

Miller's Affordable  
**Furniture**  
256-627-2364

**King Mattress  
& 2 Foundations**

**\$279**  
Featured Special

12845 Hwy 43 • Russellville  
next to Frosty Inn

**ALABAMA  
GUN &  
PAWN**

Fishing Tackle - HUGE Supply!  
New Shipment of Ammo!

15347 Hwy 43 • 256-332-1108

Have an opinion?  
Story idea?



Let us know!  
**We're All Ears!**  
256.332.0255

## REB approves policy limiting citizens' time, frequency to address board

John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press

The Russellville Electric Board adopted a new policy regarding rules for citizens who wish to address the board at its monthly business meetings, including limiting a citizen to one five-minute appearance every three months.

The board unanimously approved the resolution at its May 24 meeting.

The restrictive policy requires "individuals desiring to make an oral presentation to the Electric Board of the City of Russellville, Alabama," to "contact the Office of the Electric Board of the City of Russellville, Alabama, by noon, a minimum of three business days prior to the

meeting...and request to be on the agenda."

The resolution also provides a five-minute maximum speaking time and limits any individual to "one appearance per quarter/one appearance every three months for the purpose of making an oral presentation..."

Last month, three citizens addressed the board including Russellville resident Sasha Franklin, who was also on the May 24 agenda. The three citizens posed several questions to board members, but received no response on any inquiries.

Franklin referenced Manager Charles Canida and his board's refusal to answer citizen inquiries.

See 'REB,' page 3

## Oliver wins big in bid for fourth term as Franklin Sheriff

John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press

After seeing his wife and father pass away within two months of each other last year, Shannon Oliver realized how important the people of Franklin County are to him.

"If not for the people at my job and in this county, I'm not sure I would have made it," Oliver said Tuesday, after winning a fourth term as Franklin County Sheriff. "Things were very tough, but that support sure made it a lot easier to go through."

Oliver defeated challenger Joe Fike in the Republican Primary by receiving more than 83 percent of the vote (4,054-808). With no Democratic candidate, Oliver's victory earned

him another term that will begin next year.

As he campaigned, Oliver said much of citizen feedback he received was positive. On the down side, though, Oliver said he had several citizens voice concerns about how/why defendants get out of jail so soon after arrest, something he explained was outside the control of the sheriff.

"As sheriff, all we can do is make the arrest and turn in the case for prosecution," Oliver said. "Bonding is out of our control. People have a constitutional right to a bond. You're innocent until proven guilty so we don't control whether someone makes bond."

Oliver expressed his appreciation  
See 'OLIVER,' page 5

*Jacob's Ladder Florist*  
256-436-8447  
Jacobsladderflorist727@gmail.com  
14904 Highway 23  
Red Bay, Alabama 35582

*Tina Cox*  
Owner

- Silk Flower Arrangements
- Order Early for Decoration!
- Cemetery Vases \$28.50 and up!!
- Like us on Facebook

Open 9-4 Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri, 9-12 Sat.

**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 Espanol**

Have an opinion?  
Story idea?

Let us know!  
**We're All Ears!**  
256.332.0255



**DEAL OF THE WEEK**  
**RAMONA REED AUTO SALES**  
**256.398.8751**  
 18516 Hwy 43 • Across from King Drive In



**2015 CADILLAC  
 SRX  
 ONLY \$17,900**



**“Let us help you find financing for YOUR dream car!”**

**No Driver's License - No Problem!**

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

Check us out online at [www.franklinfreepress.net](http://www.franklinfreepress.net)!

**FRANKLIN MEMORY GARDENS**  
 We offer ground burial, mausoleum and cremation spaces. All may be purchased at need or pre-need to include the burial vault and bronze memorial.  
*Providing a peaceful, beautiful and serene cemetery for the people of Franklin County.*  
**Carolyn Atkins Porter** *Since 1960*  
 2710 Waterloo Road • 256.332.2115

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

**Dale Bearden**, 74, of Russellville, passed away on Monday, May 30th. Pinkard Funeral Home is assisting the family.

**Denford LaVaughn Davis**, 52, of Spruce Pine, passed away on Saturday, May 28th. Interment at Dempsey Cemetery.

**Caleb Webster Oates Jr.**, 62, of Russellville, passed away on Monday, May 23rd. Interment at Luke Town.

# Local, high-quality women's care is our specialty.

Our providers at North Alabama Specialty Care offer high-quality care in the area of OB/GYN Health for women in all stages of life.



**Brant Hurd, DO**  
**OBGYN**

**Brandie Garner, CRNP**  
**Women's Health**

**Now accepting new patients!**  
**256.767.0081**  
 523 Gandy Street  
 Russellville, AL



# 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

## 'REB,' from page 1

Those questions centered around board approval of expenditures including an \$84,000 luxury SUV for Canida, a private fishing boat charter, \$3,000 dinners on beach conference trips and Canida's purchase on a REB credit card of thousands of dollars of fine chocolates.

Franklin spoke for approximately two minutes Tuesday.

"I appreciate the opportunity to address you. It looks like I won't get another one for at least three months," Franklin told the board.

"If all you're doing is legal and legitimate, why not answer any questions people had last month? Your silence speaks volumes," Franklin added.

A visibly frustrated Franklin left the meeting with doubts his words would be heeded by Canida or the board.

"I'd like each of you to go home to your nice house tonight and remember there are a lot of people in our community who have to make a choice to take medication or eat," Franklin said. "When you're spending all that money on these trips. I understand you have to go to some conferences for education but there are a lot of you taking these as vacations for your family. If none of this bothers you, I just pray God has mercy on you."

Business items approved by the board included:

—renewed a \$1 million line of credit with CB&S Bank in place for emergency situations. REB Accountant Tiffany Holt said the board has never drawn on the line of credit, but bank officials require the board to renew it at a meeting each year.

—approved an action that will provide a lump sum payment from the Retirement Systems of Alabama to all REB retirees and beneficiaries of deceased retirees. The payment will be in addition to each retiree's October 2022 regular retirement payment and will be approximately \$2 for each month of service with REB.

—heard a request from Canida to hire Russellville Police Officer Chad Sheffield as a First Period Tree Trimmer at a starting rate of pay of \$20.96/hour. Sheffield will fill a vacancy created by former tree trimmer Gabe Wallace entering the IBEW Apprentice Program. Canida said Wallace will 'transition' into the line crew.

—approved a \$10,000 expense to help sponsor the City of Russellville's annual Fourth of July Jam on Sloss Lake. Canida read a letter from Russellville Mayor David Grissom asking the board to support the event in the same amount it sponsored in previous years.

—Canida read the municipal court order entered in the Criminal Trespass, Third Degree case against Dwight Jackson. Jackson was found guilty in a trial earlier this month. The evidence showed Jackson went to pay his utility bill at the main office after being served in 2019 with a no-trespass order.

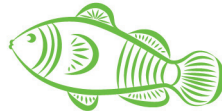


# A Boat-Load of Savings!

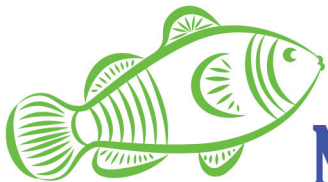
**Multi-vehicle discount**

**Claim free discount**

**Drivers Ed**



**Mature Homeowner**



**Good Student**

**New roof discount**

**Multi-policy discount**

**Wood-Thompson Insurance**

130 North Jackson Ave • Russellville  
Mon-Fri 8-5

256-332-1381



### PUBLIC AUCTION

Absolute Storage Solutions

110 Coffee Ave. SE  
Russellville, AL 35653

Notice is hereby given that on  
June 4, 2022 from 10:30 a.m.-  
12:00 p.m., the following units

will be sold by sealed bid.  
Tenant may satisfy their  
indebtedness prior to the  
time of sale. Will be able to  
inspect units and bid on this  
date. All units have miscella-  
neous items, furniture, and  
boxes.

#39 Amy Stafford

### 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 June 22,  
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.

2010 Chevrolet Equinox  
2CNALPEW6A6311938

2013 Toyota Corolla  
5YFBU4EEXDP177515

2001 Chrysler Sebring LXI  
4C3AG52H11E090587

2002 Mitsubishi Galant LS  
4A3AA46G12E146360

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

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**

## 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

Christian Medina, Gail Motes, Lori Skinner

### 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.

## Jackson found guilty of trespass after paying bill at RV utilities office

John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press

A former Russellville Utilities employee has been found guilty of Criminal Trespass, Third Degree, after going to the Russellville Utilities office to pay his electric bill in February.

Dwight Jackson, a former meter reader who retired in 2016, was found guilty by Russellville Municipal Court Judge Roger Bedford, Jr.

Criminal Trespass, Third Degree, is a violation under Alabama law that carries a fine and possible jail sentence up to 30 days.

The charge against Jackson was initiated by Russellville Electric Board Manager Charles Canida, who signed a complaint against Jackson after he paid his bill at the customer service window on February 10, 2022.

Jackson had previously been served with a no trespass notice by Russellville Police on August 7, 2019, which stated he was "not allowed to enter or be on the property, premises or outbuildings located at 721 Jackson Avenue South, Russellville," the address for the Russellville Utilities building and the main office of the Russellville Electric Board.

The building provides for walk-in and drive-thru payments of utility bills.

Bedford imposed a fine of \$250, along with court costs and fees totaling \$662. There was no jail sentence imposed.

Jackson said Monday he would appeal the conviction to Franklin County Circuit Court, where the matter would be heard by a Franklin County jury. Once Jackson files the required appeal documents, the conviction is set aside and the charge is refiled in Circuit Court as a 'trial de novo,' meaning there will be a brand new trial with no reference to Jackson having been found guilty in Municipal Court.

Jackson did not have an attorney at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> trial, instead choosing to represent himself. He told the *FFP* he plans to retain an attorney for the jury trial.

New Russellville Municipal Court Prosecutor Eddie Beason prosecuted the case for the City of Russellville. Canida and RPD Captain Jake Tompkins testified as witnesses.

Bedford's order states "the issue of whether or not this was a valid and properly executed Trespass Order against the Defendant was not the issue before the Court."

Jackson contended the no trespass notice, which also stated Jackson was not "to have any contact with any employee of the Russellville Electric Board," was unlawful because it banned him from a public building where Russellville residents go to pay their utility bills.

"There was no reason to ban me from the building. I hadn't been in there since I retired in 2016," Jackson said.

Bedford issued a written order dated May 20<sup>th</sup>, which stated Jackson "admitted that he could have mailed his payment or have someone else send it or deliver it for him, but he decided he would do it himself and it was his personal decision."

Canida's history with Jackson also includes filing a police report against him last December alleging Jackson came onto private property to take photos of Canida and REB employees cutting trees at a residence on North Jackson Avenue.

Police investigated the incident and found no crime had been committed, according to RPD Chief Chris Hargett.

Jackson said he's never been arrested before the Criminal Trespass charge and his only involvement with the court system was a traffic ticket.

**Don't forget  
to visit us  
online at  
www.franklin  
freepress.net!**

**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!**

# 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



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!

## 'OLIVER,' from page 1

to the men and women of Franklin County's other law enforcement agencies, as well as state officials, for the positive working relationship among the departments.

"We all work together very well and get along well. Everything we do is toward one common goal—to get the bad guys off the street," Oliver said. "There would be no way to do that effectively if there was infighting among law enforcement agencies.

"We're like a baseball team. When you go out on the field, the entire team needs to be working toward the same goal," Oliver added.

Elected as a Democrat in 2010, 2014 and 2018, this was Oliver's first re-election bid as a Republican candidate. When he announced the party change last year, Oliver cited concerns about the national Democratic Party positions on important law enforcement issues and said he could no longer "align himself" with those extreme views.

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

FAMILY PRACTICE  
Pediatrics  
Newborn Care  
256-331-2590

**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**



## 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



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

Trimming  
Topping • Removal  
Bucket Work  
Stump Grinding  
**KARL RAGAN 256.332.9064**



# Head Start & Early Head Start

Top-quality, comprehensive early childhood education services that get your child ready for kindergarten at NO cost to your family

- ✓ **No-cost services for eligible families in a classroom setting**
- ✓ **Prenatal services for pregnant women & teens**
- ✓ **Programs for children ages birth through 4**
- ✓ **Priority points for children in specific need categories**  
*(with disabilities, experiencing homelessness, in foster care) and other vulnerable children)*

**Call Today! (256) 332-5912  
or (256) 566-6000**

**976 Ronnie McDowell Ave., Russellville.**

www.capna.org



# What's Happening

256.332.0255

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

It's that time again—Mowing Season. Time to remove all old flowers from graves and headstones at the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery on Highway 724, Newburg. Donations are needed for the upkeep of the cemetery. If you have a loved one buried in this cemetery or want to help by contributing, please send contributions to: Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, 941 Highway 87, Russellville, Al, 35654.

The NACOLG Seniorx – Medicine program is a program for free and low-cost medications for the uninsured, underinsured, Medicare coverage gap or disability waiting period. For more information, contact NACOLG Seniorx today. There is no charge for this service. 1-800-AGELINE (1-800-243-5463) Paula Pardue 256-389-0529.

Liberty Chapel Freewill Baptist Church will host Revival Services June 5-8, 2022. The church is located on Highway 81 in the East Franklin Community, just past the Fire Department. Evangelist will be Bro. Jeff Boyles. Pastor is Bro. Brian Galloway. Sunday night services begin at 5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday services at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome! For more information contact Delmer Duboise at 256-324-8430.

The Woodruff Family Reunion will be held at Cedar Buff Farm, 3449 County Road 78, Russellville, on Saturday, June 11, from 10-2. Please bring a covered dish or dessert of your choice.

Homecoming will be held at Duncan Creek Baptist Church on Sunday, June 5, with service at 10:30 a.m., featuring the music of 'Purpose.' There will be a fellowship lunch at 12 p.m.

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

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

# Murphree wins BOE 4 nomination, will face Oliver in November

John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press

Although she and her husband Jimmy have been fixtures at Rockwood as poll workers, Carol Murphree put her name on a ballot for the first time this spring when she decided to seek the Republican nomination for Franklin County Board of Education District Four.

Murphree's maiden voyage was successful at the first level Tuesday as she defeated Heath McKee 449-233. She will now face Democratic incumbent Shannon Oliver in the November 2022 general election.

Murphree, a retired educator whose teaching career spanned three school systems, including Russellville City Schools, was all smiles after learning she would be the Republican nominee.

"I was real surprised. You just can't get a read on everything when you're campaigning. I thought I'll run and maybe I'll get to serve the children of this county and that would be great, but I had no expectations from there," Murphree said. "I really am surprised and thankful."

Murphree said her experience as a former educator would bring a different perspective to the BOE, similar to that of former Russellville City Board of Education member Judy Pounders.

"If I'm elected and can be half of what Judy Pounders was that would be a success," Murphree said. "She was a retired educator representing the teachers on the board. She's gone now (Pounders died in 2021) but she'll always be someone I admired and loved."

Murphree said her campaign (and that of McKee's) was about sending a positive message to the voters of BOE District Four, which has Belgreen High School as its anchor school.

"I really wasn't running against Heath McKee and it won't be that way in the fall. I'm running for our children. I have nothing negative to bash anyone over," Murphree said. "I want to help solve problems, be honest with people and those are my plans if elected."



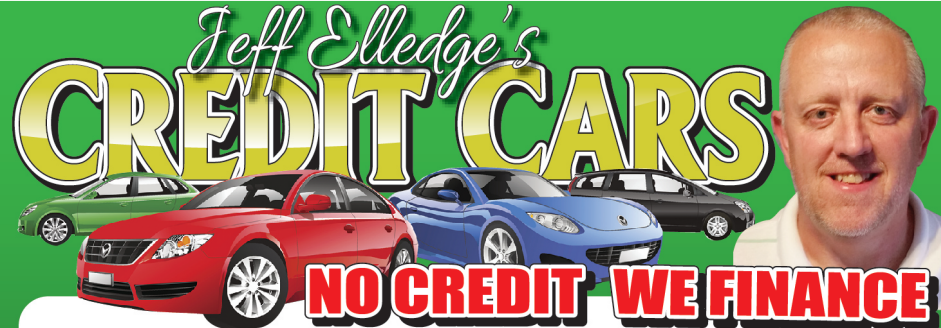
## Dr. Kelly's Urgent Care

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

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

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

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



**NO CREDIT - WE FINANCE**

08 Honda Odyssey

\$800 Down

05 Buick Terraza

\$1200 Down

99 Nissan Quest

\$800 Down

01 Lexus RX300

\$1000 Down

10 Ford Edge

\$2000 Down

07 Toyota RAV4

\$2500 Down

01 Mercury Marquis

\$1200 Down

02 Buick LeSabre

\$1200 Down

elledge.jeff@gmail.com

2506 Woodward Ave • Muscle Shoals

256.383.7979 • 256.710.3711

For news updates throughout the week, don't forget to check us out on the web at [www.franklinfreepress.net](http://www.franklinfreepress.net)!

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

**FREE**

Every 3rd Saturday of each month  
Saturday, June 18th

9:00am-11:00am

North Highlands Church of Christ Fellowship Hall

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

# 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

361231-1

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)!

## Miller defeats Moore for Franklin County seat on state Republican Committee

John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press

Jason Miller didn't take much time to celebrate victory after winning his bid to earn the Franklin County male seat on the Alabama Republican Party State Executive Committee (ARPSEC).

Instead, Miller laid out the goals he will have as the county's voice at the state level of the political party that owns an essential monopoly when it comes to Alabama politics.

"My job will be to always be able to represent Franklin County values at the state level. With all that's going on at the national level with the Democratic Party, there are a lot of things we need to keep out of Alabama," Miller said.

Miller defeated long-time State Executive Committee member Lowell Moore of Russellville with 3,118 votes to Moore's 1,251.

Miller, who represents District Two on the Franklin County Commission, said he'll be 'approachable' when it comes to matters of the Republican Party. He also plans to keep Franklin County residents informed as to what's happening at the state level of Republican politics.

"We need to do a better job of informing Franklin County residents about what's going on with the Republican Party across Alabama, and that's what I plan to do," Miller said.

Miller also took aim at the Franklin County Republican Executive Committee, saying the committee needs to be represented by someone who lives in the county. Miller's comment referred to Franklin County Republican Executive Committee Chairman Jerry Mays, whom Miller says lives in Muscle Shoals.

"We need to elect a chairman who resides in Franklin County to really move forward. We need a leader who lives here and who makes Franklin County a priority," Miller said.

Mays, who spoke with the *FFP* Tuesday evening at the Franklin County Courthouse, said he has always made Franklin County his priority and there's nothing wrong or improper about maintaining 'dual residences' in two counties, something he said many residents and elected officials do.

Mays, the former mayor of Phil Campbell, has served as Franklin County GOP Chairman dating back to before the county elected its first Republican of the new century, in 2012.

Miller believes the local party must be more active and involved in order for the party to continue to grow, and he questioned how the local party can sustain growth with a chairman who's not a Franklin County resident.

### 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 June 8, 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.

13 mazda2  
JM1DE1LY0D0169189

01 dodge grand caravan  
2B8GP74L61R307280

13 Toyota Corolla  
5YFBU4EE4DP178191

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



# Welborn narrowly defeats Baker, will serve fourth term on county BOE

John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press

If Terry Welborn ever has the opportunity to speak to the children he represents on the Franklin County Board of Education, he'll have an important message for them when it comes to politics—*every vote counts!*

Welborn saw that adage first hand with his narrow win over Curtis Baker in Tuesday's Republican Primary for Franklin County Board of Education District Three. Welborn won by 14 votes, 397-383.

"I'm so thankful for everyone who went out and voted," Welborn said. "It just meant everything that they went out and took the time to vote, especially when you consider the low turnout at the local and state level."

Welborn, who was first elected to the BOE in 2010, defeated Baker for the second consecutive election, although Baker ran as a Democrat in 2018. This year's margin was considerably closer. Welborn's strong vote in Phil Campbell (209-152) was the difference.

With no Democratic candidate, Welborn's primary win means he will serve a fourth term.

"I'm very blessed. I told my when I was going to run for the first time that I was hesitant. I didn't know what to do. And God said to me 'I want you to run.' I prayed again when Curtis announced he was running (four years ago) and asked God 'are you sure?'" Welborn said. "The people close to me were very reassuring, and I'm so thankful for that."

Welborn attributed his victory, in large part, to a policy of transparency in government that is important to him and his fellow board members.

"We try to be transparent and put every school at the forefront. The better we can make each school, the better we are as a county," Welborn said. "That's what this board does—look at each aspect of each school and try to push those needs. We have to have great teachers and they make it work."

One goal Welborn said the board and Superintendent Greg Hamilton have worked hard to accomplish is bringing Franklin County Schools out of the red to where the system now operates with a one-month reserve operating budget, something required by the state Department of Education.

Welborn said he will remain accessible to all citizens who want to address concerns or issues with the school system.

"You want someone you can come to on any subject and feel that person will be fair. And we've done that. That goes for Mr. Hamilton and the entire board. Being fair and respectful to everyone helps me know God has me where he wants me to be—living as a Christian and a board member," Welborn said.

**Pest Solutions**

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

# Dale victorious in quest for State Democratic Executive Committee seat

John Pilati  
Franklin Free Press

At 81, you wouldn't think Charles Dale would be ready for work. But after his victory in the House District 18 State Democratic Executive Committee (SDEC) race, that's exactly what Dale wants to do—get to work for his party and the people of Alabama.

Dale defeated Rick Neighbors in the HD 18 State Democratic Executive Committee race with 314 votes to Neighbors' 270. HD 18 is comprised of Franklin and a portion of Colbert Counties.

In Franklin County, Neighbors won by a 13-vote margin, 162-149. But Dale's strong showing in Colbert County (165-108) carried him to victory. Seats on the SDEC are elected by House districts, but there is no compensation for serving.

Each House District in Alabama is represented by one male and one female resident on the SDEC.

Dale is a veteran of Democratic politics whose civic involvement dates back to the historic Selma Bridge Crossing 57 years ago. He's been active in Democratic politics on the local level for years, serving on the Franklin County Democratic Executive Committee.

Dale said his mission as a SDEC member will be one of accountability of elected officials in both parties.

"My job will be in large part to make sure politicians in elected positions hold up their end and are there for the people they represent, and not for prestige or their pockets," Dale said.

With all but one of Alabama's state and federal offices held by Republicans, there's nowhere to go but up for Alabama Democrats.

"Our message is still there. It's just that people are looking at things from the Republican Party standpoint," Dale told the *FFP* last week. "They're saying the things people in rural areas are wanting to hear. Same with the things Donald Trump is saying. But it's not reality. It's just what they want to hear. They think Republicans will solve our problems but they won't."

Neighbors did score a political victory Tuesday, as he defeated Rhonda Gore for the Democratic nomination for United States Congress for Alabama's Fourth Congressional District. He will face Rep. Robert Aderholt, the Republican incumbent, in the November general election.

**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

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

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

**And don't forget to check us out online at [www.franklinfreepress.net](http://www.franklinfreepress.net)!**



# Classifieds

256.332.0255

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

**YARD SALES**

Yard sale!  
Saturday, June 4th  
from 7 a.m. - until  
at the foot of  
Spruce Pine  
Mountain. Lots of  
miscellaneous  
items.

First Friday YARD  
SALE -FRIDAY  
JUNE 3- 7AM til  
NOON- 317  
Whitten Road,  
Russellville, Al.  
Some office items,  
Old Wood  
Windows, Sewing  
& Craft items, Nice

Wall Art, clothes,  
etc.  
  
Multi-family yard  
sale, June 3 and  
4, 55 Marshall Dr.  
Russellville. 7 am  
- until 2 pm on  
Friday, 7 am- noon  
on Saturday, June  
4th.

decor, and lots of  
other items! From  
7 a.m. - until.  
  
First time yard  
sale! 189 Ozbirn  
Hill, Littleville,  
Friday & Saturday,  
June 3rd & 4th.  
Four families with  
lots of everything.  
From 8 a.m. -  
until.

ed. Call 256-668-  
9194.  
  
Exercise Bike For  
Sale. Like new.  
\$40. Call 256-324-  
4893.  
  
One Owner 2009  
Jeep. Two-door  
with 25,000 miles.  
Call (256)-460-  
9667.

332-6138.  
  
Steel frame, fold  
up, twin size bed  
with mattress. \$25.  
Call (256)-332-  
6138.  
  
Old metal flat top  
trunk with wooden  
tray inside. Good  
condition. \$50.  
Call (256)-332-  
6138.

324-2407.  
  
Three Hanging  
Wall Heaters For  
Sale. \$150 for all  
three. 220-volt.  
Northstar Pressure  
Washer For Sale.  
\$75 OBO or work  
trade. Call 256-  
324-2407.

**SEEKING TO  
BUY**

Want to buy a  
cabin on one of  
the lakes in  
Franklin County.  
Call (256)-996-  
2699.

**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 num-  
ber 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 publi-  
cation for ads.

**Don Enrique,  
Agent**

enriquehomes@yahoo.com

**Servicios Generales  
de Seguros y Vivienda**

**256-740-2356**

Yard Sale! Friday  
June 3 and  
Saturday June 4th,  
7670 Hwy 243 in  
Russellville. Little  
bit of everything. If  
it rains, it will be  
moved to June  
11th.

Yard sale! June  
2nd and 3rd from  
7 a.m. - until. 2035  
Underwood Rd.  
New (with tags)  
pants, capris,  
blouses, etc. \$7.50  
per or two for \$10.

**FOR SALE**

2003 Ford  
Expedition. Green  
in color. Excellent  
condition, garage  
kept. Low mileage.  
Best offer accept-

Three-piece wood-  
en bedroom suite.  
Call (256)-460-  
9667.

Decoration  
Flowers For Sale.  
All kinds. 911  
Adams St. NW,  
Russellville.

Lighted Oak China  
Cabinet with two  
glass doors. Bow  
front with three  
glass shelves.  
\$100. Call (256)-

2001 Dodge  
Magnum Truck For  
Sale. 96,000  
Actual Miles. Good  
motor, transmis-  
sion. Body in fair  
condition. \$2,500  
OBO. Call 256-

**Do you need Garden Tilling, Small  
Backhoe or Landscaping Work?**

**Call Christopher at 256-702-1404.**

**• Building Supplies for  
Residential/Commercial  
Projects**

- Metal Fabrication
- Custom Hardscaping
- Outdoor Kitchens

**Mon.-Fri. 7:30-5 • Sat. 8:00-12**

**256.332.8181**

**HWY 43, Littleville**

**Willodean's  
on WGOL**

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

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

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

**And don't forget to check us out  
online at www.franklinfreepress.net!**

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



## AHSAA announces realignment for 2022-23 spring sports season

Staff reports

The AHSAA recently announced that it was putting a hold on the reorganizing of baseball and softball into region play instead of area play.

Doing so would have mirrored the structure of the football formatting but instead, the AHSAA board elected to hold off on making the change for now.

However, there were some changes that did come out of the association recently as the spring sports alignments were released and there are some noteworthy changes for the upcoming spring 2022-23 athletic season involving teams within Franklin County.

The changes are as follows...

1A baseball and softball remain the same with Belgreen and Vina remaining in area 13 along with Hackleburg and Phillips for another stint.

In 2A baseball, Tharptown (formerly of area 14) and Red Bay (formerly of area 10) now move into the same area (area 16), along with Lexington, Sheffield and Mars Hill.

Red Bay and Tharptown softball will also jump and join areas together in area 13 along with Winston County to set up a three-team area in 2A.

One of the more notable changes in the realignment of area play comes in 3A area 15 baseball.

The Phil Campbell Bobcats will compete with Colbert Heights and Colbert County in the same area after the Bobcats dominated 3A area 15 play in recent years with East Lawrence, Danville and Vinemont as their area foes.

With the Wildcats and Indians joining in the area,

See 'AHSAA,' page 13

# A night full of celebrations



**Left: Russellville City Councilman Darren Woodruff presents Golden Tiger second baseman Andrew Hatton with a resolution passed by the Russellville City Council commending the Golden Tigers for winning the 5A state title. Right: Russellville head baseball coach Chris Heaps addresses the crowd at the celebration for the Golden Tigers.**

Brady Petree  
Franklin Free Press

It didn't take too much time for the Golden Tigers were able to celebrate their accomplishment with their parents, fans and the community.

After winning their second straight 5A state baseball title less than one week prior, the Golden Tigers were able to be celebrated and honored in proper fashion.

After rain pushed the celebration from Russellville's baseball stadium into the RMS gym, parents, administrators, coaches, fans and local officials filed into the gym to honor their fifth state championship team.

"This is just an amazing blessing and after we did not get the opportunity to do something like this for last year's team, we needed to make this happen," Heaps said as he addressed the crowd. "All of these guys love one another, they have a relentless work ethic and just an unbelievable group of guys. When we say 'uncommon', that's what this group has been and it's been an honor to get to coach them."

In addition to receiving recognition in front of a crowd of their fans, the Golden Tigers also

received special commendation from multiple local officials as well as one from the state level.

State Representative Jamie Kiel presented a resolution from the Alabama State House of Representatives honoring the Golden Tigers on their accomplishment.

The Franklin County Commission and Franklin County Probate Judge also presented a resolution commending coach Heaps and his squad for a phenomenal season.

In addition, the Russellville City Council not only presented the team with a resolution of their own, but did so in the middle of a city council meeting inside the RMS gym that was held outside of Russellville City Hall for the first time ever. Mayor Grissom, alongside city councilmen Darren Woodruff, Gary Cummings, Dexter Hamilton, Jamie Harris and David Palmer presented the resolution to coach Heaps and the team while in the meeting.

"What a tremendous night. Having Representative (Jamie) Kiel, Superintendent Grimes, Mayor Grissom and the Russellville City Council and the Franklin County Commission here as a part of the culture of those large crowds that

See 'CELBATIONS,' page 14

**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)**

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

# 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



## HOME INSPECTION

**MC Home Inspection**

Presale Home Inspection



Mart Culp

Russellville, AL 35654  
martculp@gmail.com

256-331-9209  
256-324-8692

THERE ARE  
OTHER WAYS

TO GET  
OUR INK!



MAILBOX • SMARTPHONE • TABLET • COMPUTER • RADIO



FRANKLINFREEPRESS.NET

# NOW HIRING

**Starting wages of  
\$17 per hour up to  
\$22.30 per hour with  
incentive!!**

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 256-768-3707 for more information!**

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



## 'AHSAA,' from page 11

with the three aforementioned schools departing the area, 3A area 15 figures to be one of the most competitive areas in north Alabama baseball.

As for the Lady Bobcats of Phil Campbell, they move from area 15 to area 12 where they will be paired with Carbon Hill, Colbert Heights and Winfield to compete for area titles.

Russellville baseball will have a new area opponent coming into the mix as the formerly three-team area will bump up by one team.

Jasper High School will be moving into 5A area 14 beginning next season along with the Golden Tigers, West Point and Lawrence County on the diamond.

The Lady Golden Tigers saw one change in their area as they bid goodbye to West Point and welcomed in Ardmore to take their place in the three-team area in area 16.

On the soccer pitch, there were some noteworthy changes for the two teams in Franklin County with squads.

In the class 1A-3A classification, the Tharptown Wildcat boys program moves into a new region with an entire slate of new region opponents to face.

Once a part of area 7 where they competed with Danville, East Lawrence, Holly Pond, J.B. Pennington and Saint Bernard Prep, none of them followed the Wildcats into area 8.

The Wildcats new area opponents will be Athens Bible School, Clements, Elkmont, Madison Academy, Tanner and Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering.

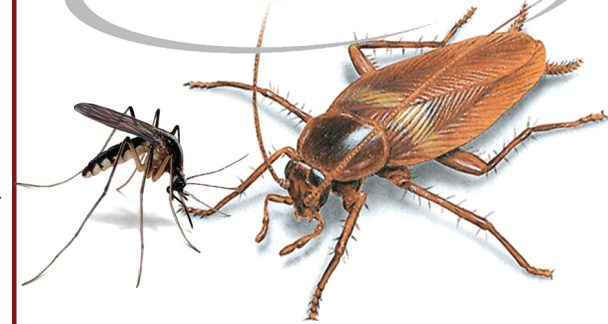
The Lady Wildcats area almost mirrors that of the boys with one exception: Whitesburg Christian stands as the lone holdover moving with the Lady Wildcats into area 8.

In 5A soccer, which will now stand alone after being paired with 4A schools in previous seasons, the Golden Tigers will say hello to new area opponents as they move from area 14 to area 8.

A.P. Brewer, Aremore, East Limestone, Lawrence County (the lone mover with Russellville) and West Point will all make up area 8 moving forward.

In girls soccer, the Lady Golden Tigers will face the same exact region as the boys program in 5A area 8.

## Pest Solutions



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



## 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

## George Evans, MD

Offering general medical care services for the entire family



**SHOALS  
PRIMARY CARE**



256.383.4473 Ext. 2021  
340 Cox Blvd • Sheffield, AL

For news updates throughout the week, don't forget to check us out on the web at [www.franklinfreepress.net](http://www.franklinfreepress.net)!

## 'CELEBRATIONS,' from page 11

supported us through the playoffs," Heaps said. "But I was just thrilled we got to have something like this for these guys because they deserved it. I mean what they have accomplished is truly uncommon. It's not common to find a state championship team in back-to-back seasons. And I think what's remarkable is that nobody expected us to do it last year and they *definitely* didn't expect us to do it this year. But these guys buy in to what we do and that's how we've gotten to where we are today."

What made the night even more special, for five Golden Tigers in particular, was the signing of baseball scholarships to Northwest-Shoals Community College of which now former Golden Tiger pitching coach David Langston will be heading up once again.

Emitt Green, Samuel Pace, Ethan Oliver, Nathan Brockway and Grayson Thorpe all signed their scholarship offers at the conclusion of the celebration, securing their baseball future.

For Langston, who is returning to the post of head coach of the Patriot baseball program, bringing five guys who he has had the opportunity to watch compete on a daily basis was an absolute no-brainer as he brings in his first recruiting class.

"Being able to bring on five guys that has actually won championships and knows what it takes to get there into a new program, they just bring that energy and the 'know-how' into our program and that's exactly what we need," Langston said. "Nobody knew that I was going to get that job, including myself. But I knew I was in the running and these guys knew that I was in the running and these guys just held off and once it was confirmed, it was really just me picking up the phone and letting them know I wanted them there and they said that's all they needed to hear."

Grayson Thorpe, who leadoff for the Golden Tigers through a majority of the season, now gets to pursue a college athletic career at NW-SCC.

And getting to play for a coach who knows his game well while *also* playing alongside former Golden Tiger teammates just adds the cherry on top to an already special occasion.

"It's a big step for my baseball career and I'm also getting to keep playing with my buddies. Just knowing coach Langston and playing for him is definitely a good thing for me as well," Thorpe said. "Being a two-time state champion and being a Golden Tiger has been just awesome for me and I've loved every minute of it."

Ethan Oliver, who was used both as a third baseman and a designated hitter for Russellville, possessed one of the hottest bats in the postseason batting well over .400 going into the state championship series, also signed on to continue his baseball career as a Patriot.

And when Oliver put pen to paper last Tuesday night, the realization of a dream long in the making finally became a reality.

"I've been looking forward to this moment ever since I was a little kid. I wrote on a picture in seventh grade that we would be three-time state champions. And of course one year got canceled due to COVID but we finished the back-to-back which is still exciting. And then getting to go to college with five of your friends to a local college, you couldn't ask for anything more than

See 'CELEBRATIONS,' page 15

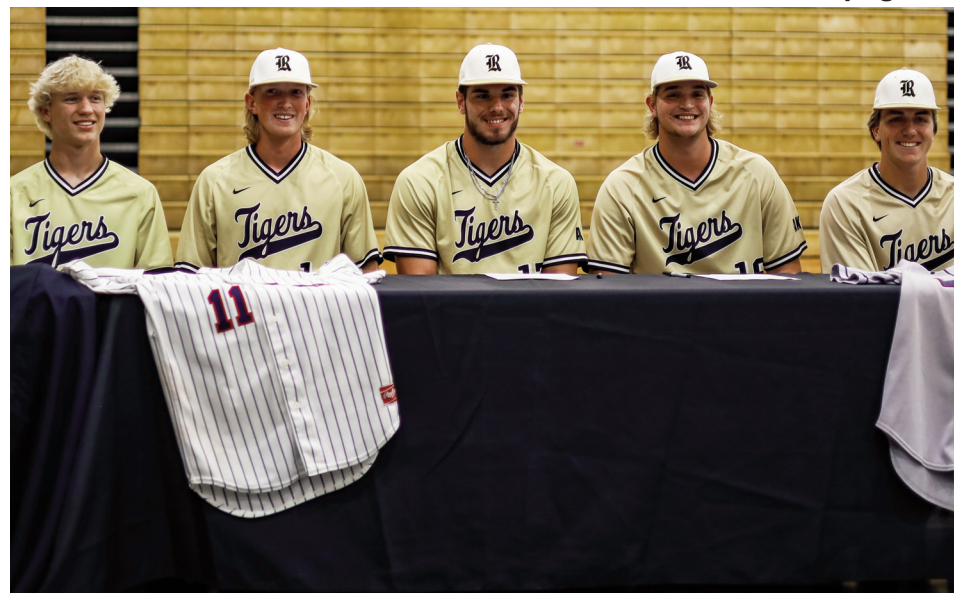


PHOTO BY CHRISTIAN MEDINA

From left to right: Grayson Thorpe, Ethan Oliver, Nathan Brockway, Samuel Pace and Emitt Green all signed scholarships to play at NW-SCC.

**Salvador's**  
**LAWN SERVICE**  
(256) 810-2351  
Free Estimates Licensed

**MOWING • TRIMMING**  
**MULCHING • CLEANING LEAVING**  
**HEDGING & SHRUBS • EDGING**

**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

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)!

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

**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**

## 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](http://www.MedShoals.com)



1120 S. Jackson Hwy  
Sheffield, AL

351 Alabama Hwy 64  
Killen, AL

## 'CELEBRATIONS,' from page 14

that," Oliver said.

One of the bats headed to Langston's initial recruiting class possesses some of the best raw power in the state in Nathan Brockway and if he finds a way to take that next step in his progression at the plate, opposing pitchers will surely have Brockway on notice every time he steps to the dish.

As he celebrates winning a championship ring for the second straight year, Brockway is already anticipating the start to his college career and has high hopes for what the next two years entails.

"It's just a special night to all of us. We got to celebrate as a team and then for five of us to move on to play at the next level and we're all just really excited about it and we're all just ready to get started," Brockway said. "Being able to go play college ball with people you already know is so big. It feels more like home when we get there and we already know coach Langston so we are going to be comfortable around him. We are all just ready to get there and get started for sure."

As for Samuel Pace, who got the win for the Golden Tigers in back-to-back game threes in the semifinal and championship rounds, the decision to continue his baseball career didn't take long for him to make.

In fact, as soon as word came down that Langston had gotten the job at NW-SCC, Pace already had his mind made up.

"I knew as soon as coach Langston got the job that I wanted to go play for him. He's such a great coach and I love playing for him," Pace said. "To be able to go play with that group of guys that I just signed with, that's special. They're my brothers and I've gotten to be around them for years and now, I'm getting to be around them for two more years."

Emitt Green wrapped up his career with the Golden Tigers and was one of the first commitments to Langston's recruiting class at NW-SCC.

And to hear the former Golden Tiger put it, being a Golden Tiger has made quite the impact on him that will carry for a lifetime.

"Growing up with these guys from kindergarten through our senior year and then getting to play after high school is a dream and I'm so glad we get to keep this brotherhood together," Green said. "We have a great community here at Russellville that loves this school, this team and these players and they're so special. It's different here at Russellville and really only people that play here at Russellville understand that. Running out on that football field and that baseball field has been amazing and has changed my life for the better."

For Langston, who has been a part of a plethora of excellent baseball programs during his coaching tenure, the time he has spent as a Golden Tiger undoubtedly stands near the top of his list. And while he did get to be a part of two state championships, the relationships that he has been able to form over the previous seasons had left a larger lasting impact on him.

"The decision to come here for me has been unbelievable. I have been a part of a lot of successful teams in the past but at this level nor the college level, I've never won a state championship. So being able to come here and win two and form relationships with these guys has made this a wonderful opportunity," Langston said. "I've always said that as long as I continue coaching, I want to be around guys that I enjoy being around and these are five young men that I love being around."

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



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

 **EyeCare Professionals**

[www.eyecareprofessionalspc.com](http://www.eyecareprofessionalspc.com) • M-F 8-5

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

**STIHL**



# OWN THE OUTDOORS

**Battery Power. Made by STIHL.**

When the Great American Outdoors are just beyond your back door, it's easy to make them yours with the dependable performance of STIHL battery.



**HSA 45** BATTERY  
HEDGE TRIMMER

**\$149.99**

Includes charger and built-in battery.



"Light weight and easy to use."

- Haefdh



**BG 50**  
HANDHELD BLOWER

**\$159.99**



"Powerful and lightweight."

- Kevin2376



16" bar\*

**MS 170**  
CHAIN SAW

**\$199.99**



"It starts easily and runs great."

- Dick44



18" bar\*

**MS 250**  
CHAIN SAW

**\$399.99**



"A great value and dependable."

- Holly501

# KIEL EQUIPMENT

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