

# HURRICANE WINDS

## BEN HILL COUNTY SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER



### *Hurricane Health Center hosts Ribbon Cutting & Grand Opening*

*The Hurricane Health Center held a Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting on Thursday, February 23, 2023. The day was perfect with the sun shining and wonderful community and state support. The Hurricane Health Center has been a huge asset to our students and staff already and it will just continue to grow with the addition of mental health support for our students. Thank you to our Board of Education members, Superintendent Dawn Clements, Hurricane Health Center board members, Emory University Department of Education, South Central Primary Care Board and Staff, Department of Education, Harper Construction, Fitzgerald-Ben Hill Chamber of Commerce and Maintenance Department for all of their dedication and work to make this a reality for our community.*

### *Chatting with Clements*

- Dawn Clements is named Superintendent of Ben Hill County Schools effective March 1, 2023
- Hurricane Health Center has a great turnout for the Ribbon Cutting and Open House
- FFA hosts National FFA Week at FHSCCA with dress up days
- CTAE Month - February. Thank you to all of our CTAE instructors at BHMS and FHSCCA for your dedication to children in our community.
- BHES Art Students were awarded for their art by the Youth Flight Experience
- Congratulations to FHSCCA Star Student Clint Wixson and Star Teacher Rob Garber



## Youth Flight Experience picks Art winners from BHES



The Youth Flight experience coordinator and photographer, Art Anderson, asked our art students at Ben Hill Schools to do a drawing of their thoughts about the event. These drawings were then submitted and the 1st place winner was chosen to be the T-shirt art design sponsored by Community Bank for this year's Youth Flight Experience.

On Wednesday, February 22, 2023, Art Anderson, Youth Flight Experience and Community Bank Board member, and Deanna Thompson, Community Bank, presented the winners with the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards. All of this winners were selected from art drawn by Ben Hill Elementary students.

First place winner is: Kimberly Araiza, 5th grader. Her mom is pictured with her Bernardina Araiza. She received \$200 for her winning drawing of this year's Youth Flight Event. Her drawing was titled: To see the world, you must FLY.

Second place winner is: Bryan Hernandez, 4th grader. His mom is Idalia Hernandez. He received \$100 for his drawing titled Flying is just as I dreamed it would be.

Third place winner is: Kenslie Griffin, 5th grader. Her mom is Kayla Griffin. She received \$50 for her drawing of Flyin is Life

We are so proud of all of our art students and especially these three for being chosen as winners in this art contest. Thank you to Art Anderson, Community Bank, Stacey Tyson (BHES Art Teacher), and Lori Brown (The Studio) for this opportunity.

## Shannon Bynum from BHMS was recognized at Capitol



Congratulations to Shannon Bynum, teacher at Ben Hill Middle School. She was recognized by Georgia Youth Science & Technology Centers as a Don Cargill STEM Scholar on January 31, 2023 at the State Capitol. (Bynum pictured with Noel Williams and Leesa Hogan at Capitol)



## Young Farmers awards Scholarships

The Annual Ben Hill Young Farmers banquet was held last week at FHSCCA. Kent Phillips was awarded the Outstanding Member award. Planters Oil was awarded the Outstanding Sponsor award.

The officers installed was Brent Brown - President, Justin Phillips - Vice-president, Kenny Ray Davis - Treasurer, Austin Sutton - Secretary, and Delene Clark - Public Relations.

Two scholarships were awarded to John Henry Roberts and Olivia Jenner. Riley Anderson provided the entertainment.

Congratulations to these Scholarship winners!



## FLEX Round 2 ~ Finals March 30th for FHSCCA/ICHS

Top 3 FLEX Companies were announced! These gentlemen have work extremely hard to get to round 3. Finals will be held Thursday, March 30th at FHSCCA!

Paulk Produce - Owner, Conner Paulk (ICHS)

Scorched Engraving - Owners, Andy Nipper and Clint Wixson (FHSCCA)

Southern Lures - Owners, Kaden Griffin and Rocco Hart (FHSCCA).



# Canes Football Banquet~ Awards given



The 2022 Fitzgerald Purple Hurricanes Football Banquet was a huge success. Thank you to our Fitzgerald Football Boosters for your help in coordinating this awesome event. Recognitions begin with Bill Bryant, Booster Club, recognizing the the Fan of the Year Wayne Huggins. Bryant also recognized Lynn Gay for all of her support helping with meals for the players and the boosters. Food was prepared by the Culinary Canes and Boosters with desserts provided by families of the players.

Since 1908, the Fitzgerald High School football program has been going strong. The 2022-2023 Senior Canes team has won 48 games with 8 losses and recognized for being the team winning the most games in their 4 years thus far in the program. There were 16 Canes selected for all region this year out of 44 total from our region. We are so proud of our Canes.

Coach Pruitt recognized our Freshman players. Each of these players works hard daily in practice and some made it to the field this year helping us in several positions. We know this class will continue to grow and improve each year. Coach Gamble recognized the Inside linebackers. Coach Reynolds recognized the Defensive Backs. Coach Oliver recognized the Outside linebackers. Coach Ducksworth and Emadi recognized the Defensive Line. Coach Pruitt recognized QB Sultan Cooper on a great year. Coach Sultan Cooper recognized the Running backs. Coach Henderson recognized Wide receivers and Specialists. Coach Todd Cooper and Wiggins recognized the Offensive Line. Coach Nobles recognized the Tight Ends. The Seniors were recognized by Coach Pruitt and received their banners, plaques and their jersey for this season.

Scholar Athlete Awards went to an athlete in each grade with the highest GPA-- Matthew Cowan (9) Cason Brown (10) Colin Mazzilli (11) and Drew Moore (12).

All Region and All State were recognized for their accomplishments this year.

Offensive 180 Award was presented to Ty Solomon. (Quincy Deberry was not present)

Defensive 180 Awards were presented to Channen Brown and Randy Givens.

Scout Team Awards were presented to Offensive player Diontae Paschal and Defensive player Andre Sandifer.

Iron Man Award was presented to Drew Moore who worked on both sides of the ball and special teams.

Hurricane Awards were presented to Daniel James and Xavier Walker.

We are so proud of all of our Canes. We will miss our Senior Class very much..

Congratulations and Best wishes to our Seniors: Sultan Cooper, Cam Jackson, Daniel James, McKenzie Wilcox, Robert Brown, Khalil Williams, Demetrius DJ Brown, Deshawn Robinson, Sylon Davis, Elian Garrison, Drew Moore, Xavier Walker, and Timothy Lord (not pictured).

Thank you to all that made this season a great one.. We appreciate your support of Canes Football. Go Canes!!!



## Star Student/Star Teacher recognized for FHSCCA



Congratulations to our FHSCCA Star Student Clint Wixson. Clint was chosen to our 2022-2023 Star Student. Clint chose Rob Garber as his Star Teacher. This is sponsored by the Fitzgerald Ben Hill Chamber of Commerce. Melissa Dark presented Clint and Mr. Garber with their trophies. We are so excited for Clint and Mr. Garber. Clint is the son of Jeremy and Melanie Wixson. Clint plans to attend Georgia Tech after graduation. Rob Garber has been an Engineering teacher at FHSCCA for over 30 years. This is his first Star Teacher recognition. Congratulations Clint and Mr. Garber!!! We are so happy for you!

## Dr. Leah Cooks visits Canes Preschool to celebrate Children's Dental Month





## Art students from BHP, BHES, BHMS and FHSCCA showcased



Art Night at the Carnegie showcased the students of BHP, BHES, BHMS and FHSCCA. The students did an amazing job. We are so happy to have art in our schools. Special thanks to Jessica Smith (BHP), Stacy Tyson (BHES) and Darlene Johnson (BHMS). It was a great night for our students and staff to showcase their art.

## AR Night at BHP was fantastic





# Happenings in Events



**Read Across America Day**  
**March 3, 2023**

**Life Skills Day for 11th Graders**  
**March 10, 2023**

**PreK Registration Begins**  
**March 17, 2023**

**PROM**  
**March 18, 2023**

**FLEX FINALS**  
**March 30, 2023**

**BHP Book Parade**  
**March 31, 2023**

**Spring Break**  
**April 3-7th, 2023**

**FLEX State Finals**  
**April 13, 2023**

**Top Ten Banquet**  
**April 25, 2023**

**Senior Signing Day**  
**April 27, 2023**



**FOR MORE VISIT:** [www.ben-hill.k12.ga.us](http://www.ben-hill.k12.ga.us) or  
on Facebook at Ben Hill School District