

DISTRICT FIVE JOURNAL



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CHRYSTAL PHILLIPS

District Five Teacher of the Year

Chrystal Phillips, a sixth-grade mathematics and science teacher at Berry Shoals Intermediate School, has been selected as the 2006-2007 District Five Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Phillips was selected from a group of nine educators that included: Alison Cannon of Duncan Elementary, Jeana Guy of Wellford Elementary, Molly Haulbrook of River Ridge Elementary, Paula Howell of D. R. Hill Middle, Heather Lister of Beech Springs Intermediate, Kristin Rausch of Byrnes High, Janet Sherbert of Reidville Elementary, and Nancy Tripp of Florence Chapel Middle.



Chrystal Phillips

GAYELYNN BAIN

District Five Support Employee of the Year

Gayelynn Bain, a receptionist and secretary at River Ridge Elementary School, has been selected as the 2005-2006 District Five Support Employee of the Year. Mrs. Bain was selected from a group of twelve support employees that included: Shelia Allen of Berry Shoals Intermediate, Peggy Betsill of the District Office staff, Cindy Cantrell of the Middle Tyger Community Center, Debbie Curcio of Reidville Elementary, Max Gwinn of Duncan Elementary, Judy Johnson of Florence Chapel Middle, Emma Mayfield of Beech Springs Intermediate, Dee Dee Moore of Wellford Elementary, Darrel Scott of the District Maintenance staff, Barbara Sharpe of D. R. Hill Middle, and Mike Srock of Byrnes High.



Gayelynn Bain

BYRNES SOFTBALL COACH CAPTURES NATIONAL AWARD



Debbie Holcombe, coach of the 2005 State Champion Byrnes Lady Rebels Softball Team, has been selected as the 2005 National Federation of State High School Associations, National Coach of the Year. Debbie, who has led her team to the Region II-A AAAA Title for 2006, was selected based on her coaching record, her community service, her involvement in other school activities, her basic philosophy of athletics, and her involvement with her local, state, and national associations. Coach Holcombe is only the second female from South Carolina to win this national award.

BYRNES ROTC NAMED BEST IN THE STATE

The South Carolina Air Force Association has named the James F. Byrnes Air Force Junior ROTC program the best in the state. They will be presented with the "Sword of Excellence" at the state AFA convention on May 6th. With an enrollment of over 350 cadets, Byrnes topped the other 36 ROTC units in citizenship activities, leadership development, and patriotic programs. The unit was also named the best overall program of 106 schools evaluated by the Air Force during the last inspection cycle. **Colonel Ben Pittman**, director of the program, cited his fellow instructors, **Major Paul Williams**, and **Senior Master Sergeant Glenn Sparkman** as "wonderful mentors and excellent leaders". Pittman attributes this accomplishment to students who are dedicated to the program and to the leadership of District Five Schools for recognizing the importance of the ROTC program and providing the necessary support to make it successful.

VETERAN EDUCATORS TO RETIRE

Two long-time educators are retiring from District Five at the conclusion of this year. **Dr. Kathy Good** and **Dwight Hettinger** are planning to slow down after a combined 73 years of service to the public education system in South Carolina. District Five offers best wishes to each of them.



Dr. Good, a Byrnes High School graduate, has served her entire career in District Five and has been a principal for the last 17 years. She has been instrumental in the development of the intermediate school concept in the district and has been the administrator in charge of opening both Beech Springs and Berry Shoals. Her influence has been felt across the district as she has mentored numerous teachers through her involvement with the ADEPT program.



Dwight Hettinger spent many years in the Greenville County Schools before coming to District Five for the final thirteen years of his career. He was the leader of Reidville Elementary for seven years and was there when the school was named *Palmetto's Finest*. Mr. Hettinger has been the principal of Beech Springs Intermediate for the last six years. He has served on numerous statewide committees and has received many honors, including being named South Carolina's Distinguished Elementary School Principal in 1999.

BYRNES SCHOLARS REWARDED

Several seniors from James F. Byrnes High School have recently received good news concerning their college plans. **Skylar Kennedy** has received an appointment to West Point, the United States Military Academy. This noteworthy accomplishment is reserved for a very small percentage of those who apply and carries with it a very high level of prestige. The full scholarship package for this appointment has a value of over \$300,000.

Finalists for the 2006 National Merit Scholarship Program were recently announced. Of the 16,000 semifinalists, **David Christopher** and **Kelly Sprague** have met all requirements to advance to finalist status. National Merit Scholarships are annually awarded to those students who demonstrate the highest levels of academic performance.

Two Byrnes students have received scholarship awards in the South Carolina Teaching Fellows Program. The program is designed to recruit promising students into the education profession. **Katlyn Eubanks** and **Sara Snow**, Teacher Cadets at Byrnes, were selected because of their high academic achievement, their history of service to their school, and their desire to teach South Carolina's children.

THREE SCHOOLS EARN STATE HONOR

A primary goal for education reform is to close the achievement gap between different groups of students. For their efforts to assist students from traditionally underachieving groups, three schools in District Five have recently received special recognition from the SC Education Oversight Committee. **Duncan Elementary**, **Reidville Elementary**, and **Berry Shoals Intermediate** are among 138 schools from across the state that have been identified as the best at closing the achievement gap. Congratulations to the staffs, students, and parents at each of these schools.

REGIONAL SPELLING BEE WINNER: Keiko Bridwell, a fifth-grade student at Berry Shoals Intermediate School, has won the 2006 *Herald-Journal* Celebrate Community Regional Spelling Bee. She has now qualified to compete in the 79th annual Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee in Washington, D. C. As the local winner, Keiko received a dictionary, a United States Savings Bond, and the expenses for her trip to the nation's capital. Congratulations to Keiko!



DISTRICT FIVE WELCOMES NEW LEADERSHIP

Three schools in District Five will have new leadership in the coming months. **Kim Ashby** has been hired as principal at Beech Springs Intermediate School, **Terry Glasgow** has been hired as principal at D. R. Hill Middle School, and **Jeff Rogers** has been hired as principal of James F. Byrnes High School.



Kim Ashby

Mrs. Ashby is a 15-year veteran with experience as a sixth and seventh grade teacher. She has served as an assistant principal at Westview Elementary School in Spartanburg School District Six and she has been the assistant principal at Beech Springs Intermediate School for the past five years. Mrs. Ashby holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Elementary Education from USC Upstate, and a Master of Education in Administration from The University of South Carolina.



Terry Glasgow

Mr. Glasgow has 12 years of experience. He began his career as a teacher at McCracken Junior High School in Spartanburg School District Seven. He was assistant principal at Sullivan Junior High School in Rock Hill for one year prior to his arrival in District Five. For the past four years, Mr. Glasgow has served as assistant principal at D. R. Hill. He holds degrees from South Carolina State University, Converse College, and The University of South Carolina.



Jeff Rogers

Mr. Rogers has been an assistant principal at Byrnes since 1999. This year he has served as the lead administrator for the newly formed Byrnes Freshman Academy. Prior to his administrative assignment at Byrnes, Mr. Rogers served for five years as a classroom teacher at Byrnes. He holds a Bachelors degree from USC Upstate, and two Masters degrees from Converse College.

RAUSCH EARNS STATE TEACHER AWARD

Kristin Rausch, an industrial technology teacher at James F. Byrnes High School, has been named the Air Force Association Teacher of the Year. She will receive the award at the state convention in Clemson on May 6th. The state winner receives a \$1000 award from AFA and additional awards from the Aerospace Education Foundation. Rausch was recognized for her innovative techniques for teaching complex material, for tremendous success with the Technology Student Association, and for her compassion for students with learning disabilities. Rausch described her feelings as a teacher in simple terms, "I love my job. I learn as much from my students as they do from me".

BITS AND PIECES

- Congratulations to the following students who were winners in the Lt. Governor's Writing Awards Program for 2006: **Keiko Bridwell**, Berry Shoals, Grade 5 Winner; **Keshun Tutt**, Beech Springs, Grade 5 Runner-Up; **Aaron Barber**, D. R. Hill, Grade 8 Winner; **Katodre Ogelsby**, Florence Chapel, Grade 8 Runner-Up.
- Congratulations to the following students who were school level Spelling Bee winners: **Will Allen**, Beech Springs - **Victoria Earley**, runner-up; **Keiko Bridwell**, Berry Shoals - **Brian Blough**, runner-up; **John Mills**, D. R. Hill - **Aaron Barber**, runner-up; **Jessica Sprague**, Florence Chapel - **Jenny Johnsen**, runner-up.
- **Dr. Scott Turner**, Superintendent, successfully defended his dissertation and has satisfied all requirements for his Doctorate in Educational Leadership.
- **Kelsey Carter**, Byrnes, has been awarded the Anna Todd Wofford Scholarship from Wofford College.
- **Pauline Alford**, Florence Chapel, has received the 2005-2006 South Carolina Association of Educational Office Professionals, Betty Blanton Office Professional of the Year Award.
- **Kyle Rollins**, **Ashley Ford**, **Amy Kinard** and **Amy Blackwell**, Wellford, are Disney Teacher Nominees.
- **Anita Dickard**, Byrnes, was named the SC Association of Family and Consumer Science, Teacher of the Year.
- **Matthew Wyatt**, D. R. Hill, attended the Jr. National Youth Leadership Conference in Washington in February, and was the only student from South Carolina in attendance.
- **Amy Kinard**, Wellford, has been re-elected as the 2006-2008 President of the Lambda Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.
- **Ashley Ford** and **Melanie Reese**, Wellford, were inducted into the Lambda Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma.
- **Adriana Acosta**, Byrnes, won third place in the Essay and Poetry contest sponsored by the Hispanic-American Women's Association.
- **Gerald Cook**, Board of Trustees, was recognized by the South Carolina School Boards Association for having served as an elected trustee for 25 years.
- **Tom McNamara**, Board of Trustees, reached Level Three of the South Carolina School Boards Association Boardsmanship Institute.
- **Amy Kinard**, Wellford, has been elected to serve as the Palmetto State Teachers Association Region 4 Director.
- **Jessica Russo**, Byrnes, has received a Letter of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation for her performance on the PSAT.
- **David Christopher**, **Kelly Sprague**, **David Jensen**, **Fangda Xu**, and **Carmen Ng**, Byrnes, were selected as members of the South Carolina All-State Math Team.
- **Katie Johnson**, Byrnes, was selected to serve on the SC Math Curriculum Review Panel.
- **Lindsey Wright**, D. R. Hill, has been named a 2005 Duke TIP Scholar.
- **Josh Neal**, Byrnes, has been named the 2006 Phi Beta Mu "Bandsman of the Year" for South Carolina.
- **Carol Haring**, Byrnes, **Amy Kinard**, **Elizabeth Grube**, **Amy Blackwell**, **Kristy Garrett**, **Karen Cummings**, **Amy Dunn**, **Sara Neumeister**, and **Melanie Reese**, Wellford, have been selected for inclusion in the 2005-2006 Edition of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*.
- **Amy Dunn**, Wellford, was designated a National Honor Roll Teacher.
- **Kelly Crow**, Reidville, and **Kenneth Snyder**, Byrnes, have been selected to participate in the 2006 Spartanburg Writing Project Summer Institute.
- **Monica Link**, Beech Springs, **Natalie Thompson**, Wellford, and **Bill Teal**, D. R. Hill, have been selected to attend the 2006 Science P.L.U.S. Institute.
- **Mary Catherine Pitts**, **Josh Neal**, **Jarrod Mabrey**, **Daniel Neal**, **Kelsey McIntyre**, **Angela Foster**, and **Lauren Teodori**, were selected to participate in the South Carolina All-State Band.
- **Carolyn Collett**, D. R. Hill, received the Teacher Excellence Award from the International Technology Education Association.

2005-2006 JUNIOR SCHOLARS SELECTED

District Five congratulates the following students who have been selected as Junior Scholars. Students from D. R. Hill Middle School are: **Aaron Barber, Caleb Creel, John Eubanks, Mathew Garkusha, Joel Holland, Nancy Huggins, John Kelly, Zachary Lawson, John Mills and Derek Reini.** Students from Florence Chapel Middle School are: **Austin Bentley, Brittany Caton, Zachary Cummings, Allison Davis, Brad Easler, Luke Fenton, Ideen Ghorbani, Nicole Henderson, Jenny Johnsen, Torey Johnson, Anna Lenderman, Melvin Lyon, Cole McIntyre, Corey Miller, Edward Rast, Dylan Schuette, Austin Scott, Clair Sexton and Jack Stevenson.**

YOUNG SCIENTISTS EARN HIGH MARKS

A total of 40 students from Berry Shoals Intermediate School recently earned the opportunity to compete in the 2006 Regional Science Fair. Eleven fourth graders had projects entered in the event with **Rachel Pressley** earning first place in the Elementary Chemistry division.

A total of 29 students in grades five and six participated in the event with awards going to the following: **Brandon Grant**, 3rd place in Middle School Behavioral and Social Science; **Jonathan Taylor Harrelson**, National Audobon Society Award for Middle School General Science; **Averi Jolly and Aryn Fenton**, U. S. Army Certificate for Middle School General Science; **Nicolas Boone and Brandon Ives**, 2nd place Middle School General Science; **Taylor White**, 3rd place Middle School General Science and Department of Navy and Marine Corps Certificate; **Aaron Dearnaley and Walter Hughes**, 3rd place Middle School Math and Computer Science.

MUSICAL GROUPS HAVE SUCCESSFUL SPRING

Orchestra and band students from around District Five have offered impressive performances in recent months. Twelve groups have participated in concert festivals sponsored by the SC Music Educators Association. Judges rate the groups on music that they have prepared as well as selections that they have never seen before. Receiving the highest rating of Superior were: Beech Springs Sixth Grade Band, Berry Shoals Honor Band, Berry Shoals Sixth Grade Orchestra, D. R. Hill Seventh and Eighth Grade Bands, D. R. Hill Seventh Grade Orchestra, Florence Chapel Seventh Grade Orchestra, Byrnes Concert Orchestra, Byrnes Philharmonic Orchestra, and Byrnes Symphonic Band. Receiving Excellent ratings were the Florence Chapel Symphonic Band and the Byrnes Ninth Grade Band.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

Being a “Partner in Education” is a two-way street. Contributions by area businesses, including time and resources, help to create successful school-business partnerships. These partnerships not only benefit the students of District Five, but can also benefit the company or organization. Partnering to mentor a child, hosting a student shadow or intern, serving as a tutor or as a member of a school committee, providing in-kind support, or collaborating with a class on a special project are just some examples of how a school-business partnership works. Benefits for the company include increased employee morale, cultivating a reliable source of well-trained employees, reaping the benefits of an engaged business community, and positive publicity in the school system and the community.

One such example of these partnerships involves tours of local businesses and industries for Byrnes High School’s World Class Manufacturing class. Students in this class go on field trips to several different industries in the Greenville-Spartanburg area. These field trips provide a learning experience for the students outside of the classroom. They also allow the students to experience, first hand, the various processes in manufacturing. Many of these students may have the opportunity to participate in internships at some of the companies they’ve visited. A recent field trip took the class across town to the Spartanburg division of BASF, a plant that produces a variety of chemicals used in everything from paint and cleaners, to toothpaste and food products. Through this experience, these students were able to see the variety of careers available in chemical manufacturing.

District Five would like to thank all of the “Partners in Education” who support our students.

Chris Anderson, a Byrnes High School Junior contributed to this article.

DISTRICT FIVE'S

Partners in Education

AFL Telecommunications
AIM Integrators, Inc.
Allstate Insurance Company
Amazing Threads
Applebee's
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Regal Cinemas
Reidville Fire Department
River Falls Florist
River Falls Golf and Dining
RV's for Less
SC Department of Social Services
St. John Baptist Church
SEW Eurodrive
Sinclair and Associates
SJWD
Sonic Drive-In
Spartanburg Court House
Spartanburg Regional
Spartanburg Tech
Spinx Oil
State Farm Insurance
Staubli
Superior Carriers
Target
The Money Store
Thumbs Up Construction
Top's Pizza
Tyger River Family Dentistry
Upstate Tech Works
Upstate Workforce Investment Board
WABCO
Walmart
Wendy's - Duncan
Zaxby's
ZF Lemforder Corp.