

# AB Training Facility to be at National Competition



Dancers From Russell County: Adeline Rextroat, Presley McQueary, and Evelyn Wilson

AB Training Facility of Somerset & Russell Springs will be heading to Studio Dance Nationals July 9-14 to compete with the best of the best in the nation.

The owner, Amber Bryant, pours her heart and soul into these kids and this program.

She choreographed 56 routines this season for her Studio Dancers to compete on stage.

Competing all over

the states, this program has won many titles - bringing home regional championships, multiple first places, and top champions at every event, overall grand champions in multiple divisions - including solo dancers/duet dancers/small groups/large groups and productions, judge's choice awards, best technique, best choreography, best of the best, and the honor of best studio.

This season has put them on top by being

awarded nine golden tickets to the World of Dance in January 2023, as well as star performers on a cruise ship.

These dancers are from many different counties including the Russell Springs area.

AB Training Facility is located locally at 497 S. U.S. 127, Russell Springs.

For more information call (270 -866-2133 or email: abtf.rs@yahoo.com



Evelyn Wilson will be performing a solo at Nationals

# DROWNING,

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Coroner Tanya Womack said.

Blankenship "was swimming off the back of a houseboat" around 2 p.m. Friday, Womack said, "when he went under and never resurfaced."

"Rescue personnel were on the scene and began the search immediately," Womack said. "After approximately an hour, the search turned into a recovery effort."

Blankenship's body was recovered around 10 p.m. Friday.

A statement by the Jamestown Dive Team said the victim was found "in water that averaged around 28 feet deep."

The Russell County Coroner's Office, Jamestown Dive Team, Russell County Rescue Squad, State Fish & Wildlife, Taylor County/Campbellsville

Search & Rescue and Pulaski County Rescue Squad were involved in the search and recovery.

The Jamestown Dive Team said Safe Harbor Jamestown also offered assistance.

Blankenship's death is thought to be the first, local drowning on Lake Cumberland this year.

# PAY,

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(ARPA) funding the city has received.

Russell Springs Mayor Eddie Thomas said in a current climate where many private sector businesses are hiring new employees at \$15 or more an hour, the pay increase is justifiable.

"I think they deserve it," Thomas said.

The mayor said some current city employees are only making around \$12-13 an hour.

"We need to be competitive," Councilman Tom Holt said.

"We've got to be comparable,"

Councilwoman Sherry Bottom-Daniel agreed.

Mayor Thomas said a \$3,500 "lump sum" for employees was considered, but that amount would be heavily taxed.

He also endorsed a \$500 stipend for members of the Russell Springs Volunteer Fire Department.

"We don't pay them anything," the mayor said. "They're volunteers. Every one of them worked through COVID. If we had a fire during COVID they couldn't say, 'We're not going... we've got COVID.' They had to jump in the fire truck and go."

"We're just benefiting our employees," Mayor Thomas explained.

Several municipalities have used ARPA money to offset COVID expenses or reward employees who worked throughout the pandemic with "premium pay."

The city also reported all departments are "under budget" for the fiscal year.

The practice of careful and cautious planning was praised, and Russell Springs City Clerk Christopher Ramsey was acknowledged by the council for his efficient and effective work.

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For more information call: Shirley Roberson Daulton at 270-343-2181 ext, 6233 or visit the coalitions facebook page (Russell County Health and Wellness Coalition)



The Coalition meets every 4th Thursday at Noon.