Along with KRWA, TAUD will be celebrating the U.S. Department of Labor’s sixth annual National Apprenticeship Week (NAW), which kicks off on Sunday, November 8, 2020. NAW was established by the U.S. Department of Labor to celebrate the impact apprenticeships have in helping Americans learn skills for jobs in growing industries. Hundreds of NAW events and activities will be taking place all over the country to showcase apprenticeship programs.  National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) is a nationwide celebration that offers leaders in business, labor, education, and other critical partners a chance to express their support of apprenticeship. NAW also gives apprenticeship partners the opportunity to showcase their programs, facilities, and apprentices in their community. The events highlight the benefits of preparing a highly skilled workforce to meet the talent needs of job creators across diverse industries.  For more information please visit: https://www.apprenticeship.gov.

TAUD is excited to announce our very first apprentice Austin Haithcoat with the Town of Bell Buckle. On September 21st, 2020, The Town of Bell Buckle and Tennessee Association of Utility Districts (TAUD) formally signed an employer agreement and an apprentice agreement making the Bell Buckle Water & Wastewater System the first utility in the state to have an apprentice in a water/wastewater systems operations specialist apprenticeship program. This unique program is the first apprenticeship of its kind in Tennessee and the 29th in the nation. The program is administered by TAUD, a utility association that provides a variety of technical support and services to water, wastewater, and gas utilities across the state, and the National Rural Water Association’s Apprenticeship Program. The program is designed to address the need for certified water and wastewater facility operators in rural Tennessee communities. Additionally, the TAUD Apprenticeship Program strives to bring awareness of careers in the water industry and good stewardship of our water resources to the youth of Tennessee. For more information on the Association's Apprenticeship Program please contact Workforce Development Coordinator Kevin Byrd at (423) 215-3720 or by e-mail at kevinbyrd@taud.org.