will be full-time and will cost less than the city's expenses for the part-time employees, Freeman said.

The two part-time employees are not authorized to sign warrants, but the new hire will be and that will allow the court clerk to perform her other duties while allowing warrants to still be issued in the event she is off from work.

In other agenda items, the council:

—declared a vacancy for Equipment Operator III with the Russellville Street Department and agreed to advertise the same.

—accepted a letter of resignation from Russellville Police Department officer Matthew Senkbeil, declared three vacancies for patrol officer and agreed

See 'RUSSELLVILLE,' Page 5

For updates on news and sports, visit us online at
www.franklinfreepress.net!

Our House

by Ree
Shannon



FRANKLIN FREE PRESS

113 WASHINGTON AVE. NW
RUSSELLVILLE, AL 35653
256-332-0255

The *Franklin Free Press* is published weekly by
Pilati Investments, Inc.
Our publication is mailed to our readers at no charge.

Publisher

John Pilati

Executive Editor

Brady Petree

E-mail: franklinfreepress@yahoo.com

Sales Representatives

John Pilati

Content Contributors

John Pilati, Brady Petree, Christian Medina, Ree Shannon,
Doug Green, Rebecca Thomason, Sheryl Hamilton,
Ashley Cummins, Gail Motes

Graphic Design

Jason Hill

Correction Policy

The *Franklin Free Press* strives for excellence and accuracy, and we will be pleased to correct any error in our newspaper. To request a correction or clarification, call or e-mail our office.

Letters to the editor

The *Franklin Free Press* is published by hometown people, for hometown people. We urge contributions of all kinds, including guest columns, picture submissions, cartoons or letters to the editor. Send any letters to our office via U.S. Postal Service or e-mail, and we will gladly publish them. Letters must be signed and contain the hometown and phone number of the author. The *Franklin Free Press* reserves the right to edit letters for style, length and content.

Copyright Information

Published by Pilati Investments, Inc. Copyright 2018
All materials and content are copyrighted by the Publisher
This publication may not be reproduced, in whole or in part, by any method, without the express written permission of the Publisher.

My take on this... a new year brings new challenges with it!

Hello again!

I don't know about you, but I am so excited about the beginnings of a new year, new challenges await us.

In-school-classes, could become a thing of the past. Virtual learning could become the new normal. As a matter of fact, that has already been thought of many. But, our thoughts are temporary. Rules of action can be enforced and become permanent. We will just have to wait and see what happens.

Virtual learning could be a new way for adoption. The ones who have already been traumatized by this have already stated that they will never do it again. Those children will need a home rather quickly.

Of course, the parents or guardians of these children will happily make the wishes come true, but only out of unselfishness and the desire to make others happy.

There are those who have yearned for the "pit-



Gail Motes

ter-patter" of little feet and will be delighted. Of course, depending upon the ages of the children, some might be hearing more of a "clump, clank" instead of a "pitter-patter." This sounds like a "win-win" to me.

Adoptions could finally be affordable and at a tremendous discount. Can you even imagine an adoption fee of "zero-dollars" and to be payable upon the day of adoption.

Before I go on to something else, I should clarify that I would never consider doing this to my children or grandchildren, but what other people do is their business.

No public schooling would result in school buses being a thing of the past. There would be a need to sell the buses. Ways will be needed to repurpose to initiate sales. No need to worry. I have a few solutions to the problem. (Imagine that?)

Buses can be sold for the very popular and trending "she-sheds!" The popular demand for that would be so high, a profit could be made!

See 'CHALLENGES,' page 5

Send your guest columns, recipes, cartoon panels, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to franklinfreepress@yahoo.com.

For updates on news and sports throughout the week, don't forget to visit us online at www.franklinfreepress.net!

JOB OPPORTUNITY

GENERAL NOTICE ANNOUNCEMENT

CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE STREET DEPARTMENT

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR III

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Drives and operates equipment to accomplish a full range of assignments and tasks, including the complex projects. Operates heavy equipment on job sites, such as, but not limited to: back hoe, bobcat, track hoe, loader, motor grader, ditching machines, large and small bull dozers and knuckle booms. May assist in training newer employees and serve as the lead employee on work sites.

QUALIFICATIONS: The completion of High School Diploma or GED. Four years of work experience maintaining or constructing roads. Two years of work experience as an

Equipment Operator II. The possession of a current and valid class A CDL. Work experience as a construction contractor is preferred.

THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, political affiliation, disability, or any other non-merit factor.

Applications may be picked up at Russellville City Hall in the Office of the Mayor, 304 North Jackson Avenue, Russellville, Alabama.

Applications must be returned no later than JANUARY 11, 2021 by U.S. Mail to:

The Russellville Civil Service Board
P.O. Box 308
Russellville, AL 35653

The successful candidate will be required to successfully complete a physical examination including drug screening prior to employment.

'RUSSELLVILLE,' from page 4

to advertise the same.
—authorized abatements of nuisance at 267 3rd Street, which is owned by Melchor Ramirez. The violations leading to the nuisance abatement include litter piled up, weeds and other misc. items in the yard. Additionally, the owner was cited for animals not being contained to the property, not having collars, ownership tags and rabies tags. The abatement also results from vehicles being stored on the property that are not tagged and insured.

—renewed the city's insurance policy with Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation for a three-year period.

The next regular meeting of the Russellville City Council is set for January 4, 2021, with work session at 6 p.m., and meeting to follow.

'CHALLENGES,' from page 4

Options for sales are endless. Buses have been transformed to motorhomes for the "dreamers of travel." They have become a "home oasis," for many. I've seen the most beautiful homes decorated for "forever homes." If I had ones, I'd paint the outside pretty pink and decorate the inside with a rose theme of pinks and whites. Me and my cat could live happily ever after. I've always dreamed of a "story-book-life."

I am realistic, but I still have my dreams. Being a realist is knowing life holds disappointments, sorrows, and many obstacles in our lives, but being realistic also means we will have "unasked" for blessings, success, and happiness.

Dreaming is imaginary. Dreaming is a calm place for me in troubled moments.

Dreams are far from reality, but always pleasant. I have a stone that's engraved. The inscription says, there is nothing wrong with chasing dreams - you might catch one. But, you must remember dreams are not what real lives are based on. Reality isn't always as pretty, but it keeps us accountable and reliable to ourselves and others.

Wow, this one of these times, I could write not-stop. My thoughts keep going, but the realist side of me knows my article spots have a limit. I have been known to write too much. That's when it continues on a different page. LOL.

So, I'll go for now with another article behind me and, hopefully, more to come.

Remember to smile often and always be thankful!
Until later...

Send your guest columns, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to franklinfreepress@yahoo.com. Visit us online any time at franklinfreepress.net.




Dr. Kelly's Urgent Care

Walk-In visits available.
We are available to screen
and test for COVID-19.

Mon.-Fri. 8-6, Sat. 8-3, Sun. 1-5
13150 Hwy. 43, Suite 10, Russellville
256-331-2092.

Serving your family for more than 30 years.
Family Practice, Pediatrics, Newborn Care.

Jeff Elledge's CREDIT CARS



NO CREDIT WE FINANCE

- 03 Chevy Avalanche
\$800 Down
- 13 Chevy Malibu
\$1800 Down
- 05 Chevy Suburban
\$1500 Down
- 03 Ford Expedition
\$1500 Down

- 02 Ford Explorer
\$800 Down
- 00 GMC Yukon
\$800 Down
- 04 Honda Accord
\$1200 Down
- 06 Toyota Camry
\$1200 Down

elledge.jeff@gmail.com

2506 Woodward Ave • Muscle Shoals
256.383.7979 • 256.710.3711

NOW HIRING

Pilgrim's offers Competitive Wages starting at \$13.05/hr.

Benefits include: Medical, Dental, Vision, Vacation, Holidays, 401K and Night Shift Incentive and Opportunities for Advancement!

Join the Great Team Members at Pilgrim's by applying online at www.pilgrimsusa.com, in person at our plant located at 2045 Hwy. 244 in Russellville, or at the Sheffield Career Center.

Pilgrim's is an Equal Opportunity Employer, M/F/V/D.

**Your Opportunity
for a Better
Future Begins at
Pilgrim's!**



Pilgrim's

Shopping around for car insurance? Don't.

Let your local independent agent shop for you, and find the coverage you need.



Wood-Thompson Insurance

130 N Jackson Ave. Russellville
256-332-1381
Mon-Fri 8am-5pm


LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS


Auto-Owners
INSURANCE


What's Happening


256.332.0255


EVENTS OF INTEREST • FAMILY REUNIONS • PLAYS • CHURCH GATHERINGS • EDUCATIONAL • CLUB MEETINGS


 **T**he NACOLG SenioRx Medication Assistance Program supplies free and low-cost medications for anyone in Alabama with a disability or a chronic illness, regardless of age, that requires daily medication. Medicare recipients may also be eligible. For more information, contact NACOLG SenioRx today. There is no charge for this service. Call 1-800-AGELINE (1-800-243-5463) or 256-389-0529 and ask for Paula Pardue. This program is in partnership with the state of Alabama and Alabama Department of Senior Services.


 **T**here will be a New Year's Eve service starting at 6 p.m., and continuing into the new year, at the Church of God, Phil Campbell, 77 Mars Hill Road. Hwy. Turn of Hwy. 13 just south of Phil Campbell. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend. For more information, call 256-324-5288.


 **F**ifth Thursday Food Giveaway - 2 p.m. December 31, 2020 - Russellville First United Methodist Church - downtown corner of Madison and Washington Ave. Groceries will be given out while supplies last. All social distancing measures will be followed. Bring your ID and follow instructions given by staff.

 **E**veryone is welcome to worship services at Duncan Creek Baptist Church, 3925 Duncan Creek Road, Russellville. Service times are Sunday School at 10 a.m., Worship Service at 11 a.m. and Bible Study at 5 p.m. Pastor is Bro. Joe Thorn.

 **N**ew Life Ministries invites you to join them for Sunday School at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings and for worship services on Sundays at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. and Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. On the first Sunday of each month, there will be a fellowship lunch after morning services. You and your family are invited to come worship and fellowship with the Lord of Hosts and his children. New Life Ministries is located on Hwy. 24 west toward Red Bay, behind Tompkins Feed.

 **T**OPS 0155 Russellville is now meeting at the Russellville Hospital Education Room at 4:30 p.m. every Monday. Everyone is welcome to drop in for a free meeting visit. Call 256-446-5962 or 256-412-2855 for more info.

 **T**he Newburg Masonic Lodge #388 meets the first Thursday of every month. The Russellville Masonic Lodge #371 meets the first and third Tuesday of every month. The Franklin County Shrine Club meets the second Tuesday of each month. The Order of the Eastern Star Chapter 256 meets every second and fourth Tuesday of each month at the Russellville Masonic Lodge. Spruce Pine Masonic Lodge #608 meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Phil Campbell Masonic Lodge #880 meets the first and third Thursday of each month. Burlison Lodge #143 meets the second and fourth Monday of each month. Belgreen Lodge #428 meets the first and third Monday of each month. All meetings start at 7 p.m.

 **R**ussellville Al-Anon is meeting at Russellville First Baptist Church at 6 p.m., each Thursday. We are wearing masks and social distancing.

Have an event we can help publicize? Call us at 256-332-0255.

For updates on news and sports throughout the week, visit us online at www.franklinfreepress.net. Send your letters to the editor and other creative submissions to franklinfreepress@yahoo.com.

RCS administrators complete Rural Education doctorate program

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

When four Russellville City Schools administrators recently completed their doctorates in Rural Education from the University of West Alabama, it wasn't a coincidence they each chose that path.

Instead, it was meeting a need tailored to their school system. And, the Russellville City Board of Education did its part to meet that need by paying for one-third of each doctoral candidate's tuition.

Jason Goodwin, Russellville High School principal, Natalie Bendall, Career Technical Education Director, Monica Moon, West Elementary School assistant principal and RCS Superintendent Heath Grimes each received their doctorates from UWA earlier this month. Former West Elementary School principal Deanna Hollimon also earned her doctorate in Rural Education from UWA at the same time.

West Alabama also gave each doctoral student a \$600/semester scholarship as an incentive to complete the program.

In Grimes' case, his employment contract provides that educational costs incurred in pursuit of a doctorate shall be paid for by Russellville City Schools. With the other administrators, there's a condition that they remain employed by the system at least three years after completing their doctorate. Otherwise, they must repay tuition costs paid by the system.

Hollimon, who resigned this fall to take a position with the University of North Alabama, reimbursed RCS for the payments made for her tuition, Grimes said.

Grimes compared the system helping pay for the doctoral candidates' tuition to RCS paying for teachers' continuing education.

"The board agreed to pay one-third of the tuition as an incentive. We pay for professional development classes and travel associated with those," Grimes said. "This program was their professional development the last two years, and it helps us retain some of our best people."

The Rural Education doctorate program focused on issues directly impacting Russellville City Schools, including poverty, English Language Learners

(ELL).

"We felt like the whole time everything we were doing was studying our own district. All the things we learned applied to our school system," Grimes said.

When Grimes was hired five years ago, he recognized a need for more administrative candidates within the system.

"My first week on the job we had to hire two principals. We did not have many people with the qualifications for administrative positions, so one of my first steps was to reach out to the University of North Alabama, and they offered a program where you could earn a Masters in Administration and UNA would provide a scholarship for one-third of the tuition," Grimes said.

"The board agreed the school system would pay one-third and that also had the agreement that we would retain the administrators at least three years after they earned their Masters. It's a good incentive to keep your people and give them the opportunity to advance," he added.

Similar incentive offers have been made for counselors and English Language teachers, which are two additional specialties that Russellville City Schools lacks sufficient candidates. Grimes said RCS also has a small pool of Library Media Science personnel, so that could be an advanced degree the system offers an incentive on in the future.

"People (in Russellville) talk a lot about hiring our own people and we always want to do that. In order to do it, though, we need people to step up to administrative positions," Grimes said. "We don't pay for the whole degree. We just help offset the costs and it has a purpose behind it. We're taking care of our employees and making sure we have the people to promote within our system."

For updates on news and sports throughout the week, don't forget to check us out on the web at www.franklinfreepress.net!

JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Franklin County Commission will accept applications for the following position(s):

Corrections Officer/Dispatcher

in the Franklin County Commission Office until 5:00 PM on Friday, January 8, 2021.

An application and job description may be picked up, faxed or emailed upon request from the Franklin County Commission Office, located at 405 N. Jackson Avenue, Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM or applications are available at www.franklincountyal.org under the Careers tab.

Franklin County is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in the employment or the provision of services.

Please be patient as we observe social distancing standards. Curbside waiting room. We will come get you when your appointment is ready

EyeCare Professionals

Dr. Wayne Stevens Dr. Martha Morrow Dr. David Britton

We have reopened!
Mon.-Fri. 8a.m.-5p.m.

eyecareprofessionalspc.com
15255 Hwy 43 • Russellville • 256.332.5440

Kevin G. Kelly, M.D. FAMILY PRACTICE
Pediatrics
Newborn Care
Serving your family for over 30 years 256-331-2092

Urgent Care

Walk-in Clinic

We are still here!

- Entrance located on right side closest to Fred's
- Please excuse our growing pains.

No Appointment Needed

13150 Hwy. 43 Suite 10
Russellville, AL
(intersection of Hwy. 24 and Hwy. 43)

256-331-2092

! Same hours, Same location, New look!

'BRITTON,' from page 1

as ALOA's goal of seeing the Alabama Legislature approve a bill that would allow optometrists to perform minor surgical procedures in their offices.

The ALOA works at the state level to protect the profession from those who want to change laws against optometrists. The association has worked for legislation that would allow for expansion of optometrists' scope of practice to include minor surgical procedures like laser surgery, removal of bumps or tags around eyelids and injections around the eyes.

Britton said the bill did not advance out of the Senate Health Committee in 2019, but it was reworked in 2020 and ALOA members were optimistic about it passing. Then came COVID-19 and the government shut down.

"This bill would expand access to care for our patients for small procedures we shouldn't have to send people out of town for," Britton said. "As rural doctors, these are things we can handle in the office without anesthesia. If it's something we can do in our chair, we feel like we should be able to do that for our patients."

Britton became the second Russellville optometrist, and the second in his office, to serve as ALOA president. Dr. Martha Morrow led the association as president in 2005.

"She's always been a big influence on me. I started with them in 2012, and it wasn't long thereafter I started thinking about working on the profession at the state level," Britton said. "I'm not sure why I wanted to be on the executive committee, but these folks really do make a difference for our

profession and I wanted to be a part of that."

In addition to legislative advocacy, the ALOA works with major health care providers to allow optometrists to practice to the highest level possible with the fewest restrictions on health care. ALOA also offers continuing education to its members.

During his 'pandemic presidency,' Britton led business meetings by Zoom and on conference calls.

"2020 was supposed to be a special year for optometrists that we really planned to promote, but everything changed with COVID-19 so that wasn't able to happen," Britton said.

Britton is one of three optometrists at Eyecare Professionals, PC, in Russellville. He is a Belgreen High School graduate and a 2009 graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry.

He and his wife Traci have two children, Bryant, 10, and Nicole, 7.



COURTESY PHOTO

Britton followed a five year pathship in order to become president of the ALOA and is just the second local optometrist to be selected as president.

It's Your Choice,

M & N Towing

M & N

At the scene of an accident or breakdown, tell law enforcement you want M & N Towing!

We offer local pick up for service & maintenance!

TOWING & SERVICE CENTER
11833 Hwy 43 South • Russellville, AL 35653
256.332.7279

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the Alabama Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, Alabama Code Sections 32-13-1 through 32-13-8, the following motor vehicle will be sold for cash at 10:30 a.m., on April 14, 2021, at M&N Wrecker & Service Center, 11833 Hwy. 43 South, Russellville, Al, 35653. Seller reserves the right to reject any bid and the right to bid.

2003 Nissan Altima

VIN 1N4AL11D53C302427

Send your guest columns, recipes, cartoon panels, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to franklinfreepress@yahoo.com.

For updates on news and sports throughout the week, don't forget to visit us online at www.franklinfreepress.net!

King brothers take pride in improving hometown Phil Campbell

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

Brothers Phillip and Barry King each have their own passions and interests. Phillip is a talented Cornhole competitor and a Boston Red Sox fan. Younger brother Barry loves fishing and the New York Yankees. But when it comes to Phil Campbell, both brothers share a common interest—seeing their hometown grow and improve economically.

And as members of the Phil Campbell Town Council, the brothers are situated to help accomplish that goal over the next four years.

Phillip was unopposed in his bid for Phil Campbell Council Place Five in 2020, and Barry defeated Jimmy Campbell to earn a seat as Place One councilman.

Two brothers, one town, and one shared interest of working as hard as they can to restore Phil Campbell to the community it once was.

“I’ve lived here about all my life. I’ve seen our town go down and I just wanted to get in there and help it come back,” Barry said. “We need our downtown buildings fixed, and we need more police on duty.

“When I grew up, there wasn’t an empty building downtown. I love Phil Campbell. We have good people here but we just don’t have that much to offer people and I wanted to be a part of changing that,” he added.

Last year was Phillip’s second run at elected office, while Barry succeeded on his first try on the ballot. Phillip lost a close election in 2016, by nine votes, but that experience was a positive one that led him to be motivated to run again last year.

“It was a close margin four years ago, so I thought I’d come back and try it again. My opponent then was Jim Cartee. So when he decided not to run this time, I decided to run again,” Phillip said.

Both brothers realize the challenges their home town faces, from its barren downtown to the need for new industry to the need for stricter compliance enforcement of municipal codes. But that didn’t deter them from wanting to get involved.

“(The new mayor and council) definitely have our challenges, but Phil Campbell is my hometown. I was raised here,” Phillip said. “And we feel like we want to be part of its turn around. This group has some good ideas for our town and we’re going to give it a shot. You don’t know what will work unless you try it.”

Phillip’s 30-year law enforcement career actually began in Phil Campbell. After graduating from the law enforcement academy, he worked on the town’s police force for more than two years. He would later join the departments in Hackleburg and Hamilton, where he spent 17 years and was promoted to assistant chief.

Phillip believes his law enforcement career helped him prepare for elected office.

“As a police officer, when someone is in a difficult situation, we’re often the first person they want to see,” Phillip said. “In Phil Campbell, everybody knows everybody. It’s a laid back town, and I always enjoyed stopping and talking with its residents.

“Those memories stay with you and you look for a way to give back to the community later on in life, and that’s what I’m going to try and do as a city councilman,” he added.

While the brothers share a common goal of seeing their town grow and prosper, they won’t always agree on the best path to get there, and that’s okay.

“I never discussed with him whether I should sign up to run. Some folks may think it’s not good to have two brothers on the council,” Barry said. “But I’ll disagree with him just like he’ll disagree with me and if I see something not right for our town, I’ll vote against him and anyone else if it’s not what’s best for our community.”

With the recent hiring of Jessica Clements as a full-time police officer, one of the council’s early goals (to have two full-time officers) was met. And Barry hopes that’s the start of more good things to come.

“I honestly believe we have some good people willing to help this town. We’ve got some things accomplished already and we want to start the new year off right and keep going in the right direction,” Barry said.

With alcoholic beverages available to the south (Haleyville) and north (Russellville) of Phil Campbell, Barry believes it’s time for the town to revisit the issue of legalizing the sale of alcohol.

“I believe it would be a good way to bring some additional dollars into town. People go to Russellville or Haleyville anyway if they’re going to buy it, so why not get it here?,” Barry said. “I know there will be some people against it, but I’d love to see it brought up for another vote.”



COURTESY PHOTO

Barry King, left, and Phillip King, right, both began their terms on the Phil Campbell Town Council in November.

For updates on news and sports throughout the week, visit us on the web at www.franklinfreepress.net!

Send your guest columns, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to franklinfreepress@yahoo.com.

For updates on news throughout the week, visit www.franklinfreepress.net!



Classifieds

256.332.0255

BUSINESS • LOST & FOUND • GARAGE SALES • PETS • APPLIANCES • HELP WANTED • SERVICES • APPLIANCES • CLOTHING • FURNITURE

YARD SALES
Looking for firewood. Spruce Pine area. (256)-332-4037.

PERSONAL
Need a truck driver with one year of flatbed experience. Must pass drug test and have good driving record. Record pay 27% of load and can make \$1,200 - \$1,700 a week depending on you. No waiting on loads. Plan two to three days in advance. Call (205)-468-1523 for more information.

FOR SALE
Kittens Free to good home. Call 256-366-0038.

FOR SALE
Dining table, 4 dining chairs, chest of drawers, night stand, two lamp/phone stands, two double bed framers and microwave oven. Please call 256-331-7434 or 256-

810-9176.

Ashley Bedroom Suite For Sale. Height Bed with metal frame. Large dresser with mirror. Large chest. Nightstand with glass top. Mattress and springs. \$550. Excellent condition. Call 256-332-0205.

For Sale—10 acres of land. Part clear land, part woodland. Good drive—accessible for house trailers. Fairview Road. Quarter mile off Waterloo Road on the right. Contact Raymond Timmons at 256-627-8303 or 256-332-5789.

Beautiful Holiday Wreaths for sale. 256-856-4139.

Timberline Lifetime High Definition Roof Shingles. Weatherwood Color, 21 Bundles. \$400. (256)-460-1959.

Two upright pianos for sale. \$100 each. Please call 256-332-0068.

Duncan Phyle Dining Table with two leaves and six chairs. \$280. Please call (256)-460-9757.

Lighted curio/china cabinet with sliding with sliding glass door with key. \$250. Please call (256)-460-9757.

FOR RENT
One bedroom furnished apartment with TV and private entrance. Call (256)-332-5081 or (256)-627-1916 for more information.

One bedroom unfurnished apartment. Stove and refrigerator, private entrance, patio. Call (256)-332-5081 or (256)-627-1916 for more information.

Franklin Free Press Classified Rates
Yard Sale Rates: **FREE**, Deadline Monday at Noon; Real Estate-Homes, acreage, lots for

sale or rent. \$25 for six consecutive weeks. Up to 40 words per ad; Vehicles, Boats, RVs, Motorcycles for sale. \$15 for six consecutive weeks. Up to 25 words per ad; Pets For Sale only \$10 for six consecutive weeks. Up to 25 words per ad; Free of Charge: Lost & Found, Giveaways, and Items Under \$100 (Private Parties Only). 15-word limit; Commercial Classified Rates: \$25 for Businesses, 15 words or less for six weeks. Ads exceeding word limit add \$10 per additional 15 words. The number in parentheses represents the number of times the ad has appeared. Call us at 256-332-0255 to place, cancel or renew your ad. Payment is required in advance of publication for

ads.

ALASCAN

ANNOUNCEMENTS
SPONSOR AN Exchange student! Enjoy another culture from the comfort of your own home. Make a difference in your community. Change a student's life! 1-678-745-8081.


SERVICES
BEST SATELLITE TV with 2 Year price Guarantee! \$59.99/mo. with 190 Channels and 3 months free premium movie channels! Free next day installation! Call 1-855-943-1314.

PLACE STATEWIDE Ads in over 100 Newspapers, reaching over 1 million

readers each week! Run your ad in our Classified Network for just \$210 per week! Make one call to this newspaper (participating Alaskan newspaper) or call 1-800-264-7043 to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide!

Consider buying a home this season. The economy is stable, low interest rates in north Alabama, opportunities for business and employment are looking good.

Considere comprar casa pronto, Lo economia esta estable con bajas Tasos de interes En el Norte de Alabama hay buenas oportunidades de negocios y trabajo.



Enrique Aguilar
Real Estate Advisor
256-740-2356

C&S FAMILY MARKET

NOW OPEN! Thurs./Fri./Sat. 10-5

Crafts, unique gifts, etc. Christmas décor & gifts!

4939 Highway 524, Belgreen.



A good neighbor has your back.

Rhett Bradford, Agent
201 Washington Avenue NW
Russellville, AL 35653
Bus: 256-332-0540
www.insuredbyrhett.com
Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00
After Hours & Saturdays
By Appointment

Life's a combination of good days and bad. I have your back for both. And who has my back? The company more people have trusted for 90 years. **CALL ME TODAY.**



State Farm
Bloomington, IL

1606040

JOB OPPORTUNITY

CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE
STREET DEPARTMENT/FORMAN/DRIVER/OPERATOR, SOLID WASTE

FORMAN/DRIVER/OPERATOR

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Foreman Duties: Provides structure and organization for the Solid Waste division of the Street Department. Performs oversight of collection routes and accomplishing established objectives of the division.

Solid Waste Collection Truck Driver: Drives and operates heavy automated trash and roll-off trucks and equipment to collect and dispose of solid waste throughout the City.

Equipment Operation: Drives and operates equipment to accomplish a full range of assignments and tasks, including the most complex projects.

Department Operations. Supports the work of the department to contribute to the appearance and safety of the City streets and properties. Serves as an experienced, lead equipment operator.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Possess a High School Diploma or GED. Four years of work experience collecting and disposing of solid waste. Work within a city environment is preferred. Four years of work experience as a Heavy Equipment

Operator. Possess a current and valid CDL. Class B license is required; maintain insurability for the duration of employment. Possess and maintain a safe driving record. Previous work experience providing leadership, oversight of work of other employees, and managing collection routes is preferred. Work experience in road repair and maintenance is preferred. Experience interacting with general public is preferred. Ability to respond to emergencies 24/7. Ability to pass a pre-employment drug and alcohol test and random drug screening.

THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, political affiliation, disability, or any other non-merit factor.

Applications may be picked up at Russellville City Hall in the Office of the Mayor, 304 N. Jackson Ave., Russellville, Alabama. Applications must be postmarked no later than January 30, 2021 by U.S. Mail to:

The Russellville Civil Service Board
P. O. Box 308
Russellville, AL 35653

The average pay for this position is \$38,834.43 – 59,868.27

The successful candidate will be required to successfully complete a complete physical examination including drug screening prior to employment.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE
STREET DEPARTMENT/HEAVY EQUIPMENT DRIVER/OPERATOR, SOLID WASTE

HEAVY EQUIPMENT DRIVER/OPERATOR

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Solid Waste Collection Truck Driver: Drives and operates heavy automated trash and roll-off trucks and equipment to collect and dispose of solid waste throughout the City.

Heavy Equipment Operation: Drives and operates equipment to accomplish a full range of assignments and tasks, including the most complex projects.

Department Operations. Supports the work of the department to contribute to the appearance and safety of the City streets and properties. Serves as an experienced, heavy equipment operator.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Possess a High School Diploma or GED. Two years of work experience collecting and disposing of solid waste. Work within a city environment is preferred. Four years of work experience as a Heavy Equipment Operator. Possess a current and valid CDL-Class B license is required;

maintain insurability for the duration of employment. Possess and maintain a safe driving record. Work experience in general road and sidewalk repair and maintenance is preferred. Experience interacting with general public is preferred. Ability to respond to emergencies 24/7. Ability to pass a pre-employment drug and alcohol test and random drug screening.

THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, political affiliation, disability, or any other non-merit factor.

Applications may be picked up at Russellville City Hall in the Office of the Mayor, 304 N. Jackson Ave., Russellville, Alabama. Applications must be returned no later than January 30, 2021 by U.S. Mail to:

The Russellville Civil Service Board
P. O. Box 308
Russellville, AL 35653

The average pay for this position is \$30,971.20 -47,746.09

The successful candidate will be required to successfully complete a complete physical examination including drug screening prior to employment.

Belgreen, Phil Campbell and Tharptown all come away with wins in Bracy Invitational Tournament

Staff Reports

Every year, the Bracy Invitational Tournament hosted by Deshler is always filled to the brim with top-tier basketball talent from throughout North Alabama. This year was no different, despite COVID-19, and multiple county schools were able to take part in, and come away with a few victories, in the annual tournament.

Belgreen was able to pull off multiple wins including a 61-42 win over Ardmore.

The Bulldogs kicked off their run through the tournament with a double-digit win over the Tigers thanks in part to 31 points from junior guard Will Bonner. The Bulldogs jumped out to an early 30-22 lead after getting 12 first half points each from Will and Collin Bonner. Scout Bragwell and Austin James each chipped in with a three-pointer in the second quarter to tack onto the Belgreen lead.

After the half, the Bulldogs were able to close things out pretty handedly after getting 19 points across the final two quarters from Will Bonner while his brother Collin would chip in with six more points on the night, bringing his total to 18 for the game. Bragwell would knock down a free throw, bringing his scoring total on the night to four points while Will Donohoe did all of his scoring in the third quarter with four points.

In other tournament action...

Belgreen 59 Hamilton 45

Picking up yet another win against a school in a larger classification than themselves, the Bulldogs

See 'TOURNAMENT,' page 12

Laying the foundation

With a high-scoring star, a winnable area and a roster full of young talent, there is growing optimism that the Tharptown Wildcats boys basketball program could be laying the foundation for a very successful future.



PHOTO BY CHRISTIAN MEDINA

Fresh off of a school-record 47 point outing against Shoals Christian, Winston Nolen is part of a group of seniors hoping to both mentor the younger players coming through the system while also competing for an area title.

*Brady Petree
 Franklin Free Press*

THARPTOWN - A 5-8 record is typically not something to write home about. And while that record may currently stand for the Tharptown Wildcats boy's basketball team for now, there are other factors surrounding the program that lend some hope that this season can, at the very least, be a building block for the program - while also vying for an area title.

Combine the fact that the Wildcats sports a high-

scoring veteran leader in Winston Nolen (who's averaging just over 26 points per game in his senior season), a group of veterans leading the charge on *and* off the court, and a young core of underclassmen getting valuable playing time at the varsity level and there is reason to believe that the Wildcats might be on the fast-track to gaining elite status in short time.

Having a player like Nolen leading the way while setting a prime example for how to play the game at peak performance is a good starting point for a

See 'FOUNDATION,' page 14

Pest Solutions



Pest & Mosquito Control

256-332-4008

'TOURNAMENT,' from page 11

were able to notch their second and final win of the tournament with a victory over the Aggies.

A 29-point first half for the Bulldogs would prove to be too much for the Aggies to overcome as Belgreen would get an all-around scoring effort from multiple guys. Will Bonner scored ten first half points while Collin Bonner tallied eight points over the first two quarters. Scout Bragwell (three-pointer) and Isac Willingham (two points) would knock down their lone shots of the game in the first half with Austin James knocking down a pair of threes in the half.

More of the same continued for the Bulldogs throughout the second half as they paced Hamilton to a 30-21 scoring margin as Will (15 points) and Collin (seven points) led the way in scoring in the second half. Austin James would continue his scoring spree on the night, chipping in seven more points in the half to finish his evening with 13 points.

Phil Campbell 78 Shoals Christian 34

Four Bobcats finished in double-figures in scoring in the win against Shoals Christian. The Bobcats picked up their lone win in the Bracy Invitational Tournament against the Flames after outscoring them by 30 points in the first half. Mason Swinney would score all 13 of his points on the night in the first half while leading-scorer Canaan Clay would score six of his 17 total points

in the first half.

While the second half wasn't quite the outscoring barrage that the Bobcats put up in the first half, Phil Campbell still handled the Flames fairly well to the tune of a 31-17 margin for the half. Six of Bryant Hyde's ten points came in the third quarter and seven of Luke Garrison's 14 total points came in the third quarter as well. Quintin Hyde would come away with nine points of his own at the end of the game, while Kyle Pace accumulated eight points. Jonah Fisher chipped in with three points while Blain Goodson and Dylan Jeane tallied two points each for the Bobcats.

Tharptown 71 Shoals Christian 61

Like their county-rival Phil Campbell, Tharptown didn't have too much trouble putting away the Flames despite only winning by a ten-point margin. What makes the Wildcats' victory over the Flames, is the fact that the Tharptown managed to score 71 points while having only one player score in double-digits. And that player was none other than Winston Nolen. Also, Nolen didn't just score in the double-digits, but he also broke the Tharptown High School record for most points in a single game with 47 points.

15 first quarter points and 16 second quarter points gave the senior forward 31 points for the half as he alone would match the entire scoring output by

See 'TOURNAMENT,' page 15

Please send your guest columns, cartoon panels, letters to the editor, recipes and other creative submissions to franklinfreepress@yahoo.com. For updates on news and sports all week long, visit us online at www.franklinfreepress.net.



MISSION MEDICAL
Se Habla Espanol

We are pleased to welcome Carolyn Wilson CRNP to our growing Mission Medical family! Carolyn brings more than 20 years experience in Family and Pediatric practice.

Experience and Trust you can rely on for your family's health!

Call for an appointment
(256) 398-7212 • 14001 Hwy 43
Franklin Shopping Center • Russellville, AL

Mon-Fri 8-5

JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Franklin County Commission will accept applications for the following position:

**Assistant County Engineer
(Graduate Registered Engineer Intern)**

in the Franklin County Commission Office until 5:00 PM on Wednesday, February 15, 2021.

An application and job description may be picked up, faxed or emailed upon request from the Franklin County Commission Office, located at 405 N. Jackson Avenue, Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM or applications are available at www.franklincountyal.org under the Careers tab.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact David Palmer, County Engineer, at (256)332-8434.

Franklin County is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in the employment or the provision of services.

Tharptown set to host 2020 Franklin County varsity tournament

Brady Petree
Franklin Free Press

THARPTOWN - While the Franklin County junior high basketball tournament was forced to cancel back in December, the varsity tournament is full speed ahead as the beginning of the annual tournament begins on Saturday, January 9th.

Tharptown High School will play host for the tournament in what figures to feature multiple must-see matchups between a host of schools within the county vying for the championship trophy and bragging rights as the best team in the county for a full year.

Kicking off the tournament this Saturday will be the beginning of the 9th grade girls bracket with Red Bay taking on Vina at noon followed by Phil Campbell taking on host Tharptown at 2 p.m. Rounding out Saturday is the matchup of Emma Dempsey and the Belgreen Bulldogs against Gracie Montgomery and the Tharptown Wildcats in the first varsity girls matchup of the tournament at 4 p.m. before the Tharptown Wildcats led by senior forward Winston Nolen (who is fresh off a school-record 47-point game) square off against county-rival Vina at 6 p.m. to kick off the varsity boys side of the bracket.

Once Saturday wraps up, the next games in the tournament won't take place until Tuesday, January 12th, when the 9th grade girls bracket resumes play with Belgreen taking on the winner of the aforementioned Phil Campbell/Tharptown matchup at 2 p.m. followed by the final 9th grade

girls semifinal game between East Franklin and the winner of the Red Bay/Vina game.

Then all eyes turn towards the varsity brackets as both top-seeded squads will take the court for the first time in the tournament as Red Bay's girls are slated to take on the winner of the Belgreen/Tharptown matchup at 6 p.m. Fellow top-seeded Belgreen boys, led by Will and Collin Bonner will match up with either host Tharptown or Vina depending on the outcome of the Wildcats and Red Devils game on Saturday.

Tournament play will resume on Thursday, January 14th with the first b-varsity matchups of the tournament with Belgreen taking on Tharptown at 2 p.m. with Phil Campbell and Red Bay playing the other semifinal game at 4 p.m. in the b-team bracket.

Also on Thursday, varsity boys and varsity girls action continues with Braden Ray and the Red Bay Tigers taking on Bryant Hyde, Luke Garrison and the Phil Campbell Bobcats on the boys side of the bracket while Phil Campbell takes on Vina at 6 p.m. on the girls side.

Championship matchups will kick off on Friday, January 15th, with the 9th grade girls tipping off at 4 p.m. before the 9th grade boys championship between East Franklin and Vina (only two schools with 9th grade boys teams) begins at 6 p.m. The b-varsity championship matchup will also take place that Friday at 8 p.m.

Both varsity championship games will take place on Saturday, January 16th, with the varsity girls game beginning at 5 p.m. and the boys game taking place at 7 p.m.

Please send your guest columns, cartoon panels, letters to the editor, recipes and other creative submissions to franklinfreepress@yahoo.com. For updates on news and sports all week long, visit us online at www.franklinfreepress.net.



Where Everybody
Knows Your Name...

FREE Local Delivery

FREE Curbside Assistance

Mail Order Delivery*



*Within the state of Alabama

(256)331-1919
14001 Hwy 43,
Suite 13
Franklin Shopping Ctr

**RUSSELLVILLE
DRUGS**
FREE Local Delivery!

JOB OPPORTUNITY

GENERAL NOTICE ANNOUNCEMENT CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE

PATROL OFFICER-POLICE DEPARTMENT

DEFINITION OF JOB: Patrols a designated sector of the city of Russellville and responds to complaints. Serves warrants and subpoenas and testifies in court. Provides traffic control assistance. Performs dispatching duties. Performs other police related duties as required.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Knowledge of: the city buildings and street system of Russellville; city, state and federal laws; court procedures; department rules, regulations and procedures; maintenance and use of weapons; radio codes, surveillance equipment and legal procedures involved with illegal drug cases.

Ability to: operate a motor vehicle; read; safely fire a weapon; communicate on telephone and radio; generate written documents such as reports and tickets; bend, crouch; stretch; walk; run; respond to emergency situations on short notice when off-duty; and do the essential functions of the job as directed in this description.

Willingness to: work overtime, irregular hours, weekends and holidays; travel and attend seminars and workshops.

QUALIFICATIONS and SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Possession of a high school diploma or GED
Minimum of 21 years of age

Must meet or exceed the minimum requirements established by the State of Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission
Possession of a valid Alabama Drivers License
Possess the ability to obtain an Alabama Police Academy diploma or its equivalent

THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL RECEIVE CONSIDERATION WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, RELIGION, COLOR, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN, POLITICAL AFFILIATION, DISABILITY, OR ANY OTHER NON-MERIT FACTOR. THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE ENCOURAGES APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS IN ALL PROTECTIVE SERVICE DEPARTMENTS FROM WOMEN IN AN ATTEMPT TO INCREASE THEIR REPRESENTATION IN PROTECTIVE SERVICE DEPARTMENTS.

Applications and copies of the Job Descriptions may be obtained at the Russellville City Hall, Office of the Mayor, 304 North Jackson Avenue. Applications submitted to the Russellville Civil Service Board less than one year ago remain active. Those individuals need not reapply in order to receive consideration for this appointment. Applications must be returned no later than JANUARY 11, 2021 by U.S. Mail to:

The Russellville Civil Service Board
P.O. Box 308
Russellville, AL 35653

The appointees will be required to successfully complete a physical examination including drug and alcohol screening prior to employment.

'FOUNDATION,' from page 11

Wildcat program looking to build for the future. "Winston has been phenomenal. Not only does he score at a high rate, but he also gets his teammates involved. In that 47-point game against Shoals Christian, he was making some unbelievable passes late in the game. That was probably one of the most amazing fourth quarters I've ever been a part of," Benford said. "When you hear of a guy scoring 47 points you tend to think that the player is a ball hog or something. And he does get his fair share of shots off, don't get me wrong, but he still finds ways to get his teammates involved and spread the ball around and it's just a joy to watch."

The up-and-coming youth making their way through the program, it's encouraging for Tharptown fans to see the Wildcats remain competitive through it all.

"We've got two freshmen starting for us and another freshman, Hunter Motes, gets quite a bit of playing time after we brought him up to varsity a couple of games ago," Benford said. "It's good and bad having that youth movement. We don't have a lot of size and that's where we get beat sometimes. But our 9th grade guys have come on strong. Those first couple of games, the speed at the varsity level was a little overwhelming but they've caught up and have adjusted well."

Sitting at 1-2 in their area which consists of Hatton, Tanner and Whitesburg Christian Academy, there is certainly room to believe that if things break their way, the Wildcats could make some noise once the area tournament rolls around.

An ACL injury sidelined senior guard Hayden Moss earlier in the season and a knee injury to Tyler Amos, who figured to be the go-to guy for rebounding and interior defense for Benford and his squad, during football season decimated a large portion of the roster for the Wildcats.

Despite all of the injuries and COVID-19, Benford says that he's encouraged seeing what his squad has done against the odds.

"We're one of the fortunate teams that's been able to play a lot of games and we haven't really been affected by COVID that bad. The main challenge is keeping everyone together and getting enough time to practice," Benford said. "Three of our losses have come to 4A schools in Deshler, Central and West Limestone who we were able to hang around with for a while. But on the flip side we have two big wins against Phil Campbell and a win against Tanner so things have been pretty good for us this year with everything that's gone on."

The loss of Moss dealt a huge blow to the Wildcats who depended on the senior guard for a healthy chunk of their outside shooting.

But while Moss might not be able to make a direct impact on the court for the Wildcats, Benford says that the team is still finding ways to get the senior involved.

"Hayden is still at every practice and it really just keeps morale up. Everyone hates to see this kind of injury especially in his senior season. We're trying to keep him involved in any way that we can," Benford said. "We even tried to get him to dress out during the Bracy Tournament and keep him on the offensive-side and see if we could get him one last shot but it just didn't happen. But the guys love being around him and he has a huge impact on our team even when he's not out there."

As the Wildcats prepare to host the Franklin County varsity tournament over the next two weeks, they'll have to turn their focus towards attempting to compete with elite teams such as Belgreen and Red Bay as they search for a county title to add another building block in their foundation.

"Experience-wise is going to be our biggest challenge. Belgreen and Red Bay have been at the top of the county for the past couple of years and they both have some great players," Benford said. "We're just going to have to do what we do best and play hard and see what happens and hopefully things bounce our way."

Send your letters to the editor, guest columns, cartoon panels and other creative submissions to franklinfreepress@yahoo.com.

Now OPEN
In Phil Campbell! **FRANKLIN DISCOUNT DRUGS**
205-993-4554

Free Local Delivery!
Convenient Drive-Thru!
Most Insurance Accepted!

Mon.-Fri. 9-6
3145 Hwy 237
Phil Campbell



Next to Phil Campbell High School

Owner/Pharmacist
Wes Mayfield

Village at Oliver Place

Apartments & Townhomes

Water included starting at:
2 BR \$440 • 3 BR: \$512

205.993.5005. • Pike Avenue • Phil Campbell
TDD (Hearing impaired) 800.548.2546

43 Wash N Spin

31 Vincent Dr.
Just off Hwy 43
across from
Russellville
Fire Department

Open 7 days a week
6:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Laundromat/Lavanderia

'TOURNAMENT,' from page 12

Shoals Christian in the first half. Travis Staten chipped in three points in the first half while Andy Lopez contributed two points in the half.

The second half was more of the same for the Wildcats as Nolen would add ten more points to his total in the third quarter with six points in the fourth quarter, bringing him to the staggering 47 points. The Wildcats would also outscore the Flames by a 35-30 margin to close the book on Tharptown's lone win in the Bracy Invitational Tournament.

Dylan Valdez added six points on the night for the Wildcats while Hunter Motes added five points of his own. Edwin Vela contributed four points while Luis Valde and Blake Daily each added two points.

Miranda Decker, M.D.

INTERNAL MEDICINE

Comprehensive Adult Health Care



Russellville Internal Medicine, P.C.



535 Gandy Street NE
Russellville, AL 35653
256-332-1120

Mon-Thur
8-5

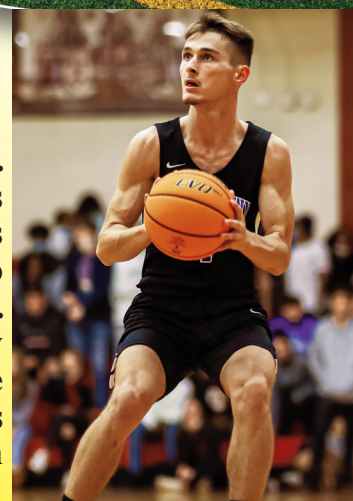
Congrats to Our New Years Bowl Game winner **MARTY W. HARGETT SR.**, who correctly picked six out of the nine games that were played and also won the tiebreaker!



Open **24** Hours

Winston Nolen Senior Forward Tharptown

Nolen had quite the ending to 2020. Not only did he put up 22 points against 4A Central and 28 points against West Limestone, but he also set a school-record along the way. Against Shoals Christian in the Bracy Invitational Tournament, Nolen broke the Tharptown record for most points in a single game, scoring 47 points in the win.



Hwy 43 • Russellville, across from Wal-Mart • 398-8448

The Largest and Freshest Salad Bar in Franklin County!

HEALTHIER, HAPPIER! EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO GET IN SHAPE FOR 2021!



JOIN NOW For

\$0 ENROLLMENT

LIMITED TIME ONLY!

Some restrictions apply. See club for details.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES:

- Hammer Strength & Lifetime Equipment
- Cardio w/ Individual TV's
- 24 Hour Gym & Tan Access
- Staffed Hours
- Private Showers
- Free Tanning
- Clean, Friendly & Fun Non Intimidating Environment
- Personal Training Available
- Senior Discounts
- Fitness on Demand Room
- ABS/Stretching Area
- Free WiFi



24465 Hwy 24 West
Russellville, AL 35653

256-331-9003



256-331-9003

24465 Hwy 24 RUSSELLVILLE

BUSINESS DIRECTORY



Advertise with us! Call 256.668.2708 or 256.332.0255

franklinfreepress.net

MOWING

Salvador's
LAWN SERVICE

(256) 810-2351

Free
Estimates
Licensed

MOWING • TRIMMING
MULCHING • CLEANING LEAVES
HEDGING & SHRUBS • EDGING

MASSAGE

REWARD YOURSELF OR
SOMEONE YOU
LOVE

256.332.4220
Angel Harris
Licensed Massage Therapist LMT #1495

Reiki Practitioner II

Gift Cards Available

Creative Image Salon

7129 Hwy 43 • Spruce Pine

LANDSCAPING

K&S TREE SERVICE
253 Laurelwood Dr. Russellville, Alabama

Trimming
Topping • Removal

Bucket Work
Stump Grinding

KARL RAGAN 256.332.9064

PEST CONTROL



**PREDATOR
PEST CONTROL**

"The Insect Predator"

Eddie Deaton
(256) 627-1996

50 Years Combined Experience

Toll Free 1-888-832-5405

(662) 862-5631

(662) 840-4055

HOUSING

256-332-1561
73 Flippen St

UNITS NOW AVAILABLE

Russellville
Housing Authority
Incorporated

"The standard for fixed-income
living in Russellville."



DISTRICT ATTORNEY



JOEY RUSHING
Franklin County District Attorney
256.332.8870 • 256.710.4713
(daytime) (after hours)

PERSONAL TRAINER

Personal Touch Fitness

Personal Training & Rehab



Weight Training - Abdominal Routine
Cardio and Flexibility Exercises
Nutritional Counseling

256-668-2844

Rickey Smith
Fitness Specialist

PUBLIC SERVICE

BUCKLE UP! It Could Save Your Life!

franklinsheriff.org
(256) 332-8811

Compliments of
**Shannon
Oliver**
SHERIFF



PETS

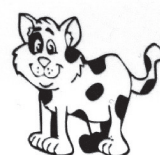
PAWS-N-PURRS

Daycare, Boarding & Grooming



1140 Ronnie McDowell Ave
Behind Pizza Hut

256-398-8112



SWAP SHOP

Call 24/7 to post items you have for sale,
trade, or want to buy. Also, you may
listen to items that have been called
in. There is NO CHARGE for
advertising your
noncommercial items.
Dial-A-Deal comes on
at 12:00 noon Monday
thru Friday on WFMH 95.5 FM.
"The Dial-A-Deal phone number
is really nifty; just remember
256-331-51 50."



THERE ARE
OTHER WAYS

TO GET
OUR INK!

MAILBOX • SMARTPHONE • TABLET • COMPUTER • RADIO



FRANKLINFREEPRESS.NET