



Truck load of NEW inventory ready for delivery!
Easy financing options w/ up to 12 months interest free! In house financing available.



Hours: 10-5 M thru Fr, 10-2 on Saturday

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

Kiel announces \$3.875 million rural broadband grant for Franklin County

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

After seeing more than its share of strikeouts with efforts to fund rural broadband expansion, Franklin County has hit a home run, thanks in large part to the efforts of Rep. Jamie Kiel.

Kiel announced Wednesday afternoon that the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs has awarded \$3,875,141.90 in grants to Franklin County for rural broadband expansion.

The grants will allow Tombigbee Electric Cooperative's Freedom Fiber to expand its fiber network into

the communities surrounding Hodges, Vina, Spruce Pine and the eastern portion of Franklin County east of Russellville to the Lawrence County line. The communities from Bethsaida and Tharptown to East Franklin and Phil Campbell will be included in the grant.

"This is a huge victory for our area," Kiel said. "But we are not through. I will continue to work through the legislative process to ensure everyone in Franklin County and House District 18 has access to rural broadband internet. In addition, I am grateful for the work since 2013 of the Franklin County Broadband Task

See 'GRANT,' page 7

Harris: 'No reason to rush' when it comes to RCS board appointment

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

The city hall auditorium was full Monday evening for the Russellville City Council meeting, but what most of the crowd came to see was removed from the agenda earlier that afternoon.

The council's original agenda for its May 3 meeting included the Russellville City Schools Board of Education seat occupied by Bret Gist. Gist's current term is set to expire June 1, 2021, and the room full of spectators, including several Russellville City Schools employees, came to see whether Gist would be reappointed or if someone else would be nominated.

In the end, neither came to fruition. The Board of Education consists of five members appointed by the Russellville City Council to five-year terms. Board members include Jerry Groce, Kim Clonts, Greg Trapp, Greg Batchelor and Gist.

Two of those board members reside in District One, represented by councilman David Palmer. Two board members live in District Four, represented by councilman Dexter Hamilton and one board member lives in District Three, represented by councilman Gary Cummings.

Districts Two and Five do not have a representative on the RCS Board of Education, and that doesn't sit well with its two councilmen, Darren

See 'HARRIS,' page 9

THORN LAWN CARE

Nick Thorn,
Owner-Operator

- Lawn Mowing
- Weed Control
- Pressure Washing
- Small Tree Removal
- General Clean Up

256.324.0694

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

Our team is ready to serve you!



531 St. Clair St., Russellville

Call 256.332.6888 to schedule your appointment today!

SingingRiverDentistry.com



Hablamos Espanol



FAMILY Pharmacy GROUP

BlueCross BlueShield of Alabama

Family Pharmacy of Littleville



Accepting Tricare and BCBS

1369 George Wallace Hwy

256.332.4021

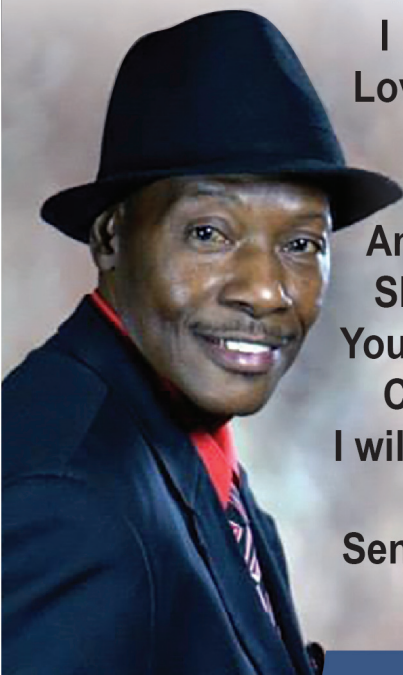


familypharmacygroup.com

In Loving Memory of
Rev. Michael West
 December 27, 1957-May 14, 2020.
 Love, the West Family

**Remember me with love and joy,
 Let gratitude fill your heart,
 Thankful for the time we had,
 Gone... yet not apart.
 If we measured life in moments,
 Not in months or years,
 I lived a hundred lifetimes,
 Loved by all who hold me dear.**

**I hope you'll find your smile,
 And generously speak my name.
 Share stories and my heart,
 Your love for life unchanged.
 Celebrate the life I lived,
 I will be watching from above.
 I am always with you,
 Sending you my light and love.**



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*

Charles Edward Poss, 80, of Phil Campbell, passed away on Thursday, May 6th. Interment at Cherry Hill Cemetery.

Melissa Gail West, 69, of Spruce Pine, passed away on Saturday, May 8th. Interment at Knights of Pythias Cemetery.

A&J Automotive
 12301 Hwy. 43 South
 Next to K&R Gas Mart

Hydraulic Hoses

Welding & Mobile Welding.
 Air Brake Lines, A/C Hoses.

7:00-5:00 • Callouts available
 256-324-7741

Check your heart

Your health means everything. And your heart is at the center of it all. That's why North Alabama Cardiology is expanding its extensive range of cardiac services to Franklin County with a part-time clinic in Russellville. **Brian Cole, MD** will provide screenings and cardiology services.

Don't make your health wait.
 To schedule an appointment, call **256.712.3177**

North Alabama Cardiology
NAMCCares.com

Satellite Clinic | 523D Gandy St. NE | Russellville, AL 35653

Not all providers affiliated with this service line are employed by North Alabama Medical Center, but rather, they are independent contractors responsible for their care and billing. Patients are encouraged to discuss with their provider the nature of his/her affiliation with North Alabama Medical Center if that relationship is important to them.

WANTED!

NEW CUSTOMERS
 We have money to lend.

Installment loans from
\$356 to \$1,486*
 Apply in person or by phone

14001 Highway 43 Ste 22
 Russellville, AL 35653
 (256) 332-9808
 www.securityfinance.com

*All loans are subject to credit limitations and our underwriting policies, including verifiable ability to repay. Actual loan proceeds may vary based upon loan terms and any ancillary products selected. Dollar amounts are rounded to the lowest whole dollar.



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

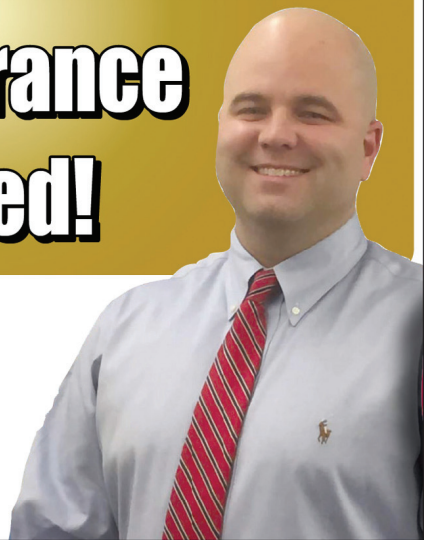
FREE Every 3rd Saturday of each month
Saturday, May 15th

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"

NOW OPEN **FRANKLIN DISCOUNT DRUGS**
In Phil Campbell! 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



Mike's Beverages
Lowest Vape Prices in Town!



MIKESBEVERAGES



Kangvape 1900 Puffs \$9.99

POP 400s Puffs \$5.99
Rare Mega 5000 Puffs \$15.99
King Vape 2 in 1 \$13.99
V Fun LED Vape \$11.99

13501 Hwy 43 • Russellville
256.332.5200

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!
\$5,000 Bonus for New Employees through May 2021!

Apply 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!



**"Eye Care & Eye Wear for
Your Unique Lifestyle"**

**256-332-5440
15255 Hwy 43
Russellville**

 **EyeCare Professionals**

www.eyecareprofessionalspc.com • M-F 8-5

Miranda Decker, M.D.

INTERNAL MEDICINE
Comprehensive Adult
Health Care



**Russellville Internal
Medicine, P.C.**



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

Mon-Thur
8-5

**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

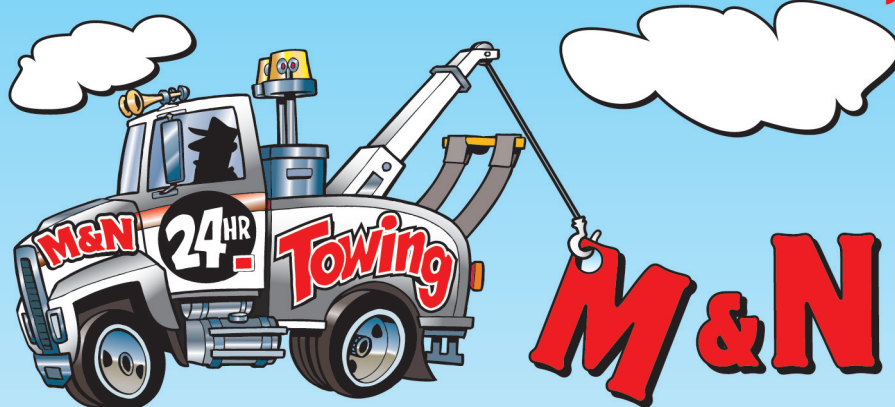
The *Franklin Free Press* is published by
hometown people, for hometown people. We urge contributions of all kinds,
including guest columns, picture submissions, cartoons or letters to the
editor. Send any letters to our office via U.S. Postal Service or e-mail, and
we will gladly publish them. Letters 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.

**Don't forget
to visit us
online at
[www.franklin
freepress.net!](http://www.franklin
freepress.net!)**

It's Your Choice,



**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

Welcoming **New Patients**



We would be honored to care for you and those you love.

Physicians (L-R):

Jack M. McLendon, MD, FACP | Jeremy Thompson, MD, FAAFP
Joshua D. Vacik, MD, FACP | Courtney Bowen, MD | Brian C. Richards, DO
Brad McAnalley, MD, FACP | Robert Dickson, DO

CALL

**(256) 383-4447
ext. 124**

*Like us... Share us...
Call us...*

www.MedShoals.com



1120 S. Jackson Hwy
Sheffield, AL



351 Alabama Hwy 64
Killen, AL

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!



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.

City's new animal ordinance bans ownership of chickens, exotic or wild animals

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

Why did the chicken cross the road?

Possibly to get out of Russellville, after the Russellville City Council enacted an ordinance limiting residents' ability to keep livestock, fowl and wild animals within Russellville city limits.

The ordinance was approved at the council's May 3 meeting by a 5-1 vote. District Two Councilman Darren Woodruff voted against the measure.

The new ordinance makes it unlawful for any person, within the city limits, to keep or have in his possession any fowl except for exotic birds that are maintained inside a dwelling in a cage as a pet or novelty.

Fowl are defined as "any large, live domestic bird including but not limited to chickens, guineas, turkeys, ducks, geese, homing pigeons, rheas, ostrich, emus and peacocks."

City Attorney Danny McDowell drafted the ordinance at the council's request after council members received numerous complaints regarding livestock roaming through the streets of the city.

Before the vote, Woodruff asked McDowell whether the proposed ordinance would outlaw having chickens outright.

"Yes, it makes it unlawful to have any fowl the way it is written," McDowell said.

Woodruff said he voted against the ordinance because he felt it was too restrictive.

"I don't want to tell someone they can't have fresh eggs. I think we could require chickens to be in a coop, and limit the number of birds you could have, while restricting any of them from running loose," Woodruff said. "We could have a limit of a few birds—just enough for people to have fresh eggs."

The new ordinance bans the keeping of swine, goats, sheep and rabbits outright and limits the ability to keep domesticated horses or cattle.

Those limitations include a minimum lot size of five acres or more, and the pasture must have permanent fencing in good condition. Corrals are limited to minimum areas of 10,000 square feet for the first animal, and an additional 1,000 square foot minimum for each additional animal.

All corrals and stables must be at least 150 feet from the property line of land owned by anyone other than the person keeping the animal.

Livestock includes "domesticated horses and cattle regardless of age or size."

Feeding pens are also unlawful under the new ordinance. The ordinance provides an exemption to property in an area already zoned for agricultural usage or to pastures and stables or corrals established prior to May 3, 2021, if continuously used.

The ordinance also addresses wild and exotic animals, including animals that "in their natural life are usually untamed and undomesticated, including animals that, as a result of their natural or wild condition, cannot be vaccinated effectively for rabies, with the exception of guinea pigs, hamsters, pet rabbits, or any animal used for instruction or research by an educational institution or medical facility."

Exotic animals are defined as: "any monkey, alligator, crocodile, raccoon, skunk, fox, bear, sea mammal, venomous snake, member of the feline species other than domestic cat, member of the canine species other than the domestic dog or any other animal that would require a standard of care greater than that required for customary household pets sold by commercial pet shops or domestic farm animals."

No exotic or wild animal may be kept at any location within the city limits, regardless of whether the animal was born and/or raised in captivity.

Enforcement of the ordinance will fall with the Russellville Police Department and/or the city's compliance officer, a position that is currently vacant. Violators will have three days after written notice from the city to remedy the violation. If the violation continues into a fourth day, the person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined up to \$500 and/or jailed for up to 60 days.

The enforcement took effect immediately upon its passage Monday night.

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

Farmers Home Furniture

Now Conducting Open Interviews!

NOW HIRING FOR WAREHOUSE WORKERS AND CDL CLASS A SPOTTER

The hiring event will be held at the Distribution Center located at 191 Sibley Drive in Russellville, AL on May 18th from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The positions offer competitive benefits and salary.

Applicants must possess the following:

- High School Diploma or GED equivalent
- The ability to meet physical requirements of lifting and/or carrying up to 50 pounds on a regular basis
- Operating forklift at heights of up to 30 feet with proper safety equipment
- A reliable means of getting to and from work
- The ability and willingness to work Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with mandatory overtime.
- Class A CDL required for spotter position only

We are a growing company founded in 1949 in Soperton, Georgia. We have over 250 retail locations in seven states and are opening new locations each year.




Applications can be completed at www.farmershomefurniture.com.


Equal Opportunity Employer.


What's Happening

256.332.0255

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

 In preparation for mowing season and before June 1, 2021, please remove all old flowers from the graves in the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery on Highway 724. Donations for upkeep are needed and may be mailed to: Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, 941 Highway 87, Russellville, AL., 35654.

 My Father's House invites everyone to a Fellowship Cookout, Sunday, May 16. No Sunday School that day. The Sunday morning service will begin at 10:30 a.m., with cookout right after service. There will be singing and preaching outside in front of the church after lunch. Church is located at 104 East Lawrence St., Russellville. For prayer and information or a ride, call 256-460-1376.

 The Belgreen Boys Basketball Camp will take place June 7 and 8 at Belgreen High School Gym. The camp is for boys from grades K-6. The K-3 group will have camp from 8-10 a.m., and the 4-6 grade from 10-12. The cost is \$30 if you preregister by May 27. Cost is \$40 after May 27. Please make checks payable to Belgreen Boys Basketball. Camp will be run by head coach Marty Cooper and assistant coach Jennifer Cooper. The Coopers have more than 20 years college coaching experience. Belgreen varsity players will also assist. Free camp t-shirt with registration. Call Coach Marty Cooper with any questions at 1-662-790-3672 or email to martycooper@franklin.k12.al.us. There is an information sheet that must be submitted with the registration fee.



Why Knot Diner

EAT

111 Jackson Avenue South
Russellville, AL
35653

Cheeseburgers
Hamburgers
Fried Bologna Sandwich
Chicken Sandwich
Hotdogs
Chips
Sweet Tea & Lemonade

* Call or Text ahead for Pick up on the GO 256-815-9974 *

GENERAL NOTICE ANNOUNCEMENT CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CLERK

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Coordinates the payments regarding the City's financial obligations, and tracks expenditures through computer software.
- Customer Service. Serves as a receptionist for City Hall. Provides general information and services for visitors.
- Tax Forms. Maintains and generates data and required information for employee income tax-related documents.
- Department and City Operations: Provides clerical and administrative assistance to support the effective and efficient operation of the department and City.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Possess a High School Diploma or GED; college coursework in a related field is preferred. Two years of office work experience; computer, book-keeping and accounting experience are preferred. Previous work in local government and experience working with the general public is preferred. Work experience paying bills for an organization is preferred. Satisfactory credit score on background check is required. Ability to be bonded. Ability to become a Notary Public. Ability to travel to attend meetings and training sessions

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 postmarked no later than May 28, 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 \$24,689.60 - \$38,062.20. The successful candidate will be required to successfully complete a complete physical examination including drug screening prior to employment.

Kevin G. Kelly, M.D.
Serving your family for over 30 years

FAMILY PRACTICE
Pediatrics
Newborn Care
256-331-5901

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



'GRANT,' from page 1

Force and its chairperson, Katernia Cole-Coffey. Cole-Coffey described news of the \$3.875 million grant as the most significant event since her task force began eight years ago.

"We are delighted to hear the news about the ADECA grant. It's a major step and great news for our county," Cole-Coffey said. "Receiving this funding is the fruition of years of work by many people, and there is more to do."

"To have this grant funding gives teeth to our efforts to bring reliable, affordable fiber-optic broadband to rural Franklin County," she added.

As he campaigned in 2018, Kiel pledged to work to bring greater access to broadband internet to rural areas within his district. Kiel has described broadband expansion as the "main objective" he's fought for in the Legislature. Last year, western Colbert County received a \$3 million plus loan-grant to expand fiber-optic internet service in that area.

"In this day and age, everyone needs access to internet. It is essential that our businesses, schools and families have access. This funding is a first step to greater connectivity for all of Northwest Alabama," Kiel said.

Tombigbee Electric's Freedom Fiber will be installing and maintaining the network. Steve Foshee, Tombigbee's CEO, credited the efforts of Kiel, Gov. Kay Ivey, ADECA Director Kenneth Boswell, the Franklin County Water Service Authority, Mark Stockton and the Franklin Electric Cooperative, the Franklin County Broadband Task Force and many others in helping make rural broadband funding a reality in Franklin County.

"Having a fiber-optic connection to home and business with Gig speeds will be life changing to the people of Franklin County. There is more area to get solutions to but this is a big start," Foshee said.

Scott Mugno, a member of the Board of Directors of the Franklin County Water Service Authority, shared Foshee's excitement about the ADECA grant.

"This gives us the opportunity to bring broadband into five big areas of need in Franklin County. It's a huge step forward in our efforts to bring broadband to all of Franklin County and it's the result of the dedication and hard work of many people and organizations," Mugno said.

In addition to the \$3.875 million grant from ADECA, Franklin County will receive more than \$6 million from Congress' American Recovery Act. More than \$3 million in funding will be received this month, according to Franklin County Probate Judge Barry Moore.

Kiel said those funds may be used for water, sewer and broadband proj-

ects. Moore said he and the Franklin County Commission support expanding broadband in Franklin County.

"We are proud of this opportunity for reliable, affordable, last-mile fiber-optic broadband internet that will be a benefit for all of the citizens of Franklin County, as well as providing economic growth for our county," Moore said.



Jeff Elledge's CREDIT CARS

NO CREDIT - WE FINANCE

05 Chevy Impala \$1200 Down	11 Volvo C30 \$1800 Down
04 Ford Explorer \$1200 Down	06 Toyota Avalon \$2000 Down
02 Buick Park Ave \$1500 Down	10 Nissan Cube \$2000 Down
08 Saturn Vue \$1500 Down	07 Lincoln Town Car \$2200 Down

elledge.jeff@gmail.com

2506 Woodward Ave • Muscle Shoals

256.383.7979 • 256.710.3711



Tasha Phinizee,
Owner of Beautiful P Boutique

When I was deciding where to locate my small business, reliable internet was a must. Without reliable, affordable broadband, we could not operate. We need broadband to run our security system,

cash register system and most of my inventory at Beautiful P Boutique is ordered online. Reliable internet is an absolute must for a small business.

BROADBAND MEANS: SMALL BUSINESS SUCCESS!

Reliable, affordable last-mile, fiber-optic broadband will move Franklin County forward by creating new opportunities for residents in many different ways. Call your elected officials and tell them you want reliable, affordable last-mile fiber-optic broadband.

- U.S. Sen. Tommy Tuberville (202) 224-4124
- U.S. Sen. Richard Shelby (202) 224-5744
- U.S. Rep. Robert Aderholt (256) 381-3450
- Rep. Jamie Kiel (334) 261-0521
- Rep. Proncey Robertson (334) 261-0454
- Sen. Larry Stutts (334) 261-0862

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

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

Russellville Housing Authority Incorporated

CHURCH

Come Worship with Us!
First Presbyterian Church
Sunday: 11:00 - 12:00
Adult Sunday School: 10:00 - 11:00
Everyone is invited to join us for this special time of worship.

201 N. Green Street, 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

Rickey Smith
Fitness Specialist

256-668-2844

PUBLIC SERVICE

BUCKLE UP! It Could Save Your Life!

franklinsheriff.org
(256) 332-8811

Compliments of **Shannon Oliver**
SHERIFF

THERE ARE OTHER WAYS

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."

TO GET OUR INK!



MAILBOX • SMARTPHONE • TABLET • COMPUTER • RADIO

FRANKLINFREEPRESS.NET

WELCOMING NEW PATIENTS!



Haley Knight,
MSN, CRNP, FNP-C
FAMILY MEDICINE



The Russellville Hospital Medical
Clinic provides comprehensive medical
care for children to adults.

Urgent Care Walk ins Welcome.
No Appointments Necessary.

15225 Hwy. 43 • Suite I • Russellville, AL

256-331-2700



"A Tradition of Excellence"

RUSSELLVILLE CITY SCHOOLS
Heath Grimes, Superintendent

Russellville City Board of Education
1945 Waterloo Road
Russellville, Alabama 35653
April 30, 2021

Bids must be returned by;
2:00 P.M. on June 30, 2021

To Whom it May Concern,

Sealed bids will be received by the Russellville City Board of Education at its office in
Russellville, Alabama, until the above time and date, and then opened as soon thereafter as
practicable.

The Russellville City Board of Education is soliciting bids on the following;

The sale of surplus real property known as College Avenue Elementary School, located at 515
College Avenue NW, Russellville, Al. 35653. No errors will be corrected after bid date and time.
Russellville City Schools reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

You are invited to bid with the following considerations;

This sale of property will include all three structures (the original school building, the cafeteria
building and the old kindergarten building). Also, any property associated with said location
owned by Russellville City Schools (Approximately 4.3 +/- Acres). The School Board is
requiring bidders to include their plans for the property within their bid package. **The new
owner must begin work to repair or demolish the structures within six months of the
approval date of the winning bid by the Russellville City School Board.** If actions are not
compliant within the six month time frame, the winning bid will be rejected and awarded to the
second highest bidder or this bid process will be voided and a second bid process will be
completed.

Property known as College Avenue Elementary School; \$ _____

Bid packets can be obtained from our website at
www.rcs.k12.al.us (Select department, then bids)

'HARRIS,' from page 1

Woodruff and Jamie Harris.

"I believe there should be a balance where every council district is represented on the school board," Harris said. "I was elected by the people of District Five to represent District Five and I plan to and want to have someone from my district on every board in the city."

Five years ago, Harris nominated Gist to serve another term on the Board of Education, even though Gist's residence was in District Four. Harris was in his first term as District Five councilman at the time.

Now in his third term, Harris said he's resolved to see someone from his district fill that seat. Although there was wide speculation about who Harris would nominate Monday night, it never got that far after Harris requested the board appointment be removed from the agenda.

"I did ask to take it off the agenda. There's no reason to rush it, so we decided to slow down and evaluate further," Harris said.

Woodruff, who campaigned on the platform that he would nominate a District Two resident to serve on the RCS Board of Education, watched last October as the council approved Palmer's nominations of Greg Trapp to be reappointed and Clonts to fill Judy Pounders' seat. Those appointments were done at the final meeting before Woodruff took office.

With the Alabama Legislature's recent action to move municipal elections scheduled for 2024 to 2025, the Russellville City Council will serve one additional year on this term and Woodruff will have the opportunity to nominate a board member during his term.

When it comes to the idea that every district must be represented on the Board of Education, though, not every council member is on board.

"When you consider school board candidates, you must consider the quality of the candidates and what each brings to the table," Palmer said. "What's important is the well-being of the students, teachers and you go upward through the administrators.

"And if we end up with more school board members from one district over another, that's what we end up with," he added.

Palmer said the emphasis should always be on students first, then teachers. In order for students to receive the best education possible, that starts with quality teachers.

"I understand there's a push from our new council members to even out board appointments, but there's not a consensus on that, I assure you. I'm a 100 percent advocate for our teachers. If the emphasis isn't on the students and the teachers, we're not doing our job properly," Palmer said.

The entire council unanimously approved Palmer's nominations of Trapp and Clonts, even though that gave District One multiple seats on the school board.

"I never get involved in another council member's board appointment," Harris said when asked why he supported two appointments from District One.

Since he nominated Gist five years ago, Harris said he was waiting for that term to end before he made a nomination to fill it with a District Five resident.

Harris said he has nothing against Gist and his plan to nominate someone else was a fulfillment of a campaign promise to District Five residents.

"It's nothing personal. This seat is up for appointment and I want to nominate a quality member of my district to fill it. I made the motion to appoint Bret Gist last time, so obviously I have no personal issues with him," Harris said.

Harris said he's heard from residents who support another term for Gist, and he's spoken with residents who have expressed support of having a District Five representative on the board of education.

Gist told the *FFP* he sent an email to Mayor David Grissom and all council members expressing his interest in serving another term. Harris said he had spoken with Gist before the last council meeting and they spoke again by phone last week.

43 Wash N Spin



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

Laundromat/Lavanderia

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



Classifieds

256.332.0255

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

YARD SALES

Moving Sale.
Friday/Saturday, May 21/22. 7 a.m.-until. 491 Bates Landing Road. Lots of furniture, stove, refrigerator, microwave, Dining Room suite, coffee and end tables, bedroom furnishings and more.
Yard Sale! Friday &

Saturday, May 14th & 15th at Grace Covenant Church on Hwy 24 west, approximately two miles on the right. Lots of baby items, furniture, clothes, etc.

Yard Sale Saturday May 15th 7:00 am until 3:00pm. 125 Tony Ave across from Summit

Pool-grey siding house in woods (Turn left off Wilson Blvd onto Summit St and right on Tony Ave). Lots of name brand clothing, sizes medium and name brand shoes, purses, Household items, etc See you Saturday!!

FREE Tin Cans for recycling. 20 shopping bags full. Belgreen area. Call 216-956-5658.

Nice pair of hedge trimmers. Call (256)-856-4139.

FOR RENT

One bedroom with yard and patio. For information call 256-332-5081 or 256-627-1996.

FOR SALE

Baby Stroller. Good condition. \$15. Baby Saucer. Good condition. Pink in color. Does not roll. \$15. Call 256-332-5415.

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.

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

Considere comprar una propiedad pronto, la economia esta estable con bajas tasas de interes en el Norte de Alabama hay buenas oportunidades de negocios y trabajo.



Enrique Aguilar Engel & Voelker
256-740-2356

JOB OPPORTUNITY
Kitchen Help Needed. Full-time or Part-time at Pilgrim's Place BBQ in Russellville. Apply in person or call 256-332-1007 for more information.

PETS

Two Cats free to good home. Two brothers, approximately 7 months old. Must adopt together. Call 256-332-8324 or 256-324-9652.

FOR FREE

Blue & Yellow Oriental Iris Plants. FREE to good home. A dozen bunches available. You dig them up. Located in Belgreen. Call 216-956-5658.

HELP WANTED
Experienced Short-Order Cook.
Apply Inside.
CJ's. Hwy. 24 in Belgreen.

FLEA MARKET
115 Laurel Ave., behind Burger King in Russellville.
Open Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10-6.
Wide variety of everything! Christmas décor, books, clothing, what nots, glassware, MORE!



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

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

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

APARTMENTS FOR RENT:

Russell de Villa Apartments in Russellville has openings for 1BR & 2BR apartments. Rent based on income.
Background screening includes criminal, partial credit and past landlord.
Applications are take M,W,F from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Call 256-332-7873.



Willodean's
on **WGOL**

Tune in to WGOL 100.7 FM to hear "Real Estate Tips with Willodean" weekdays at 8 a.m. and 12 p.m. Davis is the owner/broker of Davis Realty & Associates in Russellville.



Davis Realty & Assoc., Inc.
"We sell anything under the Sun!"



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

RHS soccer concludes historic season with state runner-up finish

Brady Petree
 Franklin Free Press

Since it began in 2017, the Russellville soccer program has been on the rise in terms of its reputation as an up-and-coming elite soccer program in Alabama. And so there wasn't any doubt as to if the soccer program would become a championship contender. The only question was: when would it do so?

And head coach Trey Stanford and his squad got that answer last week as the Golden Tigers boys team managed to secure a spot in the 4A/5A AHSAA state championship game in Huntsville.

According to Stanford, while the 2021 season might only be the fifth season in program history for the Golden Tigers, the support that the program has received from both the community and the Russellville administration to this point has been nothing short of massive.

"The community has wanted soccer for a while and Dr. Grimes stepped in and made it happen. They had been wanting it for years and now the community has been all in on it, just the way they are with athletics, academics and clubs. The support here is second to none," Stanford said. "Academics come first of course, but winning in athletics is expected too and we have a fantastic support system top to bottom and they do a fantastic job in giving the resources needed to achieve that success."

Before the Golden Tigers got the opportunity to play for a state championship, they had to go through Crossville High School in the semifinals in what was as exhilarating of a high school soccer match that you'll find for miles around.

Tied at 2-2 headed into extra time, the Golden Tigers needed someone to step up and give them an edge in any way possible.

"We got down in the first half and subbed several guys in and we managed to tie it up and I really think we had a solid advantage when it came to our depth. Toward the middle part of the match, it just felt like momentum had swung in our direction. We told our guys at halftime that we've just got to believe. We knew we were facing a good team in Crossville but you guys are a better team," Stanford said. "Johnathan Salgado managed to score and tie things back up at 2-2 and our crowd went wild. After that you could see it in our guys eyes that they weren't going to accept a loss."

In extra time, Juan Cano came through for the Golden Tigers in a huge way.

Cano managed to give the Golden Tigers the lead and the win after the goalkeeper mishandled the shot by Cano to send Russellville to the state championship game.

Squaring off with Indian Springs in the state championship match, the Golden Tigers fell by a final of 2-0, coming up just short of the program's first state title.

See 'SOCCER,' page 13

Moving on to the semis

Golden Tigers sweep Alexandria to set up semifinal showdown with Madison Academy

Brady Petree
 Franklin Free Press

RUSSELLVILLE - The term "trust the process" has been adopted by sports teams across the world in hopes of one day turning a team or franchise into a championship contender. And while that term might be reserved in most cases for teams at the highest level, the Russellville Golden Tigers baseball team has adopted a similar mantra which has led them to their successes over the years.

And as the Golden Tigers head into their 5A semifinal matchup with Madison Academy beginning on Wednesday, they'll stick to that same saying in hopes of propelling them to a state title berth.

"We're going to have two great days of process-oriented practice, where we focus not on the results we get, but by the process by which we go about our business with," Heaps said. "That's how we roll. We're not worried about results, and we're not a results-oriented team. We're a process-oriented team. Our guys believe in the process that we have and we've had a great process the whole season and we'll continue to do so."

But before the Golden Tigers could turn their attention to the Mustangs and the semifinals, they had to weather the storm (literally) in their quarter-final series against Alexandria.

Jumping out to a 1-0 lead in the first inning after an error by Alexandria, Russellville would extend their lead by three more runs in the second inning to make it 4-0 after RBIs from John David Bishop, Eli Gipson and Jackson Lindsey.

Alexandria would plate their only run in the top of the third before the Golden Tigers got the run back in the home half of the third. The last run of game one came across the plate in the bottom of the fourth inning on an RBI single from Reed Hill to give Russellville a 6-1 lead after four innings.

Then Mother Nature decided to make her presence felt.

After a rain delay of more than an hour and a half, play resumed with Emitt Green going back out on the mound. There might have been some room for concern after having his starter sit for more than an hour, especially once Green hit the first Alexandria batter after the delay. However, Heaps knew his senior ace would be up for the challenge.

And he was right.

Green continued to do what he had done over the course of this entire season: mow through line-ups with relative ease.

"Emitt did a really good job and threw a lot of strikes. Coming back after the delay and hitting that first guy kinda worried me just a little bit. But he settled in and did what he does by pounding the zone and giving us a chance," Heaps said.



PHOTO BY KYLE GLASGOW

Green, above, managed to come out after the rain delay and allowed only two baserunners in his final three innings of work.

After sealing the deal in game one, game two was pushed to Thursday due to the rain delay.

And if you're a fan of a good old fashioned pitchers duel, game two was the game to be in attendance. As game two was scoreless after the seventh inning, the Golden Tigers and Alexandria were forced to go all the way down to nine innings. And Rowe Gallagher and Reed Hill combined for nine scoreless innings only scattering three hits the entire game.

Russellville, playing as the away team in game two, went into the top of the ninth inning still searching for their first run of the ballgame.

And they got one... and another... and another... well, you get the picture.

Canyon Pace got the ball rolling in the inning, scoring Gipson on a fielder's choice for the first run of the game for either squad. Hill then singled home a pair of runs to quickly put the Golden Tigers up 3-0. A trio of singles from Grayson Thorpe, Casen Heaps, and Banks Langston made it a 7-0 ballgame with each coming away with at least one RBI in the inning with Heaps knocking in two runs.

Nick Smith singled home another run after Lindsey popped out to center and Pace followed up the Smith single with one of his own to make it a 9-0 game.

After the inning came to a close, the Golden Tigers plated nine runs in the inning to take game two by a 9-0 final.

Seeing Hill and Gallagher bounce back after a rough outing in round two against Corner is an encouraging sign for the Golden Tigers.

See 'SEMIS,' page 14

STIHL



POWER THROUGH SPRING CLEANING

FS 38

Hardworking, lightweight, and ready to get the job done so you can move on.

\$139⁹⁹

REAL STIHL. FIND YOURS.



HSA 45 BATTERY HEDGE TRIMMER

\$129.99

Includes charger and built-in battery.



"Light weight and easy to use."

- Haefdh



FS 56 C-E TRIMMER

\$219.99



"This trimmer is a great value."

- Alwaysstihlin



BG 50 HANDHELD BLOWER

\$139.99



"Powerful and lightweight."

- Kevin2376



16" bar†

MS 170 CHAIN SAW

\$199.99



"It starts easily and runs great."

- Dick44

See Jamie Kiel Today!

Kiel Equipment • Hwy 43 Russellville
www.kielequipment.com

STIHL®

All prices are DSRP at participating dealers while supplies last. †The actual listed guide bar length may vary from the effective cutting length based on which powerhead it is installed on. Check out these reviews and others on the product pages at STIHLdealers.com. ©2021 STIHL



BELGREEN BOYS BASKETBALL CAMP

June 7 & 8, 2021! Belgreen H.S. gym for grades K-6. Grades K-3, 8 a.m.-10 a.m., Grades 4-6 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Cost: \$30 if you pre-register by May 27. \$40 after May 27. Make checks payable to Belgreen Boys Basketball. Free camp shirt for each camper. Camp run by coaches Marty & Jennifer Cooper. They have over 20 years college coaching experience.

Detach below & mail to:

**Marty Cooper, Belgreen High School
14420 Hwy 187, Russellville, AL 35653**

Camper Name: _____
 Parent Name: _____
 Home Address: Street: _____
 City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____
 Emergency contact Number: _____
 Grade student will be in 21-22 _____
 Circle T-shirt size below:
 Youth: X-small Small Med Large XL
 Adult: Small Medium Large XL

'SOCCER,' from page 11

"Juan scores that goal with 30 seconds left in overtime and everyone was just elated. It's just such a great opportunity for everyone on our team, especially the younger ones we've got on the team. To be able to be a part of something like that is special," Stanford said. "Each of our guys played tremendously well for us in those crucial spots. Daniel Juan Francisco, Elisiano Francisco and Christian Merida all came in off the bench and played outstanding along with Emmanuel Martinez. Those four especially did a great job coming into the game and keeping our level of play where we wanted it to be."

And while they fell in the state championship game by a 2-0 final to Indian Springs just one day later, make no mistake about it, the Golden Tigers will be back.

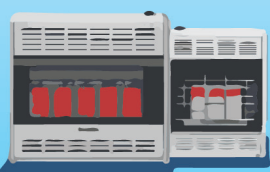
Stanford and his staff already have no trouble garnering interest in the soccer program and for a team that loses only four starters and a plethora of young up-and-coming talent that will soon be infused into the mix for the Golden Tigers, this team will be a fixture in the final four for years to come.

"When I first got here, a lot of people had never been to a soccer match. And once we started, and we played those first couple of matches, people were hooked. Every kid wants to play for a state championship, that's the goal. And as a player you chase that dream and that's what the kids here want. So in a sense we've kind of gotten everyone even more fired up for Russellville soccer moving forward," Stanford said. "Our kids are ready to go right now for next season and I think that they believe that we can go back next year and we face that team one more time and we feel good about where we would be at."

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!

Russellville Gas Board Natural Gas Appliance Rebates & Financing

Call for details **256.332.2020** **Financing Available**

Space Heater
 Rebate of 
\$300 / up to **\$600** total
 per heater

Loan Features:

- Can finance 100% of installation costs
- Monthly loan payment added to utility bill
- Quick approval process
- Fixed rate loan terms are available up to 6 years
- No prepayment penalty
- Must use licensed contractor
- Available to residential owner-occupied single-family and duplex homes

Clothes Dryers
 High efficiency, less wrinkling and economical drying

\$100 Rebate

Ranges
 Instant and precise heat control when preparing meals for your family and friends

\$100 Rebate

Primary Home Heating Units
 Superior heating to bring warmth and comfort to your home

\$800 Rebate

Water Heaters
 Reliable hot water for your home

\$500 Rebate

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

Village at Oliver Place Apartments & Townhomes Water included starting at:

2 BR \$455 • 3 BR: \$525



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



'SEMIS,' from page 11

hope can continue as the Golden Tigers continue to make a deeper push into the postseason.

"Rowe didn't have his best performances here recently but his stuff is still good enough to put up zeroes on the board for us. And when he got behind 2-0 on one guy, we had already had a few walks and I just felt like we couldn't afford another freebie right there," Heaps said. "And we had Reed in the pen warming up for us that could handle that situation a little better and it was a good call because Reed came in and got the strikeout and that was huge for us."

As the Golden Tigers turn their attention towards the Mustangs this week,

"It's going to be fun.

This is what you work for and everything that we've done up to this point with the weightlifting, the practicing, the mental training and everything that we've done has been for this moment," Heaps said. "And we are highly prepared for a series like this. We just have to relax and do what we do. Madison Academy is a very experienced team but it's going to be a great matchup. We've faced some really good pitching this season and I feel like we're ready for whatever is thrown at us. It doesn't matter to me who we play or where we play. All that matters is how we play."

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

Job Opportunity

Franklin County Water Service Authority (FCWSA) is accepting completed application with accompanying resume for the following position until 4 pm on Friday, May 21st, 2021.

Part-time Meter Reader

An application may be obtained via email request to beverlyscott@fcwsa.net. No telephone calls, please.

FCWSA is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability or any other protected class of individuals in employment or provision of services.



Bowling Family Medical Clinic

- We are a primary care and walk-in clinic
- We accept all insurance, including Medicaid
- Convenient location at 1369-A, Hwy 43 in Littleville

Se Habla Español!

256-333-4118

Mon. - Thurs, 8 - 6
Fri., 8 - 12, Sun., 1-5



Emma Dempsey Senior, Pitcher Belgreen

Dempsey was simply perfect in the Lady Bulldogs area tournament opening win over Phillips. The senior righthander went five innings allowing no one to reach while striking out 15 in the win for a perfect game. Dempsey again struck out 15 in the next area game for the Lady Bulldogs against Hackleburg before striking out nine in the area tournament title game. All told, Dempsey finished her week with 39 strikeouts in 21 innings pitched while only allowing one earned run in the tournament.



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

The Largest and Freshest Salad Bar in Franklin County!



Reliable Affordable Last-Mile Fiber Optic Broadband will connect Franklin County to the World!

The opportunity to fund and build the infrastructure for last-mile fiber optic broadband serving all Franklin County is now. State grant funding and local funds from the latest COVID Relief Bill can make it happen. This funding means fewer restrictions as we invest in the future of our county. That funding, along with local service carriers, provides our best chance to bring broadband to all Franklin County citizens. Our future can't wait.

Our County Commissioners understand that fiber optic broadband service for ALL county residents is essential. They need to know that you support their efforts. Tell Judge Barry Moore, and Commissioners Joseph Baldwin, David Hester, Jason Miller and Chris Wallace to continue investing in our county's future.



**FREE
PRE-APPRENTICESHIP
PROGRAM**

**GET IN
GEAR!**

CTE 101

**Enrollment Deadline:
May 27th**

**EARN UP TO 22
CERTIFICATIONS
IN AS FEW AS
7 - 10 WEEKS**

For more information:
Call or Text: 256-415-6992
Email: tfranks@nwscc.edu

