


Taking care of your family's dental needs



Brett M. Bowen, DDS
Bowen Family Dentistry
256.332.4000
243 Underwood Road • Russellville

Bill's Pressure CLEANING



Bill & Eric Fuller
256-668-3240
FREE ESTIMATES

Open Mike Wed & Thurs 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Get your college football fix only on **WGOL 100.7**

Football Friday Tailgate Show
Preceding RHS Football every Friday from 5-6:30. Hosted by Brady Petree.



BURNS NURSING & REHAB
"We ♥ Our Residents!"

Physical Therapy
Occupational Therapy

PRIVATE REHAB ROOMS

Speech Therapy
Long-Term Care

(256)332-4110
701 Monroe St • Russellville

Call Our Daddy Today!

SOUTHERN COMFORT SERVICES
HEATING & COOLING



Brennen Shores
256.394.4662

HEATING & COOLING PRODUCTS

EXTENDED FLOOR LAMP & SHADE SALE

\$299⁹⁵ SALE \$139⁹⁵ Choice of Shades

Southern Shades and Lighting

3703 Florence Blvd
256-757-0045

FRANKLIN FREE PRESS

YOUR HOMETOWN, "GOOD NEWS" NEWSPAPER!

9.20.17

Locals lend helping hand to Irma victims

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

Thomas Barber went to the Russellville Walmart last Monday evening and purchased a Golden Tigers hooded sweatshirt.

You wouldn't think that to be a big deal until you learn that, up until the day before, Barber had never heard of

Russellville, Alabama.

A resident of Ocala, a northern Florida city hammered by Hurricane Irma, Barber made his way to Russellville last Sunday looking for a hotel room, something that wasn't available all the way from Tallahassee north until Russellville, where he found a room at the Best Western Plus.

See 'IRMA,' Page 9



PHOTO BY JOHN PILATI
Evacuees from Florida were fed by members of First Baptist Church in Russellville last week at the Best Western Plus in Russellville. Above, church members visit with some of the guests.

County schools 'treading water' financially

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

"Treading water."

That's how Franklin County Schools chief finance officer Carla Knight describes the system's Fiscal Year 2017-18 budget.

While that description might not sound great, it beats last year's theme of "growing pains."

With public schools funded based on the enrollment 20 days after Labor Day of the previous academic year, last year saw Franklin County Schools with unprecedented growth and no corresponding increase in state funding for those new students.

That changed this year, at least partially, and that's reflected in the \$36 million budget, compared to \$34 million last year.

"When you tread water, you have to keep on and on or you sink," Knight said. "This year, we're trying to stay right above zero in our budget. We have just enough to operate on, although we have seen growth again this year."

But the system continues to see more students each year. Projected enrollment for this year is 3,621 students, an increase of 121 from last year. Last year's increase was 222

students, many of whom transferred from Russellville City Schools after that system imposed a \$600 annual tuition for out-of-city residents.

"When you tread water, you have to keep on and on or you sink," Knight said. "This year, we're trying to stay right above zero in our budget. We have just enough to operate on, although we have seen growth again this year."

Of the \$36,093,719, almost \$24 million comes from state revenues. An additional \$4,572,922 comes from federal revenue sources; \$7,424,252 from local revenue; and \$170,000 from other revenues.

See 'SCHOOLS,' Page 11

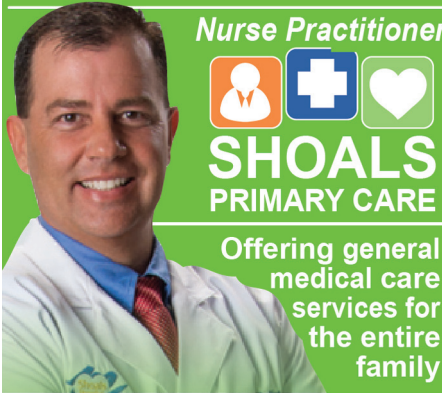
ALABAMA GUN & PAWN

Title & Cash LOANS
15347 Hwy 43 • Rsvl
(256) 332-1108

Cash Spot

Title & Payday LOANS
310 Jackson Ave N Downtown Russellville
(256) 332-3220

Dr Russell Bien
Nurse Practitioner



SHOALS PRIMARY CARE

Offering general medical care services for the entire family

340 Cox Blvd • Sheffield, AL
256.383.4473
Ext. 2021

FAMILY Pharmacy GROUP

BlueCross BlueShield of Alabama

Family Pharmacy of Littleville



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

MedExpress Littleville



1369 George Wallace Hwy
Littleville, AL
256.331.9700

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

Sale good Sept. 20 through Sept. 26



MARTY'S MEAT MARKET

This Week's

Specials

Fresh Lean
Ground Beef
\$2.19 lb.
fam. pack

Qtr Loin
Pork Chops
\$1.49 lb.

Boneless Skinless
Chicken Breast
\$2.19 lb.

Boneless
Ribeye Steak
\$8.99 lb.

Boneless Beef
Chuck Roast
\$3.99 lb.

Value
Chicken Fingers
\$12.99
5-lb. bag

Center Cut Pork Chops \$2.19 lb.

Shubert Rolls

\$2.99 / 10-ct.

Market Made Country Style Sausage
\$0.99 lb.

Bryan Wieners or Bologna

\$1.59 / 12-oz. pkg.

Register now to win \$100 in **FREE** meats at the end of September!

Cut Fresh Daily!



256-331-9285 • 85 Scotty Moore Dr
Mon.-Sat. 8 to 6 and Sunday 10-6

LOCAL • PERSONAL • CARING



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

Grant & Beverly Atkins
403 East Lawrence Street
Russellville, Alabama

"In Memory of our loved ones..."

brought to you by Atkins Marble and Granite Works and Franklin Memory Gardens

Freddy Dale Cooper, Hodges, age 67
Died Monday, September 11, 2017. Funeral held at Pinkard Funeral Home in Russellville. Interment in Liberty Hill Cemetery in Phil Campbell.

Rachel Lee Hurst Heathcoat, age 74
Died Thursday, September 14, 2017. Funeral held at Spry Memorial Chapel in Russellville. Interment in Knights of Pythias Cemetery.

Belva "Granny" Lewey Jones, Russellville, age 85
Died Thursday, September 14, 2017. Funeral held at Spry Memorial Chapel. Interment in Dempsey Cemetery.

Almirol INTERNAL MEDICINE



John R. Almirol, M.D.

Appointments may be made by calling 256.331.1900

Mon-Thur: 8:30-5:00

Friday: 8:30-12:00

Se habla Español

15225 Highway 43, Suite G
Russellville, Alabama



AKINS FUNERAL HOME

\$500 Off
Any Pre-Planning Burial Package Now Through October 31, 2017

PRE-PLANNING HELPS

We help create a plan to fit your budget and honor your loved one.

Call 256-332-1131

RHS receives top billing from school ranking site

Submitted to the FFP

RUSSELLVILLE – Russellville High School has been ranked as the No. 1 Standout High School in Alabama by the school ranking site Niche.com, a great honor for RHS and for the school system as a whole.

In order to be considered for this ranking, schools had to meet certain criteria. While similar lists released in the past only considered factors such as test scores, the percent of students who go on to attend college, and student/teacher ratios, the list for Standout High Schools in Alabama took other issues into consideration as well. RCS superintendent Heath Grimes said he believes that gives a more accurate representation of the achievement and growth taking place at RCS.

While factors such as ACT/SAT test scores and colleges attended are still factored into this list, Niche also considered factors such as the percentage of students considered to be economically disadvantaged; the percentage of economically disadvantaged students who are math- and reading-proficient; the percentage of economically disadvantaged students who graduate high school; the percentage of minority students who graduate; and the student racial diversity index.

“We strive to teach our students that no matter what kind of disadvantage you may have—economically, academically, physically or otherwise—you can still do great things,” Grimes said. “Our disadvantages don’t have to define us. They don’t have to be an excuse to not try hard. We have to use these things to motivate us to be better, work harder and achieve more.”

Grimes said these are certainly factors that RHS and the school system as a whole have to deal with and work with on a daily basis. At Russellville High School, 63 percent of the student population receives free or reduced lunch based on economic status. And according to Niche, RHS is also ranked No. 15 out of 376 schools for Most Diverse High Schools in Alabama.

But Grimes said the fact RHS was ranked No. 1 for Standout High Schools in Alabama with these factors considered is a testament to the caliber of students and teachers Russellville City Schools has.

“We strive to teach our students that no matter what kind of disadvantage you may have—economically, academically, physically or otherwise—you can still do great things,” he said. “Our disadvantages don’t have to define us. Our disadvantages don’t have to be an excuse to not try hard. We have to use these things to motivate us to be better, work harder and achieve more.”

“Yes, we have several uphill battles we face daily at our schools in different areas, but it’s not something we use as an excuse, because we fully believe that diversity and challenges should be embraced and should be approached with an overcomer’s attitude instead of a defeatist or excuse-giver’s attitude. The result of this approach is what is reflected by this first-place ranking. The result is making achievements and meeting goals that truly show the hard work, dedication and perseverance our students and faculty have [in] overcoming these obstacles no matter what, and the effect things like our AP program through A+ College Ready have. When you have many factors working against you and you’re still able to achieve and succeed, that is what I believe is truly commendable.

“We may not have the advantages that some systems have in certain areas, but we do have the advantage of having self-motivated students and teachers who are constantly pursuing excellence. In my opinion, that’s the best kind of advantage to have, and this is something our community should be proud of.”

Sheriff waiting for decision on potential SRO grant

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

Franklin County sheriff Shannon Oliver expects to hear a decision soon on a federal grant application his department submitted that could open the door for school resource officers in Franklin County Schools.

Oliver said he was contacted by officials with the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program last week asking him to submit additional materials in support of the county’s grant application.

“They are still taking the matter under advisement but said we would be notified soon if we are a recipient of the grant,” Oliver said.

The department applied for a COPS grant in the amount of \$125,000 that would be paid over three years

and would be earmarked for a school resource officer (or officers) to be shared by Vina, Tharptown, Belgreen and East Franklin Schools, the county schools not served by a local police department.

“The grant monies would strictly be for a school resource officer and would not be spent any other way,” Oliver said.

Oliver said several members of the Franklin County Sheriff’s Department Reserve Program, along with one retired officer, are volunteering their time working in county schools this fall. Oliver said there are reserve officers in at least one school several days each week.

“They are there for visibility and for the school to know they have someone there or someone who can be there if they need them,” Oliver said. “We’ve been doing this the last few weeks.”

Oliver said that if the grant is approved he would expect the grant terms to regulate whether the county would have one or two school resource officers.

“They will tell us what we can do with the grant monies. We’re just waiting now to see if we get it,” Oliver said.

The grant provides for 75/25 funding, meaning the sheriff’s department, along with the assistance of Franklin County Schools, would be responsible for 25 percent of the total grant amount. If the grant is approved, school resource officers could be in place by the spring semester of 2018, Oliver said.

“Our goal, if we get the grant, is to hire one full-time officer and, if the money’s there, hire another part-time,” Oliver said. “Either way, they will go to the rural

See ‘GRANT,’ Page 10

This is **1** special CD!

1.11% APY*

**11-Month
Fixed Rate CD**

Or Choose **1** of These Limited-Time Offers:

23-Month Bump Rate CD 1.21% APY**

35-Month Bump Rate CD 1.36% APY**

59-Month Fixed Rate CD 2.11% APY*

OPEN A CD ONLINE
AT BIBANK.COM

or

STOP BY A
BRANCH TODAY

BANK INDEPENDENT®
Radically Original™

Member FDIC | 877-865-5050 | bibank.com

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is effective as of June 23, 2017 and is subject to change at any time. The APY reflects the total amount of interest earned based on the interest rate and frequency of compounding for a 365-day period. \$1000 minimum balance required to open the account and to earn the advertised APY. An early withdrawal penalty will apply. Not available to financial institutions or public funds. Fees may reduce earnings on account. Certificates opened in conjunction with the Bank’s Smart Growth program are excluded. Limited time offer.

**Customer has a one-time opportunity to increase the interest rate at the time presented at the prevailing rate that is nearest to the remaining maturity of the certificate. Special rates excluded. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other advertised special. No additional funds may be added. The rate increase will not extend the maturity date.

Honey Do: Breathe easier

Every day, we live, work and play in many different environments, come into contact with many people and handle many different types of materials.

We generally have little control over the cleanliness of these different experiences, but most people go home to the same house and sleep in the same bed every night. This is one area where we have control and can fight allergens that may cause us to have many different health issues.

While you sleep, you inhale microscopic, allergenic particulates from bedding, carpet, draperies and upholstered furnishings. If you suffer from allergies, the removal or regular cleaning of these areas will help.

Bedding should be washed weekly in water that is at least 130 degrees.

Mattresses and springs should be vacuumed regularly. There are allergen-proof zippered covers that may be used to cover mattresses to keep them from collecting dust, and they will provide a washable surface. Use synthetic pads and pillows. Feather and cotton pillows are huge habitats for allergens.

Severe allergy sufferers should remove carpet and heavy drapes. If removal isn't possible, vacuum regularly. Tile, linoleum or even short napped carpet is better, and light, airy window treatments are much less prone to hold-

ing dust. Avoid storing items under the bed. This creates areas for dust to collect and allergens to thrive. If you must use this space, use clear storage boxes and clean the area regularly. Storage boxes are great for storing clothes, toys and stuffed animals to cut down on dust collection and making them easier to move and clean around.

Clear boxes make it easier to see the contents and allow light into storage areas to discourage spiders and critters from taking up residence.

Humidity levels are important to control dust mites, who need high humidity to survive. Dehumidifiers, bathroom vents and air cleaners can help control humidity, but if the humidity is too low the air will be dry and uncomfortable to breathe. Maintain any air filters in these machines.

It's recommended that once or twice a year you "move out" of the bedroom and thoroughly clean all areas, bedding and window coverings. The cooler days of fall that are approaching are a good time to do this.

You'll be sure to breathe a little easier. Remember, help is just around the corner at your local hardware store.



Doug Green

OUR GAME HOUSE By: Ree SHANNON



Ree Shannon © 2017

Exercise the freedom to read freely

Ashley Cummins
For the FFP

Throughout the country, most children are starting a new academic year. Teachers are sending out their lists of required readings, and parents are beginning to gather books. In some cases, classics like *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *The Catcher in the Rye* and *To Kill a Mocking Bird* may not be included in curriculum or available in the school library due to challenges made by parents or administrators.

Since 1990, the American Library Association's (ALA) Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) has recorded more than 10,000 book challenges--formal, written complaints requesting a book be removed from library shelves or school curriculum. About three out of four of all challenges are to material in schools or school libraries, and one in four are to material in public libraries. OIF estimates that less than one quarter of challenges are reported and recorded.

It is thanks to the commitment of librarians, teachers, parents and students that most challenges are unsuccessful and reading materials like *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, *Slaughterhouse Five*, the *Harry Potter* series and Phyllis Reynolds Naylor's *Alice* series remain available.

The most challenged and/or restricted reading materials have been books for children. However, challenges are not simply an expression of a point of view; on the contrary, they are an attempt to remove materials from public use, thereby restricting the access of others. Even if the motivation to ban or challenge a book is well intentioned, the outcome is detrimental. Censorship denies our freedom as individuals to choose and think for ourselves. For kids, decisions about what books to read should be made by the people who know them best--their parents!

In support of the right to choose books freely for ourselves, the ALA and Russellville Public Library are sponsoring "Banned Books Week" from September 24-30, an annual celebration of our right to access books without censorship. This year's observance commemorates the most basic freedom in a democratic society--the freedom to read freely--and encourages us not to take this freedom for granted.

Since its inception in 1982, Banned Books Week has reminded us that while not every book is intended for every reader, each of us has the right to decide for ourselves what to read, listen to or view. Russellville Public Library and thousands of libraries and bookstores across the country will celebrate the freedom to read by participating in special events, exhibits and read-outs that showcase books that have been banned or threatened. The Russellville Public Library will be hosting the following activities: A virtual read-out in collaboration with ALA and libraries across the country via YouTube; participating in the Twitter tournament #RebelReader; and hosting numerous displays including "mug shots" of local citizens and celebrities "caught reading" banned books.

The American Booksellers Association, the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression, the ALA, the American Society of Journalists and Authors, the Association of American Publishers, and the National Association of College Stores sponsor Banned Books Week.

American libraries are the cornerstones of our democracy. Libraries are for everyone, everywhere. Because libraries provide free access to a world of information, they bring opportunity to all people.

Ashley Cummins, Director
Russellville Public Library
110 East Lawrence Street, Russellville, AL 35654
256.332.1535

FRANKLIN FREE PRESS

113 WASHINGTON AVE. NW
RUSSELLVILLE, AL 35653
256-332-0255

The *Franklin Free Press* is published weekly by Pilati Investments, Inc. Our publication is mailed to our readers at no charge.

Publisher

John Pilati

Executive Editor

Mike Self

E-mail: franklinfreepress@yahoo.com

Sales Representatives

Linda Bumpers, John Pilati, Mike Rice

Content Contributors

Mike Self, John Pilati, Alissa Young, Brady Petree, Mike Rice, Ree Shannon, Doug Green, Rebecca Thomason, Sheryl Hamilton, Ashley Cummins, Gail Motes

Graphic Design

Jason Hill

Correction Policy

The *Franklin Free Press* strives for excellence and accuracy, and we will be pleased to correct any error in our newspaper. To request a correction or clarification, call or e-mail our office.

Letters to the editor

The *Franklin Free Press* is published by hometown people, for hometown people. We urge contributions of all kinds, including guest columns, picture submissions, cartoons or letters to the editor. Send any letters to our office via U.S. Postal Service or e-mail, and we will gladly publish them. Letters must be signed and contain the hometown and phone number of the author. The *Franklin Free Press* reserves the right to edit letters for style, length and content.

Copyright Information

Published by Pilati Investments, Inc. Copyright 2016
All materials and content are copyrighted by the Publisher
This publication may not be reproduced, in whole or in part, by any method, without the express written permission of the Publisher.

FULLER

HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING • PLUMBING

Since 1991 AL HVAC 91114

Make utility savings pay for your new comfort system
and put up to **\$1,500** in your pocket!

Call **256.774.9019** for Details

DAVE SAYS
Financial Straight-Talk
www.davesays.org
by Dave Ramsey

No retirement cash at 58

Dear Dave,
I'm 58 years old and have nothing set aside for retirement. My wife and I are on Baby Step 2 of your plan and paying off debt. We have \$37,000 in debt not counting our home, and five kids still at home. We have a household income of \$73,000 a year and were wondering if we should go ahead and start Baby Step 4, investing for retirement, instead of paying off the debt.

Dan

Dear Dan,
Your most powerful wealth-building tool, both mathematically and factually, is your income. The most powerful way to build wealth—whether it's playing catch-up at 58 or starting at 28 and becoming wealthy over the long haul—is to have your income available. That means it's not flying out the door every month to make debt payments.

Fifty-eight is not old, but you do have to get busy if you want to

retire with dignity. I'd really lean into this debt and make it disappear in the next 18 months. I'm talking about sticking to a tight budget, living on rice and beans, and selling so much stuff around the house those kids think they're next!

After that, you'll have to throw every dime you can into building an emergency fund of three to six months of expenses. And after that, you'll have to spend 10 years going crazy saving for retirement by pouring about \$12,000 a year into good mutual funds.

Can you do that and win, and by "win" I mean retire with some dignity? Yes, you can. But it's not doable if you've got \$37,000 in debt hanging around your neck!

Dave

Affordable on a 30-year mortgage

Dear Dave,
My husband and I have been saving, and we're ready to buy our first home. We found a place we both love and can afford if we do a 30-year mortgage instead of a 15-year mortgage. Should we wait and save more for a down payment so we can afford a 15-year mortgage, or go ahead and do the 30-year deal?

Faith

Dear Faith,
Good financial decisions can be defined as things that help you win with money over the long-term. Thirty-year mortgages are a trap. They don't help you build wealth, and they keep you in debt. On the other hand, 15-year mortgages get you out of debt a lot faster, and being out of debt frees up your largest wealth-building tool—your income.

I would never take out a home loan where the payments are more than a fourth of your monthly take-home pay on a 15-year, fixed-rate mortgage. My advice is to either wait and save more money, or maybe look for a less expensive home in a different area.

I know you want a home, Faith. There's nothing wrong with wanting your own house. But I don't want your home to have you.

When you get house fever, it's easy to lock yourself into a bad deal that will follow you around and drain your wallet for decades!

Dave

**Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books, including The Total Money Makeover. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 13 million listeners each week on 585 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey.*

AMERICAN REALTY COMPANY of Russellville

For All Your Real Estate Needs

Call Steve
Pounders!
256.460.8383

35 Years
Experience



AmericanRealtyCompany.net

TIMMONS TREE SERVICE

Locally owned and operated by
Russellville Native Josh Timmons



TREE TRIMMING
CROWN REDUCTION
REMOVAL
SHAPING
STUMP REMOVAL

FREE
ESTIMATES

(256) 627-7703

Great Rates on
Fall Tree Trimming!
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED

Head of the class



PHOTO BY JOHN PILATI

The Russellville High School Class of 1956 met recently for lunch at 43 Grill. Pictured above are the members who attended. The class had 76 graduates, and the group gets together several times a year to socialize and reminisce. Several members of the Class of 1956 credited Betty Mitchell as the one who helps keep the group events organized.

REWARD YOURSELF...

GIFT CARDS
Available



OR SOMEONE
YOU LOVE

Angel Harris

Licensed Massage Therapist LMT #1495

Reiki Practitioner II



256.332.4220

Creative Image Salon
7129 Hwy 43 • Spruce Pine

Shoals Area MEDICAL SECTION



LEG PAIN?

FREE SCREENINGS

Treating the Causes of Leg Pain, Not Just the Symptoms!

Do You Suffer From?...

Restless Legs
Cramping
Swelling
Burning

Itching
Discoloration
Varicose Veins
Aching

Spider Veins
Tingling
Heaviness
Hair Loss

Our team of experts utilize the latest technology to diagnose the cause & develop a solution to your leg pain.

Insurance pre-approved for all procedures.

Northwest Alabama Leg Pain Specialists

2095 Florence Blvd • Florence

Call 256.766.2310

This space reserved for **YOUR** medical business!



Call Linda Bumpers

205.269.3653



The Suites

Short Term Rehab Center

At Florence

Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, LLC

Tel: 256.766.5771

FlorenceRehabCenter.com

Compassionate Care
For Your Patients

Your Guide to Shoals Area Medical Specialists



CARING for PEOPLE with COMPASSION

EXPERIENCE YOU CAN TRUST



Dr. Paul Morris
Florence



Dr. Timothy Martin
Leighton



Dr. Brad Ginevan
Sheffield



Dr. George Evans
Sheffield



Dr. Galen Kiser
Leighton



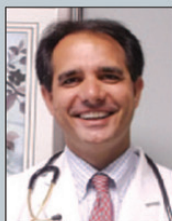
Dr. Alan Billsby
Sheffield



Dr. Darin Bowling
Sheffield



Dr. Lynn Ridgeway
Sheffield



Dr. Faizullah Syed
Sheffield



Dr. Aaron Karr
Sheffield



Dr. Bilal Khan
Florence



Dr. Bardya Naeini
Lexington



Dr. Paul Davis
Tuscumbia



- We're growing to meet the needs of the community
 - We welcome new patients
 - Virtually all diagnostic services in house
 - Most insurance accepted

Med Express-Ford City
14490 County Line Rd., Ste. A,
Muscle Shoals, AL
256-661-2138
256-661-2140

Shoals Primary Care LLC
342 Cox Boulevard
Sheffield, AL
256-383-4473

Medical Mall
1404 E. Avalon Ave.
Tuscumbia, AL
256-381-8055

Florence Clinic
201 Rosa Lane
Florence, AL
256-275-3838

Cherokee Clinic
1080 Second street
Cherokee, AL
256-359-4516

Lexington Clinic
11631 Highway 101
Lexington, AL
256-229-6262

SHOALS
PRIMARY CARE

Mon. - Thurs. • 8am-5pm

Fri. • 8am-12pm • Dr. Syed only

RUSSELLVILLE DRUGS

FREE Local Delivery!

**Welcome
CVS Pharmacy
Customers!**

**We are a 
Blue Cross-Blue Shield
Preferred Pharmacy!**

**(256)331-1919
14001 Hwy 43, Ste 13
Franklin Shopping Ctr**

Shopping around for
car insurance? Don't.

Let your local independent agent shop for
you, and find the coverage you need.

Wood-Thompson Insurance

130 N Jackson Ave. Russellville
256-332-1381
Mon-Tues-Thur-Fri 8am-5pm
Wed 8am-noon • Sat 9am-noon


LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS


Auto-Owners
INSURANCE


What's Happening


256.332.0255


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


 The Franklin County Revenue Commissioner will host a seminar on the new GIS mapping website by KCS (Keet Consulting Services) this Wednesday, September 20 at 2 p.m. at the Franklin County Courthouse Annex (conference room), located at 405 N. Jackson Avenue in downtown Russellville. This seminar will give step-by-step information on how to operate the new site. For more info, please call 256-332-8837.


 The Franklin County Extension Office will offer a class, "Quickbooks for Farmers," with two class sessions focusing on the banking function of QuickBooks Pro from Intuit software. The class is taught by Robert Page, regional extension agent. Fee is \$25. To register, call 334-844-5100 or log onto www.aces.edu/go/734. Class size limited to 10 students. Laptops provided. Class date in Franklin County will be September 21 at Franklin County Extension Office, Courthouse Basement. Colbert County class will be November 7 and 9 at Colbert County Extension Office, Courthouse Basement.


 Gentiva Hospice offers a grief support group, "Grieving Well Together," that meets the third Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Lenox room at Calvary Baptist Church in Russellville. The next meeting will be held September 21. You are invited to attend.


 The Spruce Pine Historical Society will be having Craft Night on the third Thursday of each month. This month's meeting will be this Thursday, September 21 at the Spruce Pine Community Center at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please call Kim at 256-436-3992.


 Travis Wammack & The Snakeman Band are coming to Mountain Valley Hee Haw this Saturday, September 23. Show time from 7-10 p.m. Hotdogs and cold drinks will be served. No alcoholic beverages or drugs allowed. Admission is free. From Russellville, follow 243 to Hwy. 79, turn right, go 1/4 mile, third building on left. For more information, call 256-332-5479 or 256-810-4840. Sponsored by Welch Roofing & Home Repair.


 The Franklin County Health Department will hold its annual flu shot clinic on Monday, September 25 from 8-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Please bring your Medicaid, Medicare or Blue Cross Blue Shield card, or there is a charge of \$5. The department is located at 801 Highway 48 in Russellville.

 Helen Keller Hospital and Healthy Valley Women will present "Sepsis Awareness: How Infection Can Kill" at the Keller Wellcare Center on Tuesday, September 26 at 12 p.m. Dr. Laurence Carmichael will speak on the importance of understanding the signs and symptoms of sepsis. Helen Keller Hospital recently received Gold Star Certification for Sepsis Protocols by the Joint Commission. September is Septic Awareness Month. The program is free, and a light lunch will be served. To reserve your seat, call 256-386-4747.

 If you are interested in the study of the Civil War and have an ancestor who was in the Confederate Army, join the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month (except January and July) at 6 p.m. at the Russellville Rec Center. Next meeting will be October 5. The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, VA in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the period from 1861-1865 is preserved. Membership in the SCV is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate Armed Forces. Membership can be obtained through either direct or collateral family lines, and kinship to a veteran must be documented genealogically. Join us for the celebration of our heritage! The minimum age for membership is 12. Call 1-800-MYDIXIE or 256-324-2317.

 American Legion Post 64 meets the second Thursday of each month at the Chamber of Commerce office on Jackson Avenue. Meal served around 6 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m. Next meeting will be Thursday, October 12.

 The Kerry Gilbert Band will perform a benefit concert at the Roxy Theatre in downtown Russellville Saturday, October 14 at 7 p.m. General admission seating. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-12, and free for children under 6. Group discounts available! Call 256-335-4356.

 The Helen Keller Hospital Foundation will host the Ed Borden and Steve Nesbitt Memorial Golf Tournament on Friday, October 20 at Robert Trent Jones of the Shoals. The tournament will be a four-person scramble with two flights (based on total team scores, not on individual handicaps) on each course. Players will have the opportunity to buy tickets to win a grand prize valued at over \$1,000 during the golf ball drop scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on the day of the tournament. The tournament will provide funds for the 2017 Foundation project of focusing on the Women's Center and Labor and Delivery at Helen Keller Hospital. The project also supports the Bright Little Stars Reading Program, an early reading initiative where we present books to each newborn at Helen Keller Hospital. If you're interested in playing in the tournament or becoming a sponsor, please call 256-386-4747 or 256-386-4052.

Don't forget to visit us online at www.franklinfreepress.net!

Democrats face uphill battle in Alabama politics

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

With Alabama's 2018 primary elections less than nine months away, political season will soon be upon us.

At the state level, candidates are already announcing and campaigning for offices including governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general and several more positions. Gov. Kay Ivey announced recently that she would seek a full term as governor in 2018.

Although 2017 was not scheduled to be an election year, Alabamians will return to the polls for the Republican runoff for the position of U.S. Senate to fill the void left by Jeff Sessions after his appointment as United States Attorney General. Current senator Luther Strange faces stiff competition from Roy Moore in the September 26 runoff, with the winner to face Birmingham attorney Doug Jones, the Democratic nominee, in the December 12 general election.

While most polls show the eventual Republican nominee ahead of Jones, at least the Democrats have a strong candidate in the former U.S. Attorney. The same may not be true for other state races in 2018, as Democrats search for strong candidates willing to face an uphill battle in Alabama politics, where every statewide position is filled by a Republican.

A 2014 study by the Hill ranked Alabama as the most solidly red, as in Republican, state in the nation. That number one ranking has only solidified the past three years as Republicans carve away at local elected offices traditionally held by Democrats in places like Franklin and Colbert counties.

Rep. Johnny Mack Morrow (D-Red Bay) has announced he will be vacating his seat in order to run for Alabama Senate in District Six. Morrow has held the District 18 House seat since 1990.

While Russellville businessman Jamie Kiel has announced his candidacy for Morrow's House seat in the Republican Primary, no Democratic candidate has emerged. Franklin County Democratic Executive Committee chairman Eddie Britton says his party is focused on keeping the seat and will nominate a strong candidate.

"It's very important to retain the seat, especially with the way Republican leadership is going across the

state," Britton said. "From the governor to the speaker of the house to the chief justice, their criminal and unlawful actions have resulted in their removal from office.

"We will find a conservative candidate right to replace Rep. Morrow. There are several candidates considering it. People are tired of what they see in Montgomery. Alabama voters are taking notice that things haven't gone well the last seven years under a Republican super majority," Britton added.

Britton believes Republicans haven't delivered on their promises and Alabama voters will take notice in 2018.

A study by the Hill ranked Alabama as the most solidly Republican state in the nation.

"A lot of Democrats still on executive committees aren't used to having to work hard to win an election," Willcutt said. "They just won the Democratic primary and pretty much were elected. That has changed in 2017. Yard signs and hosting a fish fry won't get you elected anymore."

"We're excited about the possibilities and think it's about time people realize all the things the other party bragged about accomplishing just didn't happen," Britton said.

Florence resident Brandon Willcutt, president of the Alabama Young Democrats, admits his party has been 'outmarketed' by Republicans in recent years. Willcutt and his organization are working to change that and they're starting with a grass roots campaign across all 67 Alabama counties.

"The Alabama Young Democrats are working on a 67-county strategy. We've visited 42 of the 67 already and have been successful in reviving three defunct county parties and helped get those back and running," Willcutt said. "We've also seen several Young Democrat chapters spring up as part of that effort."

Willcutt said he will be organizing an event in Franklin County this fall. Typically, these visits are held at a local restaurant where elected officials and

local leaders are invited in an attempt to excite the Democratic base in the area.

Another strategy is the 'Stronger Together' training. Willcutt said the Young Democrats have been through Birmingham, Mobile, Tuscaloosa, the Shoals area and Etowah County working to bring Democratic candidates up to speed on how to campaign in 2018.

"There are a lot of Democrats still on executive committees who aren't used to having to work hard to win an election. They just won the Democratic primary and pretty much were elected," Willcutt said. "That has changed in 2017. Yard signs and hosting a fish fry won't get you elected anymore.

"Social media, a good canvassing operation, a marketing plan including working the phones with a phone bank are some of the things a candidate needs. We're trying to spread that knowledge statewide and believe we'll find success in that. It may seem like we're fighting a losing battle, but we're seeing some small successes and victories that we think over the course of the next few election cycles will add up to some larger victories," he added.

According to the Young Democrats constitution, membership is open to any Democrat age 16-40. To start a chapter, there must be at least five people within the county wanting to join. Willcutt said the state organization is there to help local chapters walk through the process.

Willcutt believes that Democrats need to stop being reactive in their message and become proactive in defining who and what the Democratic Party is about.

"I don't think taking the approach that everyone is created equally, everyone deserves equal rights, regardless of affiliations, is an un-Christian value. For the life of me, I can't put my finger on why having affordable health care that keeps you alive and keeps you from going broke is an un-Christian value," Willcutt said.

"Trying to work a job so you can feed yourself and pay your bills isn't an un-Christian value but we get demonized for those things as well. Taking back control of our narrative is something we're putting in place so we can effectively move our message forward," he added.

For more information on the Alabama Young Democrats, contact Willcutt at bjpwillcutt@gmail.com.

'IRMA,' from page 1

He left his grandfather, who refused to vacate his home in Ocala, behind. But Barber has spoken with him and was relieved to hear he was doing alright. As for the status of Barber's home, he'll have an answer to that question once he returns home.

"This town has been unbelievably warm and welcoming," Barber said. "The hospitality has been phenomenal. The outreach and giving from different churches has blown me away more so than the hurricane did."

"I'll worry about that when I get home," he said. "I'm trying not to be too depressed about the situation. I want to be thankful, upbeat and positive that I'm alive and so is my grandpa back home.

"This town has been unbelievably warm and welcoming. The hospitality has been phenomenal. The outreach and giving from different churches has blown me away more so than the hurricane did."

Barber expressed his appreciation to Pastor John Humphres of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Phil Campbell.

"He counseled me the first night I was here," Barber said. "I poured my heart out, and he prayed with me. He left me with a clear mind and a lighter heart. That real-

"I left Ocala and headed to Tallahassee. I wanted a day to see where the storm would go," Barber said. "Once I got to Tallahassee, the storm was on track to hit there. I couldn't find a hotel, so I slept on it, prayed on it and this was the nearest hotel available. I made a reservation on line and headed here."

Barber had one of 13 rooms rented by Hurricane Irma evacuees at the Best Western, which along with the Greenwoods Inn, was filled to capacity this week. To his surprise, Barber found a red carpet rolled out for the displaced visitors.

Area church members cooked meals for the guests, and the amount of donated food, clothes and supplies was staggering.

"Everyone here is so kind," Barber said. "All I had was shorts when I came here, so I went to Walmart to get some pants. And I saw the Russellville Golden Tigers sweatshirts and got one. That way I can represent Russellville all the way back in Florida.

"Your community has given us so much, and I wanted something to take home to remember y'all by."

Barber knows he was fortunate to make it to Russellville. His trip from Ocala to Tallahassee, normally a three-hour drive, took him more than six hours, with no gas available along the way. He had just enough to make it to Tallahassee, where he was the last customer to receive fuel at a station before it ran out.

ly helped me get a good night's sleep."

First Baptist Church of Russellville provided dinner for the hotel guests Monday evening. FBC pastor Patrick Martin said he heard of the opportunity from a church member who saw a Facebook post asking churches to help.

"Suzanne [Parrish] texted me and asked if we wanted to do this," Martin said. "I put it before the church Sunday morning, and everyone was supportive of the idea. We had so many church members offer to help, we were able to feed guests in both hotels. As a pastor, that just warms your heart."

Rita King, a former Russellville resident and clerk in the Franklin County Circuit Clerk's Office, moved to Orlando more than a year ago. King and her family returned to Russellville after deciding to evacuate their home as the hurricane neared. King, her husband and their daughter were also guests at the Best Western Plus.

"We wanted to come home, but not under these circumstances," King said. "I want to thank everybody for all they've done. Words can not express how awesome the Southern hospitality has been to my family.

"We had so much trouble coming up here, trying to find gas, hotels and even finding somewhere to stop and use the bathroom. But we found that hospitality right here back home in Russellville."



Classifieds

256.332.0255

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

YARD SALES/ ESTATE SALES

Big five-family yard sale this Thursday-Friday-Saturday, Sept. 21-23, from 7 am-until. Top Spruce Pine Mountain, Hwy. 26. Follow signs. 256-436-3992. Name-brand & designer clothes for whole family, baby to plus-size men's and women's. Furniture, tools, fishing, glassware and many other household goods. Harley T-shirts and boots, boy's cleats, baseball and football helmets, toys, games, books, too much to mention!

Garage sale this Friday & Saturday, September 22-23, from 7 am-1 pm at 3631 Hickerson Avenue in Littleville. Tons of Christmas, Santa collection, all holidays, Bama flags, Bama memorabilia, antiques, books, cookbooks, Jim Shore figurines, teen/tween books & decor, mowers, rototillers, tractor implements, tools, garden tools, kitchen items, desk & chair, new exercise bike, crystal, Atari and Wii game systems. No early sales.

Garage Sale (Again!) The garage sale two weeks ago was a huge success! Sale is being extended and will be held this Friday & Saturday, Sept. 22-23. Lots of ladies' and men's clothes and shoes left,

plus we have added boys' clothes and Christmas decor that was not included in the previous sale. Beautiful cherry triple dresser w/mirror, misc. items. 3985 Hwy. 59 Spruce Pine (Mt. Hebron area). Hwy. 43 south, top of the mountain, turn right onto Hwy. 22 (first right past Rowe Hardware), go exactly seven tenths (7/10) of a mile, turn left onto Hwy. 59. Fourth house on the right.

GIVEAWAYS



FREE to good home: Bobtail cat. This girl was thin and had been trying to survive on the streets.



She has been pushed around, chased and shooed, and she has raised kittens the best she could. She has a small bobtail and no real home. Last year she

was likely a kitten herself. She is charming and appreciative of any safety she gets. She was recently spayed and would love nothing more than to feel the love and security of an indoor-only home. She is well behaved and needs a generous and kind person to say "she's mine." She also has the perfect litter box skills and loves wet food, but eats dry, too. Please consider her. Call 619-548-8212. (3)

Free kittens. Call 256-668-1914. (5)

BUSINESS ADS

RUSSELLVILLE Mini-Storage
15497 Hwy 243
Storage Buildings for Rent
24-7 Surveillance Cameras
Call Jerry
(256)412-5392 or
(256)332-9253
We accept Credit Cards!

Treasure Box FLEA MARKET
2303 N. Jackson
Avon, Glassware, What-nots, MUCH more!
Booths for rent.
Fri & Sat 8-5
256-980-2176 (anytime)
256-277-8330 (8:30-1)

HELP WANTED/ LOOKING TO BUY

Red Bay T.R.A.C.K.S. afterschool program is off to a great start this school year. Enrollment

is up, and there are many exciting enrichment activities for students and their families to enjoy! Due to the increased enrollment, Red Bay is in need of an increase in staff. Positions available include: Teacher, Certified Teacher Aide and Aide. If you are interested in one of these positions, you will need to fill out an employment packet and have a fingerprint/background check done (through the Franklin County Board of Education's approved sites). There is also a Mandatory Reporter (Erin's Law) training that must be completed online, with a certificate turned in along with your application. For more information or pay rates for these positions, contact Franklin County Community Education at 256-331-0005. (1)

Cancer/chemo patient seeking 26-inch girls bike and chest freezer. Donations appreciated. Call 256-398-0629. (3)

HOUSES, APARTMENTS, REAL ESTATE, PROPERTY FOR RENT OR SALE

House for sale in Colbert Heights. 2 BR, 1 BA. Lease to own. Call 256-263-8716.

House For Sale. Includes 15 acres. 3 BR/3 BA. Highway 61 in Spruce Pine. Call 256-436-9758. Owner financing available. (1)

Clean 2 BR, 1 BA house near Russellville City Schools. Deposit required. Call 256-627-3746 after 5 p.m. (1)

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE

THE RUSSELLVILLE ALABAMA HOUSING AUTHORITY HAS 1, 2, AND 3 BEDROOMS APARTMENTS AVAILABLE (1 BEDROOMS ARE ELDERLY /DISABLED) 256-332-1561

House for Rent. 2 BR/1BA. Deposit required. Call 256-436-4622. (4)

Two Lake Lots for Sale. Located on Cedar Lake on Auburn Road. Please call 256-436-4622. (4)

FURNITURE

French provincial dining room set. Includes table, 6 chairs, china cabinet & hutch. Call 205-993-5961 or 256-577-5843. (1)

Rose recliner. Small, round kitchen table with 4 chairs. Decorator mirror - black and antique gold. Call 205-993-5961 or 256-577-5843. (1)

Genuine hand-woven Oriental rug. Size 8X10. Victorian-style, black & red. Call 205-993-5961 or 256-577-5843. (1)

MISC. FOR SALE

Microwave cart. Brother printer with two new ink cartridges. Call 205-993-5961 or 256-577-5843. (1)

Full set of Louis L'Amour Western books for sale. Part hardback, part paperback. \$900 firm. Please call 256-332-8245. (1)

Boat For Sale. 1420 Procraft Fishing Boat. 60 HP Johnson motor. Almost new trolling motor. Call 256-436-4622. (4)

Franklin Free Press Classified Rates
Yard Sale Rates: FREE, Deadline Monday at Noon; Real Estate-Homes, acreage, lots for sale or rent. \$25 for six consecutive weeks. Up to 40 words per ad; Vehicles, Boats, RVs, Motorcycles for sale. \$15 for six consecutive weeks. Up to 25 words per ad; Pets For Sale only \$10 for six consecutive weeks. Up to 25 words per ad; Free of Charge: Lost & Found, Giveaways, and Items Under \$100 (Private Parties Only). 15-word limit; Commercial Classified Rates: \$25 for Businesses, 15 words or less for six weeks. Ads exceeding word limit add \$10 per additional 15 words. The number in parentheses represents the number of times the ad has appeared. Call us at 256-332-0255 to place, cancel or renew your ad. Payment is required in advance of

publication for ads.

Rainbow Laundry
US Hwy 43
1/4 mile North of McDonald's, behind car wash. Open daily 7-9. Big and small washers and dryers. Low rates. Enjoy our backyard while you wash! 256.324.4420 for Wash & Fold

ALASCAN

FOR SALE
ACORN STAIRLIFTS. The affordable solution to your stairs! Limited time -\$250 off your Stairlift purchase! Buy direct & save. Please call 1-800-471-4651 for free DVD and brochure.

DIGITAL HEARING aids - Now offering a 45-day risk free offer! Free batteries for life! Call to start your free trial! 1-866-960-5928.

SAWMILLS FROM only \$4397.00. Make & save money with your own bandmill - cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! Free info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com. 1-800-578-1363 ext. 300N.

MEDICAL

OXYGEN - ANYTIME. Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The all-new Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! Free info kit: 1-844-264-9500.

GOT KNEE pain? Back pain? Shoulder pain? Get a pain-relieving brace at little or no cost to you. Medicare patients call health hotline now! 1-800-672-9326.

INSTRUCTION

MEDICAL BILLING and Coding career training at Sullivan and Cogliano Training Centers. Call 1-888-535-9909 or click learn.sctrain.edu. Financial Aid available to those who qualify. Sctrain.edu/disclosures.

HELP WANTED- DRIVERS

DRIVER TRAINEES needed! Learn to drive for Stevens Transport! No experience needed! New drivers can earn \$900+ per week! Paid CDL training! Stevens covers all costs! 1-888-528-8864. drive4stevens.com.

SERVICES

A PLACE for Mom. The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is free/no obligation. Call 1-800-824-2520.

Amigo Paisano

Compre su casa hoy. Haga una cita con Don Enrique, el Paisano @ 256-740-2356. Trabaja con su propio nombre pero, solo tiene seguro verde y pasaporte de su pais? tambien podemos ayudarle. Don Enrique es un agente de bienes raices con American Realty Company of Russellville.

Buy your first home with no down payment, with no closing cost. Your credit score needs to be 620 or higher. I will help you find the right home for you. Call Enrique Aguilar at 256.740.2356. Alabama Real Estate Agent. American Realty Company of Russellville.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Disability benefits. You may qualify for disability if you have a health condition that prevents you from working for a year or more. 1-844-245-3299 (M-F).

AUCTIONS

DONATE YOUR car to charity. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 1-844-810-1257.

Have 10K in debt? National Debt Relief is rated A-Plus with the BBB. You could be debt free in 24-48 months. Call 1-855-399-5019 now for a free debt evaluation.

HIGH-SPEED Internet is available where you live today! Plans as low as \$39.99 per month. Ask about discounts for DirecTV customers! 1-800-480-1482.

Great Career Opportunity in Spruce Pine!

AIDT is seeking applicants for a pre-employment training program for Fulfillment Associates at Montgomery Distributing Inc. Montgomery Distributing Inc. provides full services for coordination of all packaging, receiving, and shipping needs. These positions are available at the company's facility in Spruce Pine, Alabama.

Now Hiring:
Fulfillment Associates

Benefits:
Competitive hourly wage and benefits including health, dental, vision and life insurance, paid vacation, holidays, and more.

To Apply:
For information about the position and to apply, qualified candidates are invited to visit:

www.aidt.edu/jobs



Equal Opportunity Employer

Climatech, Inc.

256.356.4941 • 256.436.1765

Heating | Air Conditioning
Commercial | Refrigeration



FREE ESTIMATES
On New Equipment

We Service All
Makes & Models

LICENSED, BONDED & INSURED



'GRANT,' from page 3

schools in the county. The idea would be for the officer to spend time at several schools and be active going from campus to campus."

Superintendent Greg Hamilton worked with Oliver in preparing the grant. Hamilton, who pledged during his campaign to address the need for school resource officers, said there would be a memorandum of understanding as part of the COPS grant stating the officers would only be school resource officers and could not be pulled from the schools to perform other duties.

Hamilton said the sheriff would post the jobs and set the salary, and the officers would work under the sheriff; at the same time, they would be the county school system's resource officers.

"This has been and remains extremely important to me, and we're trying to do everything we can to get it started," Hamilton said. "The sheriff has been on board with this entire process. Sheriff Oliver should be commended for it. We appreciate his willingness to help us, along with the support of the county commission."

State Supreme Court rules in favor of local business

John Pilati
Franklin Free Press

A lawsuit filed by a former employee of Williams Manufacturing, Inc., was dismissed after the Alabama Supreme Court reversed Franklin County Circuit Judge Terry Dempsey in a ruling released earlier this month.

Louis Hall is a former employee of Leisure Creations, whose parent company is Williams Manufacturing, Inc., in Russellville. Hall sued the company, along with Chris Williams, its owner, and Bobby Saarinen, the plant manager, after he was injured while on the job.

Hall's complaint stated he was operating a power saw at the plant in May of 2014 when he was injured. His lawsuit against the company was previously dismissed by Dempsey after attorneys for Williams Manufacturing argued that Hall's legal remedy should have been an action under the Alabama Workers' Compensation Act.

According to the Supreme Court of Alabama's legal opinion, dated September 1, 2017, Hall then amended his complaint to claim that Williams and Saarinen had "caused or allowed the removal of a guard from the saw made the basis of this suit" and "had failed to install a safety guard provided for the saw and had failed to replace the unguarded saw with a new guarded saw."

Decatur attorney Steve Hammond, who represented the defendants along with Russellville attorney Brian Hamilton, filed a motion for summary judgment, arguing that Hall could not sue Williams and Saarinen individually unless he could prove that they willfully caused Hall's injury.

Alabama Code Sec. 25-5-11(a) states: "If a party, other than the employer, is an employee of the same

employer, the injured employee may bring an action against the person only for willful conduct which results in or proximately causes the injury."

The code further defines willful conduct as: "The willful and intentional removal from a machine of a safety guard or safety device provided by the manufacturer of the machine with knowledge that injury or death would likely or probably result from the removal; provided, however, that removal of a guard or device shall not be willful conduct unless the removal did, in fact, increase the danger in the use of the machine and was not done for the purpose of repair of the machine or was not part of an improvement or modification of the machine which rendered the safety device unnecessary or ineffective."

Williams told the Franklin Free Press that the worker's compensation portion of Hall's lawsuit had been settled, so once he and Saarinen were dismissed from the action, it was concluded.

According to the court's opinion, Hall was operating a power saw manufactured by Kalamazoo Industries when he was injured. Hall used the saw to cut aluminum pipe. The saw was manufactured with a guard covering a portion of the blade, but Hall, according to court records, did not think the guard was adequate because it did not fully cover the blade when the saw had finished cutting and sprung back to the up position, when the blade would be exposed by about 1 1/2 inches.

At Hall's request, someone at Williams Manufacturing installed an additional guard on the saw. After Hall's injury, Williams replaced the saw with

one manufactured by DeWalt. The facts showed that saw had been purchased and delivered at least a month before Hall's injury but had not been installed.

Hall alleged that he would not have been injured if he had been using the DeWalt saw and the failure to replace the saw was the basis for him suing Williams and Saarinen individually.

Dempsey denied the defendants' motion for summary judgment and the case was sent to the Supreme Court on an interlocutory appeal, meaning an appeal of a trial court ruling that is made before the trial itself has concluded. The question submitted to the Supreme Court was whether the presence of another saw on the premises that had not yet been installed and was not manufactured by the manufacturer of the saw in question was the legal equivalent of the removal of a safety guard under Alabama law, as argued by Hall.

The Supreme Court declined to extend the definition of willful conduct to include the facts at issue in Hall's case, ruling that the failure to install another, safer, saw manufactured by a different manufacturer than the saw that injured Hall was not the legal equivalent of the removal of a safety guard so as to constitute willful conduct under Alabama worker's compensation law.

The court also stated in its opinion that it was not making a legal conclusion as to whether "the failure to install an allegedly safer machine that is present on the premises and made by the same manufacturer as the machine that injured an employee might come within the definition of willful conduct."

Williams told the Franklin Free Press that the worker's compensation portion of Hall's lawsuit had been settled, so once he and Saarinen were dismissed from the action, it was concluded.

'SCHOOLS,' from page 1

A breakdown of the \$36,197,660 in expenses includes \$18,836,463 in instructional services; \$4,493,213 in instructional support services; \$2,936,604 in operations & maintenance; \$5,155,618 in auxiliary services; \$1,282,234 in general administrative services; \$6,000 in capital outlay; \$1,805,676 in debt services; and \$1,681,849 in other expenditures, according to the budget approved by the board at its September 12 meeting.

One positive note about this year's budget is the reduced number of local teaching units, which are funded entirely by the system with no state or federal assistance. This year's budget has 4.36 local units.

"Ideally, we'd like that to be zero, but that's impossible to do and provide the services we need to for our kids," Knight said. "We should gain six to seven teacher units next year [based on this year's increased enrollment], so that should more than cover the local units."

The system has added some positions this year, including a third speech teacher, an additional half-unit gifted teacher and a half-unit cosmetology teacher. Belgreen School earned a full assistant principal, and the board replaced the half-unit home economics instructor with a full unit.

The allotment per teacher for materials and supplies increased this year to \$421.51 per unit. Insurance premiums for employees stayed the same at \$800/month per employee for full insur-

ance benefits.

Knight stressed the importance of the one-cent sales tax that was approved by Franklin County voters in 2016. That tax generates approximately \$2.4 million per year. The Franklin County Commission receives one-fourth of that (approximately \$600,000) for road and bridge projects, while the remaining monies are divided between Franklin County Schools and Russellville City Schools based on enrollment.

Franklin County Schools received more than \$1,000,000 from the one-cent tax last year.

"That vote comes up again next year, and we really need that money," Knight said. "It generates a million dollars for our school system, and we can't live without it. It's up for renewal in June."

Franklin County Schools will see an increase of its share of the one-cent tax revenues this year based on its increased enrollment, combined with Russellville's decreased enrollment. Knight said the increase should be around 3.2 percent.

"I can't stress how important those funds are," Knight said. "We try to be good stewards of money, and we're really dependent on that."

Franklin County superintendent of education Greg Hamilton said he was pleased with the budget for the new fiscal year.

"I think it's a good budget, and I'm happy where we are this year compared to last year," Hamilton said.



Pilgrim's

NEW WAGE RATES

Shoulder Cutters	Tender Positions
\$14.98	\$12.73

Truck Drivers \$750 Sign On Bonus

Applications on-site or the Alabama Career Center, 500 S Montgomery Ave, Sheffield, AL

like us 

**2045 Hwy 244
Russellville, Alabama
256.332.8900**



EOE-AA-F-M-V-D

GLASGOW

Heating & Air

26-Point Precision
TUNE-UP SPECIAL
\$29⁹⁵
 You Save \$60

FREE!
NO SERVICE
CALL FEE
 with Repair
 You Save \$70



256.332.7256
glasgowhvac.com



AL CERT.#07095

Campbell Vision Center Welcomes

Lauren Stirling, O.D.

Dr. Stirling...

- Board Certified:
American Board
of Optometry
- Member:
Alabama State
Optometric Assoc.
- Trained:
The Latest
Eyecare
Advances
- Now Accepting
New Patients



Dr. Lauren
Stirling, O.D.



Dr. Jeremy
Campbell, O.D.



14378 Hwy 43 • Russellville
 256.332.1355
campbellvisioncenter.com



Assisted Living

It's not what you might think...

It's where...

Neighbors become close friends
 The smell of homemade cookies fills the air
 Laughter with good company feels like home

It's where your loved one can experience

Independence, Dignity & Choice

Call to save up to

\$1000

256.277.4081



www.cottageassistedliving.com



Have a Sports Story?

Mike Self, Executive Editor
 franklinfreepress@yahoo.com
 256.332.0255

Week 4 in the SEC

Mike Self
 Franklin Free Press

Last week wasn't exactly a banner week for the SEC, what with Ole Miss losing to a mediocre Cal team, Missouri getting throttled (at home) by Purdue, Auburn sweating Mercer for four quarters, Texas A&M trailing Louisiana-Lafayette in the second half, Tennessee and Florida setting offensive football back a few decades before a frenetic finish, and alleged contender LSU losing by 30 in Starkville. That tiny Crimson dot disappearing in the distance is Alabama, which appears poised to leave the rest of the league in its dust yet again.

Speaking of rough weeks, we were a Feleipe Franks 63-yard heave away from potentially going 0-4 on the picks last week. Like the SEC, we'll try and do better.

Last week's record: 1-3 (Season record: 7-5) Saturday, September 23

Arkansas (1-1) vs. Texas A&M (2-1)

The whole battle-of-coaches-on-the-hot-seat theme is getting a workout in the SEC these days, but it sure seems to apply to this matchup in Arlington. Unfortunately for Bret Bielema, Texas A&M has owned the Hogs since joining the SEC, winning all five meetings. Make it six.

The Pick: Texas A&M 31 Arkansas 21

Alabama (3-0) at Vanderbilt (3-0)

Give Derek Mason credit—he can coach the heck out of a defense. Vanderbilt's has only allowed two touchdowns during its first 3-0 start since the 2011 season. Alabama, as you may have heard, can play a little defense, too.

The Pick: Alabama 30 Vanderbilt 13

Auburn (2-1) at Missouri (1-2)

Lost amidst Auburn's five turnovers against Mercer last week was the fact that Jarrett Stidham took an important step forward, throwing for 364 yards on 32-for-37 passing. Can he keep it rolling against one of the more user-friendly defenses in the SEC?

On the other side of the ball, the newfound ability of the fast and physical Auburn defense to smother opposing receivers after the catch will be critical against Missouri's quick passing game.

The Pick: Auburn 27 Missouri 17

Mississippi State (3-0) at Georgia (3-0)

Whoa. Okay, then. Was that beat-down in Starkville more about the team that took it or the team that gave it? If it's the latter, we could be in for a fantastic game in Athens. The more likely scenario would seem to be that Mississippi State comes back down to earth a bit between the hedges. But if they don't, and if Nick Fitzgerald does to the Georgia defense what he did to the LSU defense, then we may be forced to re-think the pecking order in the SEC.

Georgia's involved, so it'll probably be a close game.

The Pick: Georgia 21 Mississippi State 20

Livin' on the edge

Red Bay survived a second straight tight finish to earn a vital region win

Mike Self
 Franklin Free Press

In describing his team's season to date, Red Bay football coach Michael Jackson—whether he was aware of it or not—borrowed from Steven Tyler and Aerosmith, circa 1993.

"We're livin' on the edge," Jackson said, smiling as he reflected on the three down-to-the-wire finishes the Tigers have already had in their first four games. "In all my years of coaching, I can't recall having two games in a row in the same season come down to the last play."

See 'EDGE,' page 16



PHOTO BY KYLE GLASGOW

Bragwell (4) ran 20 times for a career-high 188 yards and three touchdowns, helping Red Bay hold off Hatton in a 32-30 thriller that wasn't decided until the Tigers stopped a two-point try by the Hornets with barely a minute remaining.

Colbert Heights defense faces familiar challenge from Bears

Mike Self
 Franklin Free Press

As the team's offensive coordinator from 2012-15, Taylor Leathers called countless plays for Lexington.

The most important call he made is still benefiting head coach Jason Lard and the Golden Bears today.

At the outset of what turned out to be his final season as coordinator, Leathers convinced Lard to hand the reins of his triple-option offense to an inexperienced yet savvy sophomore quarterback named Tyler Pettus.

"I sort of talked Coach Lard into starting him," said Leathers, who left after the 2015 season to become the head coach at Colbert Heights. "We had some seniors and juniors available, but Tyler was a real heady kid. He was smart, and he made good decisions with the football. That's crucial for a quarterback in the triple-option."

"You have a split-second to decide, 'Do I give it or do I pull it?' Then you have another split-second to decide, 'Do I keep it or do I pitch it?'" Tyler was really intelligent when it came to that kind of stuff."

With Pettus at the controls of Leathers' offense, Lexington went 6-5 in 2015 and made the playoffs for an eighth consecutive season. Last year, the Golden Bears improved to eight wins, including a 35-14 victory at home over Colbert Heights in which Pettus passed for three touchdowns against his old coach.

Now, heading into Friday's critical Class 3A, Region 8 showdown at Amos Mitchell Stadium, Leathers and his former signal-caller are preparing to share the same field one final time.

See 'FAMILIAR,' page 18



PHOTO BY KYLE GLASGOW

Wildcat linebackers Borden (4), Foust (22) and Chandler (21) have combined for 90 tackles on the season. They'll have their hands full on Friday with Lexington's triple-option attack in a critical Class 3A, Region 8 showdown.

Legacy **ATHLETE of the WEEK**

CHEVRON PRESENTS

Open 24 Hours

Tough road for Bobcats continues with Sulligent

Mike Self
Franklin Free Press

Phil Campbell coach Ryan Swinney has a pretty good idea of what to expect on Friday night when Sulligent visits Parrish Field for a Class 2A, Region 8 showdown.

He's seen it before.

"They're about like what we've had the last two or three weeks—athletic, fast, good athletes, a pretty good team," said Swinney, whose Bobcats opened the season with a 54-6 rout of Tharptown before dropping their last three games to Colbert Heights, Lamar County and Sheffield. "They've got some good-sized linemen who do a good job blocking, and they've got two or three guys who can run well. They have a good quarterback, too.

"They don't do anything fancy, just a double-wing set with a lot of misdirection stuff and pulling guards and tackles. They run the ball well. They've got some guys that can run."

Phil Campbell (1-3, 0-2 in region play) had trouble containing Sheffield's speed last Friday in a 35-14 loss. The Bulldogs scored long touchdowns on their first two plays from scrimmage to grab an early 14-0 lead. The story was much the same the week before, when Lamar County routed the Bobcats 54-12.

"Defensively, we've played some really good offensive teams with multiple people who have speed," Swinney said, "and we don't have a whole lot of speed. Lamar County had two guys who could fly, and Sheffield had multiple guys who could fly. Sulligent's the same way. We have to contain it before it gets broke loose, and we didn't do that.

"Sheffield scored on their first two offensive plays, and we didn't touch either one of them. The second guy, we tackled him in the end zone, and that was the first time we touched either one of them."

On the bright side, the Bobcats did rediscover a ground game on offense that had gone AWOL the previous two weeks. After rushing for 264 yards in the opener at Tharptown, Phil Campbell managed just 113 combined yards rushing—and only 12 total points—in losses to Colbert Heights and Lamar County. The Bobcats bounced back last Friday at Sheffield with 160 yards on the ground but struggled at times to capitalize on scoring opportunities.

"The Lamar County game, we couldn't get anything going. We threw it a lot because we had to," Swinney said. "Toward the end of the game, we moved the ball a little bit, but that was by far the worst game we've played. They just whipped us up front on both sides of the ball all night long.

"Against Sheffield this past Friday, we moved the ball well. We had some success moving the ball on them. We took the first drive and kept it for seven minutes. We

See 'BOBCATS,' page 15

Jeff Lloyd

Senior DE, Russellville



Lloyd was a one-man wrecking crew at defensive end for the Golden Tigers last Friday against Lawrence County, recording a team-high 12 solo tackles and 14 total stops. The 6'2, 205-pound senior has been a disruptive force at the line of scrimmage all season and ranks third on the team behind LBs Brooks Scott and Calen Bragwell with 26 tackles in three games, including three for a loss.



Hwy 43 • Russellville, across from Wal-Mart • 398-8448

The Largest and Freshest Salad Bar in Franklin County!

Miranda Decker, M.D.

INTERNAL MEDICINE

Comprehensive Adult Health Care

Dr. Decker is specialized in management of both acute & chronic medical conditions.

- Immunizations
- Preventative Health Care

Russellville Internal Medicine, P.C.

535 Gandy Street NE
Russellville, AL 35653

For appointments:
256-332-1120
Mon-Thur 8-5



99 Chevy Tahoe
\$800 Down

04 Chevy Tahoe
\$1200 Down

02 Ford Explorer
\$1000 Down

06 Ford Ranger
\$800 Down

08 Ford Focus
\$800 Down

06 Chevy Trailblazer
\$1200 Down

03 Toyota Avalon
\$1200 Down

03 Chevy Astro Cargo
\$1000 Down

WE FINANCE
NO CREDIT
SLOW CREDIT



Jeff Elledge
Credit Cars, Inc
elledge.jeff@gmail.com

2506 Woodward Ave • Muscle Shoals

256.383.7979 • 256.710.3711

'BOBCATS', from page 14

moved it down inside the ten-yard line, and then we got back-to-back penalties and ended up turning the ball over on downs. Then the first two times they touched it on offense, they scored, and it was 14-0. But offensively, we moved the ball well.

"We were able to run the ball, and we threw it a little bit. We threw a pick-six right before the half. We just wanted to play it safe with a little screen pass, but their guy reached up with one hand and made a great play and picked it off. It was 28-7 at half-time. We should have scored on our first drive, and we had a good chance of being right there with them at halftime. We just made too many mistakes."

Phil Campbell will not be able to afford many mistakes against Sulligent (3-0, 1-0), which has sandwiched decisive wins over Marion County and Sheffield around an impressive 21-14 victory over Class 4A Hamilton. The Bobcats' best chance will be to do what they did a year ago against a similarly athletic Sheffield team, when they controlled the clock and possessed the football with a methodical rushing attack and flirted with a major upset before falling 35-27.

Swinney said a similar script—with a slightly happier ending—would suit him just fine against Sulligent on Friday.

"Ultimately, if we could keep the ball, maintain some drives and finish some drives, that would obviously be great," he said. "They're a pretty physical team, pretty big and pretty physical. We'll see who's gonna show up and play. We're a little banged up. The last three weeks have been pretty tough for us. We'll see how we hold up this week."

"There's not an easy out in the region," Swinney said. "I haven't seen Hatton, Red Bay or Mars Hill on film yet, but it's pretty obvious that Mars Hill is better. They were pretty good last year, and they're better this year. But from what we've seen, it doesn't get any harder than Lamar County and Sheffield, and here comes Sulligent. It's not gonna be easy in any form or fashion. We've got our work cut out for us, but all we can do is keep plugging away."

"They're a good team. They beat Sheffield [29-7]. I think Sheffield left some points out there, no doubt, but Sulligent is right up there with them and Lamar County. They're big and physical and fast."

Injuries are starting to become an issue for the Bobcats. Sophomore lineman Kaleb Solis sat out last week with a concussion, and senior lineman Caleb Hagood (who starts at left tackle and also plays defensive tackle) sustained a knee injury against Sheffield and was scheduled for an MRI on Monday. Sophomore fullback Imer Ordonez, who rushed for 57 yards and a touchdown on 20 workmanlike carries against Sheffield, left the field late in the game with an ankle injury.

"He runs the ball hard," Swinney said of Ordonez, who leads the team with 119 yards and two touchdowns on 39 attempts this season. "He's a tough kid. He's just a tenth-grader, but he's been doing a great job for us. He ran the ball hard the other night. He took some good licks."

If Ordonez is unable to play against Sulligent, fellow running backs Seth Brindley (113 yards on 17 carries this season) and Brandon Thomas (105 yards on 14 attempts) will have to pick up the slack. Phil Campbell is led offensively by senior quarterback Peyton Thomas, who has thrown for 584 yards on 43-for-87 passing with two touchdowns and two interceptions. He has also rushed for 104 yards and three scores on 14 attempts.

Senior tight end Brody Nix caught a touchdown pass last week against Sheffield and leads the team with nine catches for 145 yards on the season. Brindley has also caught nine passes for 121 yards, and sophomore Brandon Baker has seven receptions for 110 yards.

Defensively, Nix has been Phil Campbell's leading tackler in each of the first four games, and fellow linebacker Dakota Mansell has made 17 tackles over the past three weeks.

"He's playing pretty good," Swinney said of Nix, who has 27 total stops on the year. "Dakota Mansell is another guy who's been playing great on defense for us at middle linebacker, moving side to side. Those two guys are playing pretty good."

"Brody has been catching the ball well when we get it to him. Some other guys have caught the ball well—Ben Williams, Brandon Baker, he's doing well. We've got some guys who are doing a pretty good job for us."

A trip to Bear Creek and a much-needed bye week will follow Friday's game against Sulligent, but things will get tough again down the stretch with road trips to Mars Hill and Red Bay wrapped around a home date with Hatton. Mars Hill beat Red Bay 26-24 two weeks ago, and Red Bay held off Hatton 32-30 last Friday night.

Swinney knows better than to hope for an easy out in an ever-improving Region 8. "There's not one," he said. "I haven't seen any of those three teams on film yet, but it's pretty obvious that Mars Hill is better. They were pretty good last year, and they're better this year. But from what we've seen, it doesn't get any harder than Lamar County and Sheffield, and here comes Sulligent. It's not gonna be easy in any form or fashion."

"We've got our work cut out for us, but all we can do is keep plugging away and do the best we can. It's about as bad a luck as you can have, to draw those three teams right out of the gate in region play."

Starting at
\$19.95



Service Department & Detail Shop

- Diagnostic Checks
- A/C Work
- Brakes
- Oil Change

Over 125 Top Quality Pre-Owned Vehicles in Stock!

GARNER-PIERCE
AUTOS, LLC

2261 Florence Blvd • Florence
256.768.5660

 garner-pierceautos.com



EyeCare Professionals



Dr. Wayne Stevens Dr. Martha Morrow Dr. David Britton

"Where healthy eyes are our focus"

eyecareprofessionalspc.com
15255 Hwy 43 • Russellville • 256.332.5440

Kevin G. Kelly, M.D.
Serving your family for over 35 years

FAMILY PRACTICE
Pediatrics
Newborn Care
256-332-5901

Dr. Kelly's Urgent Care 
Bonnie Bendall, CRNP • Jena Hamm, CRNP • Ashley Ozbirn, CRNP

WEIGHT LOSS SPECIAL
NEW weight loss patients get a FREE vitachrom shot!
ALL weight loss patients REFER A FRIEND and get a FREE Vitachrom shot!
NO LIMIT to the number of FREE shots you can earn!

New Saturday Hours 8am - 3pm
Two providers available M-F 8am - 6pm
Sunday hours: 1pm - 5pm

Available through lunch time!

13150 Hwy. 43 Suite 10
Russellville, AL
(intersection of Hwy. 24 and Hwy. 43)

256-331-2092

'EDGE', from page 13

Two weeks ago, in the Class 2A, Region 8 opener at Mars Hill, Red Bay was stopped inches shy of the goal line on the final play of a 26-24 loss to the Panthers. There was no drop-off in drama last Friday at Fred Bostick Memorial Stadium, where the Tigers thwarted a two-point conversion attempt by Hatton with barely a minute remaining and then recovered an onside kick to seal a 32-30 victory over the Hornets.

"That was a big win," said Jackson, whose team improved to 2-2 overall and 1-1 in region play. "Our region, it's top-heavy. There are a lot of good teams in this region. So that was a big win for our team."

Big might be an understatement. With road games still to come against region favorites Lamar County (October 6) and Sulligent (October 20), a loss to Hatton (0-3, 0-1) would have placed Red Bay's streak of 18 consecutive playoff appearances in serious jeopardy. It also would have continued a frustrating early trend that had seen the Tigers stumble to a 1-2 start despite doubling their first three opponents in total yards (1,066 to 503) and first downs (36 to 18).

If not for a handful of untimely breakdowns in a season-opening 14-6 loss at Colbert Heights and five turnovers in the game at Mars Hill, Red Bay could well be 4-0 instead of 2-2.

"Easily," Jackson agreed. "We talk about that with our guys a lot when we're correcting mistakes. We've had some major plays that have hurt us. You can look at two or three plays the whole year that have really made a big difference in our record."

Last Friday at The Fred, the Tigers once again held a decisive statistical edge in several key categories, out-rushing the Hornets 363 yards to 38 and holding them to just 3-for-14 on third down. Hatton, which trailed by double-digits on three different occasions, nearly snapped a 21-game losing streak to Red Bay in spite of those numbers, thanks to a surprisingly potent passing attack that produced 255 yards and two touchdowns.

"Every time we got a big lead, they'd come back and make a big play in the passing game," said Jackson, whose team had allowed a total of just 48 yards through the air to its first three opponents. "They threw the ball thirty-something times, and their quarterback had a good night. That was the first game he had played all year. Their [starting] quarterback has been injured, and they had been using their running backs at quarterback and running a lot of Wildcat stuff. That's what we prepared for all week.

"They came out and really attacked our young corners, and we gave up some big plays in the passing game. That's something we'll have to work on."

After Hatton trimmed the lead to 20-16 midway through the third quarter on a 55-yard scoring strike, Red Bay senior tailback Aaron Lewey answered with his second touchdown run of the night to make it a 10-point game again. The Hornets came right back with a touchdown on their next drive and then converted the two-point try to make it 26-24 with 1:32 left in the third.

Red Bay junior quarterback Kolby Bragwell scored his third rushing touchdown of the night with 4:28 remaining, but a missed extra point kept it a one-possession game. Hatton took advantage, cutting the lead to 32-30 on a two-yard touchdown run

by David Berryman with 1:02 left to play, but freshman linebacker Cam McKinney and senior lineman Joseph Newell combined to make the biggest stop of the night for the Tigers on the ensuing try for two.

"[Hatton] ran a play they had already hurt us with two or three times earlier in the game," Jackson said of the decisive two-point conversion attempt. "They hand it to a guy on a jet sweep, and then he throws the ball. They had scored twice with that same play, once for a touchdown and once for two points. On that last one, the jet-sweep guy didn't throw it. He kept it and tried to score, but we were able to get him down. Cam McKinney and Joseph Newell made a big play."

Red Bay then recovered an onside kick [the Hornets had successfully pulled one off earlier in the game] and ran out the clock. Bragwell finished the night with a career-high 188 yards rushing on 20 carries, and Lewey posted his third consecutive 100-yard game, finishing with 141 on 27 attempts.

"Their defense sort of dictated that we run the ball a lot," Jackson said. "They were taking away our short and medium passing game, and they had safeties over the top of our receivers outside. They voided the middle of the field by doing that, and that allowed us to focus on our run game.

"We're getting better on the offensive line. We keep rotating guys in there, trying to find the right mix. We've got three sophomores playing up front, but we're getting better there. Dylan Hester, our center, played his best game of the year the other night."

Heading into Friday's border battle with Belmont (MS), Red Bay is rushing for an average of 261.2 yards per game and 6.4 yards per carry. Lewey leads the way with 457 yards and six touchdowns on 80 carries, and Bragwell has run 48 times for 334 yards and four scores. Together they have formed a quarterback-running back combo that has been hard to handle for opposing defenses.

"It makes us a little more multiple," Jackson said. "We use a lot of different formations anyway, which helps us get a numbers advantage in our run game."

The battle at the line of scrimmage will be pivotal Friday night against Belmont, a team the Tigers have beaten five straight times since a 45-11 loss in 2010. Red Bay rallied from an early 13-0 deficit to win last year's meeting 21-13 at Belmont.

"They're the largest team we'll play all year," Jackson said. "They average about 290 [pounds] on their offensive line, with a couple of guys who are six-four. They average about 290 on their D-line, too, with their three down linemen. They run the Wing-T, and they do a good job with it. They're very physical, and they always do a good job of holding onto the football and limiting your opportunities."

On the season, Red Bay is averaging 28.8 points and 367.2 total yards per game. Bragwell has thrown for 424 yards on 26-for-59 passing, with two touchdowns and six interceptions. Senior Luke Rooker leads the team with 14 catches for 245 yards and two scores. Senior Max Bullen has rushed for 101 yards and a touchdown on 20 carries while also catching five passes for 104 yards.

Defensively, the Tigers are holding teams to 19.2 points and just 199 total yards per game. McKinney leads the team with 34 tackles, 22 of which have come over the last two games.

The Tigers are happy to be playing at home for a second straight week after playing their previous seven games (the last three last season, the spring game in May and the first three this season) on the road. Jackson expects a capacity crowd at Fred Bostick Memorial Stadium on Friday night.

"This week will be the biggest crowd we have all year," he said. "It always is. Everybody in Tishomingo County will be there. Belmont is kind of rolling right now. They've won two out of three, and they beat Tish County for the first time in a while. Plus, last year's game with us went down to the wire. I expect the same kind of game again this week."

That shouldn't be a problem. The Tigers are getting accustomed to living life on the edge.

Welcoming Patients!

Jeffrey D. Manord, M.D.
GENERAL & VASCULAR SURGERY

Dr. Manord is welcoming new patients to his office located adjacent to Russellville Hospital!

**15225 Hwy. 43 • Suite D
Russellville, AL**

**To schedule an appointment call
256-332-1500**



ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL????

Your "home-town" sporting goods store!

For all you fans out there, don't forget your custom jersey and other items to show your spirit!

520-B Kelsey Ave, behind SWAMP JOHNS in Kelsey Place in Muscle Shoals

256-383-3113

"Like" us on Facebook at Lewey's Sports & Custom Apparel



Think you know college football? Then maybe you can beat Brady



Sponsored by State Farm Insurance Agent Lanny Norris and CB&S Bank.

Submit your picks to us each week in one of two ways: Fill out the entry form on this page and mail it to us at 113 Washington Ave. NW, Russellville, AL 35653, or email your picks to us along with your name and phone number at franklinfreepress@yahoo.com. **Picks sent in by mail for Week 4 must be postmarked by Friday, September 22, and picks submitted by email for Week 4 must be received by Saturday, September 23 at 10 a.m.** Each week, the contestant who correctly picks the most games will win a free T-shirt and the chance to pick in the grand-prize final-week contest. If multiple contestants correctly pick the same number of games in a given week, the tiebreaker score will be used to determine a winner. Contestants are only eligible to win the weekly contest once. No multiple winners allowed. Thanks for playing!
 Congrats to Week 3 winner **WHITNEY MOBLEY**, who went 7 for 10 and picked Florida to beat UT 28-16!

Franklin Free Press Football Picks Contest

Week 4: Sept. 23	Brady's Pick	Your Pick
Arkansas vs. Texas A&M	Texas A&M	_____
Alabama at Vanderbilt	Alabama	_____
Auburn at Missouri	Auburn	_____
Florida at Kentucky	Florida	_____
Mississippi St. at Georgia	Georgia	_____
Syracuse at LSU	LSU	_____
Notre Dame at Michigan State	Notre Dame	_____
UCLA at Stanford	Stanford	_____
TCU at Oklahoma St.	Oklahoma St.	_____
N.C. State at Florida State	Florida State	_____
Tiebreaker Score:	Miss. State _____	Georgia _____
Your Name:	_____	
Phone number:	_____	

National Champion of Savings™




Discounts up to 40%

Lanny Norris Agency | 256-332-0540
 LannyNorris.com



Get our Mobile App¹ for students on the go.



ALL ABOUT U




Free Student Checking Account²

- \$25 BONUS WITH eSTATEMENT ENROLLMENT³
- FREE INTERNET & MOBILE BANKING⁴
- REFUNDS UP TO 5 FEES PER YEAR⁵
- ATM FEE REFUNDS UP TO 20 BUCKS⁶
- EMAIL ALERTS WHEN BALANCE IS LOW
- AND MORE



cbsbank.com | 256.332.1410

1. Wireless carrier data usage rates may apply. Customers must be enrolled in CB&S Bank's Internet Banking to use the Mobile Banking App and enrolled in Bill Pay to use the App's Bill Pay feature. 2. Must deposit \$25 to open account. No requirement to maintain a minimum balance. 3. Limited time offer. One \$25 bonus per account. To receive the bonus, your account must remain open for 30 calendar days, the account must not be overdrawn within the first 30 days, and you must be enrolled in eStatements. The value of the bonus will be reported as interest income for IRS purposes, and the customer is responsible for any taxes. 4. Charges and fees may apply from your cellular service provider. Contact your service provider for information. 5. Maximum of 5 fees refunded per calendar year by request. Only valid on All About U checking. 6. CB&S Bank does not charge a fee for ATM withdrawals and refunds up to \$20 in other banks' ATM usage fees per statement cycle upon customer request. Only valid on All About U checking.

Where Nickels Saves You Dollars!



Lee Nickels 332-0052

NEW NOW LEASING

Village at Oliver Place

NEW 2 & 3 Bedroom

Now Offering Move-In Specials

Apartments & Townhomes
Water included starting at:

2 BR \$419 • 3 BR: \$493

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



Clark Sledge, MD
OB/GYN



Schedule an Appointment:

MedExpress - Littleville: 256-331-9700

Sheffield Main Office (campus of Helen Keller Hospital): 256-349-5182

Dr. Sledge is now seeing patients every Wednesday at the Littleville clinic.

An Alabama native, Dr. Sledge completed his OB/GYN residency at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, TX (top 10 national medical residency programs). He is able to communicate with both his English and Spanish-speaking patients.



'FAMILIAR' from page 13

Leathers knows all too well the challenges that await his defense in trying to contain Pettus, who rushed for three touchdowns in a 47-15 rout of Elkmont on September 8.

"He's a veteran quarterback who is really talented and really smart," Leathers said. "This is his senior year, so he's really motivated and he's playing really well. He has a lot of game experience. He's played a lot of football. He's been making the right decisions for three years now. He's not gonna miss much."

When in doubt, Pettus can always give the ball to senior fullback Everett Williams, a 6'1, 220-pound battering ram. Williams rushed for 165 yards and two touchdowns in the rout of Elkmont two weeks ago and then carried eight times for 47 yards before leaving with an injury in the second quarter of last week's 12-0 win over Clements.

"He's a bruiser," Leathers said of Williams, another Golden Bear he coached as a sophomore in 2015. "He runs the football hard, and he's physical. He's not the type of back you're gonna be able to tackle one-on-one. One person can't bring him down. You have to gang-tackle him. You really have to fly to the football to get him on the ground."

Leathers, a Winfield native and former defensive lineman at UNA, has a special appreciation for the triple-option offense. [He marveled at Georgia Tech's 535-yard rushing effort in a season-opening loss to Tennessee, referring to Yellow Jacket head coach and triple-option guru Paul Johnson as "a wizard."] He said it will take a selfless, disciplined effort from his Colbert Heights defense—which hadn't allowed a first-half point all season prior to last week's 45-25 loss at West Morgan—to get a win on Friday night.

"Number one, you have to play assignment football," Leathers said. "You have to be disciplined on the defensive side of the football and carry out your responsibilities the way you're coached to do it. Last Friday [against West Morgan], we did not do that, and we'll have to improve in that area this week."

"The triple-option is so effective because it forces a teenager [on defense] to carry out a certain responsibility over and over—not just one time, but throughout the course of the entire game. It's all about repetition. That's why discipline and selflessness are so important. If it's my job as a defensive end to occupy an offensive tackle, then I have to occupy that tackle on every play. If it's my job to take the dive, then I have to take the dive every time they run the option. Because that one time where I get mentally fatigued and I can't get where I'm supposed to be, it's gonna be a big play."

"The triple-option can physically wear you down. It takes a toll."

"The triple-option is so effective because it forces a teenager [on defense] to carry out a certain responsibility over and over—not just one time, but throughout the course of the entire game," Leathers said. "It's all about repetition. That's why discipline and selflessness are so important. Because that one time where I get mentally fatigued and I can't get where I'm supposed to be, it's gonna be a big play. The triple-option can physically wear you down. It takes a toll."

That's the nature of the challenge awaiting the Wildcat defensive front on Friday. Linemen like Bud Pratt (22 tackles on the season), Cain Phifer (14 tackles), Chason Scott, Brannon Bradford and Tyler Tubbs (two tackles for loss) have to hold their own at the point of attack, allowing senior linebackers Dylan Chandler (team-high 35 tackles), Korey Saint (34 tackles), Brendan Borden (31 tackles) and Bevin Foust (24 tackles) to read their keys and attack downhill. Lexington (2-1, 2-0 region) is reloading with new faces at receiver and slot-back this season, but Colbert Heights defensive backs Carson Shaw (17 tackles, one interception), Tanner Rickard (13 tackles, one interception) and J.J. Michael must still remain disciplined in pass defense while also offering help in run support.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the ball, Leathers hopes to see his team build on the momentum of its best offensive performance of the season. The Wildcats (3-1, 1-1) rolled up 312 rushing yards against West Morgan, including a season-high 149 from senior quarterback Kevin Shaw on 22 attempts.

"He played his best football game of the year," Leathers said of Shaw, who rushed for two touchdowns and also connected with Saint on a 21-yard scoring strike. "We put him in a position to run the ball more downhill, and he handled it great. I also saw Kevin take on a leadership role that I really hadn't seen before, and I'm proud of him for that."

"A lot of credit goes to our offensive line coach Justin Helms, too. He's a new addition to our staff this year, and I put him in charge of the offensive line. He likes to play a physical brand of football. We struggled the first few games; one week it was the line, another week it was the backs. But he's been consistent in the way he's coaching our guys, and those five guys up front played their best game of the year last week."

Unfortunately for the Wildcats, on a night when their offense finally found a rhythm and posted a season-high 375 total yards on 58 snaps, a defense that had been lights-out all season struggled to slow down West Morgan's high-powered attack and

Lady Bulldogs breeze past Tharptown in area opener

Submitted to the FFP

Belgreen's varsity volleyball team opened area play with a 3-0 win over Tharptown last Thursday and then hosted a tournament for the first time ever on Saturday, posting a 2-1 record in pool play before losing to Class 3A Colbert Heights in the semifinals.

In last Thursday's area match against Tharptown, sophomore setter Autumn Bragwell led Belgreen (7-8 overall, 1-0 area) with 21 assists, two kills, two aces and one block. Freshman middle hitter Emma Dempsey recorded 10 kills and two aces, and sophomore Katie Dempsey added seven kills, nine digs and four aces.

The Lady Bulldogs had a total of 29 kills and 22 aces

in the three-game sweep. Sophomore hitter Ansley Tate, playing her first match since returning from a shoulder injury, recorded 11 aces and four kills.

In Saturday's tournament at Belgreen, the Lady Bulldogs played three matches in pool play, beating Tharptown and Hackleburg and losing to Covenant Christian. Belgreen then lost to Colbert Heights in the tournament semifinals.

Bragwell finished the tournament with 57 assists, 10 kills, seven aces and three blocks. Emma Dempsey totaled 29 kills, nine aces and two blocks in Saturday's action.

Katie Dempsey finished the tournament with 24 kills and 39 digs.

'FAMILIAR', from page 18

surrendered 45 points. [Colbert Heights had allowed a total of just 20 points during a 3-0 start.]

"Our offense played fairly well," Leathers said. "We certainly haven't arrived on offense, but I'm hoping we can build off what we did. The first three weeks, we relied mainly on our special teams and our defense, but the other night our offense really carried us through that game. My main takeaway was, if all three phases are working together, we've got a good football team."

"We'll have to play great on defense, offense and special teams to beat a good Lexington team in a really big region game."

Perennial powers Colbert County and Lauderdale County are both off to 2-0 starts in region play, as is Lexington. West Morgan (1-1 in region play) certainly looks the part of a playoff team. Do the math, and it's difficult to overstate the importance of this Friday's game for both the Wildcats and the Golden Bears. The odds of both of them reaching the postseason this year appear slim.

"It's hard to speculate what will happen the rest of the season, but this is definitely a big game," said Leathers, whose team won two out of three on the road after opening the season with a home win over Red Bay on August 25. "I feel like the winner of this game will play in the playoffs, and the loser will have their work cut out for them. The winner of this game will earn their right to be in the playoffs, and the loser will have a very hard road."

"I feel like the winner of this game will play in the playoffs," Leathers said, "and the loser will have their work cut out for them."

"I think these two teams are evenly matched. It's gonna be a huge night for our program. It's just our second home game of the year. Coach Lard and me are really good friends. We talk often. I think both sides understand the importance of this game in terms of the postseason."

Climatech, Inc.

256.356.4941 • 256.436.1765

Heating | Air Conditioning
Commercial | Refrigeration



FREE ESTIMATES
On New Equipment

*We Service All
Makes & Models*

LICENSED, BONDED & INSURED



**Now there's a way to recruit,
train, and empower a highly
skilled workforce driven by
business and industry needs.
It's your competitive advantage
in Alabama.**

It's time to grow at: www.alabamaworks.com

Solid Wood Kitchen Cabinets...

**We Now Offer
FINANCING For Your
Home Improvement
Project**

Fireplace Kits Starting at \$690!



**Metal
Roofing
Molding, Lumber
& Hardware**

**LED Lighting—
Good variety on
Residential & Commercial
LED Lights!**

256.332.8181 • HWY 43, Littleville, Alabama

BUSINESS DIRECTORY



Advertise with us! Call 256.668.2708 or 256.332.0255

franklinfreepress.net

WINDOW TINTING

Window Tinting
Ask about our new
NANO CERAMIC Window Film
DESIGNERS
Graphics
Up to 97% Infrared Heat Protection
FORMULA ONE PERFORMANCE AUTOMOTIVE FILM
256.383.5217
1501 Broadway Sheffield

MOWING

Salvador's
LAWN SERVICE
(256) 810-2351
Free Estimates
Licensed
MOWING • TRIMMING
MULCHING • CLEANING LEAVES
HEDGING & SHRUBS • EDGING

LANDSCAPING

K&S TREE SERVICE
253 Laurelwood Dr. Russellville, Alabama
Trimming
Topping • Removal
Bucket Work
Stump Grinding
KARL RAGAN 256.332.9064

FINANCIAL

Edward Jones | MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING
IRAs - Investments
Mike Jones,
Financial Advisor - AAMS
256-332-7924
www.edwardjones.com
128 N. Jackson Ave. Russellville
mike.jones@edwardjones.com

HOUSING

256-332-1561
73 Flippen St
"The standard for fixed-income living in Russellville"
UNITS NOW AVAILABLE
Russellville
Housing Authority
Incorporated

MASSAGE

REWARD YOURSELF OR SOMEONE YOU LOVE
256.332.4220
Angel Harris
Licensed Massage Therapist LMT #1495
Reiki Practitioner II
Gift Cards Available
Creative Image Salon
7129 Hwy 43 • Spruce Pine

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JOEY RUSHING
Franklin County District Attorney
256.332.8870 • 256.710.4713
(daytime) (after hours)
ALABAMA GREAT SEAL

SEPTIC SERVICE

SUPERIOR SEPTIC TANKS
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
SERVICING Lauderdale Lawrence Colbert & Franklin
Septic Tank Sales
Tank & Grease Trap Pumping
Over 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
FOR PROMPT SERVICE
256-381-7148
LICENSED BONDED INSURED
DISCOVER
MasterCard
VISA

LISTEN EACH WEEK FOR...

FOOTBALL FRIDAYS
only on
Real Country
WGOL 100.7
920AM
FM

CHURCH

Come Worship with Us!
First Presbyterian Church
Sunday: 11:00 - 12:00
Adult Sunday School: 10:00 - 11:00
Everyone is invited to join us for this special time of worship.
201 N. Green Street, Russellville

PUBLIC SERVICE

BUCKLE UP! It Could Save Your Life!
franklinsheriff.org
(256) 332-8811
Compliments of
Shannon Oliver
SHERIFF
SHERIFF FRANKLIN COUNTY

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Franklin County
Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 44 • Russellville, AL
Cassie Medley, Executive Director
256.332.1760 • 256.332.1740 fax
info@franklincountychamber.org
franklincountychamber.org

HEALTHCARE

GET NOTICED!
IN THE BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY
256.332.0214

PREGAME@6:30
GAME@7:00