

**Anderson Jack**

- Gifts for All Occasions
- Screen Printing
- Engraving, Vinyl
- Sublimation

256.398.8928 • 944 Ronnie McDowell Ave



**PIZZA • PASTA • WINGS**  
**BREAKFAST • SPORTS!**

**KING'S PIZZA**  
14001 Hwy 43, Suite 12

PRSR STD US POSTAGE  
PAID Franklin Free Press  
113 Washington Ave. NW  
Russellville, AL 35663

**FranklinFreePress.net**

**11.10.21**

**Ven a Ver Dulce Pequeño Jimmy**  
**Fácil financiación en tienda!**

Hours: 10-5 M thru F and 10-2 on Sat

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

## 60 City of Russellville employees to share \$333,000 in pandemic 'premium payments'

*John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press*

The Russellville City Council voted unanimously Monday to authorize a one-time premium payment to all permanent full-time and part-time city employees who were employed from March 13, 2020 through March 12, 2021, and remain employed with the city.

The \$333,000 payment will come from funds Russellville received from the federal government's American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. 51 full-time employees will each receive \$6,000 and nine part-time employees will receive \$3,000 apiece.

One-half of the premium payments will be paid to employees this week, with the remaining half paid when the

second tranche, or payment, of federal funds is received by the city. Employees must remain employed by the city as of the date those funds are received in order to receive the second premium payment. Those funds are expected to be received by the city in 2022, Mayor David Grissom said.

Grissom said the premium payment to employees was "a long time coming" as something he and council members wanted to do, but they had to wait for guidance from city attorney Danny McDowell. Birmingham and Mobile were the first two Alabama cities to authorize similar premium payments to employees, and Grissom reached out to officials in those two cities to

See 'PAYMENTS,' page 3

**ALABAMA GUN & PAWN**

**Fishing Tackle - HUGE Supply!**  
**New Shipment of Ammo!**

15347 Hwy 43 • 256-332-1108

## Russellville City Council approves zoning variance for Waterloo Road Dollar General site

*John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press*

At its November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, the Russellville City Council unanimously approved a zoning variance for property located on Waterloo Road that is set to be the site of a new Dollar General store.

By a vote of 4-0 (Councilmen Darren Woodruff and David Palmer were absent from the meeting), the council granted the rezoning request of the north portion of North Russellville Baptist Church from Multi-Family (R-3) to Neighborhood Business (B-1). This clears the last hurdle for construction of

Russellville's third Dollar General. North Russellville Baptist Church members approved the sale of the north half of their parking lot last month. Church members came to the meeting of the Russellville Zoning and Planning Commission to voice their support of the variance.

That board approved recommending to the city council that the variance be granted. Board member Terry Bolton was the lone dissenting vote. Bolton addressed the council Monday night at a public hearing to receive citizen input on the rezoning measure.

"I'm against this for several rea-  
See 'ZONING,' page 7

**JEFF BARKSDALE**  
FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT JEFF BARKSDALE  
PO BOX 491, RUSSELLVILLE, AL 35653

**Surprisingly great rates right around the corner.**

I'm your one-stop shop for the service you deserve at a price you want. Call me for surprisingly great rates and Good Neighbor service right in your neighborhood.

**Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®**

Individual premiums will vary by customer. All applicants subject to State Farm underwriting requirements.

**Rhett Bradford, Agent**  
201 Washington Avenue NW  
Russellville, AL 35653  
Bus: 256-332-0540  
insuredbyrhett.com

State Farm  
Bloomington, IL  
2001880

**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!**

**SINGING RIVER DENTISTRY**

531 St. Clair St., Russellville  
Call 256.332.6888 to schedule your appointment today!

**Hablamos Español**

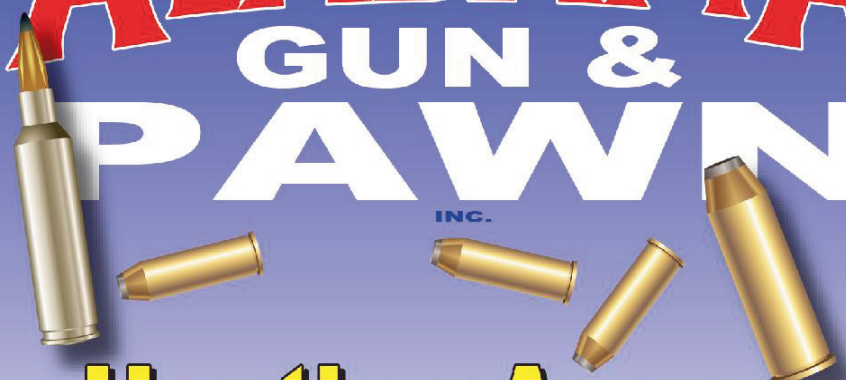
**FAMILY PHARMACY GROUP**  
BlueCross BlueShield of Alabama

**Family Pharmacy of Littleville**

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



# ALABAMA GUN & PAWN INC.



**Hunting Ammo  
Now in Stock  
New Shipment!**



**New Shipment  
of Hunting Ammo!**

**Major Brands in Stock!**

- Remington • Winchester
- Fester • Norma • Federal
- Nosler



**Most Calibers Available:**  
 .243, .25-06, .270, 6.5 creed,  
 .280 Remington, 7mm-08, .30-.30, .308, .30-06,  
 7mm Magnum, .300 WinMag

**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

**Howard Thomas Farley**, 82, of Russellville, passed away on Wednesday, November 3rd.

**Sylvia Elliott Robinson**, 92, of Russellville, passed away on Sunday, November 7th.  
 Interment at Bethlehem Cemetery.

**Gwendolyn "Gwen" Mitchell Seal**, 69, of Russellville, passed away on Friday, November 5th. Interment at Ramsey Cemetery.

## NOW HIRING

**\$4,000 Sign-On Bonus  
 for all New Employees!  
 Starting wages \$16.40 per  
 hour with incentive up to  
 \$32.20 per hour!!!**

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

**Join the Pilgrim's team by  
 applying in person at our plant on  
 2045 Hwy. 244 in Russellville,  
 or online at [www.pilgrimsusa.com](http://www.pilgrimsusa.com).  
 Call Michael Cummings at 256-768-3707  
 for more information**

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





# PUBLIC NOTICE

# 'PAYMENTS,' from page 1

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 December 15, 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.

1988 Chevrolet S Truck  
1GCCS14Z7J2195073

2008 GMC Sierra  
3GTEK13M78G103279

2010 Toyota Camry LE  
4T1BF3EK1AU569030

see how the payments were made pursuant to the rules and regulations of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

"We first learned several months ago there may be a possibility of providing premium pay for our full-time and part-time employees. We consulted with Birmingham and Mobile officials and the Alabama League of Municipalities and received a lot of different opinions," Grissom said. "I'm proud to present this to the city council for approval tonight."

McDowell said the federal funds outline what cities can and can't do with the money. The payments are for all 'eligible workers' in the City of Russellville from March 13, 2020 through March 12, 2021, who were needed to 'maintain continuity of operations of essential critical infrastructure and were critical to protect the health and well being of the residents of the City of Russellville,' according to the language of the resolution approved by the council.

In addition to the \$333,000 payment to the 60 eligible employees, the city will incur \$25,474.50 in FICA obligations for the premium payments. All premium payments will be reduced by the amount of required federal, state or local taxes.

McDowell said the Alabama Constitution prohibits payment of bonuses to municipal or state employees, but does not forbid premium payments for employees who worked through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Grissom expressed his appreciation to McDowell, city employees Belinda Miller, Shirley McSpadden and everyone who helped make the premium payments a reality.

"This has been a moving target for several months and we thank you for helping me with it," Grissom said.



## Russellville Gas Board

## Natural Gas Appliance Rebates & Financing

Call for details  
256.332.2020

## Financing Available

### 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

### Space Heater

Rebate of

\$300 / up to \$600 total  
per heater



### 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



### 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



For updates on news and sports throughout the week, visit us on the web at [www.franklinfreepress.net!](http://www.franklinfreepress.net!)

Send your creative submissions to [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com).



# City of Russellville tap water to be judged alongside nation's best tasting water

John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press

When the National Drinking Water Taste Test is held next February in Washington, D.C., Russellville residents will be well-represented.

Tap water supplied by the Russellville Water and Sewer Board was judged the best tasting in the 2021 Water Taste Test, held earlier this year as part of the Alabama Rural Water Association conference.

The Great American Drinking Water Taste Test is part of the annual national Rural Water Rally, held each February in Washington.

As the State of Alabama winner, a representative from the Russellville Water and Sewer Board will attend, courtesy of a free round-trip ticket provided by the Alabama Rural Water Association.

This will be the first time Russellville has competed in the national competition, according to Russellville Water and Sewer Board General Manager Eric Hill.

"This was actually our first time to enter in the annual state contest," Hill said. "Providing good tasting, quality drinking water is the result of a team effort of the Water and Sewer Board's employees and the support of the Water and Sewer Board."

A recent tap water taste test conducted by Puronics investigated variations in tap water flavors across different regions of the country. While many Americans complain about the taste of their water, those concerns aren't shared by Russellville residents, who can turn on their tap and enjoy Alabama's best tasting water.

The most common national tastes for residents in their tap water include eggs/sulfur, metallic, sweet and chlorine. In Alabama, residents describe a metallic taste as their chief complaint in drinking water.

The Alabama Rural Water Association is a non-profit organization representing water and wastewater systems serving rural communities and towns and those commercial firms which support these systems.

The annual Rural Water Rally provides rural water providers an opportunity to go to Capitol Hill to support funding programs, training and technical assistance.

The Great American Drinking Water Taste Test brings together winners from each state's tap water taste test to determine a national winner.

Drinking water is judged in three areas: clarity, boutique and taste. For more information on the event, visit [www.nrwa.org](http://www.nrwa.org).

## HELP WANTED

**General secretarial duties, light accounting, cabin reservations, employee records, etc.**

**Assisting with cabin cleaning, laundry and restocking as needed.**

**Permit collection from vendors monthly.**

**Camping receipt collection from managers weekly and other duties as needed.**

**Full-Time, full benefits including annual and sick leave, Tier I retirement, pay commensurate with experience.**

**For more information, or to request an application, please call 256-332-4392, email us at [contactus@bearcreeklakes.com](mailto:contactus@bearcreeklakes.com) or come by BCDA Office at 1111 Highway 88, Hodges.**

Email us at [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com).

## 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](mailto: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.

## Franklin County Women's Leadership Committee seeking sock donations for Christmas

Submitted to the FFP

The Franklin County Women's Leadership Committee, a division of Alabama Farmers Federation is seeking donations for our annual "Cottons for Christmas".

Donations requested are for new socks that will be distributed to residents in one of the county's nursing homes.

Each year our committee picks a different nursing home in the county and we strive to provide all residents in that particular nursing home a gift of socks & lotion. Unfortunately, this may be the only gift some of our local residents receive and we want to let them know we care about them!

We will have a donation/collection box at the annual Farm-City Banquet, Monday, November 15, 2021.

Boxes will also be placed at 3 local businesses in Franklin County:

- Franklin County Courthouse/Extension Office (please leave your donations with one of the Courthouse security guards)
- ALFA Insurance Office-Russellville
- ALFA Insurance Office-Red Bay

Cottons for Christmas is one of the many community efforts the Franklin County Women's Leadership Committee works on each year to "give back" to the community.

Please take your sock donations to one of the above locations by Wednesday, December 1, 2021.

Your help is very much appreciated!

If you have any questions please call Carol Glass @ 256-810-5446 or Shannon Murray @ 256-668-3893.

**Send your guest columns, recipes, cartoon panels, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com).**

---

**For updates on news and sports throughout the week, don't forget to visit us online at [www.franklinfreepress.net](http://www.franklinfreepress.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



# 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.

# 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 

Medicare's Annual Enrollment Period is October 15th - December 7th!

 **MEDICARE**  
**INSURANCE SPECIALISTS**  
MUSCLE SHOALS 256.648.5220



Kay Holland

Paul Sanderson

Mark Sanderson

Marianna Honeycutt

Give us a call for a FREE review of your Medicare plan.

410 S Wilson Dam Road • Muscle Shoals, AL (in Lon's Plaza)

## 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 January 12, 2022, 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.

1988 Ford LGT Conv.  
2FDLF47M7JCA26838

2003 Hond ULX  
1HGCM563X3A048797

Send your guest columns, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com). Visit us online any time at [franklinfreepress.net](http://franklinfreepress.net).



**CELL TOUCH**  
Phones • Accessories • Chargers  
256-398-8811

**306 South Jackson • 256.398.8811**

**Lowest prices in the area!!!**

**VAPOUR SHOP**

- **HUGE selection of phones and accessories! All unlocked.**
- **Plans thru Boost, AT&T, H2O, Verizon, Net 10, Page Plus & Simple Mobile.**
- **Layaway plans available.**
- **We do REPAIRS on most phones, tablets and laptops!**

- **Vapes & accessories! All juices, any size, any flavor, \$15.99 or LESS!**
- **Vape mods are 20% off!**
- **Variety of Delta products in stock!**
- **Tenemos recargas international de Tigo y Boss Revolution!**
- **Se habla Espanol!!**

*Jeff Elledge's*  
**CREDIT CARS**



**NO CREDIT - WE FINANCE**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>08 Volvo S80</b><br><i>\$1800 Down</i>     | <b>01 Jeep Gr Cherokee</b><br><i>\$1200 Down</i> |
| <b>04 Isuzu Ascender</b><br><i>\$800 Down</i> | <b>07 Honda Pilot</b><br><i>\$1500 Down</i>      |
| <b>10 Ford Fusion</b><br><i>\$1500 Down</i>   | <b>08 Kia Optima</b><br><i>\$1200 Down</i>       |
| <b>05 Ford Escape</b><br><i>\$800 Down</i>    | <b>10 Chevy Malibu</b><br><i>\$1500 Down</i>     |

[elledge.jeff@gmail.com](mailto:elledge.jeff@gmail.com)

**2506 Woodward Ave • Muscle Shoals**

**256.383.7979 • 256.710.3711**

Send your letters to the editor, guest columns, cartoon panels and other creative submissions to [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com).

# What's Happening

256.332.0255

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

**R**ussellville Masonic Lodge #371 is selling Smoked Hams for Thanksgiving. Hams are \$30 each and may be pre-ordered by calling 256-810-1970. Pickup is Wednesday, November 24th, 8-10 a.m., at the Lodge on Coffee Avenue.

**T**he Phil Campbell Arts & Historical Society will host the first annual Christmas Bazaar, Saturday, November 13th, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Phil Campbell Community Center, 132 Sherry Bryce Road in Phil Campbell. For booth information call 256-810-4572. There will be arts & crafts, homemade treasures, Scentsy, Christmas décor, unique gifts, and Peggy's Backwoods "On the Go."

**Y**ou are invited to a Book Signing with local author Dianne Wages Pace at Maggie J's, 13720 Highway 43 in Russellville, on Friday, November 19th, from 9:30-Noon and 2-5:30. Pace will sign copies of her newly-released children's book, "Too Many Santas."

**T**he Bay Tree Council for the Performing Arts in Red Bay, AL would like to announce its first production of the 2021-22 season, Seasonal Allergies by Katherine DiSavino and Kevin Mead and directed by Emily Edmonson. The performances will take place November 11-13, 2021 at 7:00 PM and Sunday November 14, 2021 at 2:00 PM at the Weatherford Centre in Red Bay, AL. Tickets will go on sale at the Centre starting November 1 between the hours of 2-4 PM weekdays with ticket price at 8.00 each. You may go by between those hours or call 256-356-9829, if no answer please leave a message. If you are interested in bringing a group to the theatre please contact Beth Hammock 256-356-9286. Do you have Seasonal Allergies? You might be experiencing the symptoms of them and not even know it. Seasonal Allergies tend to show themselves right around the holidays: do you feel a tickle in the back of your throat when you realize your vegetable dishes cooked faster than you thought and now they're ready a full hour before the turkey will be out of the oven? Do your eyes water uncontrollably after you've nearly broken your back climbing into the attic to find the Christmas lights and then discover that only half the strand lights up? Do you find yourself over heated when family members decide to extend their vacation and "hang out" for a few more days in your home? Then you, my friend, have got Seasonal Allergies. And you are not alone! 9 out of 10 people have Seasonal Allergies, but nobody has a case worse than Julia Shelby and her brother Peter. So, get ready to laugh away your throat tickle and clear your sinuses with a healthy dose of Holiday Fun. The cast includes Brandy Cook, Koley Kent, Caroline Vanasselberg, Clint Sikes, Molly Thorn, Theron Struzik and Avery Klose. This is the BTCPA's 25th Anniversary, producing over 75 productions with hundreds of actors, directors, and behind the scenes individuals. The BTCPA would like to thank all of those who have been involved over the years and the wonderful community who continues to support local theater.

**T**he Russellville Fire Department is now accepting applications for the 2021 Helping Santa Toy Program. Applications may be picked up at the Russellville Police Department or the Russellville Fire Department. They must be filled out completely and turned in by the November 19, 2021, deadline for consideration. All forms must be filled out completely to be eligible for assistance.

**T**hartown Elementary School Ambassadors are taking monetary donations for the 2021 Angel Tree. Angels will also be available for adoption November 18th. You may send your checks to TES 145 Highway 80, Russellville, AL 35654 ATTN: ANGEL TREE. To adopt an angel, call Monica Elliot or Lisa Gann at 256-332-3404 ext. 7028. Gifts will need to be delivered December 13th. You will truly be blessed.

**B**ack to Basics Life Skills Center will have a white beans and ham dinner fundraiser on November 12, 2021, 11:00 AM - until sold out. The dinner consists of white beans and ham, cole slaw, cornbread, and a drink. The plates are \$8.00, a pint of beans \$3.00; a quart is \$5.00. You may pre-order by calling (256) 668-2228 or (305) 610-1097. Location 129 Winfield Street SW, Russellville, Alabama 35653.

**T**his Saturday, November 13th, Darryl Worley will be performing with the Kerry Gilbert Band as a special guest at the Historic Roxy Theatre. Worley is a distinctive singer and songwriter whose music has topped the charts with singles including "Hard Rain Don't Last", "I Miss My Friend", "Awful, Beautiful Life", and "Have you Forgotten?". He has sold nearly two million albums, earning nominations for five major ACM and CMA awards including "Song of the Year" and "Single of the Year", and has written songs for other major artists including George Jones. Tickets are \$10 for general admission and will be on sale at the Roxy's ticket booth prior to the show. The tickets can also be purchased through eventbrite.com.

**T**here will be a COVID-19 vaccination clinic held at two locations in Franklin County. The locations are at First United Methodist Church 509 4th Street SW Red Bay, AL, 35582 and will be from 9pm-12pm on November 9th and 30th and at Hodges Community Center 1942 Al-172 Hodges, AL, 35571 and the clinic will be from 1pm-4pm November 9th and 30th. The Pfizer Covid vaccinations will be given to anyone eligible to receive the vaccination. The age group for Pfizer vaccination is 12 years old and up, 12 and 13 year old has to have a parent or legal guardian in attendance. Walk-ins are welcomed you do not have to have an appointment.

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



# Turn your home...

# into an outdoor paradise!



We Do Custom Hardscaping!

**256.332.8181**

**HWY 43 • Littleville**

**“Eye Care & Eye Wear for Your Unique Lifestyle”**

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



**EyeCareProfessionals**

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

## ‘ZONING,’ from page 1

sons,” Bolton told the council. “I’m not against the church selling its property. But everyone in this building tonight knows this is a safety hazard on that road.”

“Dollar General won’t buy its materials here. They’ll bring out-of-town crews to do all the work and contribute nothing locally. We have a \$4 million business just down the road (Yogi’s Citgo) and this Dollar General will compete against this business. He supports the schools and community. Dollar General never gives one cent to this community. All their profits go directly to Indiana, and 90 percent of their inventory comes from China,” Bolton added.

The store will be constructed near the intersection of Waterloo Road and Burgess Street. Southbound traffic on Waterloo Road comes down a hill right before Burgess and Bolton said large 18-wheelers turning into the parking lot will create a safety and traffic hazard.

Bolton believes there will not be an increase in sales tax revenue with a third Dollar General. Instead, he said it will simply take business from the other two Dollar Generals as well as Yogi’s.

“Dollar General does nothing for this city. Yogi’s does so much for our community. Dollar General will continue to contribute nothing in this city or county,” Bolton said.

Woodruff represents District Two where the new Dollar General will be constructed. Woodruff was absent from Monday’s meeting but Grissom said he spoke with Woodruff Monday and he was ‘100 percent in favor’ of granting the rezoning request.

In other agenda items, the council:

—authorized advertisements to solicit sealed bids for a new security system for the Russellville Police Department.

—accepted a grant award from the Alabama Council of Emergency Medical Services and authorized Grissom to sign the grant agreement. The \$75,000 grant will be used to purchase a 2022 Ford F150 Crew Cab 4x4 pickup for the Russellville Fire Department, along with a Life Pak 15 monitor/defibrillator.

—accepted a letter of resignation from police officer Michael Collin James and declared a vacancy for patrol officer and asked the Civil Service Board to add one name to the current list.

—approved the hiring of Logan Thompson as a laborer in the Russellville Street Department, Trenton McCulloch as an equipment operator II in the Street Department, Marvin McKinney as an equipment operator III in the Street Department and Kaitlin Kelley as a dispatcher for the Russellville Police Department.

The next regular meeting of the Russellville City Council will be November 15, 2021, with work session at 6 p.m., and meeting to follow.

## McCullar & Reed

*New Hours (starting Nov. 29)*

Monday-Tuesday 7:30-5 (Renee & Preston)

Wednesday Closed

Thursday 7:30-5 (Belinda & Preston)

Friday 6-5 (James, Belinda & Preston)

Saturday 6:30-Noon (Renee, Belinda & Preston)

*\*\*We will be alternating our Saturdays.*

*111 Washington Ave • Russellville*

*Thank You for your business. We appreciate you!*

Email your event information to us at [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com).



# Bobby's KNIVES & MORE

**NEW LOCATION!**

**Bobby's Knives & More has moved from its former Backwoods Bargains location to 5825 Highway 56 in Russellville.**

We are giving away a Christmas edition Case knife!  
Just come by and register to win. No purchase necessary!  
You do not have to be present to win.  
Drawing will be held December 18, 2021.

**Come by and see us at our NEW location,  
or call us anytime at 256-366-7886.**

**Hours: Friday, Saturday & Sunday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.**

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!

## Vinson resigns from Red Bay Water and Gas Board amid lawsuit

John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press

Although it was by unexpected means, the Red Bay Water Works and Gas Board got the result it wanted when Red Bay City Councilman Jason Vinson resigned from the board last week.

The Red Bay Water Works and Gas Board, through its attorney Jeff Bowling, filed a lawsuit on September 15, 2021, seeking to bar Vinson from holding office as a board member. The grounds for the lawsuit are based on Water Works and Gas Board by-laws which expressly prohibit any officer or director of the City of Red Bay from serving on its board. In spite of that by-law, the Red Bay City Council appointed Vinson to the Water Works and Gas Board last February.

Vinson's letter of resignation was read at the Red Bay City Council's November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Vinson's letter referenced the 'ongoing legal battle' between the Red Bay Water and Gas Board and the Red Bay City Council and stated he wished to resign "so that our great city can move forward."

Vinson also stated he hopes Franklin County Circuit Judge Terry Dempsey will make a ruling on the case so that the council "will not be hindered by legal proceedings again over this."

Although he resigned, Vinson's letter stated he was "not conceding that a city council member cannot serve on this board."

The *Quo Warranto* legal action filed by the Water and Gas Board named only Vinson. The City of Red Bay was not a party to the lawsuit, though Vinson was represented by city attorney Roger Bedford, Jr., and another attorney from Montgomery.

A *Quo Warranto* civil action challenges the right of a public official to hold appointment to public office. The Water and Gas Board, through its chairman, Ronald Thorn, asserts that Vinson may not serve on the board since he is a member of the Red Bay City Council.

Although both sides acknowledge a history of city council members serving on the Water Works and Gas Board, Jeff Bowling, the board's attorney, notified Vinson after he was appointed that he was ineligible to serve due to his being an officer of the city.

The dispute, which has been ongoing for 20 months, has led to a fractious relationship between the board and the Red Bay City Council, with Red Bay Mayor Charlene Fancher calling the lawsuit 'frivolous,' and questions as to why the board "does not want good communication," Fancher told the *FFP* last month. At least one city council member has questioned whether filing the lawsuit was a waste of money by the Water and Gas Board.

Bowling has questioned why the Red Bay city attorney and a Montgomery attorney are representing the city in a legal dispute the city is not a party to.

"If the city council is concerned about not wasting taxpayer money, why are they paying the city attorney and a second attorney from Montgomery to defend a case they're not even a part of?" Bowling said. "They could have avoided this entire matter by appointing anyone other than the mayor or the five current council members, but they chose not to do that."

Bowling said he still wants a judicial determination that Vinson, or any future city council member appointed to the Water and Gas Board, is legally ineligible to serve.

"While his resignation resolves the issue as to whether he may legally serve, we do not want to end up here again when, or if, the city council attempts to appoint another ineligible person to the Red Bay Water and Gas Board," Bowling said.

At its most recent meeting, the council appointed Keith Kennedy to fill Judy Bullen's expiring term on the Water and Gas Board. The council did not name a replacement for Vinson at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

**Send your guest columns, recipes, cartoon panels, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com).**

**For updates on news and sports throughout the week, don't forget to visit us online at [www.franklinfreepress.net](http://www.franklinfreepress.net)!**



# 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

## Littleville City Council approves extra trash pickup to prevent holiday garbage overflow

John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press

The Littleville City Council voted to authorize additional trash pickup for residential garbage during the upcoming holiday weeks in an effort to help residents avoid overflowing garbage cans.

Trash pickup will take place on Wednesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> and Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving pickup and Thursday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> and Monday, December 27<sup>th</sup> for Christmas pickup.

Garbage will not be picked up on Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, but will resume with regular pickup on Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup>.

Littleville Mayor Ron Morrow said the additional pickup dates were designed to help residents avoid problems with overflowing trash cans during Thanksgiving and Christmas weeks.

"We're just trying to give something back to the residents so we added some dates so people won't be over-run with garbage during the holidays," Morrow said. "That can lead to problems when garbage is placed next to cans if the wind blows it around or dogs get into it. We'll keep it picked up with these extra days so that's not a problem."

The November and December Littleville City Council meetings will take place on the third Thursday of each month, rather than the regular fourth Thursday meeting time.

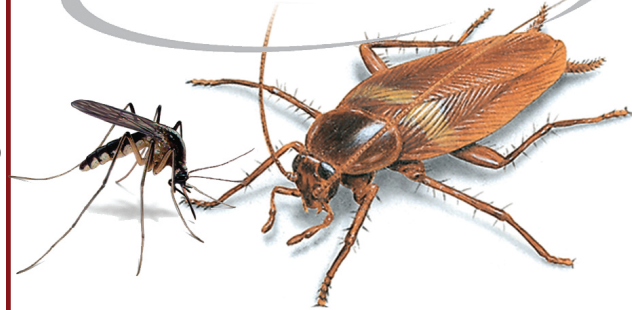
That means the council will meet Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m., each day.

Morrow said the town is looking to hire two new full-time police officers. Currently, Chief Chris Joly and officer Tracy Perkins are the only full-time officers. The town has one part-time police officer, Alan Putman.

Morrow also said problems are continuing with non-residents using the dumpster placed on 43 North at the northern end of town.

That dumpster, provided by Colbert County, is intended for use by Littleville residents, Morrow said. The county placed several dumpsters around Colbert County after the closing of the Colbert County Landfill. Morrow said he asked the council to authorize construction of a pad for the dumpster and a six-foot fence in order to place it behind City Hall, but that proposal was not approved by the council.

## Pest Solutions



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

**Gifts • Home Decor**  
**Personalized Items**  
**Jewelry • Baby Items**



AndersynJack.com

**15% OFF**

Any purchase with this ad.

Expires 8/31/21

**256.398.8928 • 944 Ronnie McDowell Ave**  
M-Th: 9-4, Fr: 9-5, Sat: 9-3

Send your guest columns, recipes, cartoon panels, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com).

For updates on news and sports throughout the week, don't forget to visit us online at [www.franklinfreepress.net](http://www.franklinfreepress.net)!

**Kevin G. Kelly, M.D.**

Serving your family for over 30 years

FAMILY PRACTICE  
Pediatrics  
Newborn Care  
256-332-5901

**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**





# 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 LEAVING  
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"

## 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)

ALABAMA GREAT SEAL

## 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 FRANKLIN COUNTY

**THERE ARE  
OTHER WAYS**



**TO GET  
OUR INK!**

## HOME INSPECTION

**MC Home Inspection**  
Presale Home Inspection

**Mart Culp**

Russellville, AL 35654  
martculp@gmail.com

256-331-9209  
256-324-8692



FRANKLINFREEPRESS.NET

MAILBOX • SMARTPHONE • TABLET • COMPUTER • RADIO





# Classifieds

256.332.0255

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

**YARD SALES**  
 Huge Four-Family Yard Sale. Friday/Saturday, Nov. 12/13. 8 a.m.-until. 2363 Highway 60, Russellville. Clothing, shoes, purses, pictures, glassware, cookware, recliner.  
 Moving sale! Friday and Saturday November 12th

**JOB OPPORTUNITY**  
 Contractor looking for workers for Diana's Workforce. \$11/hour manual labor and packing posts. Must be able to lift 65-85 pounds and

**FOR SALE**  
 Trailer and house on 3.75 acres of land. 905 Railsplitter Road in Phil Campbell. Call (574)-214-6074 for more information!

work weekends. Please call (256)-324-0222 for more information.  
 Eight dog crates for sale. Call (256)-332-0205 for sizes and price.  
 Girls denim jeans. Sizes 10, 12, 14, & tall. GAP, Old Navy, The Flirt, Wrangler, Rider & Levis. Call (256)-332-0205.

Large two-door oak wardrobe with shelves. \$225. Call (256)-332-0205.  
 Nice gentleman's chest. Brown wood. \$225. Call (256)-332-0205.  
 Cemetery plot for sale at Franklin Memory Gardens, Waterloo Road in Russellville. Located on Prayer Side of Cemetery. \$1200. Call 256-668-7004.


**FOR FREE**  
 Free Firewood. You pick it up. Call Mary at 205-494-3668.

*required in advance of publication for ads.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
 SPONSOR AN Exchange student! Enjoy

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

Buying a home is a common way to invest your money. But is it the only one?  
 Comprer casa es una forma comun de invertir su dinero, pero es la única?



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


I have two presidential dollar collections uncirculated. A few old wheat pennies. Call (256)-332-4037 for more information.  
 Rocks for sale. Creek rock, field rock, good for patios, housing and landscaping projects. Call (256)-332-4037.  
 Antique Vanity/Oval Beveled mirror two-drawers. \$200. Call (256)-460-9757.  
 Antique Chifforobe/mirror - \$150. Call (256)-460-9757.  
 Large mums. \$10. Call 256-668-3893.  
 Oak China Cabinet. 2 glass doors, bow front, 3

Mikasa 80 piece of Nature's Garden Dishes. DA 906 Blue Freesia. Safe for dishwasher & microwave. \$145. Call (256)-332-0205.  
 Girls shoes. Keds, size 9, 8 pair. \$5 each. Born, size 10, 8 pair, \$5 each. Call (256)-332-0205.  
 Girls GAP denim jacket. Size small. \$10. Call (256)-332-0205.  
 2 Deer hunting climbing stands, 6 deer hunting ladder stands. Call (256)-332-0205 for prices.  
 Coffee table with wooden top. \$50. Call (256)-332-0205.

Two women's bicycles, rode very little. \$40 each for them. (256)-324-2407  
 Fresh chicken eggs: \$1.50/dozen. Fresh duck eggs: \$2/dozen. (256)-324-2407.  
**FOR RENT**  
 1 BR Apartment For Rent. Furnished. Private Entrance, Patio. Call 256-332-5081 or 256-627-1916. (1)  
 2 BR Apartment For Rent. Large Yard. Covered Patio, Central Air. Call 256-332-5081 or 256-627-1916. (1)


*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

**Right coverage. Right price. Right here in town.**



Here's the deal. The right insurance should help you feel confident and comfortable. I'm the right good neighbor for that. Call me today.  
 Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

**Rhett Bradford, Agent**  
 201 Washington Avenue NW  
 Russellville, AL 35653  
 Bus: 256-332-0540  
 www.insuredbyrhett.com




## 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



# LLÁMAME (205)487-7022



**ABOGADO JOHN MARTINE**



## ¡Haga su cita conmigo en Russellville! (o en mi oficina principal en Winfield)

### CONSULTE DIRECTAMENTE CON EL ABOGADO QUE HABLE ESPAÑOL



### ATTORNEY JOHN MARTINE

- \* Appointments available in Russellville or Winfield
- \* Attorney speaks Spanish fluently
- \* Immigration cases
- \* Car wreck injury cases
- \* Divorce and Child Custody

**CALL TODAY (205)487-7022**

## ABOGADO JOHN MARTINE

Mi oficina es una FIRMA LEGAL DE SERVICIOS COMPLETOS. Atiendo a clientes que necesitan una solución a sus problemas como:

- Inmigración- Green Cards, Ciudadanía y Visas
- Inmigración- Defensa de deportación
- Lesiones personales en un accidente automovilístico
- Divorcio, custodia y manutención de hijos
- Lesiones en el trabajo - compensación de trabajadores
- Capítulo 7 o Capítulo 13 sobre bancarrota
- Seguro Social por Discapacidad y apelaciones SSI
- Defensa por conducir en estado de ebriedad
- Delitos penales (felony)
- Testamentos, poder notarial y planes de sucesión.
- Cargos por abuso o abuso infantil de DHR

**LLÁMAME (205)487-7022**

# ¿CUÁL ES EL PROBLEMA QUE USTED NECESITA RESOLVER? (205) 487-7022

## CONSULTAS LOS SÁBADOS CON CITA PREVIA



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. No se garantiza que la calidad de los servicios legales a realizar sea superior a la calidad de los servicios legales prestados por otros abogados.



## Bobcats historic season comes to an end after round one loss

Brady Petree  
 Franklin Free Press

It's fair to say that the 2021 season for the Phil Campbell Bobcats was one of historic proportions. After all, not only did the Bobcats post their second straight winning season, something that had not been done since the 2000-2001 seasons, but they also took home the second seed in 3A region 8 while hosting a playoff game for the first time since 2002.

Still, all things considered, the Bobcats feel as though there was still something left in the tank following last Friday night's 10-7 loss to J.B. Pennington which ended the Bobcats season earlier than those in the program had hoped.

But despite the loss, head coach Kevin Barnwell came away with a sense of pride for his team and the competitiveness showed from start to finish.

"I loved how our players competed. They did what they've always done since I took over at Phil Campbell and that's compete until the final play of the game. So I was really proud of that from our guys," Barnwell said.

Of course hindsight is always 20/20. And if one were to poll 100 coaches, it's highly probable that all 100 coaches would point to at least one thing that they did in the game prior that they would change.

And Barnwell is no different. But according to Barnwell, the notion of leaving one stone unturned last Friday night is enough to keep the fourth-year head coach up at night.

See 'BOBCATS,' page 16

## Ready for round two

After a dominant second half, the Golden Tigers came away with a victory over Lincoln in round one of the 5A playoffs. Now, they turn their attention to Fairview in round two.



PHOTO BY CHRISTIAN MEDINA

The Golden Tigers were able to ride a dominant fourth quarter performance against Lincoln to secure the 41-14 victory to advance to the second round of the 5A playoffs.

Brady Petree  
 Franklin Free Press

For the first time since 2015-2016, the Russellville Golden Tigers have won a playoff game in back-to-back seasons.

With a 41-14 win over Lincoln last Friday night, the Golden Tigers moved one step closer to advancing to the quarterfinals for the second straight season.

While the score might suggest that the Golden Tigers won in a blowout fashion, it took a little while for the Golden Tigers to find their footing against the Golden Bears.

Facing a Lincoln team that constantly changes offensive and defensive schemes over the course of the game, something that the Golden Tigers hadn't been all too familiar with until this point, there was a need for sort of an adjustment period.

But once things settled down and they were able

to get a few drives under their belts, the Golden Tigers began to play up to their usual standards.

"I thought we adjusted well. They showed us multiple looks and once we kind of got into a groove on offense, things started clicking and we were able to score quickly," Russellville head coach John Ritter said. "And the same thing happened defensively. We gave up one big play on kind of a busted play where a guy slipped behind us. But other than that we were able to stop them on defense and played very well in all three phases."

Through three quarters, it appeared as though the Golden Tigers would have to fight down to the wire.

Leading just 20-14 early in the fourth quarter, the Golden Tigers would go on a fourth quarter tear to separate themselves from Lincoln and enable them to cruise to a round one victory.

See 'ROUND TWO,' page 15

**Pest Solutions**

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

Send your guest columns, recipes, cartoon panels, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com).

For updates on news and sports throughout the week, don't forget to visit us online at [www.franklinfreepress.net](http://www.franklinfreepress.net)!





# RUSSELLVILLE DENTAL CARE

256.332.6073

510 Engle Dr, • Russellville



*Early Christmas*

*FREE Exam*

*FREE X-ray*

*FREE Consultation*

*FREE Second Opinion*

*until Christmas*



*Dr. Brandon Jewell  
and Kayla Jewell*



**Most Insurance Accepted**





# KING'S PIZZA

**NOW OPEN!**



**Specialty Pizzas** *DOORDASH*



**Custom Built Pizza -**  
*Your Choice Flavored Crust & Base!*



**Pasta - Wings - Salads**



**Dippin' Dots Ice Cream,  
Funnel Fries & Pies!**



**Pizza Omelets & Pizza Bagels!**

*Order online at...*

**Kingspizza.menuonline.com**

**14001 Hwy 43 • Franklin Shopping Center**  
**(256) 398-8010**  
Mon.-Thu. 10-10, Fri.-Sun. 10-11

**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

## 'ROUND TWO,' from page 13

The fourth quarter dominance is something that the Golden Tiger players, coaches and fans have become accustomed to seeing here in the 2021 season.

Scoring 21 unanswered points in the final quarter of the game, Russellville was able to cruise to a round one victory.

For those who haven't followed the Golden Tigers this season, part of the game plan according to Ritter, has been to get games into the late stages and let your grueling style of play wear down the opposition.

And that game plan worked to near perfection last Friday night. "That's kind of been what our game plan has been all along when you play a good team, our goal is to get it to the fourth quarter and let our guys play to our advantages," Ritter said. "The more you sit there grind down the opposition on both sides of the ball, they're eventually going to wear down. They (Lincoln) are a really good team, and to finish fourth in their region considering who they finished behind says a lot about their team. But I'm really excited about how our guys played and executed the plan that we had in the second half."

Next on the docket for a Russellville team that is hoping to punch their ticket to the 5A quarterfinals in back-to-back seasons is a Fairview team whose only loss on the year came to 5A region 7 champion Guntersville.

Ironically the Aggies are the last remaining team standing to come from the aforementioned 5A region 7 after Guntersville, Boaz and Douglas all fell in round one just last week.

With only one loss on the season and a win total reaching double digits after their win last week, the Aggies success this season is well-documented.

And no one knows that better than Ritter and his staff. "Fairview is a very good team. They're 10-1 and averaging 45 points per game. They like to run the football and they run it a lot against a stacked box playing against Fairfield," Ritter said. "Defensively they are a 3-3 stacked team and they force you to snap the football. They tackle well in space and they are a well-coached team. Coach (George) Redding has been there for a long time and they have been very good pretty much the entire time he's been there but especially the past few years."

See 'ROUND TWO,' page 18

### 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

### 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**



**Pick up your FREE copy of the Franklin Free Press at CJ's!!!**

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 4a - 7p**



**GROCERY**  
**FISHING**  
**SUPPLIES**  
**DELI**  
**256-332-1324**

**Full Service Deli w/ Breakfast & Lunch Plates**

**Ethanol-Free Gas**

**Hunting/Fishing Licenses**

**Fishing Supplies/ Live Bait**

**14545 AL 187 @  
Intersection of AL 24**

## **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 December 15, 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.**

**2002 Chevrolet Trailblazer  
1GNDS13S922438836**

**2014 Chevrolet Impala  
2G11Y5SL3E9214844**

**1997 Nissan Sentra  
3N1AB41D0VL022133**

**2017 Dodge Challenger SXT  
2C3CDZAG7HH550776**

**2004 Mazda RX8  
JM1FE173140121126**

## **'BOBCATS,' from page 13**

At the same time, Barnwell says that he was relying on the strategy that guided the Bobcats to a second place finish in their region.

"I was disappointed in a few things once I went back and watched the game. I felt like we missed a couple of assignments that could have changed the way things happened," Barnwell said. "It's frustrating because we were so close. Sunday morning at 3, I'm sitting there still upset because I'm trying to put my guys in the best position to win and I feel like there were some things we could have done differently. I was trusting my defense. Our defense was playing really well and our defensive players and coaches do an unbelievable job. They've done a great job all year and we trust them. And so I was thinking that at some point something was going to break open on offense but it just didn't happen. I trusted our defense all year and I didn't want to come to the end of the game and say 'why did you go away from what got us there' and so that's why I stayed with our game plan as long as we did."

As Barnwell wraps up his fourth season as head coach of the Bobcats, he is able to reflect on the first full class of players that will have played from their freshman year to their senior year.

Coming into the job, Barnwell acknowledges the difficulty of persuading players to come out to play due to the lack of success in years prior.

But once Barnwell got a handful of players to "buy in" to his system, the rest of the dominos started to fall. And with it, came success.

So needless to say that the class of 2022 will always have a lasting impact on not only their soon-to-be alma mater, but their head football coach as well.

"Our seniors have a lot to be proud of. John Randall Herring came by my office on Saturday and I told him that they have so much to be proud of. Those guys played football at Phil Campbell when it was not the "cool" thing to do. And they not only played, they stuck it out," Barnwell said. "There were a lot of students that didn't play because of the difficulty of playing football at Phil Campbell. I wasn't pleasant to play for when I first got here because I was trying to change the mentality in the program. But those seniors have stuck with it and it's a testament to those guys and they have my utmost respect."

From top to bottom, it's not a stretch to say that the Bobcats have made tremendous strides in the previous three seasons with the 2021 season being the pinnacle for the program in the previous two decades.

And for the program to reach this point, Barnwell is a believer that the program has reached the point that it is currently at thanks in part to the efforts of everyone involved with the program.

"The way that we have to coach there is constant pressure because we don't have large numbers so we have to get the most out of them almost on a daily basis," Barnwell said. "I'm just really proud of the guys that have stuck with this team through it all and I have a ton of respect for all of our guys in our program because without those guys, nothing else matters. We all serve a purpose together and without each other, none of us are anything. And I just want to express my respect and appreciation for not only every single player, but every single person in our program as well because it's a team effort."

Not lost on Barnwell is the people he has around him to take the program to new heights.

Including his longtime friend David Palmer who volunteers as a coach, and his former head football coach at Hackleburg, Bill Smith along with a host of others.

And Barnwell is extremely grateful for not only the opportunity to coach, but to do so with people that have had such a large impact on his life.

"I'm blessed to be at Phil Campbell because not only are those guys my coworkers, but they're my friends as well. It's been a lot of fun and the time, effort, blood, sweat and tears that we have put into this program, I wouldn't trade it for anything in this world," Barnwell said.

Kyle Pace connected with Bryant Hyde from three yards out to put the Bobcats on the board for their lone score of the game.

Defensively, the Bobcats were able to hold J.B. Pennington to just 212 yards of total offense including 88 yards rushing with Jeitt Traywick and Braxton Goodson leading the charge with 8.5 tackles and 8 tackles on the night.

**For updates on news and sports throughout the week, visit us on the web at [www.franklinfreepress.net](http://www.franklinfreepress.net)!**

**Send your guest columns, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com).**



# Tharptown's Gaston signs letter of intent with Pearl River CC volleyball

John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press

When a record 38 girls showed up for volleyball tryouts at Tharptown High School last spring, Coach Kamri Fleming realized her program was growing. Much of that growth is attributed to the success of a trio of senior players who were part of the Wildcat volleyball program the past five years. They include Taylor Cameron, Leslie Staggs and Jaiden Gaston.

And Gaston's hard work and talent led to her becoming the school's first athlete to earn a volleyball scholarship. Gaston will join the Wildcat volleyball team next fall at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville, Mississippi.

From a Tharptown Wildcat to a Pearl River Wildcat. It's been an exciting journey for Gaston, who never considered playing volleyball until one of her teachers suggested it when she was in eighth grade.

"One of the coaches who was my teacher (Tracey Little Messer) came up to me and asked if I would be interested in trying out," Gaston said. "I wasn't sure at first because I really loved basketball. I went to tryouts and instantly fell in love with volleyball and knew that was what I wanted to do at the college level."

Gaston, the daughter of Shane Gaston and Cody and Joshlyn Bowen, started out as an outside hitter, but when Fleming took over the varsity program two years ago, Gaston was moved to middle hitter. The move worked, as Gaston earned all Area honors last year and this year, as well as a spot on the All-County Tournament Team.

"She is tall, long and versatile," Fleming said of Gaston. "She may not be tall enough to be a middle in college like in high school, but she's good enough to be an outside hitter. She can hit outside just as well as she can hit middle."

After her stepfather sent out highlight videos of Gaston's volleyball career at Tharptown, Pearl River volleyball coach Haley Chatham was the first one to reach out. Pearl River's program is in its third season, all under Chatham's leadership.

"She invited me down to take part in a practice with the team," Gaston said. See 'GASTON,' page 19



COURTESY PHOTO  
Gaston, above, became the first Tharptown Wildcat volleyball player to earn a college scholarship.

*We Salute...*



Staff Sergeant  
Crystal DiBenedetto



Sergeant Danny  
Vaughn

"We at Easterseals of Northwest Alabama appreciate and recognize the service of the Veterans who are part of our staff; Sergeant Danny Vaughn and Staff Sergeant Crystal DiBenedetto. We also honor all other Veterans who unselfishly committed themselves to protect this great nation and the freedoms we enjoy."



## 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

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

256-332-5440  
15255 Hwy 43  
Russellville



 EyeCare Professionals

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



# 'ROUND TWO,' from page 15

With Fairview beating Fairfield, the Golden Tigers will have home field advantage for two straight playoff games to open up their postseason.

In seven games at home this season, Russellville went undefeated while averaging 42.8 points per game. Compare that to a 2-2 record on the road, averaging 33.7 points per game, and there's no secret as to why the Golden Tigers would prefer to play as many home games as possible over the course of their playoff run.

But keeping the players in a familiar rhythm that's been there for most of the season is an important component of the Ritter and his staff as they gameplan for a difficult opponent in Fairview.

"Having home field advantage is huge for us. We love playing at home. We had an outstanding crowd in the stands last Friday night that was loud and engaged in the game for us," Ritter said. "But it also allows for a routine for our kids as well. It allows for us to be in a routine for us to be in for what will be the eighth time this year which is playing at home. So this is a routine that our kids are familiar with and comfortable with and we play well at home most of the time so this is huge for us to get this game at home this week."

Conner Warhurst added a rushing touchdown to his tally while Arrieon "Boots" McCulloch and Randall Johnson both had receiving touchdowns to their credit from Gabe Amick.



# GRAVELLY®

## Now In Stock!



## ZT X 42

22 HP KOHLER®  
42 IN. DECK

# \$3999

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE

# KIEL EQUIPMENT

14696 Hwy 43 | Russellville, Alabama | [www.kielequipment.com](http://www.kielequipment.com)

### 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

## 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.

Send your guest columns, letters to the editor and other creative submissions to [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com). For updates on news and sports throughout the week, visit [www.franklinfreepress.net](http://www.franklinfreepress.net)!



## 'GASTON,' from page 17

"I met with her and went around campus with her. She's a great coach and I know she'll take care of me."

Gaston said the bonds she's formed with Chatham and her future Wildcat teammates will make the transition of attending college five hours from home much easier.

"My teammates are amazing. I was sort of nervous about going so far from home until I met them. After that, there was no doubt in my mind I'd be going there," Gaston said.

Gaston plans to attend Pearl River for two years, and then transfer to the University of North Alabama, where she hopes to continue her volleyball career. She wants to become an ultrasound technician.

Gaston signed her letter of intent with Pearl River November 2<sup>nd</sup>. She will formally sign in February.

Gaston credited her teammates, particularly Cameron and Staggs, with helping motivate her to improve her game.

"We're all so close. We knew how each other played and how to play well with each other, and that's really important," Gaston said.

Fleming said having a volleyball player earn a scholarship will have an impact on Tharptown's program in coming years.

"That's a pretty big deal. Hopefully, this will be a motivator to the younger players and help them work harder by seeing you can have a chance if you thrive and work hard. It can happen for them, too," Fleming said.

Gaston also expressed her appreciation to her family for their support.

"I want to thank my mom and stepdad for making this possible and for always supporting me in everything I do," Gaston said. "I want to thank Tracey Little Messer for making me fall in love with the sport and Coach Kamri Fleming for always pushing me to try my hardest no matter what. I'm so excited for my future and what's in store," she added.

Don't forget to visit us on the web at [www.franklinfreepress.net](http://www.franklinfreepress.net)!

# RUSSELLVILLE *florist & gifts* A Winter Wonderland

2021 Holiday Premier

November 11th at 6 p.m.

Open House

November 12th-13th 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

November 14th 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

**Receive 20% off  
Select Items!**

100 NORTH JACKSON AVENUE

Call us at 256.332.7771

Congrats to Week 10 winner MARTY HARGETT SR., who correctly picked SEVEN games and also won the tiebreaker between Boise St. and Fresno St.!

**Bailey finished all of her picks and still had time to take a nap. Don't sleep on your chance to BEAT BAILEY!!**

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

**BEAT BAILEY IS BACK!** Submit your picks to us each week in one of two ways: Fill out the entry form on this page and mail it to us at 113 Washington Ave. NW, Russellville, AL 35653, or email your picks to us along with your name and number at [franklinfreepress@yahoo.com](mailto:franklinfreepress@yahoo.com). **Picks sent in by mail for Week 10 must be postmarked by Friday, November 12th, and picks submitted by email for Week 11 must be received by Saturday, November 13th at 10 a.m.** Each week, the contestant who correctly picks the most games will win a free T-shirt and the chance to pick in the grand-prize final-week contest. If multiple contestants correctly pick the same number of games in a given week, the tiebreaker score will be used to determine a winner. Contestants are only eligible to win the weekly contest once. No multiple winners allowed. ONE entry per telephone number. Thanks for playing, and good luck!

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

303 N. Jackson, Russellville  
256.332.2880

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

## Franklin Free Press Football Picks Contest

Week 11: November 13th	Bailey's Pick	Your Pick
Michigan at Penn St.	Michigan	_____
Oklahoma at Baylor	Oklahoma	_____
Mississippi St. at Auburn	Auburn	_____
Purdue at Ohio St.	Ohio St.	_____
Minnesota at Iowa	Iowa	_____
Georgia at Tennessee	Georgia	_____
Texas A&M at Ole Miss	Texas A&M	_____
Arkansas at LSU	Arkansas	_____
South Carolina at Missouri	Missouri	_____
NC State at Wake Forest	Wake Forest	_____
Tiebreaker Score:	Miami	Florida St.
Your Name:	_____	_____
Phone number:	_____	_____





*Life is a journey  
that's not  
measured in miles or  
years but in  
experiences.  
Don't miss out on  
becoming a  
registered voter and  
obtaining your photo  
voter I.D.!*

*Jimmy  
Buffett*

*Legendary singer and songwriter*



SECRETARY OF STATE  
JOHN H. MERRILL

TO REGISTER TO VOTE OR SECURE A FREE ALABAMA PHOTO VOTER ID CARD, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL BOARD OF REGISTRARS, VISIT [ALABAMAVOTES.GOV](http://ALABAMAVOTES.GOV), CALL **1-800-274-8683**, OR DOWNLOAD THE **VOTE FOR ALABAMA APP**  
PAID FOR BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN H. MERRILL, MONTGOMERY, AL

