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More than 5,200 Franklin County residents cutoff from SNAP food assistance benefits due to shutdown

*John Pilati
Franklin Free Press*

The ongoing shutdown of the federal government is now impacting more than 752,000 Alabamians who rely on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to purchase food each month.

As of November 1, 2025, SNAP benefits will cease indefinitely due to the federal government shutdown. Those benefits to Alabamians represent more than \$140 million in support each month.

Additionally, the SNAP supplemental program for Women, Infants and

Children, known as WIC will also stop due to lack of funding.

There are more than 110,000 Alabama residents who participate in the WIC program.

SNAP is administered by the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service. Individual states manage the benefits and eligibility for that state's residents.

According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, one in eight Americans rely on SNAP to afford groceries each month.

In Franklin County, 5,202 people receive SNAP benefits each month,

See 'SHUTDOWN,' Page 4

Pastor issues four-pronged challenge to incoming City of Russellville Mayor and Council at Sunday afternoon swearing-in

*John Pilati
Franklin Free Press*

It wasn't a Sunday morning sermon at his Mountain View Baptist Church, but Bro. Sammy Taylor shared an important message with incoming Russellville Mayor David Grissom and the five members of the Russellville City Council at Sunday's swearing-in ceremony at Russellville City Hall.

"Today, as you prepare to take your oaths of office I issue you the challenge of four fundamental principles to guide you in the next four years," Taylor said.

"Number one—serve with humility and integrity. The trust the community has placed in you is not a reward



New Russellville District Four City Councilman Lonnie Freeman was administered the oath of office at the city's Sunday afternoon swearing-in ceremony.

and a responsibility...Second, remember the larger community. The diverse

See 'COUNCIL,' Page 4

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Dellion Junior Weeks, 84, of Phil Campbell, passed away November 2nd. A memorial service will be held in his honor at Spry Memorial Chapel on Monday, Nov. 10 at 3 p.m. The time of visitation with the family will be one hour prior to the memorial service, from 2-3 p.m.

Bobby Jack Swinney, 87, of Phil Campbell, passed away October 30th. Spry Memorial Chapel assisted the family with arrangements.

Jerry Rankin Terrell, 84, passed away October 30th at North Mississippi Medical Center. Deaton Funeral Home of Red Bay assisted the family with arrangements.

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Back to the Bible by Larsen Plyler:

Matthew 8:23-34

Jesus and His disciples got in a boat to go to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. A terrible storm blew up. Even the fishermen, who had experience on the sea, feared for their lives. Jesus was asleep. They woke Him in a panic. He rebuked them for their lack of faith. He had said they were going to the other side. Where was their confidence in Him? Calmly and confidently, He rebuked the wind and the sea. The wind stopped and the waves calmed.

The disciples marveled. Jesus spoke with such authority. They wondered, who could this be? The answer: "Yahweh made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed" (Psalm 107:28-31; see also Ps.65:5-7; 89:8-9; 93:4).

On the southeast side of the Sea, Jesus encountered two demon-possessed men. The demons recognized Jesus' power and their eventual torment. So, they requested to be cast into a herd of nearby pigs. Jesus granted their request. The pigs promptly ran off a cliff and drowned in the Sea. Herdsmen saw and reported what happened. Perhaps due to what the loss of these pigs cost the herds- men, and the fear of what else Jesus might do, the people of the area asked Jesus to leave.

Lessons to Learn:

Jesus' power certifies His identity and His authority. Jesus demonstrated power over every aspect of existence.

First, He shows His control over the forces of nature. The disciples' question about the identity of a man like this makes us reflect. The Psalms described God as the One who had such power. That points to who Jesus is— God in the flesh (Mt. 1:23).

Then, He showed His power over the spiritual realm. The demon possessed men were coming out of the tombs and they were surrounded by unclean animals. But, the demons, even in an unclean environment, were no match for Jesus. This was a preview of His ultimate defeat of Satan and His forces (see Col. 2:13-15).

These events demonstrated His right to speak with such authority.

Jesus has power over what seem to be impossible situations. The disciples were afraid for their lives. No one was able to go in the direction of the demon possessed man. But Jesus, by His word, demonstrated total control. If we are with Jesus, we have nothing, ultimately, to fear. To be sure, the storms we face may not be stilled. Satan still prowls like a lion seeking to devour. But, if we are in Christ we can be at peace no matter what the storms bring (Ps. 107:25; Phil. 4:6-7). And, if we will stand with Jesus, Satan will flee from us (Js. 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:8-9).

Tune in to 100.7 WGOL Sunday at 8:30am for our Back to the Bible Radio Program.

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'SHUTDOWN,' from Page 1

representing 16.3% of the county's population. That falls somewhere in the middle of the percentages of all 67 Alabama counties. Perry County has the state's highest percentage of SNAP recipients, with 44.5% of the population. St. Clair County, at only 5.4% of its residents participating, is the state's lowest county.

While some states have committed to continuing SNAP benefits during the federal government shutdown, that is not the case in Alabama. SNAP is administered through the Alabama Department of Human Resources. DHR will continue to process SNAP applications during the shutdown to determine eligibility but no benefits will be paid during the suspension.

And SNAP recipients in Alabama must continue to recertify their benefits and report all required information to continue eligibility even though their benefits are suspended.

The reason for this is so DHR can submit each recipient's benefit file as soon as the suspension is lifted, allowing recipients to more quickly use SNAP funds to purchase groceries.

It's a serious problem that has reached all the way to Washington D.C., and Congressman Robert Aderholt, who issued the following statement last week after the announcement that SNAP benefits would be suspended: "Food assistance benefits through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program will lapse on November 1 simply because Washington can't keep the government open. This failure is completely avoidable. Working families should never be used as leverage in partisan battles. If Democrats wish to open discussions about Affordable Care Act subsidies, I say let's do that—but let's keep the government running while we talk. Let's not shut down vital services and leave millions of Americans wondering how they'll put food on the table."

The current government shutdown, which began on October 1, 2025, results from Congress' failure to pass appropriations legislation, simplified to mean a budget, for FY2025-26, which began that day. With Congress unable to approve a bill funding government services for the new fiscal year, the federal budget essentially expired as of October 1st.

Democrats are advocating for an extension of tax credits set to expire that make health insurance cheaper for citizens and they want President Donald Trump's cuts to Medicaid rescinded.

Republicans, although they control both Houses of Congress, do not have the requisite 60 votes needed in the Senate to pass the spending bill without some Democratic support.

Trump has said he's not willing to rescind Medicaid cuts and Republicans say they are willing to discuss health insurance subsidies but only after the federal government reopens.

DHR officials are referring SNAP recipients who need additional food support during the shutdown to local food banks, including their local Feeding Alabama food bank. You can visit www.feedingalabama.org for information on what may be available.

'COUNCIL,' from Page 1

voices, aspirations and interests of each member of the community matter...Number three—embrace courage...The challenges we face will not be solved alone. Be courageous when difficult choices must be made. Fourth—accountability and results matter. Words are not enough. Your oath is a promise to act and deliver...When you make mistakes, be accountable. And when you make the right choices, always strive for continued improvement," Taylor added.

Taylor's challenge to Mayor David Grissom, and Councilmen David Palmer, Darren Woodruff, Gary Cummings, Lonnie Freeman and Jamie Harris followed some opening words of reflection from Russellville attorney Danny McDowell, who has served as Russellville City Attorney since 2008.

McDowell spoke about the city's veteran leadership. Grissom and Cummings were first elected in 2008, Grissom as District Five Councilman and Cummings representing District Three.

Four years later, Grissom was elected Mayor, Cummings was reelected, Harris was elected to represent District Five and David Palmer to represent District One.

Woodruff was first elected in 2020 to represent District Two, and Freeman won the District Four seat in August. And Grissom, Palmer, Cummings and Harris were reelected in 2016, 2020 and 2025.

"You don't have to look around too much to see what this council and mayor have done over their time in office," McDowell said. "They have spent millions for new fire trucks, police vehicles, equipping the Street Department and they've spent more on paving our streets than any other council.

"In 2008 they inherited a financial condition so bad they had to borrow \$500,000 just to pay the bills. The state (auditors) after their most recent audit said the City of Russellville has one of the strongest financial positions of any city in Alabama. That's good government, good management of city resources and good stewardship of the city's dollars," he added.

Grissom and each of the five councilmen were administered their oaths of office by Ret. Franklin County District Judge Paula McDowell.

Russellville Police Department Chaplain Bobby Brown concluded Sunday's ceremony with a closing prayer.

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Hester found incompetent to stand trial on vehicular homicide, assault charges

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

A Franklin County woman will not stand trial on criminal charges from a September 2023 two-fatality motor vehicle accident that claimed the life of a young mother and her 11-year-old child, after Franklin County District Attorney Jeff Barksdale conceded she was not mentally competent to stand trial.

Pam Hester, 67, was indicted by a March 2024 Franklin County Grand Jury on two counts of Criminally Negligent Homicide and two counts of Assault Third Degree. Each of the charges is a Class A misdemeanor.

34-year-old Jennifer Fretwell and her son died in the September 27, 2023, accident when Hester, traveling north in the southbound lane of Highway 43 around 10:15 p.m., with no headlights on, hit Fretwell's vehicle near the former Catfish Haven restaurant.

Two other teenagers in Fretwell's vehicle, her son and a cousin, were injured and transported by ambulance from the scene. Both teens recovered from their injuries. The two assault charges resulted from the injuries to the teens.

Russellville attorney Jeff Bowling, who represents Hester, filed a motion asking Franklin County Circuit Judge Brian Hamilton to order a mental evaluation of Hester to determine her mental state at the time of the accident and whether she is competent to assist in her defense at trial.

Hester, who resides in a dementia care facility in the Shoals, was evaluated by a State of Alabama Mental Health examiner who found that 'based on Hester's cognitive impairment, it is improbable she could become competent with treatment within a reasonable period of time.'

The examiner determined Hester's mental competency to be 'unrestorable.'

After the evaluation, Barksdale's office filed a motion asking the Court 'to find Hester mentally ill and that her mental illness, diagnosed as dementia, poses a real and present threat of substantial harm to herself and/or others.'

The State of Alabama, along with Hester's attorney, will submit to the Court a proposal for her continued mental health treatment that will likely remain in effect until her death due to the severe impairment of her cognitive ability as a result of extreme dementia.

The Code of Alabama, Sec. 13A-3-1, outlines a two-pronged determination to be made by the Court after a defendant's mental state is raised as a defense.

First, at the time of the commission of the acts constituting the offense, whether the defendant, by reason of severe mental disease or defect, was unable to appreciate the nature and quality of his or her acts.

Secondly, a determination must be made whether the defendant, as a result of severe mental disease or defect, is unable to understand the nature of the charges against him or her and unable to assist in his or her defense.

The burden under Alabama law falls on the defendant to prove, by clear and convincing evidence, he or she has a severe mental disease or defect.

After losing two family members, Fretwell's family has been frustrated about the legal process with Hester from the outset, including the fact she was only charged with misdemeanors resulting from the fatal accident.

They channeled that frustration into a movement to see legislation that revokes the driver's license of anyone who is diagnosed with dementia. Additionally, they want to see mandatory reporting by family members and/or doctors to the Alabama Department of Public Safety in such cases.

They created a petition following the fatal accident and gathered more than 1,500 signatures to submit to legislators. The petition can be found on www.change.org and searching 'mandatory reporting Alabama dementia law.'

Although Alabama does not have a law automatically revoking a person's driver's license after a diagnosis of dementia, the Alabama Administrative Code states that drivers cannot have dementia that is unresponsive to treatment and must not have judgment impairment that interferes with safe driving.

Additionally, a physician can report a driver with a condition like dementia, triggering a review of the driver's medical information by the state. This can lead to license suspension or revocation.

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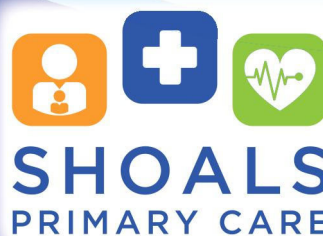
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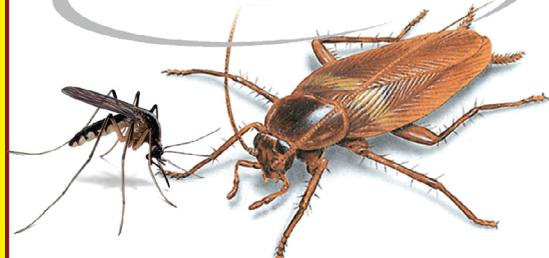
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 **W**est Elementary School and Russellville Elementary School present a Veterans Day Celebration on Friday, Nov. 7, at the Russellville City Schools Auditorium at 8:30 am. All veterans and active duty service men and women are invited with their families. Featuring choral performance by WES 2nd Grade students and RES 5th Grade Chorus. Speaker is Ret. Major Williams, Combat Engineer Officer

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Pace turns passion for antiquing into new business

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

Michael Pace has always enjoyed antiquing. And he's turned that passion into a new business, the Antique Barn.

Pace, a 1991 Phil Campbell High School graduate, is hosting the grand opening of the Antique Barn this weekend. His full-time job is running his business, Stix Contracting, with co-owner Kevin Pace. And it was through work he really got serious about antiquing.

"For years, I worked on cleanups going out of town for my job," Pace explained. "I started going to antique stores in different towns buying different items and realized I enjoyed it. And I've always liked the art of making money."

The 20' x 40' barn, located next to his home in the Pebble community, is chock full of antique furniture, household items, wall plaques, dishes, antique collectibles, antique glassware, vintage wood items including cabinets, and lots of Christmas items perfect for your holiday list, including a special line of soaps, lotions and body scrubs and hand made corn hole boards.

Pace had a booth at The Nest in Moulton but decided to open his own business in the large barn next to his house. Almost as much as he likes making money, Pace enjoys meeting the people who visited his booth.

"I just like the interaction with people. Often, they'll see an antique item and it will take them down memory lane and remind them of their childhood," Pace said.

The store will be open Saturdays at daylight, and Sundays from 12-5 pm. Pace plans to open the Antique Barn every other weekend. But you can call 205-269-0290 and schedule an after-hours shopping trip or on a weekend the store isn't scheduled to be open.

The Antique Barn is located at 140 Butler Road, Haleyville. Even though it has a Haleyville address if you're searching Google Maps or GPS for directions, it's actually located in Franklin County, just across the Winston County line.

Take Highway 243 South to County Road 93, at the Pebble Fire Department. Turn left and travel 1.5 miles until County Road 193, turning at Maxwell Chapel Church. The Antique Barn is one mile down on the right. Once you enter Franklin County, the road name changes to Butler Road.

So check out the Antique Barn and don't forget to share with Pace any memories triggered by the many antiques for sale.



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Russellville-based Synergy South has big plans for city, local schools as part of company's growth

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

The Russellville Electric Board's largest off-peak customer is a business you've likely never heard of in a location you've probably never noticed.

But what Synergy South is doing within the data center/AI and Digital Asset Mining, or Bitcoin, industries, must be working because the company wants to increase its monthly electricity consumption to between 10-15 megawatts.

Synergy South is located on the south end of Jackson Avenue on property it leases from the REB, just south of the Corridor V (Alabama Highway 24) overpass.

These industries are growing exponentially and use a massive amount of electricity. A key way they keep costs down is to maximize use during off-peak periods, where demand for electricity, as well as the cost, is lower. By doing so, they provide a steady source of demand for electricity during times when excess power is available, primarily late at night or early morning when usage drops off.

The company consumes this surplus power that otherwise might remain unused, which helps to stabilize the power grid. And that 'stranded' energy may then be used in various AT data center industries, as explained by Kar Sola, one of two Synergy South co-owners along with Eddie Cloud.

Bitcoin mining involves the process where transactions are 'officially entered' on the blockchain, and is the way new Bitcoins are launched into circulation.

The complicated process involves Bitcoin 'miners' like Synergy South using massive hardware and software to generate cryptographic numbers that do not exceed a number set by the Bitcoin network's algorithm.

Still confused? You're not alone.

Essentially, the first 'miner' who finds a solution receives Bitcoins as a reward, and the process begins again. The Bitcoin rewards are a the motivation for miners to assist in primary purpose of mining, to earn the right to record transactions on the blockchain for the network to verify and confirm, according to www.investopedia.com.

It's a pricey competition with an ever-growing number of competitors all working toward the same goal. And miners use application specific integrated circuits (ASICs), custom-designed single use electronic circuits, in order to be competitive in the process.

The equipment necessary for Bitcoin mining is expensive and expansive. Synergy South's mainframe computers are housed in storage containers located on the South Jackson Avenue property.

A second Digital Asset Mining industry is in the process of setting up in Russellville once it obtains approval from the Tennessee Valley Authority after an interconnection study, a prerequisite for customers who make large electricity load requests, is completed.

Synergy South has big plans for its growth, and to expand its involvement in the Russellville community. In May 2025, Synergy South, in partnership with REB, funded digital scholar awards for two Russellville High School graduating seniors. The male and female recipient each received a \$2,500 scholarship based on GPA, extracurricular, academic/personal accomplishments and a personal statement paper.

And as Synergy South grows, so will the scholarship recipients. The company will award two digital scholar awards for every 10 megawatts of power provided to the DPS data center.

Additionally, Synergy South, through its Digital Asset Work Guild Program, will employ at least four students per 10 megawatts of power provided, with no cap to the potential number of student employees.

The increased power access will increase the opportunity for students and provide a greater diversity of skills learned through energization of additional cutting-edge data center technology.

These commitments were presented to the Russellville Electric Board at one of the board's business meetings earlier this year, as part of a Digital Assets Scholarship and Training Program.

"This is truly a partnership with the Russellville Electric Board," said REB board member Nick Willis. "You're located on our property using our product and scholarships will be presented on behalf of both of us. We appreciate you being a part of our community and your giving back to the community from the start of your locating in Russellville," Willis said.

Sola described another advantage for his company with the partnership. As competition in the 'global arms race' in the Datacenter/AI and Digital Asset Mining industries increases, his company will require new employees with specialized skills at a rate faster than the educational system can keep up with.

And nationally, if the United States is to keep pace with the digital arms race, there must be training for top students to become leaders or innovators in the industry.

The company also plans to create a cooperative work program for students to learn skills needed in the data center and in hardware maintenance and repair, HVAC and cooling systems, cybersecurity and networking, software design and construction/engineering.

The company will pay students who participate in the co-op work program.

And this is just the beginning of Synergy South's impact in the community, Sola explained.

"This is an up and coming industry that is very competitive and we want to be a leader in this," Sola said. "This is the type of vision that made America great and there are opportunities for rural communities to participate in this industry—the only requirement is electricity.

"We want to focus around the local school and will offer jobs for students. That's really our vision, And through our co-op program, students will come in and learn different facets of our industry. We are definitely looking to fill more jobs with local students and graduates," he added.



Classifieds

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YARD SALE Yard Sale. Thurs-Sat. Nov. 6-8. 7:30-4:30. 5115 Hwy 21. Lots of Misc. Clothing - TOO MUCH to List! Multi-Family Yard Sale. Saturday, Nov. 8. 8-until. Orange Street NW in Russellville. Household items, clothing, tables, lighting and more. Yard Sale. Friday/Saturday, Nov. 7/8. 7am-until. 224 Meadow Lane, Woodridge Subdivision in Russellville. Three-family Yard Sale. Friday/Saturday, Nov. 7/8. Friday 7-4, Saturday 7-1. Household items, toys, clothing all sizes for men, women, children, lots of miscellaneous items. Come get a treasure!!!! 6780 Hwy 22, Spruce Pine. Towards Frog Pond, watch for signs.	Landscape Blocks, Rocks and Bricks. You load, you haul. There is LOTS of it! Call 256-436-6905. SERVICES SELLING a RV, Tractor or Golf Cart? ADVERTISE STATEWIDE or by region in over 100 Newspapers, reaching over 1 million readers each week! Run your ad in our Classified Network for just \$210 per week! Make one call to this newspaper (participating ALABAMA newspaper) or call 1-800-264-7043 to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide! BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at AFFORDABLE PRICES! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 1-833-770-0326 We Buy Houses for	Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-877-385-7131 WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals dry out the wet area and do repairs to protect your family and your home's value! If you have water in your home that needs to be dried, Call 24/7: 1-833-879-1371 Have zip code of service location ready when you call! HEALTH/BEAUTY ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrator	s. FREE information kit. Call 1-833-650-7885 Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-833-641-6606 FOR SALE AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-833-641-6672 NEED NEW FLOORING? Call today to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-833-641-6567 No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is the most advanced gutter protection for your home, backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call	today 1-833-683-2005 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Plus get 20% off! Seniors and military save an additional 10%. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase* Call 1-877-323-5516 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move. Safe Step. North Americas #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call	Safe Step 1-844-871-6175 DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-877-817-4697 www.dental50plus.com/alabama #6258 Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 12/31/25.) Call 1-877-205-0836 Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed	to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-833-955-3163 Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no	hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-358-5270 AUTOMOTIVE GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. Patriotic Hearts' programs help	veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-833-426-0193 Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pick-up and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-877-724-3049 today!
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Last second touchdown gives Phil Campbell a 46-38 win over county rival Red Bay

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

Do you like football games that turn into offensive explosions? If so, you should have been in Phil Campbell's Parrish Stadium Friday night for the fireworks between the Bobcats and intra-county rival Red Bay.

Paced by three Hayston Scott's first half touchdowns, Phil Campbell survived a Red Bay second half scoring frenzy and won the regular season finale for both teams 46-38, to finish 4-1 at home.

The teams combined for 40 first half points on a combination of explosive plays by both offenses. There were plenty of dumb penalties as well, with both teams receiving multiple penalties for late hits, unsportsmanlike conduct, face masking and holding.

Phil Campbell took a 6-0 lead midway through the first quarter when Braxton Downey scored from six yards out. The two-point conversion failed, and the Bobcats led 6-0.

After a three and out on its first possession, the Tigers had a nice drive going on their second possession, moving all the way to the Phil Campbell 25. On fourth down and two, Jaxon Vinson was stopped for a one-yard loss by Ethan Holman and the Bobcats took over on downs.

On its next possession, Phil Campbell com

See, 'RIVALRY,' Page 12

Franklin Free Press announces its 2025 All-Franklin County Volleyball Team

First Team

Carson Hovater, senior middle hitter, Belgreen
 Bryn Scott, senior libero, Belgreen
 Alayna Tate, senior setter, Belgreen
 Kamryn Kuykendall, freshman outside hitter, Red Bay
 Laila Hill, senior outside hitter, Russellville
 Bri McCulloch, sophomore libero, Russellville
 Fatima Ramirez, senior setter, Russellville

Second Team

Lilliana Willingham, junior middle hitter/defensive specialist, Belgreen
 Kyla Blackburn, senior libero, Red Bay
 Addy Blackburn, junior outside hitter, Red Bay
 Blevyn Sappington, sophomore outside hitter, Russellville
 Carly Cason, sophomore outside hitter, Tharptown
 Malia McCullar, senior middle hitter, Tharptown
 Alyssa Fischer, senior setter, Tharptown

Honorable Mentions

Randi Terry, sophomore outside hitter/defensive specialist, Belgreen
 Avery Cummings, senior outside hitter, Phil Campbell
 Ragan Moss, junior libero, Phil Campbell
 Lexxi Santoni, setter, Phil Campbell
 Brittan Gasaway, freshman setter, Red Bay
 Alexia Groce, junior setter, Russellville
 Cadence Kennedy, sophomore middle hitter, Tharptown
 Karrah Nichols, junior outside hitter, Tharptown

Coach of the Year: Madison Lamon, Russellville

The Franklin Free Press is happy to announce its 2025 All-Franklin County Volleyball Team. The team was selected by the FFP staff based on nominations and information provided by the coaches and/or school administrators. The Coach of the Year was voted on by the coaches.

All five varsity volleyball teams in the county had at least three players land on the First Team, Second Team, or Honorable Mention.

This year's FFP All-County First Team consists of three Belgreen players, three Russellville players and one Red Bay player.

For Belgreen, it was a senior trio that landed on the First Team. Carson Hovater led the Lady Bulldogs attack with 276 total kills, recorded 43 service aces, finished with a 97.1 serve percentage, and added 19 assists. Hovater also did her part defensively with 124 digs and 22 total blocks, including 18 solo blocks.

Libero Bryn Scott led the Lady Bulldogs in digs with 572—second most in the county—and helped offensively with 16 assists and 13 kills. Setter Alayna Tate led the county in assists this season with 611, good for an average of 18.5 assists per match. Tate also had 28 service aces, 23 kills, and 267 digs.

Russellville's three First Team selections consisted of two seniors and a sophomore, all of whom broke program single-season or career records during the course of one of the program's best seasons ever.

Senior outside hitter Laila Hill finished with a team-high 450 kills this past campaign, setting

See, 'VOLLEYBALL,' Page 14

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'RIVALRY,' from Page 11

pleted an eight-play, 74-yard drive with a Hayston Scott 46-yard touchdown run on fourth down. The two-point conversion failed, and the Bobcats led 12-8 with 10:48 left in the half.

The first half offensive show didn't slow down as the Bobcats marched down the field, aided by two Red Bay personal fouls that kept the drive alive. Phil Campbell faced a fourth and five from the Red Bay 27, and Logan Cooper's nine-yard run gave the Bobcats four new downs with 6:08 left in the half.

After an incompletion on first down, another Red Bay personal foul gave Phil Campbell first and goal at the seven.

Scott scored again on second and goal from the three, making it 18-8 Phil Campbell. The third two-point conversion was the charm, as Scott connected with Chandler Benford to give the Bobcats a 20-8 lead with 5:08 left.

Red Bay was driving again, but Phil Campbell's Hagen Raper intercepted Jeremiah Thorne in the end zone and raced 77 yards on the return to the Tigers 23. Scott scored his third first half touchdown on the next play. The two-point try failed and Phil Campbell led 26-8.

Vinson took over from there for Red Bay, and finished the quick drive with a 51-yard touchdown run for the Tigers with 1:55 left. After a failed PAT, the new score was 26-14 Phil Campbell.

A 30-yard completion from Scott to Austin Elliott was negated by a Phil Campbell holding penalty, and the Bobcats faced a first and 17 at their own 13. That crippling penalty triggered the Tigers' first defensive stop of the half, as the teams went into halftime with Phil Campbell leading 26-14.

On its first play of the second half, Phil Campbell had a big pass completion from Scott to Raper, but he fumbled at the Red Bay 44 and the Tigers took over.

The Bobcats' defense stiffened and after a three-and-out and a Red Bay punt, the Phil Campbell offense started at its 14 yard line. Five plays later, Phil Campbell's Logan Motes punted for the first time. Red Bay took over at its 40, trailing 26-14 with 8:57 left in the third.

A 41-yard completion from Jeremiah Thorne to Davien Colburn gave Red Bay a first and goal at the Bobcats' one, after another penalty was assessed against Phil Campbell. The Tigers scored on the next play, and the two-point conversion run by Joshua Thorne was good.

With 6:00 left in the quarter, Red Bay now trailed 26-22. The Tigers converted two of their three two-point conversions.

Sensing the urgency of getting a score, Phil Campbell head coach Jacob Hamilton decided on his team's next possession to go for two fourth down attempts on the next drive, including a fourth and 11 from the Phil Campbell 46 and a second fourth and 11 from the Red Bay 43. And his team responded in the clutch.

A 12-yard completion to Cooper kept the drive alive and four plays later, from the Red Bay 43, Phil Campbell executed a double flea flicker to perfection, resulting in a 43-yard TD reception, again by Cooper.

Phil Campbell failed on its fourth two-point try of five attempts, but led 32-22 after three quarters.

Red Bay converted a key fourth down of its own on the next drive, on a Thorne keeper that gained seven on fourth and three.

With first and goal at the Phil Campbell two-yard line, Red Bay drew closer with 6:45 remaining with a Thorne sneak into the end zone. Thorne then hit Colburn for the two-point conversion and it was 32-30 Phil Campbell with 6:43 left in the game.

Phil Campbell needed a lengthy drive to hold onto its lead, and got good field position after a short kick, starting at the 40-yard line. Scott picked up 17 on the first play, giving Phil Campbell a first down at the Red Bay 43.

Ayden Pruitt tackled Downey for a two-yard loss on first down, then Scott followed with a five-yard run, setting up third and seven at the 40. Chandler Benford hauled in a laser pass from Scott, good for 10 yards and a Bobcat first down at the Red Bay 30, with 4:24 left.

Cooper picked up another Phil Campbell first down on a 13-yard run to the Red Bay 17, with 3:24 remaining.

Downey picked up seven yards on the next play, down to the Tigers' six. Scott found the end zone for the fourth time, giving Phil Campbell a 38-30 lead with 2:49 remaining, setting up a massive two-point try. Phil Campbell was flagged for an illegal block, erasing a successful conversion and forcing a failed retry from the 18 yard line.

Red Bay remained with one score, down by eight, as the Tigers' offense began at their 35-yard line.

An 12-yard completion from Thorne to Colburn gave Red Bay a first down at its 47, with 2:30 left. After dropped passes on first and second down, Phil Campbell's Cooper made the defensive play of the drive, snuffing out a sweep for a five-yard loss.

Red Bay's fate came down to a fourth and 15 from its 42. The Tigers went old school with a successful hook-and-lateral for 53 yards to the Phil Campbell five with 1:58 remaining.

Joshua Thorne picked up two on first down, as the clock ticked down to 1:15. On second down, another Jeremiah Thorne QB keeper up the middle brought Red Bay within two at 38-36, with 1:03 remaining.

Phil Campbell was called for offsides on the two-point try, giving the Tigers an easier attempts from just outside the one. Joshua Thorne took it in easily and the offensive showcase was tied 38-38, with the Bobcat offense set to take the field with 1:03 remaining and the drive beginning at the Phil Campbell 38.

After an incompletion on first down, the Bobcats were flagged for delay of game on second down. Scott picked up eight of the 15 yards needed, setting up a big third down and seven from the Phil Campbell 41 with :44 left. On third down, Scott evaded the Red Bay rush for more than 15 seconds before hitting Benford all the way to the Red Bay 34 as :20 remained on the clock.

After Scott dropped the snap, he regained his composure and threw a perfect strike to Austin Elliott in the end zone with :09 remaining. The two-point was good, and the Bobcats led 46-38.

The final seconds ticked off on the ensuing kickoff, and Phil Campbell survived a furious Red Bay rally to close the regular season with a win.

Next Friday, Phil Campbell, 6-4, travels to 3A Region 6 champion Piedmont for a first-round playoff game, and Red Bay, 8-2, will host Sand Rock in its playoff opener.



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Franklin County Community Development Commission

The following information is the annual report of receipts and expenditures of the Franklin County Community Development Commission for the fiscal year ending 9-30-2025.

The information is "unaudited" and is reported to the citizens of Franklin County to document how these tax dollars are being expended. The Franklin County Community Development Commission is a 3-member board, whose membership for the previous year included: Brad Bolton as Senator Stutts' appointment, Jeremy Campbell, as Representative Kiel's appointment, and the Chairman of the Commission, Mayor at Large- Charlene Fancher. All grants approved must be within the charter of the development fund which is as follows:

In accordance with Act No. 2008-75 enacted by the Legislature of Alabama, grants may be awarded only for the following purposes:

1. To promote economic development, education, recreation, conservation, and fire protection.
2. To enhance the education of the citizenry through activities, expenditures for capital improvements or equipment, to promote literacy, learning, arts appreciation, public health, and mental health.
3. To promote activities that provide human and social services which reduce the hardships of old age, poor health, or poverty.
4. To promote the marketability, yield, or quality of Alabama-produced agricultural commodities.
5. To promote the preservation, restoration, development and propagation of Alabama's natural resources, recreational facilities, environment, history, culture, transportation lanes, tourism, public safety, and historic landmarks and buildings.

BEGINNING BALANCE FCCDC FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING 10/01/2024
TOTAL IN LIEU OF TAXES DEPOSITS RECEIVED THRU 9/30/2025
TOTAL INTEREST EARNED THRU 9/30/2025
TOTAL BALANCE AVAILABLE FOR GRANT FUNDING

GRANTS AWARDED AS FOLLOWS:

GRANT #	ENTITY:	GRANT AMT:
2465	Belgreen Elementary Computer Lab Upgrade Equipment	\$800.00
2466	Belgreen High Handicap Playground Project	\$3,800.00
2467	Belgreen High Special Ed Program Exp for Learning Exp	\$800.00
2468	Belgreen High School Baseball Viewing Eq, Protective Backdrop	\$1,500.00
2469	Belgreen High Academic Booster Club Expenses for Reward Breakfast	\$250.00
2470	Belgreen High Second Grade Purchase headphones and microphones	\$800.00
2471	Belgreen High Supplies for Special Education	\$250.00
2472	Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Shoals Red Bay, Russellville Scholarship	\$500.00
2473	Easterseals of NW AL Funding Resources	\$2,000.00
2474	East Franklin Jr High Library Tables and Chairs	\$800.00
2475	East Franklin Jr High Special Ed Program Exp for Learning Exp	\$800.00
2476	Franklin County Board of Ed Health Services	\$800.00
2477	Phil Campbell High JAG & SADD Clubs Trunk or Treat Exp	\$250.00
2478	Phil Campbell High JAG Exp supply station	\$250.00
2479	Phil Campbell FFA National Convention Exp	\$250.00
2480	Phil Campbell High Setup Student Necessity Fund	\$250.00
2481	Phil Campbell High Sports Med Class Exp	\$500.00
2482	Red Bay Elementary Implementation of Music Programs	\$1,500.00
2483	Red Bay High Jrs/Srs Expenses to Build/Test Remote Op Vehicles	\$800.00
2484	Red Bay High Jrs/Srs ACT Workshop	\$250.00
2485	Russellville High Moving Music ForwardUpdate Band Transportation	\$1,500.00
2486	Russellville High School Volleyball VeriMax Training System	\$2,500.00
2487	Tharptown Elementary Special Needs Field Trip	\$250.00
2488	Tharptown High Basketball Scorer's Table	\$2,500.00
2489	Tharptown High Musical Theatre Program Startup	\$4,500.00
2490	Tharptown High Rocketry Program Equipment	\$800.00
2491	Tharptown High Softball Hack Attack Pitching Machine	\$1,250.00
2492	Town of Vina Fire Department Replace Suits/Masks	\$2,500.00
2493	Check Error	
2494	Vina High Softball Update Concession Stand	\$1,000.00
2495	Vina High Basketball Refurbish Gym Floor	\$750.00
2496	Vina High School Fundraiser	\$250.00
2497	Vina High Youth League Fees/Equipment	\$250.00
2498	Vina High FFA Convention	\$250.00
2499	Vina High Drama Uniforms	\$500.00
2500	Vina High Cross Country Uniforms	\$250.00
2501	Vina High Cheer Competition Mats	\$1,250.00
2502	Vina High Exp Misc Trips	\$250.00
2503	Vina High NSTA Conference	\$250.00
2504	Vina High Band Uniforms	\$1,500.00
2505	Check Error	
2506	Postage	\$30.36
2507	Franklin Free Press - Annual Report	\$560.00
2508	Franklin Co Career Tech	\$1,852.74
2509	Red Bay News Annual Report	\$300.60
2510	Belgreen High School Art Program-Art Supplies	\$500.00
2511	Belgreen High School Special Ed-Post-Secondary Training	\$800.00
2512	Postage	\$30.36
2513	Franklin County Career Tech - Purchase iPads	\$800.00
2514	Franklin County EMA - Terrain Master Wheel & Litter System Rescue Equip	\$750.00
2515	Northwest Regional Library-Weatherford Library Summer Reading Prog	\$800.00
2516	Phil Campbell Elementary School - Purchase Rolling Bins	\$500.00
2517	Phil Campbell Elementary School - Kindergarten iPad Purchase	\$800.00
2518	Phil Campbell Elementary School - Kindergarten iPad Purchase	\$800.00
2519	Phil Campbell Elementary School - Kindergarten iPad Purchase	\$800.00
2520	Phil Campbell Elementary School - Kindergarten iPad Purchase	\$800.00
2521	Phil Campbell Elementary School - Classroom Chairs	\$1,250.00
2522	Phil Campbell Elementary School - Admin Supplies	\$250.00
2523	Phil Campbell Elementary School - Folding Chairs/Cart	\$750.00
2524	Phil Campbell High School - FTA State Conference	\$250.00
2525	Red Bay High School Baseball Field Sign Sponsorship	\$250.00
2526	Red Bay High School Football Helmet Reconditioning	\$2,500.00
2527	Red Bay High School Band Instrument/Equipment Jazz & Concert Band	\$1,250.00
2528	Russellville City Schools - Girls Soccer Locker Room	\$2,500.00
2529	Tharptown High School-Voice Choral Group Travel/Concert/Supplies	\$250.00
2530	Phil Campbell Elementary School Purchase Printers/Ink	\$800.00
2531	Phil Campbell Elementary School Purchase Chromebooks	\$800.00
2532	Phil Campbell Elementary School Purchase 2nd Grade Tablets	\$800.00
2533	Red Bay High School Football Helmet Reconditioning	\$2,500.00
2534	Phil Campbell High School Baseball Batting Cage Project	\$2,500.00
2535	Red Bay Elementary School Purchase Test Prep Materials	\$3,240.00
2536	Red Bay High School Softball/Football Relocate & Replace Fence Project	\$5,000.00
2537	Red Bay High School American Flag project for Gym	\$2,500.00
2538	Red Bay Police Department Purchase of Tasers	\$5,000.00
2539	Russellville High School Baseball Purchase Rapasodo Hitting Machine	\$2,500.00
2540	Tharptown High School Band Purchase Instruments, Supplies, Travel	\$1,500.00
2541	VFW Mold Remediation Project	\$7,900.00
2542	Vina High School Track Purchase of Equipment/Track Facility Renovations	\$750.00
2543	Postage	\$8.80
2544	Belgreen Elementary School - Playground Mulch & Borders	\$500.00
2545	Belgreen Elementary School - 3rd Grade Field Trip	\$250.00
2546	Belgreen Elementary School - 3rd Grade Field Trip	\$250.00
2547	Belgreen Elementary School - 1st Grade Class Library	\$800.00
2548	Belgreen High School - Snack Restroom Renovation	\$750.00
2549	Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Shoals Red Bay, Russellville Scholarship	\$1,000.00

\$76,558.14
\$197,259.61
\$1,631.01
\$275,448.76

2550	Postage	\$8.28
2551	East Franklin Jr High STEM Tables	\$800.00
2552	East Franklin Jr High 2nd Grade Reading Project	\$800.00
2553	Franklin Co Chamber of Commerce-Watermelon Fest Sponsorship	\$2,500.00
2554	Franklin Co Special Olympics Supplies/Equipment	\$500.00
2555	Franklin Co Fire & Rescue Protective Hoods	\$1,500.00
2556	Junior Miss of AL Distinguished Young Women	\$250.00
2557	Phil Campbell Elementary School Library Supplies	\$800.00
2558	Phil Campbell Elementary School 1st Grade Class Supplies/Books	\$800.00
2559	Red Bay Elementary School Elementary Student Project Expenses	\$500.00
2560	Red Bay High School Install Vinyl Wall Cling for Hallways	\$1,250.00
2561	Red Bay Lions Club	\$500.00
2562	Red Bay School Improvement Scoreboard Year 3 of 5	\$3,500.00
2563	Russellville Fire Dept-Equipment for Emergency & Fire Serv Mgmt	\$1,500.00
2564	Russellville Fire Dept-Purchase Fire Prevention Materials	\$1,500.00
2565	Phil Campbell - Youth Baseball Field Improvements	\$4,000.00
2566	Union Community Center-Sound Panels	\$1,000.00
2567	City of Red Bay 3 sets of turnout gear	\$5,000.00
2498	Vina High School - FFA Club 11/4/24 VOIDED, NEVER CASHED	(\$250.00)
2565	Phil Campbell - Youth Baseball Field Improvements VOIDED, NEVER CASHED	(\$4,000.00)
2568	Phil Campbell - Youth Baseball Field Improvements	\$4,000.00
	Stop Payment for checks	\$34.00
2569	BHS Softball-Playoffs	\$500.00
2570	PCHS Baseball-Playoffs	\$500.00
2571	RBHS Baseball-Playoffs	\$500.00
2572	RBHS Softball-Playoffs	\$500.00
2573	RHS Baseball-Playoffs	\$500.00
2574	RHS Track-Playoffs	\$500.00
2575	BHS Classroom start up supplies	\$800.00
2576	BHS Classroom start up supplies	\$800.00
2577	BHS Classroom start up supplies	\$800.00
2578	Postage	\$19.32
2579	City of Red Bay Founders Day Car Show	\$500.00
2580	City of Red Bay Founders Day Festival Sponsorship	\$2,000.00
2581	Easterseals of NWAL Speech Therapy & Vocational Rehab	\$2,000.00
2582	Franklin Couty Sheriff's Office Bulletproof Vests	\$5,000.00
2583	Franklin Co Arts & Humanities Wireless Mic System	\$3,495.00
2584	PCES 3rd Grade Classroom Printer	\$800.00
2585	PCES 3rd Grade Classroom Chromebooks	\$439.90
2586	RBHS Football Strength & Conditioning Equipment	\$5,000.00
2587	RBHS Football Helmet & Reconditioning	\$2,500.00
2588	Russellville Dream Center Renovation Project	\$2,500.00
2589	VHS Kindergarten Classroom Start Up	\$800.00
2511	BHS Special Ed VOIDED, NEVER CASHED	(\$800.00)
2590	Red Bay Police Department Drone	\$5,000.00
2591	Russellville Police Department Computer Upgrades	\$5,000.00
2592	Red Bay Museum Lighting Project Railroad Park	\$5,000.00
2593	Belgreen High School FCCDC Grant	\$800.00
2594	Belgreen High School FCCDC Grant	\$800.00
2595	Belgreen High School FCCDC Grant	\$500.00
2596	Belgreen High School FCCDC Grant	\$500.00
2597	C B & S Bank, General Fund FCCDC Postage	\$10.36
2598	City of Red Bay Education Fund FCCDC Grant	\$5,000.00
2599	East Franklin Volunteer Fire Dept. FCCDC Grant	\$1,000.00
2600	Franklin County MLK FCCDC Grant	\$1,200.00
2601	Franklin County Board of Education FCCDC Grant	\$1,000.00
2602	Liberty Learning Foundation FCCDC Grant	\$7,000.00
2603	Phil Campbell Elementary School FCCDC Grant	\$800.00
2604	Phil Campbell Elementary School FCCDC Grant	\$800.00
2605	Phil Campbell High School FCCDC Grant	\$800.00
2606	Phil Campbell High School FCCDC Grant	\$250.00
2607	Red Bay High School FCCDC Grant	\$800.00
2608	Red Bay High School FCCDC Grant	\$1,375.00
2609	Russellville Elementary School FCCDC Grant	\$800.00
2610	Tharptown Elementary School FCCDC Grant	\$1,000.00
2611	Tharptown High School FCCDC Grant	\$250.00
2612	The Place of Grace FCCDC Grant	\$1,000.00
2613	Vina Elementary School FCCDC Grant	\$800.00
2614	Vina High School FCCDC Grant	\$250.00
2615	Vina High School Cheer FCCDC Grant	\$500.00
2616	Vina High School Cheer FCCDC Grant	\$200.00
2617	Vina High School FCCDC Grant	\$200.00
2618	Vina High School FCCDC Grant	\$1,000.00
2619	Vina High School FCCDC Grant	\$800.00
2620	Vina High School FCCDC Grant	\$200.00
2621	Vina High School FCCDC Grant	\$430.00
2622	Vina High School Football FCCDC Grant	\$500.00
2623	Vina High School Softball FCCDC Grant	\$500.00
2624	Vina High School Basketball FCCDC Grant	\$500.00
2625	Vina High School FCCDC Grant	\$500.00

Transfer in Project Stockpile back to General Fund - \$5,000.00
Transferred to Future Economic Development \$36,000.00

TOTAL OF ALL GRANTS AWARDED DURING FISCAL YEAR ENDING 9/30/2025: \$232,384.72

TOTAL ENDING BALANCE OF THE FCCDC AS OF 9/30/2025: \$43,064.04

'VOLLEYBALL,' from Page 11

a new single-season record in that category. Those 450 kills were also the most in the county. Hill also did her part defensively with 15 blocks and 195 total digs.

Fellow senior Fatima Ramirez also set a new program record for the Lady Golden Tigers recording 576 assists, the most any RHS player has had in one year. Ramirez's contributions included 337 digs, 27 total blocks, 108 kills, and 61 service aces, as well.

Sophomore Bri McCulloch is the third First Team selection for RHS. The libero finished with an historic season, setting single-season and career records for digs with 894. That number is not just the best total in the county, it's the most digs in the state and third most in the country according to MaxPreps.com. McCulloch also contributed offensively with 47 service aces, 79 kills, and 139 assists.

Rounding out the First Team was Red Bay freshman outside hitter Kamryn Kuykendall, who did a bit of everything for the Lady Tigers and was the team's most dangerous offensive threat this year. Kuykendall finished with team-high 258 kills (fourth most in the county) and recorded 72 service aces, as well. Defensively, the freshman added 30 blocks and 112 digs.

On the Second Team, Belgreen and Russellville added one player, Red Bay had two and Tharptown had three players chosen. The Honorable Mentions consisted of three players from Phil Campbell; one from Belgreen, Red Bay, and Russellville; and two players from Tharptown.

The Franklin County Coach of the Year, determined by votes from the county coaches, is Russellville's Madison Lamont. In her second season leading the program, Lamont took the team to new heights: the Lady Golden Tigers set a new program record for wins in a season with 41, won the area regular season title, won the program's first area tournament championship, and finished the year in the second round of the Class 5A North Super Regional tournament, the furthest RHS has advanced since the late 1970s.



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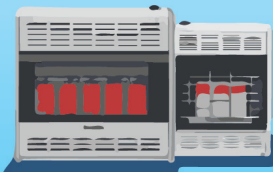
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Financing Available

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Rebate of

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



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

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\$100
Rebate

Ranges

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



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Superior heating to bring warmth and comfort to your home

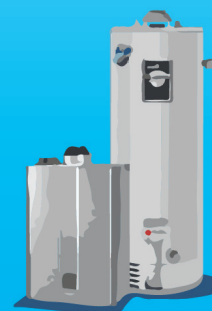
\$800 Rebate



Water Heaters

Reliable hot water for your home

\$500 Rebate



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; 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 \$46,278.96 – 71,384.18.

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 do not need to reapply in order to receive consideration for this appointment. They need to call the city hall and ask to pull their application. Applications must be returned no later than November 17, 2025, 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.

The Franklin County Commission is accepting applications for the following position(s):

*Deputy, Sheriff's Office
Corrections Officer/Dispatcher, Jail
Part Time EMA Assistant, EMA*

Applications will be accepted in the Franklin County Commission office until positions are filled.

An application and job description may be picked up, faxed or emailed upon request from the Franklin County Commission Office, located at 405 N Jackson Avenue, Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, by calling (256) 332-8850 or applications are available at www.franklincountyal.org under the Careers tab.

Franklin County is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in the employment or provision of services.



Dr. Amy Traylor to Our Team!



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Traylor**

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Letter to the Editor: Thank you to hard-working street department

Dear Editor:

I am writing a THANK YOU letter to the City of Russellville Street Department. Shannon Wilson and his employees work hard every day doing all the jobs necessary to keep our city looking so nice.

One such job, and I feel like a very big one, is to maintain the grounds at KP Cemetery. I was told that Marty Corbell is the crew chief for KP Cemetery. He and his crew take pride in their work, and it shows at the cemetery.

My family purchased a large plot at KP Cemetery many years ago. I am now the caretaker of my families' graves. Every time I go there, which is often, I am so appreciative of how beautiful it is kept and that families are not charged for the care that is given.

The Street Department also takes care of the other old cemeteries located in the city of Russellville. I hope that everyone who has loved-ones buried there will also extend their appreciation to Shannon, the Mayor and all the city workers who take pride in their jobs and work so hard every day at it.

I was born in Russellville. I still have family and friends there. My heart will always be in this precious town and all the memories I made through the years. Someday, I will be resting at KP Cemetery with my family.

Sincerely,

Patsy Lawler Mossor,
Russellville

**North Highlands
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Sat., Nov 15th

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