

**May Primary  
This Tuesday  
\$53 Million  
Bond on Ballot**

The 2008 Primary Election is just a few days away. In addition to the presidential primary race, there are many other important items on the May 6<sup>th</sup> ballot. One of those items includes a \$53 million dollar school bond that will be on the back of the actual ballot.

If approved by the voting public, the \$53 million would be used for construction by the Franklin County Public School System.

The largest project in that money would be funding (\$41 million) for a replacement facility for the current Franklin High School. A new

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**Next Month**

**The annual student writing issue will be released in June.**



**Governor's School 08**

Bunn High Juniors Phillip Tippet and Jacquelynn Berton are excited about their upcoming opportunity at NC Governor's School.

# A One Time Chance

## Top 'Cats Headed For Governor's School

**N**orth Carolina Governor's School is an opportunity that majority of high school students can only dream about. Well, it's going to become a reality for Bunn High School juniors Jacquelynn Berton and Phillip Tippet.

The two talented Wildcats will attend Governor's School West at Salem College for six weeks this summer. Berton will be there for the English program as Tippet will endure the Social Sciences curriculum.

"I'm looking to get something beyond the normal high school experience,"

Berton said. "I want the opportunity to learn, create and express. I've always had an interest in Literature—and English has always been my strong point."

Berton has not yet decided on a college, but UNC-Chapel Hill is high on her list, as is Princeton. She plans on pursuing creative writing, English or even astrophysics.

"I'm looking forward to being able to discuss different issues with a lot of

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# FCS Employee of The Quarter



*Surprise...*



*...Surprise!!!*

## Tharrington, Hedgspeth Honored



Quinnley Hedgspeth and Kristine Tharrington earned \$500 and a plaque after being named Employee of The Quarter.

Chances are if you've been to the front office at Franklinton High School in person or by telephone, you've spoken with school secretary and treasurer Kristine Tharrington.

On the other hand, if you've ever had a finance question regarding payroll in relation to the Franklin County School system, you may have spoken with Assistant Finance Officer Quinnley Hedgspeth.

That given, you probably know how well each does their job—as does the Leadership Team of Franklin County Schools and as a result both are the latest Employees of The Quarter.

Both were recognized at the April 28th Board of Education meeting that was held at Louisburg High School. Tharrington has worked at FHS for more than five years, while Hedgspeth is in her eighth year at FCS.

# New Orleans

## LHS Students Get Sense of Careers In Medical Field

While the core material of any curriculum is learned in the classroom, field trips and other hands-on events always seem to stick in people's minds a little better.

Fourteen Louisburg High School students are certainly going along with that belief after a trip to the annual Association of Minority Health Professions Schools (AMHPS) symposium in New Orleans last month.

Several of the students had the opportunity to attend the symposium last year in Orlando and leaped at the chance to attend again in New Orleans.

"This was another great opportunity," LHS senior Tameka Alston said. "This is something I will always remember. I was very impressed by the speakers at the symposium and the city of New Orleans was great."

This trip has provided education on many different levels and in different ways for each student. The symposium outlines multiple careers in the medical field. Through presentations, such as those given by Franklin County Schools Career and Technical Education Director Laureen Jones, several students developed a defined direction for what they wanted to do after high school.

"This really opened my eyes," LHS senior Kelli Wardrick said. "I now realize there will be a lot of opportunities to help finance my education. I realize now what I need to do finan-



Fourteen Louisburg High School students, FCS CTE Director Laureen Jones and Colonel Johnson of LHS are all grateful for their trip to New Orleans.

cially to get ready for college."

Shana Wilkins wasn't quite sure about a career path, but after the symposium, she is seriously considering a career in dentistry.

Bianca Bullock now hopes to be a biochemical engineer.

"I learned a lot and it is really interesting to me," Bullock said. "I think it is something I really want to pursue."

For Jones, who has been an educator for 24 years, the chance to present could not be passed by.

"This was by far the most memora-

ble conference that I have been to," Jones said. "There were 600 kids and they were all high achievers and they were very motivated. This made it very special. I hope to be back again."

Jones made a presentation to college bound students and went through the step of getting into college. Her presentation was a big attraction that featured Turningpoint technology. The interactive clickers

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## FCS Leads Annual United Way Campaign

The United Way of Franklin County was once again thanking the many contributors for its annual fundraising drive—and much like last year, Franklin County Schools was the overall top donating entity.

FCS which donate more than \$20K, was in a select group of donors of more than \$10K that also included Novozymes, The HON Company, Wake Electric and Wal-Mart of Louisburg.

Each of the 13 existing schools in FCS, along with the FCS central office, donated more than \$500 to this year's campaign, with Bunn Elementary School leading the charge.

Individuals donating between \$500 and \$999 from FCS were Louisburg Elementary Assistant Principal Judy Stover, FCS head nurse Rhonda Shearin and Louisburg Elementary Principal William Harris.



LES Principal William Harris displays the plaque his school received for donating to United Way.

## Relay For Life May 2-3



Royal Elementary held a Relay For Life Fundraiser in April in which parents battle faculty members in a basketball game. During that event, Ms. Johnston County crowned a king, a queen and prince and a princess. The official Relay for Life relay for Franklin County takes place this Friday and Saturday at Bunn High School. Come out and help fight the battle against cancer.

## LHS

Continued from page 3

allowed participants to answer quiz questions and get instant feedback.

More than likely there will be another group attending the symposium next year in Louisville, KY.

Cherry Ayscue, LHS guidance counselor, organized the event

again this year and was once again pleased with the outcome. LHS ROTC leader Colonel Johnson also went on the trip to help out.

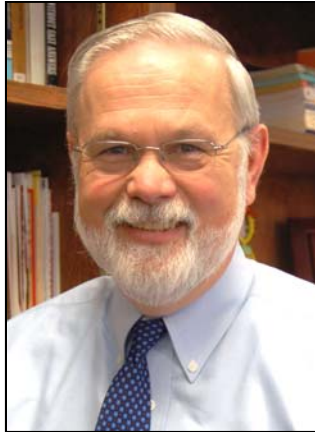
Other students participating were Ebony Brown, Laura Price, Hwing Eban, Lee Person, CJ Alston, Jessica Redmond, Mouhamdou Camara, Raymond Simms and Jaron Allen.

- Nathan Moreschi

# Civic Leaders



Laureen Jones



Dr. Bert L'Homme



Dale Byrns

## FCS Leaders Take Big Roles In Community

Many people in Franklin County may recognize Superintendent Dr. Bert L'Homme, Career and Technical Education Director Laureen Jones and Creative Education Center Principal Dale Byrns for their hard work in the Franklin County School System, but may not know how rooted each is in the local community outside of the school system.

Dr. L'Homme will be the next president of the Louisburg Rotary Club, while Jones is the president elect for the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce. L'Homme was the president of Franklin County United Way, but stepped down and is being replaced by Byrns. Each is very excited about their new civic roles in Franklin County and each believes strongly in helping the community in any way they can.

## BUNN

Continued from page 1

different people," Tippet said. "This is an experience you can't get from a textbook. With a lot of different people in a discussion, you will hear a lot of things you haven't."

He is particularly interested in discussion based-learning.

So why does Tippet have an interest in social sciences?

"I like the study of interaction with

people," Tippet said. "Whatever career I choose, I want to help correct a lot of misconceptions people have about other cultures. I believe like the root of a lot of problems is due to misconceptions."

Both Berton and Tippet see Governor's school as more than building tool for college.

"It's a huge learning experience," Berton said. "I'm looking forward to getting so much out of it. I think it will open a lot of opportunities. We will be in a different setting with a lot of responsibility - I'm looking forward to it."

Tippet isn't totally certain what he will get out of it, but his enthusiasm is obvious.

"I'm ready for this to happen," Tippet said. "I want to see what I get out of this."

Tippet and Berton are the only two students from Franklin County Schools attending Governor's School this summer. The county gets up to three slots each year. Participants are selected by a committee based on academic performance, essays and teacher recommendations.

- Nathan Moreschi



The Bunn High School auditorium was funded through the 2004 bond and is nearly complete.

## BOND

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school is needed to overcome current overcrowding at FHS. If the bond is approved, the new school will be located at the intersection of Cedar Creek and Lane Store Roads in the Franklinton/Youngsville area. The 75-acre site was purchased with the 2004 bond. The current Franklinton High School will be used as a middle school in the future with a capacity of about 550 students. There are nearly 800 students in that facility now as a high school.

The 2008 bond will provide building

upgrades or additions at 12 of the existing 14 schools in the FCS system.

In 2004, the public approved a \$30 million dollar bond and the results are readily available to see throughout the county.

Bunn High School and Louisburg High School received major additions and renovations. Both campuses now have new cafeterias, classrooms and vocational buildings.

Bunn High School just opened its new classroom building and the auditorium will be ready in a few short weeks. Pictures of both are printed in this issue of *First Thursday*.

While Laurel Mill, Terrell Lane Middle, Bunn Elementary and Youngsville Elementary are enjoying the advan-

tages of their new additions from the 2004 bond, Franklinton High School is anxiously watching as their projects are completed.

You may have noticed a new building going up at that campus. It will be a 10-room classroom while 23 classrooms are renovated in the building. That new 10-room building will later be converted into a gymnasium for the middle school, thus ending the problem with the current gymnasium being located three blocks from the front office. The old gym will continue to serve as a site for school sporting events.

- Nathan Moreschi

# Wildcat Country



Main entrance



New Cafeteria



Outside eating area—with tables built by the Bunn vocational department



Hallway of the new classroom building



Long Mill Elementary School is two months ahead of schedule and will be open for class this coming August.

## Long Mill District Lines Set

In a meeting held April 14th, the Franklin County Board of Education set the official district lines for Long Mill Elementary School.

The adopted map can be viewed on the FCS website at [www.fcschools.net](http://www.fcschools.net). With the district lines adopted, the school system meets the constraints of the Federal Court order concerning desegregation. At the same time, current capacity strains are lessened.

Long Mill will open with roughly 420 students and operate at 65 percent capacity to allow for future growth.

Youngsville Elementary will open next year at about 75 percent capacity,

also allowing for future growth.

In a meeting held April 28th, the Board of Education agreed to allow rising fifth graders who would be affected by the new district lines to remain at the elementary school they attended before. Also, the redistricting process has no effect on the assignment of students to middle schools.

Students from Franklinton Elementary, Youngsville Elementary and Royal Elementary can all be affected by the new district. Letters will be mailed to all students affected by this process.

Long Mill Elementary is now two

months ahead of its construction schedule and really taking shape. The school Principal is Kim Ferrell and she can be reached via phone at 496-4159.





# New York, New York

## *FHS Students Invade The Big Apple*



# NYC

Franklinton High School National Honor Society students had a memorable first week of April as they visited New York City. The students, who all had a minimum grade-point average of 3.5, visited a host of big sites in NYC. Among the sites toured were the Empire State Building, Trinity Church, Museum of Natural History, Ellis Island (Statue of Liberty), Ground Zero and Central Park. In addition, students got to view the classic *Mary Poppins* at the New Amsterdam Theater.



# A Walk-In Cell



It's impossible to see human cells without a microscope and it's even more difficult to see the actual parts of a human cell. Terrell Lane Middle School students got a sense for what cells are made of during the Walk-In cell project produced by Katie Tatum's science classes. The project was funded through one of many grants Tatum has got for her classroom. Students learned much more than the parts of the cell during the project. Some produced Powerpoint presentations, while others helped out with making brochures and other items for the tours that were given throughout the day. This is the third year of the project and Tatum continues to draw the attention of students and staff members at Terrell Lane through projects such as this.





## *I've Got Sunshine*

Cedar Creek Middle School held its talent show last week and those in attendance were quite surprised by many of the 15 performances. At left, FCS Assistant Superintendent Lynn Henderson, Cedar Creek Middle School teacher Anthony Alston and Cedar Creek Middle School Assistant Principal Jim Harris along with Ron Kirby (guitar) capture the audience with *I've Got Sunshine*. The group followed up by singing *My Girl*.

## Najera Excels In Skills USA Competition

Franklin County high school students competed in the annual Skills USA vocational competition in Greensboro in the middle of April.

Pedro Najera of Franklinton High School carded first place in a masonry competition and received a \$350 tool set along with a hat, jacket and trophy. As a result, the FHS masonry department received \$1,000 for supplies. This is a regional competition that features 17 counties.



## *Splish Splash*

Louisburg Elementary students participate in a spring field day activity held in April. Look for field days to be popping up at your child's school in the near future.