

Solid Pine Log Bed

Reg. \$1,299

Sale Price \$847!

Easy Financing Options for up to 12 months same as cash on all furnishings

Dresser and Night Stand not included

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

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

Thompson's quick response saves life of Franklin Pharmacy customer

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

As a pharmacist at Russellville's Family Pharmacy, Angela Thompson works every day to help people enjoy healthy lives.

Last week, though, Thompson did much more than that as she revived an unresponsive customer seated in a car in front of the pharmacy.

On June 10th, a man came into Family Pharmacy to fill a prescription. He came back inside moments after leaving and he told the staff his father was not breathing and an ambulance was needed.

That's when Thompson raced outside and pulled the man from the car, laid him on the ground and began chest compressions. The man started to breathe minutes later, but then

stopped, so Thompson continued her lifesaving treatment.

She was able to revive him moments before the ambulance arrived to transport him to a hospital.

All Family Pharmacy employees go through regular lifesaving training and are certified and trained to use lifesaving procedures if necessary. It's a requirement because pharmacy staff gives immunizations to customers.

Confident in her training, Thompson moved swiftly to render aid to the man.

"This was the first time I've used the training we received. While we were receiving the training, I never expected I'd have to use it in my profession but it's something I knew how to do and I just reacted," Thompson

See 'THOMPSON,' page 3

THORN LAWN CARE

Nick Thorn, Owner-Operator

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

256.324.0694

ALABAMA GUN & PAWN

Fishing Tackle - HUGE Supply!
New Shipment of Ammo!

15347 Hwy 43 • 256-332-1108

Jury needs less than one hour to convict Mills of murder

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

A Franklin County jury needed less than an hour to find a Phil Campbell man guilty of murder in a trial held last week.

Jerry Ronald Mills, 65, was convicted of killing his roommate, Jason Floyd Baker, who was 39 at the time of his death.

According to Franklin County District Attorney Joey Rushing, Mills shot Baker after a dispute over money. Mills and his attorney, Jamie Sumerel of Russellville, asserted the defense that Mills was acting in self-defense when he shot Baker.

A pistol was recovered at the residence on the day of the shooting, January 6, 2019.

On that day, Franklin County Sheriff's investigators were called to a residence at 194 Rock Church Road after receiving a 911 call about a shooting.

"Mills is the one who called 911," said Franklin County Sheriff Shannon Oliver. He told the dispatcher, 'I shot someone,' and actually stayed on the line talking with dispatcher until we arrived."

The verdict came around noon on Thursday, approximately 50 minutes after deliberations began.

With Mills' prior criminal history and with a conviction involving a firearm, his sentencing range will be from 20 years to life, Rushing said, thus making him ineligible for probation.

"The state will be asking for life. We

See 'MILLS,' page 5

Taking care of your family's dental needs

Brett M. Bowen, DDS

Bowen Family Dentistry

243 Underwood Road • Russellville 256.332.4000

Beautiful P Boutique

Fashions For Anyone

NOW OPEN

Men's, Women's, Children's Clothing
Shoes, Purses
Hair, Lashes

"Max Style with Minimal Prices!"

13150 Hwy 43, Ste 8
Urgent Care Shopping Center
10-6 Tues - Fri. and 10-3 Sat.
(256) 398-8935

RUSSELLVILLE DENTAL CARE

Everyone Deserves To Smile!

Dr. Steve Hammack & Staff

NEW LOCATION!

510 Engle Dr SE
(256) 332.6073

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

FAMILY Pharmacy GROUP

BlueCross BlueShield of Alabama

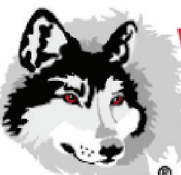
Family Pharmacy of Littleville

Accepting Tricare and BCBS
1369 George Wallace Hwy
256.332.4021
familypharmacygroup.com

ALABAMA GUN & PAWN INC.



**HUGE 5-Pallet
Shipment of Steel
Cased Ammunition
Just Arrived!**



WOLF
PERFORMANCE AMMUNITION

Large Supply!
No LIMIT!

**New Shipment
of Ammo!**



9MM:

50 Rd. Box ..\$29.99

1,000 Rd. Case .. \$579.99



7.62 x 39mm:

20 Rd. Box ..\$9.99

1,000 Rd. Case .. \$379.99



*300 AAC Blackout

20 Rd. Box ... \$19.99, 500 Rd. Case ... \$479.99

*223

20 Rd. Box ... \$12.99, 1,000 Rd. Case ... \$579.99

15347 Hwy 43 • 256-332-1108



LOCAL • PERSONAL • CARING

Monuments are Designed & Lettered in our local shop.
On-site Engraving & Sandblasting
Franklin County's Home Owned and Operated Monument Dealer!

Grant & Beverly Atkins
403 East Lawrence Street
Russellville, Alabama

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

Iller M. Hargett, 85, of Russellville, passed away on Wednesday, June 16th. Interment at Knights of Pythias Cemetery.

Jerry Don King, 55, of Russellville, passed away on Monday, May 17, 2021.

Jerry Don had a good heart and he loved fishing. Above everything, he loved his momma and did everything he could to help her.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Jennifer King.

He leaves to cherish his memory his children, Shelby King, Matthew King, Whitney Allen; mother, Jewel Lindsey; father, Donald King (wife, Margaret); brother, Michael Quillen; special aunts & uncles, Wanda & Samuel Mitchell, Darlene & Carlos Borden; and a host of friends.

A private family graveside service was held at Bethlehem Cemetery. Bro. Samuel Mitchell spoke at the service. Spry Memorial Chapel assisted the family.

Betty Mae Mills, 85, passed away on Saturday, June 19th. Interment at Oak Grove Cemetery.

Roy Simmons Nagle, 86, of Russellville, passed away on Thursday, June 17th. Interment at Gravel Hill Cemetery.

Jeff Elledge's
CREDIT CARS

NO CREDIT WE FINANCE

98 Honda Accord
\$1000 Down
10 Ford Fusion
\$1800 Down
09 Mercury Milan
\$1500 Down
07 Kia Sportage
\$2000 Down

02 Buick Park Ave
\$1200 Down
02 Nissan Xterra
\$1000 Down
08 Saturn Vue
\$1000 Down
03 Honda Element
\$1500 Down

elledge.jeff@gmail.com

2506 Woodward Ave • Muscle Shoals
256.383.7979 • 256.710.3711

Where Everybody
Knows Your Name...



'THOMPSON,' from page 1

said. For Family Pharmacy co-owner and pharmacist Jody Kiel, though, it was far more than just 'a reaction.'

"I was just overwhelmed when I heard what (Angela) had done. I think she is a true hero," Kiel said.

Thompson said if one of her loved ones was in a similar situation, she hopes there would be someone with lifesaving training who would not hesitate to render aid.

"If my family member was the one not breathing, I'd want someone else to react as quickly as possible. I just knew what I was supposed to do and did it," Thompson said.

Kiel said Janice Pennington does much of the training for Family Pharmacy employees, although Thompson went through a different course.

"Although you never think you'll use it, we are all trained regularly on life-saving techniques and are certified. You hope you'll never have to use it but Angela never hesitated," Kiel said.

Thompson has been a pharmacist at Family Pharmacy since October 2017.

Pest Solutions



**Pest & Mosquito
Control**
256-332-4008



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!

Mike's Beverages
**Lowest Vape
Prices in Town!**

MIKESBEVERAGES
Follow us!
Instagram

**Moji Mega's
3000 Puffs.**
\$10.99



- POP 400s Puffs \$5.99**
- Rare Mega 5000 Puffs \$15.99**
- King Vape 2 in 1 \$13.99**
- V Fun LED Vape \$11.99**
- Kangvape 1900 Puffs \$9.99**

13501 Hwy 43 • Russellville
256.332.5200



PHOTO BY JOHN PILATI

Family Pharmacy staff, from left: Jody Kiel, Haley Hargett, Marina Ramos, Ginger Hill, Angela Thompson, Kaylie Hamby and Kenzie Fowler.

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!

My take on this... It's good to be back!

One of the sweetest compliments I have been receiving is that I've been told that I have been missed. Knowing I have brightened someone's day or given them a laugh or two is very nice to hear. Thank you all so much for your love and support!

I'm glad that I have helped make a difference in the lives of others. You have definitely made my life much better!

I never imagined that the *little* words would make a *big* difference to me. I've made new friends and reconnected with some from long ago. Thank you, John, for allowing me to contribute to your paper and being a part of the Franklin Free Press family.

With all of this being said, I needed to take a break from what I enjoy doing. Life was throwing a lot of challenges my way and it was becoming a brain overload. I was pleased to know my brain could hold so much without exploding! I guess that gives me a few bragging rights.

The lessons I keep learning in my life are exciting to me, as well as challenging at times. I have come to realize the difficult and unexpected have become the most memorable.

Stepping back did help refresh my mind. It was everything I needed to get back what I was losing. When I started losing my train of thought in the middle of a sentence, I knew my everyday life was needing some valued attention. Lo and behold, I hit that nail on the head!

It's very important to stay in charge and stay invested in your personal life. Know yourself well. Know what makes you tick and what stops your ticking (and no, I'm not talking about a clock). Knowing all of that is the key to knowing when it's necessary to step back and re-evaluate. I know for a fact that it does matter and it will make a difference.

Did you know if you don't acknowledge your self-worth, you should never expect anyone else to? As a rule, what you transmit to others reflects the true person you are.

Always strive to be the person you want to be and if you do that, chances

See 'TAKE,' Page 5



Gail Motes

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

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.franklinfreepress.net!**

NOW HIRING

**\$4,000 sign-on bonus for
all new employees
through 7/31/21!**

Benefits include: Medical, Dental, Vision,
Vacation, Holidays, 401K and Night Shift
Starting hourly pay from \$13.40 - \$17.25

**Join the Pilgrim's team by applying in
person at our NEW Muscle Shoals
office, 204 Woodward Ave., from 11-7
Monday-Friday and 8-2 Saturday, or our
plant at 2045 Hwy. 244 in Russellville, or
online at www.pilgrimsusa.com.**

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

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



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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

Corrections Officer/Dispatcher

Non-Certified Property Appraiser

in the Franklin County Commission Office until 5:00 PM on Friday, July 2, 2021.

An application and job description(s) 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.

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

‘MILLS,’ from page 1

feel like he is a dangerous offender who has already killed another person and a jury ruled that case was not self-defense,” Rushing said.

Rushing was referring to a 2012 manslaughter conviction where Mills was sentenced to 20 years for shooting a Russellville man. The Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals reversed the conviction and ordered a new trial in that case.

Mills also asserted self-defense in that trial, but jurors were not convinced he killed 70-year-old in self-defense.

Rushing said that case remains pending in Franklin County Circuit Court.

He expressed his appreciation to the Franklin County Sheriff’s Office and investigator Jordan Seahorn for their work in the Mills case.

“The sheriff’s department did a great job working this case under the direction of Investigator Seahorn. I appreciate their efforts in bringing justice to the victim and his family,” Rushing said.



COURTESY PHOTO

It took jurors less than one hour to convict Mills, above, of murder.

‘TAKE,’ from page 4

are far better that you will become that person. It is of the utmost importance to know when you have of yourself to give to others and when you are running on empty. You can’t function on empty. As I’ve said, it simply means there are times you have to put yourself first. It’s not being selfish!

It is good to be back!
As always, until later...



Red Bay Hospital

WE MAKE IT EASY FOR YOU TO STAY HOME!

CHOOSE RED BAY HOSPITAL’S OUTPATIENT SERVICES

ECHOCARDIOGRAMS ● CAROTID DOPPLER STUDIES

ULTRASOUND ● X-RAY ● CT ● MRI

LAB ● IV INFUSIONS

PHYSICAL THERAPY

MAMMOGRAPHY



(256) 356-9532
HELENKELLER.COM/RED-BAY-HOSPITAL

Turn your home...

into an outdoor paradise!



We Do Custom Hardscaping!

256.332.8181

HWY 43 • Littleville

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 July 21, 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.


2005 Ford Escape XLT
VIN: 1FMYU03185KA86967


What's Happening


256.332.0255


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


 There will be a VFW meeting on Thursday, June 24th at 6 p.m. at the VFW Hall on Lawrence Street in Russellville. All members are urged to attend.


 Crooked Oak Baptist Church will host Vacation Bible School on Saturday, June 26, from 9-2. Classes for K-6th grade and 7th-12th grade. Grab your hard hat and tools! VBS is "Under Construction!" Join the crew for a day of groundbreaking fun as we learn how to build our foundation in God!. The church is located at 3000 Frankfort Road, Tuscumbia. Registration begins at 8:30, pick up at 2 p.m. For more information, or for a ride, call 205-447-5037 or 256-810-1859.

 Kids from 3-16 are invited to attend Vacation Bible School at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church on Saturday, June 26, from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Classes for ages 3-16. The program will be an "Alpine Ascent," finding strength in God's word. The church is located at 5017 Hwy. 79 in Phil Campbell. The closing program will begin at 1 p.m. Following the closing program, there will be fun and games for kids and refreshments for all. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy the fellowship.

 North Russellville Baptist Church will host Vacation Bible School on Saturday, June 26, from 10-1. The church is located at 1401 Waterloo Road in Russellville. The theme for this year's VBS is "Big Heart Farms." Ages are from preschool through fifth grade. We will have class time, crafts, play time and a hot-dog lunch.

 The East Franklin Volunteer Fire Department will be selling William Earl Bishop's Smoked Chicken and Pulled Barbecue Pork Plates from 4-7 on Friday, June 23, at the EFVFD, 10443 Hwy. 81 in Phil Campbell. Carryout only. Plates are \$10. Dessert donations appreciated.

 The Welch reunion will be the 10th of July (second Saturday) at the Hee Haw Building. Starting at 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Mountain Valley Hee Haw, 5504 Hwy. 79, Phil Campbell, AL 35581. This is the address of Williams' mom next door to the Hee Haw. Each family will bring their favorite meat for sandwiches and bread and things you like on them. Please bring chips, tomatoes, drinks, desserts etc. for your own family. We will have lettuce, mayo, ketchup and mustard. Call Nancy at (256)-627-7635 for more information. All Welch's and Welch-related are invited to come!

 You are invited to a special service at My Father's House Church, 104 Lawrence St., at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., Sunday, June 27. Pastor Geoff and Diana Gonifas from Wyoming will be our honored guests. They have served as Missionaries in England. Everyone is welcome.

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

"Eye Care & Eye Wear for Your Unique Lifestyle"

256-332-5440
15255 Hwy 43
Russellville



 EyeCare Professionals

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

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



THERE ARE
OTHER WAYS

TO GET
OUR INK!

PETS

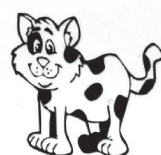
PAWS-N-PURRS

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."



FRANKLINFREEPRESS.NET

MAILBOX • SMARTPHONE • TABLET • COMPUTER • RADIO



Congratulations CLASS OF 2021!



Tharptown High School Valedictorian: Colton Simmons

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press



Colton Simmons
THS Class of 2021 Valedictorian

The Tharptown High School Class of 2021 experienced a senior year like no other as the result of finishing high school during a pandemic.

But valedictorian Colton Simmons and his classmates never felt cheated or shortchanged, thanks to optimism and encouragement from the school's administrators and faculty.

In particular, Simmons said, he will always appreciate Samantha Walker, a first-year teacher who teaches history, government and economics and psychology.

"She really helped me and our class through our senior year," Simmons said. "We all came back last fall and pretty much didn't see that we would have a good senior year. We heard all kinds of things about how we wouldn't have pep rallies or other student activities.

"Ms. Walker pushed us to try and stay positive and use positive thinking. She pushed us to try and get these events scheduled and when we got down, she motivated us to try something else if one door was closed," Simmons added.

Walker said she noticed the concern among her senior students as the 2020-21 school year began, so she tried to channel some positive energy into her classroom.

"As the year went on, they realized they would get more out of their senior year than they first thought," Walker said. "I would get them involved in political debates, or an activity where they started their own business to try and get students out of that COVID-19 mind frame.

"By the end of the year, they realized they had made the most out of what they were given and they had a really enjoyable senior year. Colton had such high spirits all year and never let all this bring him or the Class of 2021 down. They made the best of the situation and were grateful for what they had, probably more than most other senior classes," Walker added.

It's no surprise that Simmons would appreciate a teacher who pushed him to bring out his best in the classroom. To call him competitive would be a gross understatement.

Simmons lettered in four varsity sports at Tharptown: football, basketball, baseball and track and field, where he finished fifth in the Alabama Class 1A-2A javelin competition. Although it erased most of his spare time, competing in four sports was well worth the effort for Simmons.

"I love sports. I love being an athlete and the feeling you get before every game. I love getting better and driving to make myself better and

honestly, I love competition," Simmons said.

Four sports during his senior year of high school wasn't enough competition though. Simmons said among a small group of students at the top of his class, he stayed competitive in the classroom as well.

"There were three of us who were very competitive in our grades at the start of the year. One of those students fell off, though. I always felt my grades were close to everyone else so I kept trying to do better," Simmons said. "But it turns out there was more distance between our grades than I knew. But the competitive aspect of it makes me go to a different level. In life, I feel like I do better when someone else is pushing me," he added.

The son of Anthony and Amanda Simmons, Colton is the middle child of three. The family attends Faith Tabernacle Church in Trinity. He grew up in a home with both parents and a family that loves and supports each other, a blessing that's not lost to him.

"I know exactly how blessed I was to have both parents together and healthy," Simmons said. "That's nothing to sneer at because there are so many kids who don't know that feeling. It helped me a lot to be mentally prepared because I had both parents supporting me in everything I did."

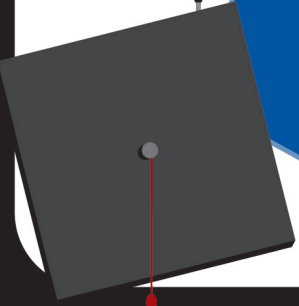
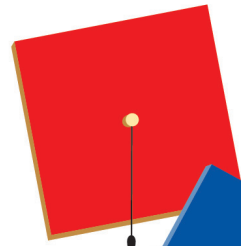
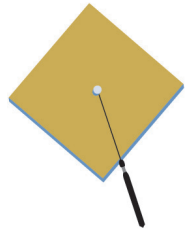
Simmons will attend Northwest-Shoals Community College this fall, where he will work on his basics the next two years before transferring to the University of Alabama at Huntsville to major in mechanical engineering.

Scholarships including the Valedictorian Scholarship from NW-SCC and a NaphCare Scholarship will help pay for his education along the way.

As he advances through his post-secondary education, Simmons will meet an increasing number of people who've never heard of Tharptown. But that's okay. He'll be more than happy to share what his community means to him.

"I went to a bigger school at one time and honestly, it was a struggle mentally. Everyone did things for themselves and didn't care about others. It was hard to make friends, so the community thing we have in Tharptown helps a lot," Simmons said. "It's a great place to live and go to school."

If he could give one piece of advice to Tharptown's incoming freshmen, the Class of 2025, Simmons' message would be simple: *Never let someone make you quit, whether it be a teacher, coach or another student, no matter what they say or do, because you can accomplish a lot more going through difficult issues than going around them.*



“Go confidently in direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined”

~ Henry David Thoreau



Congratulations to the Class of 2021

Barry Moore & Family



Bedford, Rogers, Bowling & McReynolds, P.C.

**303 N. Jackson
Russellville
256.332.2880**

**2021
Congratulations.**

No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers

Congratulations on Your Graduation!

2021



**SHANNON
OLIVER
SHERIFF**



**Franklin County Board of Education
Class of 2021**



**Greg Hamilton
Superintendent**



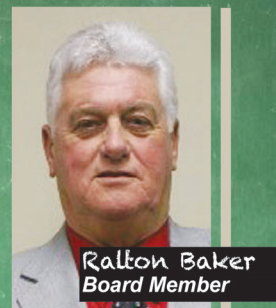
**Terry Welborn
Chairperson**



**Shannon Oliver
Vice-Chairperson**



**Kacey Hester
Johnston
Board Member**



**Ralton Baker
Board Member**



**Pat Cochran
Board Member**

If we may be of assistance to your or your family, please visit or call us at the Board of Education office:

500 Coffee Avenue East, Russellville
256-332-1360.

franklin.k12.al.us



Classifieds

256.332.0255

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

YARD SALES

Yard Sale. Friday-Saturday, June 25-26. 8 a.m.-until. 16125 Hwy. 43 North, Russellville. Variety of items, come see us!

Yard Sale. Saturday, June 26. 7 a.m.-12 p.m. Rain or Shine. 379 Briarleigh Road,

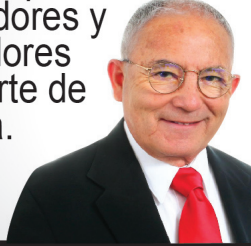
Russellville. Men and women's clothing, home décor and household items.

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

Real Estate Advisor; representing buyers and sellers in North Alabama

Agente de Bienes Raices; representando a vendedores y compradores en el Norte de Alabama.



**Enrique Aguilar Engel & Voelkers
256-740-2356**

for more information.

Temporary Yard Work Needed. One or two-day job. Please call 256-332-4307.

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 SALE

Solid Oak Twin or Bunk Bed Frames and Box Sprigs. Two Stands, One With Drawers & One With Shelves. Solid Oak Round Mirror. All for \$350. Call 256-460-2365.

Canning Jars For Sale. Pint, Quart, Half Gallon and Gallon. Leave message at 256-332-7088.

Woods 9000 Backhoe For Sale. With subframe that fits a 60/40 Kubota tractor. \$5,500. Call 256-332-0205 or 256-710-8604.

Woods 9000 Backhoe For Sale. With subframe

that fits a 4900 Kubota tractor. \$5,500. Call 256-332-0205 or 256-710-8604.

FOR RENT

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

Duplex One Bedroom Apartment For Rent. Yard, covered patio, jacuzzi tub. Call 256-332-5081 or 256-627-1916.

Duplex Two Bedroom Apartment For Rent. Yard, covered patio. Call 256-332-5081 or 256-627-1916.

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.

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!

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.

INSURANCE

AUTO INSURANCE

Starting at \$49/month! Call for your Free rate comparison to see how much you can save!

Please call: 1-855-408-7970 for more information!



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

A good neighbor has your back.

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

HELP WANTED

Housekeeping/Laundry help needed in a Nursing Home facility. Full-time, Part-time available. Please contact 567-301-1825 for more information or to apply.

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!

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.

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.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Bringing home the hardware

Belgreen and Red Bay softball programs have players named to the ASWA all-state softball team after successful seasons.

Brady Petree
Franklin Free Press

In last week's edition of the *FFP*, we took a look at the local student athletes who made the ASWA all-state team in baseball.

Both Russellville and Phil Campbell, who both came away with state championships in their respective seasons, had multiple players selected to both the first and second teams in classes 3A and 5A.

This week, we take a look at student athletes that were selected to the ASWA all-state team in softball.

In her first full season at the helm of the Belgreen Bulldogs softball program, as the 2020 season (which was her first season) was cut short due to COVID-19, Susie Tverberg led the Lady Bulldogs all the way to the state tournament in Oxford.

Two primary reasons for the Lady Bulldogs' special season was thanks in part to the play of Emma Dempsey and Kelsey Wilson.

Dempsey was named to the 1A all-state first team due to her stellar play. And while she was named to the all-state team as a pitcher, Dempsey also left her mark at the plate as well.

In the circle, Dempsey pitched an astounding 176 innings across 38 games. While allowing 85 runs (only 40 earned), and 127 hits, Dempsey pitched to a crisp 2.05 ERA in her senior season.

The most impressive stat for Dempsey, who is Northeast Mississippi Community College signee

See 'HARDWARE,' page 12

Coming around full circle

Having once donned a uniform, new Russellville Middle School head football coach Corey Flanagan gets the opportunity to return to a program he once played for in hopes of continuing a long line of success.

Brady Petree
Franklin Free Press

RUSSELLVILLE - The saying "good things come to those who wait" is oftentimes a saying that is easy to preach, but difficult to adopt.

But for Corey Flanagan, after years of biding his time and learning the ropes of coaching as an assistant coach, his waiting is starting to pay dividends.

Flanagan was recently hired on as the new head coach of the Russellville Middle School football program and will look to continue the excellence that the program has seen for many years.

When it came time to find a new head coach for the program, Flanagan saw an opportunity and decided to make the most of it and express his interest.

And his interest resulted in the head coaching position.

"I was working with coach (Larry) Gilmer over the past three or four years with the middle school and didn't really have an idea that he was going to retire until towards the end of the year. And once I found that out, I had a lot of interest in the job," Flanagan said. "It made a lot of sense from the standpoint that I'm already working with a lot of those kids in the weight room. And so once it was posted I sent in my letter of interest and went through the interview process and it took off from there. I really wanted to pursue the job because I really feel like it would be a good thing for me and a good thing for the program."

A 2008 graduate of Russellville High School, Flanagan went on to play baseball at Northwest-Shoals Community College before transferring to Athens State University where he received his bachelor's degree. And after spending two years in the Deshler school system, Flanagan made the return to his alma mater.

Flanagan was a multi-sport athlete during his Golden Tiger days, including being a part of the 2003 Russellville Middle School team that achieved an undefeated season.

Flanagan has spent the past few seasons working as an assistant coach serving alongside Russellville varsity head coach John Ritter while also working with Chris Heaps as a varsity assis-



COURTESY PHOTO

Flanagan, a 2008 Russellville High School graduate, will be tasked with heading up the RMS football program after his hiring as the RMS head football coach and athletic director.

And now he'll get his chance to head up a Russellville Middle School football program that holds a special place in his heart while also hoping to serve as a key part of the development in the Russellville football program.

"One of the most attractive things to me was, this is the place where I grew up and played ball. It's been a large part of my entire life," Flanagan said. "So just the opportunity to be in that position to work with coach Ritter and help build up these kids to be champions on and off the field. And also to be able to give back to the place that's given so much to me is just a really unique and special opportunity."

A key aspect for the RMS football program is the development process that leads to the product on the field under the Friday night lights. And that aspect isn't lost for Flanagan who will now oversee that process while another key step in the

See 'FLANAGAN,' page 14



Pest Solutions

Pest & Mosquito Control

256-332-4008

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

Shoals Primary Care

welcomes

Dr. Zaman Shah

to the practice
in Sheffield



Board certified in Internal Medicine, Dr. Shah is an exceptional physician and a close family member of Dr. Syed.

He will be continuing Dr. Syed's legacy of excellent and compassionate patient care with Shoals Primary Care.

Monday-Thursday 8am - 5pm

Walk-ins are Welcome

MOST INSURANCE ACCEPTED
MEDICARE PATIENTS WELCOME



342 Cox Boulevard
Sheffield
256-383-4473
shoalsprimarycarellc.com

Don't forget to visit us on the web at www.franklinfreepress.net/!

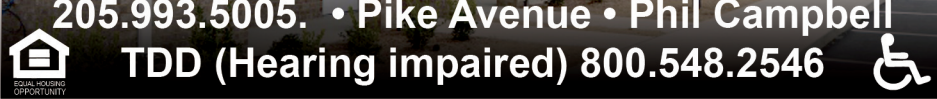
Village at Oliver Place Apartments & Townhomes

Water included starting at:

2 BR \$455 • 3 BR: \$525



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



'HARDWARE,' from page 11

as a softball player, is the fact that she managed to strikeout 240 batters while only walking 33, good for 12.3 strikeouts per nine innings pitched.

At the plate, Dempsey had a great final season donning the blue and white uniform for Belgreen.

Playing first base when she's not getting the starting pitching assignment and primarily hitting out of the leadoff spot, Dempsey went 51-124 (.411 average) while driving in 16 runs. Dempsey also had one home run to her credit with seven triples and six doubles while scoring 48 runs on the season.

Wilson was named an honorable mention to the ASWA 1A all-state team.

Playing in the outfield most of the time while also being able to play at the hot corner for Tverberg, Wilson was a force to be reckoned with at the plate.

Going 35-102 (.343 average), Wilson drove in 27 runs while scoring 26 runs on the year. Wilson also hit one homer on the season with two triples and five doubles in her senior season with the Lady Bulldogs.

Belgreen wasn't the only school in Franklin County with a strong showing on the softball diamond.

See 'HARDWARE,' page 15



Call us today for a FREE Medicare Benefits review with a LOCAL agent

(256)648-5220

Medicare Advantage
Medicare Supplements

Part D Drug plans
Low Income plans

ASK US HOW TO GET UP TO \$2500 IN DENTAL COVERAGE AT NO COST TO YOU



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

The Donald R. Hornsby

ESTATE AUCTION

9:AM SATURDAY, JUNE 26TH

— 5135 COUNTY HWY 48 HALEYVILLE, AL —



**6 Bedroom, 4 Bath 2 Story Home
2 Chicken House/ Hay Barns
Catch Pens & Cross Fencing**



461.26 ACRES +/-

Beautiful Building Spots! Don't Miss This Auction!

**CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION
BEN PHILLIPS 256-710-9683
SHANE ALBRIGHT AUCTIONS**



6508 HWY 72, KILLEN, ALABAMA 35645

AL PHONE 256-757-8898

TN PHONE 931-762-5134

Shane Albright Owner/Broker/Auctioneer AL# 1569

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

Don't forget to visit us on the web at www.franklinfreepress.net/!

43 Wash N Spin



Laundromat/Lavanderia



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.**

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



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**



RUSSELLVILLE DENTAL CARE

**Welcomes:
Dr. Brandon
Jewell!**



We want to welcome Dr. Brandon Jewell as a full partner at Russellville Dental Care. Dr. Jewell is a graduate of the University of Tennessee. Join us in welcoming Dr. Jewell and his wife Kayla to Russellville.

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

**Open Monday - Friday
& Every Other Saturday.
Emergencies Welcome!**

**256.332.6073
510 Engle Dr.**

Have a community event you'd like us to help you promote? Give us a call at 256-332-0255, fax to 256-332-7430 or email us at franklinfreepress@yahoo.com.

'FLANAGAN,' from page 11

developmental process is set to kick off this year.

"I know the expectations for the program from working with coach Ritter. Middle school is where you start to see developments and build up things in these young men that you want to see when they get to the varsity level," Flanagan said. "We're also starting up the fifth and sixth grade tackle football league so that these kids will be able to get four years of organized football under their belts where they'll be taught proper technique and fundamentals before they move on to varsity programs so I think we've got a really good set up there for sure."

Taking over the program right before summer workouts began, that hasn't stopped Flanagan from getting his players ready to continue their dominant stretches of success in recent years in the upcoming season.

And while there are certain aspects that he plans on keeping the same,

See, 'FLANAGAN,' on page 15

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



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

'FLANAGAN,' from page 14

there are also some things that Flanagan hopes to implement into the program as well.

"This summer since we've hit the ground running with workouts in early June, we started. I want these kids, in everything we do, to have a high level of energy, passion and commitment. If we can have those three things in everything that we do, we're going to be able to put a really good product on the field," Flanagan said. "Our coaching staff is remaining the same and we're not trying to come in and flip everything upside down but there are certain things that we've brought in that our coaches and players have bought into with a high level of energy."

The man that Flanagan took over for is someone that the first-year head coach has the highest praise for: his former head coach Larry Gilmer.

Gilmer retired after 31 years as an educator and coach of the RMS football program and across those 31 years, Gilmer has had the opportunity to make a significant impact on hundreds, if not thousands, of lives. And one of those lives he has touched during his coaching days is that of his successor.

"Coach Gilmer is as good of a guy as you'll ever be able to find. I had the opportunity to play for him and he's a very caring and honest man so it's an honor to be able to follow him in leading the program," Flanagan said. "Coach Gilmer did a tremendous job with the program and he touched a lot of lives and I'm just very excited for the opportunity to continue the great work he did. Russellville is a special place and the middle school job to me is a big deal and I'm just really excited for the opportunity."

'HARDWARE,' from page 12

Red Bay's Lila Blackburn put together quite the season for a Lady Tigers team that managed to reach the regional tournament in Florence.

Blackburn, who was primarily batting out of the third spot in the order for the Lady Tigers, was named to the ASWA 2A all-state second team.

The senior Lady Tiger batted .500 on the season while reaching double digits in doubles (ten) and home runs (12) on the season. Blackburn also notched a triple to her credit while driving in 42 runs on the season.

Don't forget to visit us on the web at www.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.



GRAVELLY®



ZT X 42

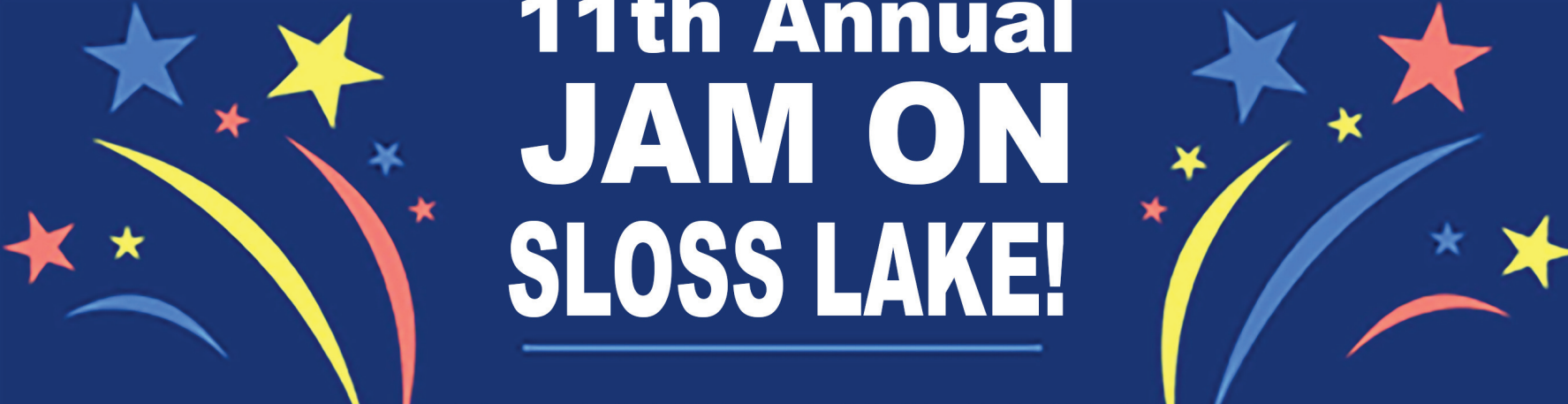
22 HP KOHLER®
42 IN. DECK

\$3999

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE

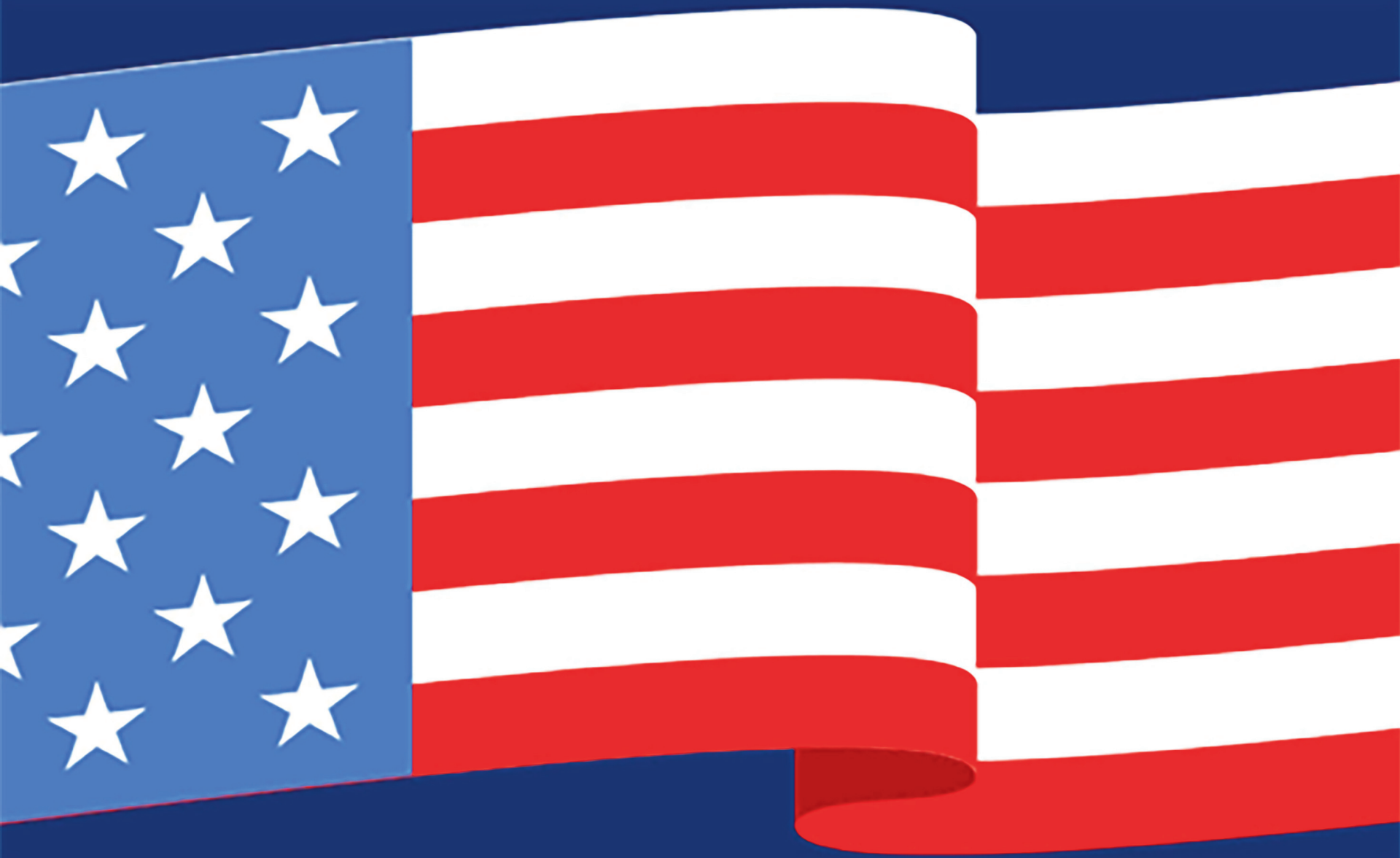
KIEL EQUIPMENT

14696 Hwy 43 | Russellville, Alabama | www.kielequipment.com



11th Annual **JAM ON SLOSS LAKE!**

FOOD • FUN • FIREWORKS!



4
JULY

Sloss Lake
Hwy 24 • Russellville
Grand Opening of the New
Russellville Splash Pad!

5
PM