

# FIRST THURSDAY

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 10

**Franklin County Schools**

**OCTOBER, 2008**

Our **F**uture, Our **C**ommitment, Our **S**tudents

## Late Start Slated For Election Day

*School Begins at  
10 a.m. Nov. 4th*

Franklin County Schools will begin at 10 a.m. on November 4th due to the Presidential Election.

Nearly half of the FCS campuses will serve as polling stations for Super Tuesday. In view of that, students will start late as a safety precaution.

Early morning and late afternoon hours generally bring the largest crowds to polling stations.

This delay is only for students. The before and after care program will run on a normal schedule that day with no additional charge.

Should you have further questions, call 919-496-2600.

### Honors

FHS teacher **Monique Bell** earns corporate honor. **P10**

LHS' Lab Facilitator **Nesse Clifton** nets statewide honor for online college program. **Page 2**

## Money Smart



Savannah Dobbins and Kimberly Burnap, both FHS social studies teachers, earned a \$10K grant for their financial literacy project.

## FHS Teachers Earn \$10K Grant For Financial Literacy Project

**L**earning life skills at a young age can result in a lifetime of smart decision making.

Given current economic conditions, it's critical that high school students learn how to manage their money.

Civics and Economics teachers Kimberly Burnap and Savannah Dobbins of Franklinton High School are making sure their students will know how to be financially responsible in the future through a new project - PIMP (Put Income and Money in my Pocket) My Checkbook.

A project as involved as this one requires additional funding. While

there were concerns of where that funding would come from in order to fully execute the project, the worries are over. Dobbins and Burnap recently received \$10,000 grant for the project.

"It is wonderful to see the amount of effort and energy they are putting into this project," Franklin County Schools social studies consultant Darnell Tabron said. "The students are truly engaged in this project."

The project will teach students how

**SEE GRANT PAGE 5**



Neese Clifton (left) thoroughly enjoys guiding her students through online learning.

## Clifton Named Region's Best *LHS Lab Facilitator Honored For iSchool Performance*

With the Internet, classroom teaching is no longer limited by physical space. Coursework can come to the student without the student leaving his/her normal campus.

With that technology, new employment positions are created. Neese Clifton is a distance learning lab facilitator for Louisburg High School and takes her work seriously.

So seriously that she earned a regional honor from the UNC-Greensboro iSchool. iSchool is an online program in which high school students can earn college credit for certain courses.

Clifton, employed with Franklin County Schools for five years, is just one of eight of 400 eligible individuals throughout the state to receive the honor of Regional

Distance Learning Coordinator of the Year. Franklin County is part of a 12-county region that includes the Wake County Public School System.

"This really is a blessing and surprise," Clifton said. "It's nice to be appreciated so much."

Clifton said the key for her success is to stay organized. This semester she has 96 students throughout the day without a planning period. In all, she monitors coursework in more than 25 different curriculums.

Clifton will receive her official recognition on October 6<sup>th</sup> in Roanoke Rapids at an iSchool regional conference.

Louisburg High School Principal Freda Clifton will make the trip also.

"It will mean a lot to me to have Mrs. Clifton there."

# Panthers Honor Howle

## Accolades Continue For BHS Standout



Bunn High School standout football player Ty Howle (senior) is not only excelling on the football field, but also in the classroom. Howle is ranked as the number one center in North Carolina and has verbally committed to play with Penn State University in 2009 under the direction of legendary coach Joe Paterno. Howle ranks seventh in his high school class with an overall GPA of 3.82. His on-the-field performance has helped power the BHS football team to an impressive 4-1 record so far this season. Howle looks forward to the opportunity to play for one of the most tradition-rich universities in the country.

During the 2008 high school football season, the Carolina Panthers will honor ten elite student-athletes who excel both on the field and in the classroom, as well as, play an active role in their respective communities. The Carolina Panthers have selected Ty Howle, a senior offensive lineman at Bunn High School (Bunn, NC), as the first recipient of the Community Captain award for the 2008 season.

Howle (6-2, 290) is rated as the number one center in the state of North Carolina and the number nine center in the country according to Scout.com. He currently has offers to play football collegiately from Georgia Tech, Navy, North Carolina, NC State and Virginia Tech among others. However, he has given his verbal commitment to play for legendary coach, Joe Paterno, at Penn State University on a full athletic scholarship.

"I chose to attend Penn State because I loved the family atmosphere that I felt during my visit. Also, the 108,000 fans in the stadium was an unreal experience for me," exclaimed Howle.

In the classroom Howle is also at the top of his class. He has a 3.82 GPA which places him seventh in his graduating class. Howle has been named to the Honor Roll every semester, is a member of the Beta Club Honor Society and also received academic achievement awards for top overall English, science and history grades.

Despite the fact that Howle puts forth so much time and energy on the football field and in the classroom, he always makes sure to find

time to help out others in his community. Howle is the president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes organization at Bunn High School, the vice president of his church youth group and is a member of the National Honor Society. Howle also donates his time to help the youth of his community through reading books, volunteering to coach youth football camps and supporting them at their local little league games.

Bunn High School Principal, Robin Faulkner said, "In my twenty years as an educator, I have met few students who demonstrate the integrity and strong moral character that Ty demonstrates on a daily basis. Ty doesn't just belong to service organizations for the sake of a resume, he genuinely seeks to help others, particularly people who are less fortunate than he."

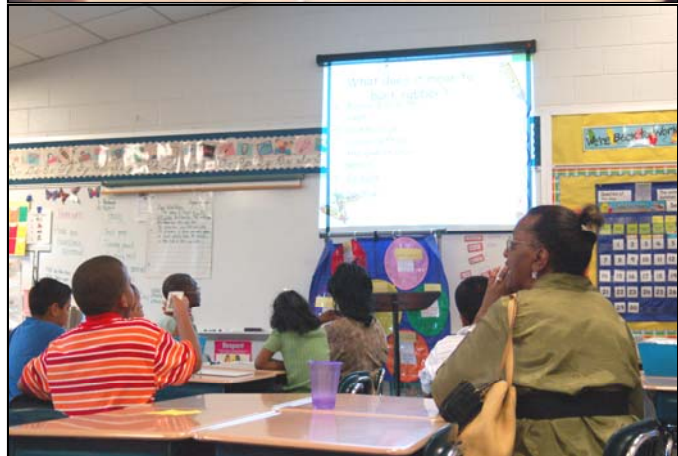
Ty Howle is the first of ten Community Captains to be selected by the Carolina Panthers this 2008 season. The Carolina Panthers Community Captain class of 2008 will be recognized on-field during a pregame ceremony at Bank of America Stadium on December 14<sup>th</sup> as the Carolina Panthers take on the Denver Broncos. During the awards ceremony, each Community Captain will receive an authentic Carolina Panthers Community Captain jersey. The recipients will also have the opportunity to participate in select Panthers community outreach events during the current academic year.

*Written By Brian Rosen of the NFL Carolina Panthers*

# LES Grandparents' Day

*Students serve up technology lessons*

In early September, Miss Lisa Micco's Louisburg Elementary class took time from its rigorous curriculum to value and honor older family with afternoon activities. Do you know what it means to be dolled up? Do your grandparents know what it means to be tight with someone? The class of fourth-graders class posed these questions on Grandparents' Day. By using Turning Point Technology, they quizzed students and grandparents on changes in our language. They compared and contrasted past and present terminology. As they evaluated how words have evolved over the years, the students concluded that children and grandparents can both learn priceless information from discussions with one another. Also, by making connections to Angela Johnson's When I am Old With You, students and their grandparents shared quality moments together as they reminisced of the special bond between family members.



# GRANT

Continued from page 1

to manage basic finances, including balancing a checkbook. Participants are grouped into mock families and are given an allotted amount of money each month to budget for their expenses.

"We planned three times a week during the summer, and now we are really ready," Dobbins said. "We work well together and want to get as many ideas as we can."

Burnap shares an equal level of enthusiasm.

"We've put a lot of time into this, and we believe it is going to be very successful," Burnap said. "Students will really learn how to manage their finances this way. They are going to realize how tough life can be."

"I'm very pleased for Mrs. Burnap and Ms. Dobbins," Ingram said. "I know how exciting it is to receive a grant of this magnitude. The students of Franklinton High School will ultimately benefit."

Both Burnap and Dobbins believe the idea is paying off and in the end is less work on the individual teacher, but produces better results in the classroom.

PIMP My Checkbook is rich in details. The project spans much deeper than allotting (pretend) money to groups of students and making budget.



The financial literacy program at Franklinton High emphasizes how to manage money responsibly.

For example, if a student has an unexcused absence from class, they are docked pay for that day of class – much like the real workforce. Excused absences result in the use of sick day.

Also, if a student is late for class, they pay a late fee.

This has produced a good form of peer pressure in the classroom. Student attendance has increased, while the number of students attending in school suspension has decreased.

In addition to learning how to write checks and balance a checkbook, students learn the details of online banking and how to start a business.

Students select a business to start, make a product and then hold a school-wide business fair to sell and market the product.

Families are paid once a month and receive a lump sum based on their classroom performance. A student who makes a D in the class is paid on the level of a high school graduate. A grade of C results in the level of a bachelor's degree, a B results in a master's pay level, and an A is paid on a doctorate's scale.

Among the goals set by Dobbins and Burnap is to see improved levels of End-Of-Grade test scores for Civics and Economics. Both are hoping this process will help students develop the technique of reasoning through questions and situations.

"We hope that students will be able to see the importance of keeping up with money and learn how to be financially responsible," Dobbins said.

One of the main events of the project is a trip to the Federal Reserve to see how money is made. This will also give students a better idea of what the function of the Federal Reserve is.

This project is incorporating a couple of new programs from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Last year, financial literacy became an official part of the curriculum for Civics and Economics. In addition, the Franklinton High School social studies department is taking part in a trial run of the new concept-based learning strategy through DPI. In this strategy, teachers plan together as a department. All FHS social studies teachers are involved.

Tabron, Burnap and Dobbins are all appreciative of the support of FCS Superintendent Dr. Bert L'Homme, Franklinton High School Principal Charles Fuller and Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Eddie Ingram.

Burnap and Dobbins presented this project to DPI and will make an additional presentation at the regional social studies conference in Greensboro early next year.

- Nathan Moreschi

# Not Forgotten



## James Robert 'Crow' Patterson Remembered



For those who attended the Bunn vs. Louisburg football contest in September, it will be an event not soon forgotten. Even though the head-to-head clash between the county football powers was classic in its own right with Louisburg edging Bunn in the final stages, it will long be remembered for a deeper reason. The LHS football field was officially named James Robert Patterson Memorial Field in honor of the late "Crow" Patterson who lost his life in the tragic plane crash in 1970 that took the life of nearly every member of the Marshall University football program. In addition, "Crows Rock" was unveiled in front of the capacity crowd. The event was made possible through the caring members, including Bill Riggan, of the Louisburg High School Class of 1967 Memorial Fund. At left, Crow's mother, Marguerite Pleasants, gets her first view of "Crows Rock."

## Williams Named Principal at N. Edgecombe



Franklin County Board of Education Vice Chair Reverend Dannie Williams has steadily climbed through the ranks of education since starting out as a reading tutor at Franklinton Elementary School in the early 1980s.

Since that time, he has progressed from TA to teacher to administrator and now Principal of North Edgecombe High School. Rev. Williams first became an administrator in 2005 at Pinkston Street Elementary School in

Henderson under the direction of BOE member and Principal Dr. Beverly Joseph.

He's been an assistant principal at Nash Central High School since 2006 and is now set to take on the post as principal at North Edgecombe.

Rev. Williams has almost completed his first four-year term on the Franklin County BOE and begins his second term in December. He was reelected this past spring.

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## Bendel Leaving Royal Elementary

Rob Bendel, who began his career with FCS in 1990 as a fifth-grade teacher at Louisburg Elementary School, is leaving his post as Principal of Royal Elementary on October 17th.

Bendel will be a Senior Administrator for Recruitment and Retention for the Wake County Public School System. Bendel completed six full years as Principal at Royal and opened the school in the fall of 2002. Royal is currently one of the

highest performing elementary schools in Franklin County.

Bendel said he will miss the staff, students and community. "I'm very proud of this school and all of the people connected with it," Bendel said. "For the last several years I've helped recruit with Franklin County, and I've really enjoyed it. This is an opportunity to get into this area. I look forward to getting more involved with the process."



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Visit the FCS website for more details about all the schools.

[www.fcschools.net](http://www.fcschools.net)

# Exercising The Right To Vote



FCS Board of Education Chair Paige Sayles (right) and Franklin County Library Director Holt Kornegay (back right), guide a Louisburg High School student through the registration process to vote.

## High School Voter Registration Drive

High school students who are, or will be, 18-years-old by November 4th, 2008 had a chance to register to vote for the upcoming Presidential Election.

Area volunteers and school system personnel conducted a voter registration drive September 29th through October 1st at each of the three FCS high schools.

Students were intrigued by the opportunity, and many of those who met the criteria registered.

Civic education is a major element in a student's high school curriculum, and this process is designed to strengthened the focus.

A similar process took place before the primary election earlier this year. That process was

led by the Louisburg Rotary Club. Many local Rotarians took part in this year's event as well.

While the number of overall high school students who meet the criteria is not overwhelming, a secondary goal of voter registration awareness was met.

Faculty and staff who were not registered to vote could register as well.

## *Wheels of Fire*



At the annual Future Farmers of America Truck and Tractor competition, Bunn High students Andrew Beckham (left) and Skylar Leonard (right) stood out for good reasons. Beckham finished second in the truck-driving competition, while Leonard was third in the tractor event. The contest was held at the Wilson County Fairgrounds on September 18<sup>th</sup>.



### *Front and Center*

Bunn High School agriculture teacher Bob Frisbie (far right) introduces a few of his students and FFA members to the Franklin County Board of Education. The students requested to raffle off a tractor for a fund-raising activity. The BOE granted them permission in the September 29th meeting. More details will be published when available.

# Among The Best



## FHS' Earns Major Corporation Teacher Honor



Franklinton High School Math Teacher Monique Bell received the honor of Wal-Mart Teacher of The Year on October 1st. Each Wal-Mart in the country awards this honor to the teacher who receives the most votes from her students and peers. Bell's award came through the Wake Forest store, thus topping all schools in that market area including Wake Forest-Rolesville and Wakefield. Because of Bell's award, FHS received \$1,000 from store manager Marty Brown (upper right). FHS Principal Charles Fuller (center) was thrilled for Bell, who was FHS Teacher of the Year a few short years ago. Bell received \$100 gift certificate for school supplies to Wal-Mart as well.



## Cleaning Up The Streets

### *Making A Difference*

Terrell Lane Middle students of Katie Tatum's science class are taking part in a year-long project to keep the waters of Louisburg cleaner. Students spent part of the last day in September combing the streets looking for trash and clearing out storm water drains. In the morning, they learned more about the water purification process at the Town of Louisburg's water plant. All of Ms. Tatum's students will have the opportunity to contribute to this project, which is funded by the Tapestry Grant she received a year ago. This project also includes monitoring the water quality of the Tar River through water sampling. Students volunteer one Saturday of each month to clean up the streets.



### *Hands-On Helping With Habitat For Humanity*

On September 20, two Louisburg High School students participated in Habitat for Humanity in Durham. Destiny Williams and Monitra Cowell are both 11th graders at LHS. The two girls helped their former civics teacher, Kerry Donahue, and a group of other teachers from the area at Hope Crossing, a new Habitat neighborhood in Durham. Destiny and Monitra were superstars at the job site. They arrived at 8 am and worked non-stop for 5 hours! Destiny and Monitra were not afraid to get their hands (and clothes) dirty as the girls singlehandedly seeded several of the lawns for the new homes. Kerry Donahue had this to say about the girls' hard work, "Destiny and Monitra proved that young people really do make the difference in a community. They were the hardest workers at the job site, and they gave up a free Saturday to help those in need. They are both inspirational young women." Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit organization which works with first time low-income homeowners to build and finance new homes. If you are interested in volunteering, go to <http://www.durhamhabitat.org/>.