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Franklin native Sherrill hired as assistant county engineer

John Pilati
 Franklin Free Press

New Franklin County Assistant Engineer Caleb Sherrill is a living example of how you act in your job today's influence on future job opportunities. When Sherrill went to work for the Civil Group after his 2017 graduation from the University of Alabama, he met and worked with Jason Baggett, another Civil Group engineer who went on to become Franklin County Engineer after David Palmer's retirement earlier this year.

Baggett and Sherrill formed a good working relationship and that wasn't lost on Baggett when he interviewed Sherrill this spring for the vacant assistant engineer position. Although Sherrill left Civil Group in January 2021, those ties with Baggett, and their mutual respect, opened up the opportunity for the Franklin County native to return home. Sherrill began his new position last Monday and was introduced at the Franklin County Commission work session last week. "Jason and I worked together at my first job after college. We had a really

See 'ENGINEER,' Page 4

New principal, coaching hires approved by Franklin BOE

John Pilati
 Franklin Free Press

The Franklin County Board of Education approved 33 personnel moves at its June 13th meeting, including the employment of two new principals. David T. Berryman was hired as Tharptown High School Principal and Teddy Humphres as Vina High School Principal. Berryman's wife Megean is Belgreen High School Principal. David Berryman has served as Tharptown Elementary School Assistant Principal the past two years. Franklin County Superintendent of Education Greg Hamilton said he recommended

Berryman for several reasons. "I think he has a fine work ethic and with his experience in sports as a former coach that made him a strong candidate. He's familiar with all those things and he has background at the high school level," Hamilton said. "His being part of the Tharptown community and school system will make that transition easier." Humphres, a Vina graduate, has served as a teacher and administrator for more than two decades at his alma mater. "Mr. Humphres went to school at Vina. He's been right there in the classroom for 20 years, so I'm excited for him to have that opportunity," Hamilton said. The board approved a three year

See 'BOE,' Page 7

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Peggy Joyce Fuller, 90, of Russellville, passed away Thursday, June 15, 2023. Pinkard Funeral Home assisted the family.

Preston Brent Potter, 67, of Russellville, passed away Thursday, June 15, 2023. Spry Memorial Chapel assisted the family.

Byron Keith Fretwell, 59, of Russellville, passed away Tuesday, June 13, 2023. Spry Memorial Chapel assisted the family.

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



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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.

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Letter to Editor: Thanks to those who serve

Dear Editor:

Every year, when the military pictures and flags go up in Russellville, my husband and I play the game 'Find Jacob.'

Our only grandchild, Jacob Bobo, serves with the United States Army Airborne in Anchorage, Alaska. We have not seen him and his family for three years.

The first few times the flags were posted, we walked from one end of Russellville to the other to find him and saw how many military personnel we knew. It lifted our patriotic spirit greatly.

Thank you, all who have served in defense of America; and thank you to the people of Russellville/Franklin County who are responsible for this display. It never gets old. Every time it's posted, I am thankful for those who have served and are willing to serve.

By God's Grace and because of them, we are free.
God Save America!

Pat Bobo
Russellville
June 15, 2023

Sparks to open downtown wedding/event venue next to Russellville Florist

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

Much has been said about the 'revitalization' of downtown Russellville. With its recent designation as a Main Street Alabama city, along with improvements to sidewalks and lighting, city officials hope to see their downtown once again become Russellville's centerpiece.

But it also takes businessmen and businesswomen willing to join that effort by locating their businesses downtown. It's not just a financial commitment that is needed. It also takes someone who believes in their community enough to act on it.

Russellville Florist & Gifts owner Chase Sparks is one of those downtown visionaries.

When Sparks moved his business from the Franklin Shopping Center on Highway 43 to North Jackson Avenue downtown, some eyebrows were raised, but Sparks calls it 'the best decision I ever made.'

And he's now preparing to start a second business venture downtown—The Jefferson on Jackson, a wedding and event venue to be located next door to Russellville Florist & Gifts.

Sparks purchased the former H.B. White's building and contents from Mark 'Yogi' Welborn, who ran Five and Dime Antiques & Collectibles, a part-time business, out of the location.

Sparks will have an auction at a later date to sell the contents and then begin a major renovation that will allow him to host up to three events at one time.

The 4,800-square foot building has a large storage area on the second floor, as well as a large room that Sparks plans to use as a tea room for events that don't require the first-floor larger event venue. There is street access to stairs that go to the second-floor room, making it easier to host events on both floors at the same time.

He said the first-floor venue will be renovated to allow two events to go on at the same time. A commercial kitchen is also in the plans for the first floor, Sparks said.

Bride and groom suites are planned for the second floor.

Sparks made the announcement about The Jefferson on Jackson last week on social media. The new venue has an Instagram page and will soon have a Facebook page where you can track the progress of the renovation.

See 'SPARKS,' Page 15



The Jefferson on Jackson will be located in the former Five and Dime Antiques & Collectibles building.

'ENGINEER' From Page 1

good working relationship at Civil Group," Sherrill said. "I was definitely drawn to this opportunity as all my family is here as well as all my wife's family. So it's good after traveling so much to get back home and close to them."

The traveling Sherrill referenced came in the jobs he had after leaving the Civil Group. Since March 2021, Sherrill worked as a temporary engineer for Glynn County Public Works (Georgia) and the City of Cheyenne (Wyoming) and he served as a public works engineer for Madison County the past year.

While it might appear Caleb's career was the reason he and his wife Lexie moved so much, it was actually Lexie's career as a traveling registered nurse the last three years that dictated the locations the couple resided in.

"She decided to do travel nursing (after the onset of COVID-19), so I decided to do travel engineering," Sherrill said.

As the couple settles in back home in Franklin County (Lexie is a Belgreen High School graduate), Sherrill said his job as assistant engineer will be to assist Baggett in any way necessary in the administration of his job.

"That's the main thing—as the title says, to assist in anything he needs assistance with as far as planning, review, phone calls, attending county commission meetings or any other job duties where I can step in and help him," Sherrill said.

Baggett said he's thrilled to have Sherrill on board.

"I'm glad Caleb is here and looking forward to what we will be able to do together for our county," Baggett said.

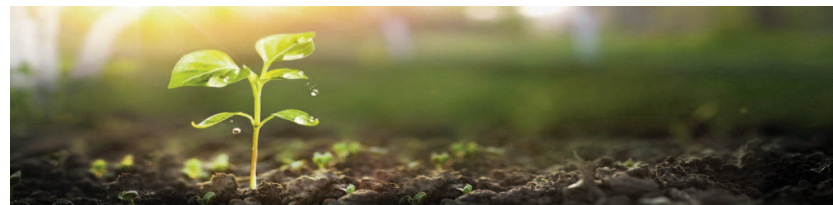
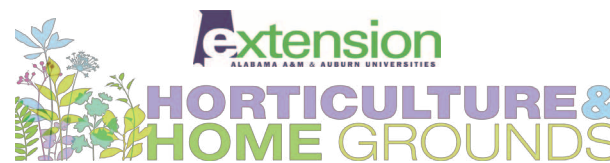
While he reports daily to Baggett, Sherrill realizes both of them ultimately report to the Franklin County Commission. He's been in both county and municipal government positions, so the political aspects of the job are not lost on him.

"In each district we do the best we can to take care of that district," Sherrill said. "We try to help the citizens as much as we can while helping out with the resources we have available.

"You can't do everything but we try to keep our roads smooth and our citizens happy," he added.

Sherrill, the son of Alan and Jan Sherrill of Spruce Pine, said it was an exciting day when he was able to tell his parents he and Lexie would be coming home to Franklin County.

"My mother was definitely thrilled. It's a little closer than Cheyenne, Wyoming," Sherrill said.



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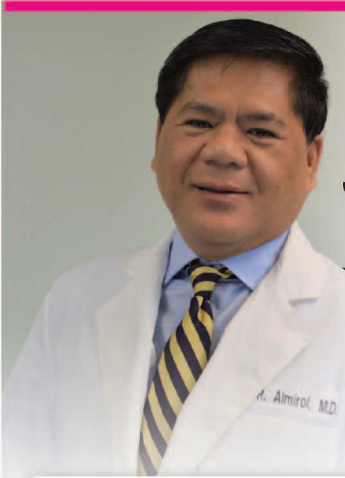
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> **Please note:** Once a background check is submitted, only partial refunds of \$100 are available due to administrative fees.



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Grimes receives prestigious state education award

Submitted

Russellville City Schools is honored and proud to announce that our own Superintendent Dr. Heath Grimes was awarded the Dr. James A. Street Award for his lifelong work to ensure quality education for the children of Alabama!

This prestigious award was presented today at the Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools (CLAS) Annual Convention in Mobile.

The Dr. James A. Street Award is presented by the CLAS Board of Directors to a person, persons, institution, or organization in recognition of exceptional service in the interest of administrators and supervisors, and to public education. The award may be in recognition of a single, significant contribution during a given year, or it may be for a series of contri-



butions over a period of time.

Dr. Grimes received the award for his significant and impactful contributions to EL education, something that has been very important to him with RCS having the highest percentage of EL students in the state.

When Dr. Grimes came to RCS and assessed the district's demographics and state test scores, he knew there was work to be done to make these assessments equitable for EL students and the districts who educated them. Dr. Grimes has worked hard to advocate for our EL students, and in doing so, has made significant impacts to EL education across the state, including founding and becoming the first president of the CLAS affiliate organization Alabama Leaders Advocating for English Learners (ALA-EL).

Dr. Grimes also led the charge and assisted in writing the education bill that takes a common sense approach to removing EL students from a school's achievement component of accountability for the student's first five years in Alabama schools. And he has advocated for policy and changes that lead to the formation of the EL Instructional Department at the Alabama Department of Education. Additionally, he brought nationwide attention to the issue with the recent Education Week article on how RCS is leading the way in EL education.

The award is named after the first Executive Director of CLAS, James A. Street, and is presented at the CLAS Annual Convention in such years as the Board of Directors determines.

The Board is not obligated to present this award each year, so it is truly an honor for Dr. Grimes to be a recipient of the James A. Street Award, and it is an honor for Russellville City Schools to have a Dr. James A. Street Award winner from our district!

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The Foster Grandparent Program is seeking volunteers ages 55 and older to help tutor and mentor children in day care, head start and schools. Volunteers will receive a tax-free stipend and travel reimbursement. We have openings for several schools for the coming school year. Please call 256-332-6800 for an application.

AshaKiran serves victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking across Alabama. Their vision is to be a 'ray of hope' by bridging the gap between service providers and culturally diverse communities. Their 24-hour crisis line number is 1-800-793-3010. Learn more about AshaKiran by visiting www.ashakiranonline.org. Consultations are free and confidential, and available in 45 different languages.

The Senior Center at Phil Campbell is under new management. The Town of Phil Campbell would like to invite and encourage everyone in their area 60 years and older to come be a part of the group. This is for men and women. They meet at the Phil Campbell Community Center Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m.-noon. A delicious lunch is served around 11 a.m. Come on out and join in on the games or just sit and have a cup of coffee and socialize!

The Harris/Trapp Family Reunion will be Saturday, July 8, from 10-2 at East Franklin Community Center. Everyone bring something as it's a Pot Luck Lunch. For more information, call Diane Halsey at 205-485-4616 or Cathy Harris at 205-486-4387. Friends of Lena Trapp Harris and Andrew Jackson Harris invite you to join them. They can't wait to see everyone!

The 12th annual Cotton Flats Cruisers Car Show will be July 4, 2023, at Sloss Lake on Hwy. 24 East. They welcome cars, trucks and bikes. Registration is from 7-11 a.m. There will be a \$25 registration fee for each car, truck or bike. Grand prize is \$1,000 cash. 50/50 Drawing and many other cash prizes. There will not be any Swap Meet spaces available. For more information, contact Barry at 256-332-6585 or Darryl at 256-436-2499.

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'BOE,' from Page 1

contract for Tharptown Elementary School Principal Molly King, effective July 1, 2023.

There were several coaching changes approved by the board, including the resignation of Belgreen football coach Luke Tucker.

Jonathan Raper was hired as the new Belgreen head football coach. Raper will also be a Certified Teacher at BHS.

Randy Barnes was hired as Vina High School varsity softball coach, and Jonathan Jones was hired for the same position at Tharptown.

Shane Nichols resigned as head softball coach at Red Bay High School.

Each of the administrative and coaching jobs were in-system promotions, something Hamilton describes as a priority.

"Promoting from within will always be a priority. At the same time, when you promote from within, it produces another opening. But you always want to give people loyal to your system an opportunity if you believe that's what's best," Hamilton said.

There are coaching vacancies now for the Red Bay softball job, the Phil Campbell baseball job, and soccer coach at Tharptown, Hamilton said.

Job openings were posted for assistant principal/business teacher at Vina and assistant principal at Tharptown Elementary, Hamilton said.

Other personnel moves approved by the board included:

--Resignation: Laura Riner, TES, Vanessa Moomaw, Special Education Aide at Vina and Lori Tucker, Special Education Teacher Belgreen.

--Employment: Carrie Maddox, Summer Learning Camp Nurse, Mathinee Spencer, RBES Teacher, Collier Cantrell, Science Teacher Belgreen, Bethany Bishop and Teresa McGlaughn, Child Nutrition Assistants, Tharptown, Morgan Elrod, Child Nutrition Assistant Vina, Kaitlyn Seinkowski, Elementary Teacher Vina, Taylor Royce, Elementary Teacher Tharptown, Brett Fish, English Language Arts Teacher, PCHS, Shanna Gardner, Elisha Mansell and Tonya Bostick, Summer Learning Camp Aides, Emma Humphres, Elementary Teacher

Phil Campbell, Trisha Ertle, Half-Time Administrator PCES and Marcie Bowling, Band Director/Music Teacher Tharptown.

--Transfer: Meaghan Hardy Reed, from Elementary Teacher at PCES to same position at East Franklin Junior High.

--Personal Leave of Absence: Regenia Potter, Child Nutrition Program Assistant, Tharptown Schools, from August-November 2023, and Jessica Kennerly, Special Education Aide Belgreen, from August 14-December 1, 2023.

--New Hires 21st Century Community Learning Centers: Cameron Vandiver, Aide at Tharptown, Megan Rogers, Teacher at Phil Campbell, Tara Greenhill, Teacher at Belgreen & Tharptown and Finch Arnold Duboise III, High School Student Aide, East Franklin.

Other agenda items approved by the board included:

--approval of a \$2 million line of credit at CB&S Bank to complete the construction of the Belgreen Football Field & Track. Repayment to come from private donations. Draws on line of credit will require signatures of Hamilton and Carla Knight, CFO for Franklin County Schools.

--awarded diesel bid to Tatum Oil as lowest responsible bidder at \$2.797 per gallon.

--approval of out-of-state trip for Vina and Red Bay High School band students to Tupelo on July 13, 2023.

The next regular meeting of the board will be July 11, 2023, with work session at 8:30 a.m., and meeting to follow.

We love to hear from you! Please send your guest columns, cartoon panels, letters to the editor, recipes and other creative submissions to franklinfreepress@yahoo.com.

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INFORMATION ABOUT PFAS

Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large and diverse group of chemicals used in many commercial applications due to their unique properties, such as resistance to high and low temperatures, resistance to degradation, and nontoxic characteristics. Although PFAS have been manufactured and used broadly in commerce since the 1940s, concern over potential adverse effects on human health grew in the early 2000s with the detection of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) in human blood. Since that time, hundreds of different PFAS have been found in water, soil, and air. Many PFAS are made up of long chains of carbon-fluorine bonds, such as PFOA and PFOS, and many PFAS are environmentally persistent, bioaccumulative, and remain in human bodies for a long time.

EPA and ADEM required Russellville to collect and analyze for PFAS in its treated drinking water during 2022. Russellville received a PFAs Reporting Non-Compliance because ADEM did not receive a copy of their sample results within 10 days after the Monitoring Period. Russellville received the results from the laboratory one day late. Therefore, this triggered a Reporting Non-Compliance. The test results revealed there were no PFAs detected in the drinking water.

NATIONAL PRIMARY DRINKING WATER REGULATION COMPLIANCE

This 2023 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) was prepared by the Russellville Water and Sewer Board using technical assistance and guidance from the American Water Works Association (AWWA), the National Rural Water Association (NRWA), United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM).

Russellville Water and Sewer Board Members

Dan Terry Chairman
Richard Tutich Vice-Chairman
Tim Smith Secretary
Joe Graham Board Member
Jason Evans Board Member

If you have any questions regarding this report or any questions concerning your water, please contact Eric Hill, Manager of the Russellville Water Works and Sewer Board, by calling (256) 332-3850. Our Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at 721 Jackson Ave. S., Russellville, Alabama.

Learn more about the Russellville Water and Sewer Board at www.russellvilleutilities.com

DEFINITIONS

AL: Action Level of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. The MCL have been set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of a contaminant in drinking water, which there is no known or expected risk to health. The MCLG allows for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Treatment Technique: A required treatment process, procedure, or activity necessary to provide deliverance of safe drinking water.

Key to Tables

AL	=	Action Level	pci/l	=	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
MCL	=	Maximum Contaminant Level	ppm	=	parts per million, milligrams per liter (mg/l)
MCLG	=	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	ppb	=	parts per billion, micrograms per liter (ug/l)
NTU	=	Nephelometric Turbidity Units	T T	=	Treatment Technique
ND	=	Not Detected			

Table of Primary Drinking Water Contaminants

Sample Period 1/01/2022 - 12/31/2022

At high levels primary contaminants are known to pose a health risks to humans. This table provides a quick glance of any primary contaminant detections.

CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED	CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED
Bacteriological (Units)					
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	0	Endothall (ppb)	100	ND
Turbidity (NTU)	T T	.09	Endrin (ppb)	2	ND
Fecal Coliform and E.coli	0	0	Epiclorohydrin	TT	ND
Radiological (Units)			Glyphosate (ppb)	700	ND
Beta/Photon emitters (mrem/yr)	4	ND	Heptachlor (ppt)	400	ND
Alpha emitters (pci/l)	15	ND	Heptachlor epoxide (ppt)	200	ND
Combined radium (pci/l)	5	ND	Hexachlorobenzene (ppb)	1	ND
Uranium (pci/l)	30	ND	Hexachloropentadiene (ppm)	1	ND
Inorganic (Units)					
Antimony (ppb)	6	ND	Lindane (ppt)	200	ND
Arsenic (ppb)	10	ND	Methoxychlor (ppb)	40	ND
Asbestos (MFL)	7	ND	Oxamyl (Vydate) (ppb)	200	ND
Barium (ppm)	2	0.0197	PCBs (ppt)	500	ND
Beryllium (ppb)	4	ND	Pentachlorophenol (ppb)	1	ND
Cadmium (ppb)	5	ND	Picloram (ppb)	500	ND
Chromium (ppb)	100	ND	Simazine (ppb)	4	ND
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	150	Toxaphene (ppb)	3	ND
Cyanide (ppm)	200	ND	Benzene (ppb)	5	ND
Fluoride (ppm)	4	0.432	Carbon Tetrachloride (ppb)	5	ND
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	2.5	Chlorobenzene (ppb)	100	ND
			Dibromochloropropane (ppt)	200	ND
			D-Dichlorobenzene (ppb)	600	ND

Mercury (ppb)	2	ND	p-Dichlorobenzene (ppb)	75	ND
Nitrate (ppm)	10	ND	pfas (ng/l)	20	ND
Nitrite (ppm)	1	ND	1,2-Dichloroethane (ppb)	5	ND
Selenium (ppm)	50	ND	1,1-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	7	ND
Thallium (ppm)	2	ND	Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	70	ND
Organic Chemicals					
2,4-D (ppb)	70	ND	trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	100	ND
2,4,5-TP (Silvex) (ppb)	50	ND	Dichloromethane (ppb)	5	ND
Acrylamide	T T	ND	1,2-Dichloropropane (ppb)	5	ND
Alachlor (ppb)	2	ND	Ethylbenzenes (ppb)	700	ND
Atrazine (ppb)	3	ND	Ethylene dibromide (ppt)	50	ND
Benzo(a)pyrene(PHAs) (ppt)	200	ND	Styrene (ppb)	100	ND
Carbofuran (ppb)	40	ND	Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	5	ND
Chlordane (ppb)	2	ND	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene (ppb)	70	ND
Dalapon (ppb)	200	ND	1,1,1-Trichloroethane (ppb)	200	ND
Di-(2-ethylhexyl)adipate (ppb)	400	ND	1,1,2-Trichloroethane (ppb)	5	ND
Di(2-	6	ND	Trichloroethylene (ppb)	5	ND
Dinoseb (ppb)	7	ND	TTHM (ppb)	80	61
Diquat (ppb)	20	ND	Toluene (ppb)	1	ND
Dioxin [2,3,7,8-TCDD]	30	ND	Vinyl Chloride (ppb)	2	ND
Chloramines (ppm)	4	ND	Xylenes (ppm)	10	ND
Chlorite (ppm)	1	ND	TOC	T T	1.3
HAA5 (ppb)	60	51.0	Chlorine (ppm)	4	2.21
			Chlorine Dioxide (ppb)	80	0
			Bromate (ppb)	10	ND

Table of Detected Contaminants

Sample Period 1/01/2022 - 12/31/2022

CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	Range	Violation	Amount Detected (Units)	Likely Source of Contamination
Bacteriological (Units)						
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	T T	0.02 - 0.8	NO	0.06 NTU	Soil runoff
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	N/A	T T	0.87 - 1.3	NO	1.3 ppm	Naturally present in the environment
Organic Chemicals						
Copper	1.3	AL=1.3	.003 - 150	NO	0.150 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride	4	4	.00 - 0.432	NO	0.432 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead	0	AL=15	0.0 - 2.5	NO	0.0025 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	10	10	0.137 - 0.396	NO	0.396 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Volatile Organic Chemicals (By Products of Disinfection)							
Chlorine	4.0	4	0.59 - 2.11	NO	2.11 ppm	Disinfectant	
HAA5	40	60	17.0 - 51.0	NO	51.0 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
TOC	NA	T T	0.87 - 1.3	NO	1.3 ppm	Naturally present in the environment	
TTHM	60	80	19.0 - 6310	NO	61.0 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination	

Table of Secondary Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL	Units	Amount Detected
Alkalinity, Total (CA CO3)	NA	ppm	129
Aluminum	0.20	ppm	ND
Bromodichloromethane	NA	ppm	ND
Calcium	NA	ppm	45.6
Carbon Dioxide	NA	ppm	2.62
Chloride	25.0	ppm	6.88
Chloroform	NA	ppm	0.051
Color	15.0	Units	ND
Dibromochloromethane	0.50	ppm	ND
Hardness	NA	ppm	124
Iron	0.30	ppm	ND
Magnesium	NA	ppm	1.81
Manganese	0.05	ppm	ND
Contaminant	MCL	Units	Amount Detected
pH	NA	ppm	7.7
Silver	0.1	ppm	ND
Sodium, as Na	NA	ppm	0.774
Sulfate	25.0	ppm	1.42
Total Dissolved Solids	50.0	ppm	141
Zinc	5.0	ppm	0.198

CRYPTOSPORIDIUM AND GIARDIA

The Russellville Water System also tests their source water for pathogens, such as Cryptosporidium and Giardia. The pathogens can enter the water from animal or human waste. All test results were well within state and federal standards. For people who may be immunocompromised, a guidance document developed jointly by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Center for Disease Control is available online at www.epa.gov/safewater/crypto.html, or from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or 800-426-4791. This language does not indicate the presence of Cryptosporidium in our drinking water. Based on a study conducted by ADEM with the approval of the EPA a statewide waiver for the monitoring of asbestos and dioxin was issued. Thus, monitoring for these contaminants was not required.

GENERAL NOTICE ANNOUNCEMENT

CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE

PATROL OFFICER – POLICE DEPARTMENT

DEFINITION OF JOB

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

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Knowledge of: the city buildings and street system of Russellville; city, state and federal laws; court procedures; department rules, regulations and procedures; maintenance and use of weapons; radio codes, surveillance equipment and legal procedures involved with illegal drug cases. Ability to: operate a motor vehicle; read; safely fire a weapon; communicate on telephone and radio; generate written documents such as reports and tickets; bend, crouch; stretch; stretch; walk; run; respond to emergency situations on short notice when off-duty; and do the essential functions of the job as directed in this description. Willingness to: work overtime, irregular hours, weekends and holidays; travel and attend seminars and workshops.

QUALIFICATIONS and SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Possession of a high school diploma or GED Minimum of 21 years of age
 Must meet or exceed the minimum requirements established by the State of Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission Possession of a valid Alabama Drivers License
 Possess the ability to obtain an Alabama Police Academy diploma or its equivalent
THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL RECEIVE CONSIDERATION WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, RELIGION, COLOR, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN, POLITICAL AFFILIATION, DISABILITY, OR ANY OTHER NON-MERIT FACTOR. THE CITY OF RUSSELLVILLE ENCOURAGES APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS IN ALL PROTECTIVE SERVICE DEPARTMENTS FROM WOMEN IN AN ATTEMPT TO INCREASE THEIR REPRESENTATION IS PROTECTIVE SERVICE DEPARTMENTS. Pay Range is from \$36,150.40 – 55,735.68.
 Applications and copies of the Job Descriptions may be obtained at the Russellville City Hall, Office of the Mayor, 304 North Jackson Avenue. Applications submitted to the Russellville Civil Service Board less than one year ago remain active. Those individuals need not reapply in order to receive consideration for this appointment. Applications must be returned no later than June 23, 2023 by U.S. Mail to: The Russellville Civil Service Board P. O. Box 308 Russellville, AL 35653 The appointees will be required to successfully complete a physical examination including drug and alcohol screening prior to employment.



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Phil Campbell 6U All-Stars eye state title in Dothan

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

The Phil Campbell 6 and Under All-Star baseball team rolls into Dothan Thursday to begin play in the Dixie Youth State Championship Tournament after an undefeated 5-0 run in the District II Tournament last week.

Coach Matt Waid's team had five wins against Red Bay, Sheffield and Haleyville to capture the District II title in the coach pitch 6 and under age division.

Phil Campbell outscored its opponents 84-22 in those five games.

The team was selected from the two Phil Campbell regular season teams. Team members included: Zander Maddox, August Hamlet, Beau Harris, Beck Waid, Ben Duboise, Bentley Franklin, Carson White, Chase Vandiver, Ellie Williams, Gunnar Rambo, Jacob Adams and Kenden Snider.

Assistant coaches included Tanner Maddox, Eli Snider and Ron Harris.

Waid said the team's performance in the District II tournament exceeded his expectations. While Waid believed Phil Campbell could win the tournament, the level of play the kids turned in was what impressed him most.

"They finally came together and played as a team," Waid said. "And we got to really see what they look like as a team. It was pretty special to watch, as this team had been

See, 'ALL-STAR,' page 13

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Jones tabbed as Tharptown softball coach

Michael Rice
Franklin Free Press

"I love my kids at Vina. I will miss them, but I am excited to begin a new journey here at Tharptown," Jonathan Jones said.

Jones recently accepted the new head softball coaching position and an assistant football coaching opening at Tharptown High School.

After a record setting 16-win season two years ago at Vina, the Red Devils finished as runner-up at this year's Franklin County Tournament.

Though he enjoyed his time at Vina, Jones said joining the Tharptown faculty was a bit of a homecoming.

"My grandparents lived in Mountain Star their whole life. I feel like I am returning home," Jones said.

Jones graduated from Phil Campbell High School in 1996. After college, he accepted his first coaching job at Pickens County High School in 2003 as the head softball coach and assistant football coach.

After a short stint at Pickens County, Jones went to Haleyville High School, where he was the head football coach and coached track for three years. Jones left Haleyville for Lynn High School to coach softball.

After coaching softball for three years at Lynn, Jones went to Sulligent High School, where he coached softball and led his team to an

See, 'JONES,' Page 14



COURTESY PHOTO

Jonathan and Victoria Jones with family.

A short retirement: Raper takes head football coaching job at Belgreen

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

What may have been the shortest coaching retirement in Franklin County history ended last week as Jonathan Raper was hired to be the head varsity football coach at Belgreen High School.

In what was a whirlwind few days for Raper, he accepted the Belgreen football job just days after resigning after 11 years as Phil Campbell High School varsity baseball coach. Raper's amazing run saw his teams win one state title and make four consecutive appearances in the Final Four.

Raper resigned primarily because his two sons, Sage and Ridge, will be playing collegiate baseball starting next year at University of Tennessee Southern, a four-year university in Pulaski. Raper wants to focus on enjoying his sons' careers and the demands of coaching a spring sport would not have allowed him to do

that.

Franklin County Superintendent of Education Greg Hamilton said he's 'very happy' to see Raper continue coaching.

"He will do a good job continuing this new program and getting it off and running," Hamilton said. "He's a winner and a hard worker with a lot of experience coaching football."

"Considering the situation at Belgreen, we felt this was absolutely the best fit with the experience he brings and the track record he has for winning. It's definitely a win for Belgreen High School," he added.

Raper follows former Belgreen coach Luke Tucker, who resigned earlier this month in order to join his brother Lance's football coaching staff at Demopolis High School. Tucker's resignation as head football coach and certified teacher at Belgreen was approved by the Franklin County Board of Education at its June 13th meeting. Tucker's wife Lori also resigned her special education teaching position at

See, 'RAPER,' page 12



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'RAPER,' From Page 11

Belgreen.

Raper will be a certified teacher at Belgreen in addition to his football coaching duties. Belgreen provides Raper the chance to continue his passion for coaching while having the flexibility to attend UT Southern baseball games in the spring.

"This is a home run for me," Raper said. "I get to keep coaching and do what I love and I'll get to see my boys play this spring. "When I heard about the job, I sat down and talked about it with my wife (Deedra) and our kids. We thought it was a great opportunity at a great school."

Belgreen will play a junior high schedule this fall, the school's inaugural season of football. Raper said they may add a junior varsity schedule depending on how many kids come out for football.

"I'm excited about this opportunity and plan to be there as long as they want me. This is a great opportunity to build a program from the ground up, to get our kids interested in football and I can't wait to get started," Raper said.

Raper said he planned to meet with his new team Tuesday and he will schedule a parent's meeting later this summer.

Raper's educational career spans 29 years, including Phillips High School, PCHS and now Belgreen. He was an assistant football coach at Phillips for 18 years and at Phil Campbell for nine years.

When he announced he was stepping down as Bobcat baseball head coach, Raper said he still wanted to coach, just not in the spring, so his new situation at Belgreen is a 'win-win,' as he described it.

And when it comes to winning, we'll take Raper's word for it.

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

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'SPARKS,' From Page 3

The venue is named after his great-grandfather, Boyd Jefferson Todd. Sparks said opening a wedding/event venue was a logical business move since he already does design and decoration of weddings and other events through the florist.

"I just think it's something we need in Russellville," Sparks said. "With what we do with weddings and such, and with Russellville not having a venue that has its own character, I had the idea for an all-inclusive venue from tables and chairs to tablecloths to food and drinks.

"There's a lot of potential here and I believe it will be a good thing for our community and there seems to be a lot of excitement about the announcement," Sparks added.

With the commercial kitchen, Sparks said all catered foods will be prepared on site except for meats, which he hopes to subcontract to a local

business.

The most common question Sparks is asked about The Jefferson on Jackson is when it will open.

"There's no specific time frame, but I'm hoping by early 2024," Sparks said.

He's already met with an architect to discuss floor plans as well as what emergency exits and safety plans are required.

When it's completed, the venue will be "an experience unlike any in Franklin County," according to the announcement Sparks posted to announce The Jefferson on Jackson.

And based on what Sparks has done with Russellville Florist, it's a safe bet he'll be correct.



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'ALL-STARS,' From Page 11

together only about two weeks."

If Phil Campbell wins the state tournament, their next stop would be the Dixie Youth 6 and Under Coach Pitch World Series next month in Center, Texas.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Phil Campbell 6U All-Stars won the District II Dixie Youth Tournament.

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'JONES,' from Page 11

area championship. After Sulligent, Jones went to Walker High School and coached wrestling for one year. From Walker, Jones found himself at Dora High School coaching softball.

After winning the regional tournament at Dora, Jones landed in Vina.

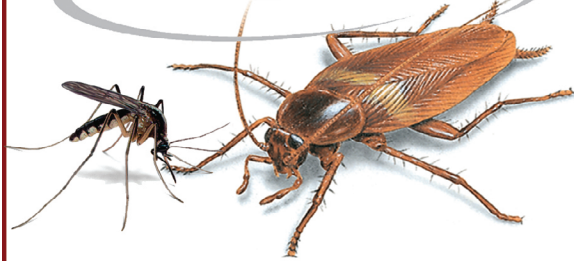
Jonathan and Victoria Jones have two daughters, Hannah Lynn, 7, and Ella Jaye, 3. Jones also has one son named Jon David, 8 months.

"I'm excited to be at Tharptown. I know we can compete for both county and area championships," Jones said.



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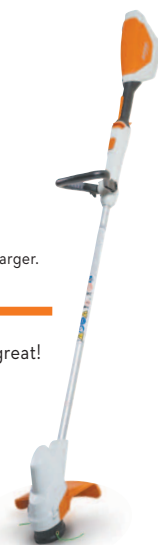
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