



# UNION HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

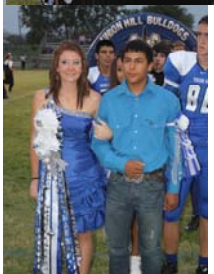
*Striving for Excellence in Academic Achievement*

September—December, 2012

## DOG HOUSE NEWS

### Union Hill Homecoming

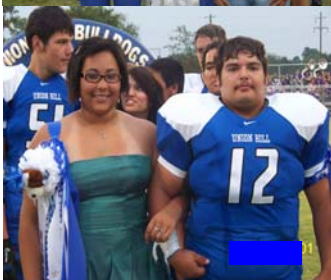
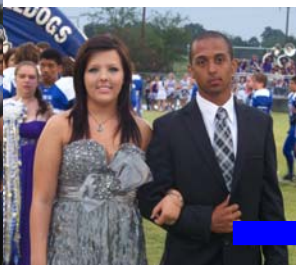
by Ti-Aira Fort



Homecoming celebration for the Union Hill Bulldogs was October 9-12, 2012. The Union Hill Family participated in activities as follow: Monday—Tie up the Bearcats, Tuesday—Lay out the Bearcats, Wednesday—Double up on the Bearcats, Thursday—Snapback at the Bearcats and Friday—Blue and White Day. The Principles of Business, Marketing and Finance Class presented several mini commercials during the District-wide Pep Rally in the stadium. Activities were climaxed with the crowning of Homecoming King—Javarrious Dixon and Queen—



Shanterrious Duffey. The court members were Duke Javarrious Dixon and Duchess Shanterrious Duffey, Duke Marcus Lawton and Duchess Ashley Hensley, Duke Richard Loyd and Duchess Landri Smith, Band Sweetheart—Kelsi Colbert, Choir Sweetheart—Mayra Aguillon, Ag Sweetheart—Hannah Bolt, Football Sweetheart—Claudia Delgado, Yamboree Duchess—Jessica Lewis, Junior Class Duchess—Chanee Hansen, Sophomore Class Duchess—Makaylah Downs and Freshman Class Duchess—Sierra Curry.



### Union Hill Yamboree Duchess by Jessica Lewis

Each year Upshur County has a celebration known as the Yamboree. Various young ladies are given the opportunity to represent their local schools as Yamboree Duchesses. This year I had the pleasure of representing Union Hill. We participated in various activities such as Queen's rehearsal, Mother-Daughter Brunch, All-Service



Luncheon, the Queen's Coronation and two parades. We were exposed to new experiences and many new individuals.

I would like to thank my classmates, Union Hill Faculty, Staff and Administration for selecting me to represent our school in the Yamboree.



Katelyn and Jessica

Cheerleaders Katelyn Grunden, Jessica Lewis, Kayla Campbell and mascot Kara Sanders spent some of their Christmas

vacation helping others. They volunteered hours ringing the bell for the Salvation Army Kettle.



Kara, Kayla and Katelyn



#### YEARBOOKS ON SALE

2012-13 \$30.00.

2011-12 20.00.

EARLIER COPIES \$5.00.

903-762-2138 Ext 306

# Union Hill ISD District Administrator

## Ms. Sharon A. Richardson-Superintendent



Welcome to Union Hill ISD for the 2012-2013 school year.

The 2012-2013 school year will be a great year! Union Hill I.S.D. has received a Superior Achievement rating since the beginning of the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (F.I.R.S.T.) in 2002. The district not only received a Superior rating, but scored a perfect score of 70 out of 70.

U.H.I.S.D. has adopted a resolution to replace the high stakes testing accountability system with a system that engages student learning, cultivates individual talents, and restores local control over student achievement.

Also, U.H.I.S.D., along with approximately 400 other school districts in Texas, has joined the Texas Tax-

payers and Student fairness Coalition et al. v. Robert Scott, et al. Litigation. Hopefully, this will restore the funding cuts of \$5.4 billion from the 82nd legislature session and create an adequate and equitable formula based funding system.

Even though the accountability standards have increased (STAAR, End of Course Exams and AYP), Union Hill I.S.D. believes in excellence for all, a high focus on academic achievement, and providing a quality education, which serves all students.

I would like to personally thank the Board of Education, Administration, faculty/Staff, students, parents and community members for working together as a TEAM. Students in U.H.I.S.D., along with the 4.7 million other students in the state deserve the best educational opportunities in the nation.

Remember to seek information concerning our district visit our web-site [www.uhisd.com](http://www.uhisd.com) or call Central Office (903) 762-2140.

## UNION HILL ADDRESSES EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Union Hill I.S.D. would like you to know we are taking measures to put the health and safety of our students first. Should an emergency or disaster situation arise in our area, while school is in session, we want you to be aware we have an Emergency Operation Plan and we have made preparations to respond effectively. Emergency announcements will be on KLTN Channel 7, Channel 19 or radio station KYKX 105.7. In addition, information regarding day to day school operations will be available by calling the Elementary Office (903) 762-2139 and or High School Office (903) 762-2138.

Due to recent events, the Administration and District Safety Team met with Office Don Gross December 17, 2012, to review our emergency operation procedures. We will review these drills and procedures with facul-

ty/staff. Union Hill I.S.D. would like to assure parents all safety measures are being followed to ensure all students and employees are safe.

Please join us in our efforts to develop successful students and citizens of character. Please get involved in your child's education, talk with your child about his or her school experiences and successes. Remember, your attention and involvement shows your child that school is important. I would like you to work with teachers, administration, and the school board to reach our goals and to ensure a safe environment for learning.

Thank you for your continued support!

*Sharon A. Richardson,*

Superintendent of Schools



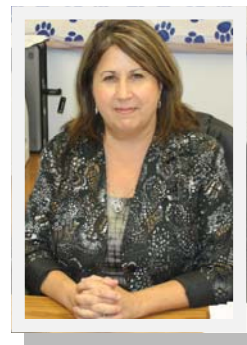
# CAMPUS ADMINISTRATORS PRINCIPALS' Corner

## UNION HILL HAS A NEW SECONDARY PRINCIPAL

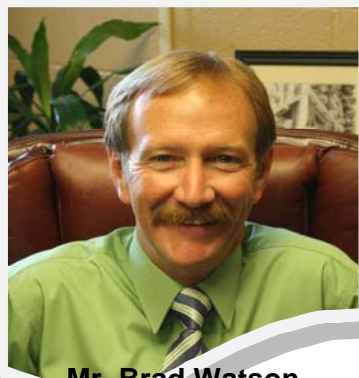
Mrs. Karen Saunders has assumed the leadership role as secondary principal for Union Hill Independent School District. She is working diligently to promote student success by incorporating new strategies into the daily class schedules.

Not only is Mrs. Saunders working hard as the principal, she coached the UIL Academic Junior High Number Sense, Calculator and Mathematic teams. These teams performed very well in the Junior High UIL Academic District Meet in December.

A big welcome to Mrs. Saunders, her husband, son and daughter.



**Mrs. Karen Saunders**  
Secondary Principal  
Grades 7-12



**Mr. Brad Watson**  
Elementary Principal  
Grades Pre K—6

This is the season for everyone to be as busy as ever and for the kids to begin getting excited about the upcoming holidays. We've had a great year so far with teachers and staff leading students through challenging and exciting lessons. Students are working hard every

day! I would like to say a great big thank you to each of the parents who are working hard at home reviewing schoolwork with their children and establishing homework routines that are so helpful in the success of the children.

The elementary school is very happy to have new staff working with our students this year. Coach Long and Coach Carter, our P.E. coaches, have brought to the campus new ways of helping kids develop their skills in the physical activities of today. On a melodic note, Mr. Bennett, our band and music director, is guiding kids as they tune in to a new chapter in the music of Union Hill ISD. Great things are happening!

I'd like to leave you with a story I ran across recently. Just something to think about.

A group of students were asked to list what they thought were the present Seven Wonders of the World. Though there was some disagreement,

the following got the most votes:

1. Egypt's Great Pyramids
2. Taj Mahal
3. Grand Canyon
4. Panama Canal
5. Empire State Building
6. St. Peter's Basilica
7. China's Great Wall

While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one quiet student hadn't turned in her paper yet. So she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The girl replied, "Yes, a little. I couldn't quite make up my mind because there were so many." The teacher said, "Well, tell us what you have, and maybe we can help."

The girl hesitated, then read, "I think the Seven Wonders of the World are:

1. to see
2. to taste
3. to touch
4. to hear
5. to feel
6. to laugh
7. and to love

The room was so full of silence you could have heard a pin drop. Those things we overlook as simple and "ordinary" are truly wondrous. A gentle reminder, this coming year that the most precious things in life cannot be bought.

*Brad Watson*

# UNION HILL WELCOMES NEW FACULTY

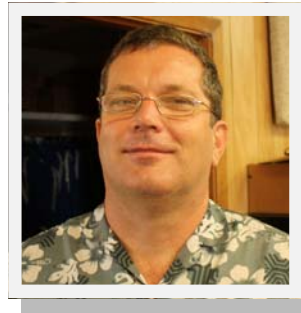
By Passion Johnson and Chanee Hansen

Union Hill Independent School District extends a warm welcome to new faculty members.



**Band Director, Mr. Kelly Bennette** graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in Port Arthur, Texas. He attended and graduated Lamar University located in Beaumont, Texas.

Since coming to Union Hill and working with the band, a remarkably improvement has been noticed. We are very happy to have Mr. Bennette this year and we know he has a lot more to bring.



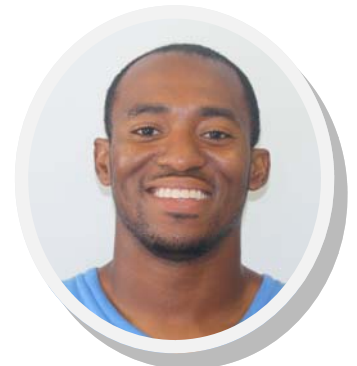
**Coach Nathaniel Carter** graduated from Atlanta High School, Atlanta, Texas. Following graduation, he attended Jarvis Christian College located in Hawkins, Texas. His assignments are Assistant Football Coach, Head Junior High Basketball Coach, and Head Baseball Coach.

Coach Carter stated that Union Hill is a great school with a lot of potential and that he loves the students.



**Coach Justin Long** graduated from Eisenhower High School in Houston, Texas. He attended and graduated from Stephen F. Austin University located in Nacogdoches, Texas. Coach Long is Assistant Football, Basketball, Baseball and Track Coach.

He wants the best for all students and believes that if you want it, go get it.



**Coach Jerry Brakel** graduated from Crowley High School, Crowley, Texas. He attended and graduated from Sam Houston State University majoring in Education and minoring in History.

Coach Brakel is in his fourteenth season as a football coach/teacher. During his coaching career, Coach Brakel has been at 4A and 5A schools. He has coached every sport with teaching every subject under Social Studies.

Coach Brakel is the Athletic Director for Union Hill I.S. D.



"I have been extremely excited about the opportunity to improve the overall athletic program. As relationships build between players and coaches, the school district will see all athletes play with a sense of pride in a family atmosphere. That is the goal of all coaches for the spring and fall sports in 2013."



District 18A UIL Academic Junior High Meet was held on Wednesday, December 13, 2012 at Sulphur Bluff ISD. Union Hill Junior High ranked 3rd overall competing against 6 other schools in District 18A. Special Thanks to Coaches Velma Clay, James Qualls, Karen Saunders, Marsha Alexander, Regina Parish, Sarah Hilliard, Danny Carey and Jennifer Conde. Results for Union Hill are listed below.

**CALCULATOR** Grade

7-Team 3rd Trinity Griffith, Tayler Durbin, Bethany Neighbours

8-Team 2nd Colton Wade 3rd Indiv, James Saunders 4th Indiv, Adam Kuza

**CHESS** Grade

7-Team 3rd Alexander McKinley 1stIndiv, Dwight Cook, Jacob Yordy

8-Team 3rd Myah Hollins 3rd Indiv, Sydney Ward 4th Indiv, Darren Edwards

**EDITORIAL WRITING** Grade

7-Josie Heflin 2nd Tayler Durbin 5th

8-Skyler Bishop 2nd, Dorothy Moss 4th

**IMPROMPTU SPEAKING** Grade

7-Bethany Neighbours 5th

8-Dorothy Moss 1st

**LISTENING** Grade

7-Team 2nd Josie Heflin 1st Indiv, Bethany Neighbours 3rd Indiv, Cody Yandle

8-Team 2nd Skyler Bishop 1st Indiv, Sydney Ward 3rd Indiv, Kasen Yandle

**MAPS, GRAPHS & CHARTS** Grade

8-Team 1st Skyler Bishop 1st Indiv, James Saunders 2nd Indiv, Dorothy Moss 3rd Indiv.

**MATHEMATICS** Grade

7-Team 3rd Josie Heflin 3rd Indiv, Dwight Cook, Tayler Durbin

8-Team 3rd Colton Wade 6th Indiv, Hannah Rogers, Bryce Venters

**MODERN ORATORY** Grade

8-Darren Edwards 2nd

**NUMBER SENSE** Grade

7-Team 2nd Dwight Cook 4th Indiv, Jamari White, Josh Yordy

8-Team 2nd Colton Wade 1st Indiv, James Saunders, Adam Kuza

**READY WRITING** Grade

7-Brooklyn Nations 3rd

8-Skyler Bishop 3rd

**SCIENCE** Grade

7-Team 3rd Trinity Griffith 3rd Indiv, Josie Heflin 5th Indiv, Tayler Durbin

8-Team 2nd Myah Hollins 3rd Indiv, Kasen Yandle 5th Indiv, Darren Edwards

**SOCIAL STUDIES** Grade

7-Team 2nd Brooklyn Nations 2nd Indiv, Josh Yordy 3rd Indiv, Lindsey Threadgill

8-Team 3rd Colton Wade 4th Indiv, Bryce Venters 6th Indiv, Darren Edwards

**SPELLING** Grade

**SPELLING** Ethan Qualls 4th, Cyleste Buchanan 5th

**SOCIAL STUDIES** Team 2nd Cyleste Buchanan 4th, Jakobe Griffis 5th

**Grade 4 results-**

**CHESS** Calvin Sanford 4th, Trent Bolt 5th

**MUSIC** Annalynn Andrews 2nd

**NUMBER SENSE** Team 1st Dakota Moye 1st, Jett Jones 3rd

**ORAL READING** Annalynn Andrews 4th

**READY WRITING** Annalynn Andrews 2nd

**SPELLING** Team 2nd Samuel Qualls 1st

**Grade 3 results-**

**READY WRITING** Krisan Mowery 3rd, Lucy Davis 6th

**STORYTELLING** Hailey Downs 2nd, Sunshine Scott 3rd, Krisan Mowery 6th

**Grade 2 results-**

**CREATIVE WRITING** Stedari Sales 3rd

**STORYTELLING** Connor Heflin 5th

Union Hill students in grade 2 through 6 participated in District 18A UIL Academic Elementary District Meet at Sulphur Bluff on December 12, 2012. Union Hill ranked 4th out of 6 schools.

**Grade 6 results-**

**LISTENING** Team 3rd Omar Aguillon 3rd, Shelby Downs 4th

**MATHEMATICS** Team 2nd Reanna Rogers 2nd, River Scudday 6th

**MUSIC** Team 3rd Shelby Downs 5th

**NUMBER SENSE** Team 1st Omar Aguillon 1st, Riley Griffith 2nd

**ORAL READING** Nick Hopkins 6th

**READY WRITING** Omar Aguillon 4th

**SOCIAL STUDIES** Team 3rd Tori Strube & Bryce Beene Tied 6th

**Grade 5 results-**

**ART** Jakobe Griffis 3rd

**LISTENING** Team 5th Emily Shelley 3rd

**MAPS, GRAPHS & CHARTS** Ethan Qualls 6th

**NUMBER SENSE** Team 1st Reggie Brinkley 1st, Breanna Jackson 2nd, Madison Espinosa 6th

**READY WRITING** Kaitlyn Qualls 2nd



## ALUMNI CORNER featuring Laura Crone and A Family Tradition

By Claudia Delgado



**Mrs. Laura Crone** attended first grade at Union Hill before moving to Bridgeport, Texas, in 1956. She moved back to East Texas from Oregon in 1981 and started substituting that same year for Ms. Ruth Drew who was teaching here when Mrs. Crone left in 1956. Ms. Drew retired in 1982 and Mrs. Crone was hired to take her place teaching business.

The teaching assignments for Mrs. Crone included accounting, typing, business law, recordkeeping, business English, BASIC computer language, computer literacy, business communication information systems, desktop publishing, multimedia, and year-book production.

Extracurricular assignments included NHS sponsor, Student Council sponsor, senior class sponsor, cheerleader sponsor, and Interact Club sponsor.

From 1982 until 1990, Mrs. Crone was coach of junior high and high school girls' basketball and track.

The last assignment which Mrs. Crone still performs is bus driver. She still drives the same route today. After more than 27 years of teaching at Union Hill, Mrs. Laura Crone retired from teaching in 2008. However, she still returns to various assignments at Union Hill such as substituting and administering tests.

Many family members are alumni and have been actively involved in Union Hill I.S.D. down through the years.

**Aron Tucker**, father of Laura Crone, graduated from Union Hill in 1933. He was a member of Union Hill Bulldogs basketball team. Mr. Tucker drove a school bus his senior year earning \$10.00 a month.

**Doyle Tucker**, uncle of Laura Crone, graduated salutatorian in 1940. He was also the first quarterback of Union Hill Bulldogs football team.

**Duane Tucker**, uncle of Laura Crone, graduated in 1946. He was a member of the Bulldogs football team all through high school.

**Donald Tucker**, another uncle, graduated in 1948. He also played football and basketball all through high school.

**Bobby Tucker**, brother of Laura Crone, graduated in 1954. He was a member of Union Hill Bulldogs football and basketball teams all through high school.

**Robert Blundell**, uncle of Laura Crone, served on Union Hill School Board during the 50's, 60's, and 70's.

**HATS OFF TO ANOTHER FAMILY TRADITION!!**



## World of Athletics

### UNION HILL BULLDOGS FOOTBALL SEASON by Darrian Lewis and Guadalupe (Lupito) Suarez

The Union Hill football team was very excited about the new season or "New Beginning." The schedule was filled with exciting games and tough competitors. Union Hill started the season with a scrimmage win over Como-Pickton. This scrimmage game was followed by non-district contests against Carlisle, Quinlan Boles, Cushing, All-Saints, and James Bowie. The district season started with undefeated Detroit. Union Hill played an amazing close game with each player giving his all and playing hard. The next district games against Maud, Cumby, and Overton all ended with losses.

The season was over and Union Hill had not won a game. Although the Bulldogs were unsuccessful in wins on the field, the team showed a lot of perseverance. The Bulldogs fought until the end with players looking forward to preparations for next year. The support and loyalty shown by the Bulldogs fans provided a lot of encouragement to the players throughout the season. Thanks to each one.

Junior High Bulldogs team played several games. The players played with a lot of heart and look forward to coming back next year.



### Lady Bulldogs Volleyball

By Mayra Aguillon

Union Hill Lady Bulldogs are doing well so far. The season began on August 14, playing Miller Grove at home. The players have been preparing for the season by practicing hard. The five senior players want to set an example for the other players by encouraging each other. The games brought the team together with players trying to improve with each game.

Coaches Jennifer Conde and Joe Jones have helped the team so much. Now that the season is over, what we learned was amazing and enabled us to play some amazing games. They give us new things to learn about the game so that we can become better players. Now that the season is over, what we learned was amazing and





## Union Hill Congratulates

By Marcus Lawton




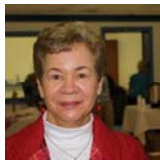









**Marcus A. Lawton.** The National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS) announced on September 26, 2012, that Union Hill High School student Marcus A. Lawton from Gilmer, Texas, has been selected for membership. The Society recognizes top scholars and invites only those students who have academic excellence. The announcement was made by NSHSS Founder and chairman Claes Nobel, a senior member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes. Marcus's goals are to graduate from Union Hill and attend East Texas Baptist University (ETBU) in Marshall, Texas, and study exercise science and chemistry.

**Superintendent Sharon A. Richardson** for her appointment to the Texas Association of School Administrators Communications and Technology Board for 2012-2014.

**Mrs. Velma Clay** recently completed the eligibility requirements to teach statewide-articulated (dual credit) courses in 9 areas which are: Business Law, Business English, Touch System Data Entry, Human Resource Management, Principles of Business / Marketing and Finance, Business information Management I, Business Information Management II, Business Management, and Global Business.

She was also appointed by the State UIL Academic Office in Austin, Texas, to serve on the 2012-2014 Regional Speech and Debate Advisory Committee.

## UNION HILL CELEBRATES WITH COMMUNITY By Leah Davis and Claudia Delgado,

						
		<div style="text-align: center;"><b>SEPTEMBER</b> <b>9/11 Disaster Observance</b> <b>OCTOBER</b> <b>Drug Awareness Week</b> October 29th through November 2nd Monday and Tuesday—Drug-Free Presentations Wednesday—Give Drugs a Boot Day Thursday—Crazy Sock It to Drugs Day/Magic Show Friday—Bad Bulldogs Against Drugs <b>NOVEMBER</b> <b>Veterans Day Observance</b> Breakfast and Assembly honoring local veterans <b>Thanksgiving</b> <b>DECEMBER</b> Christmas Celebrations</div>				
	<div style="background-color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"><p>Nickolas Moses 2012 UH Graduate</p></div>					