

Tour...from Page 1A

Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Williams, UCPS Principals Millie Owenby, and Connie Coker. First on the agenda was a stop at the Primary School and a Pre-K classroom where the bright 4-and-5 year olds were beginning to grasp the names of all 12 months, by putting each of them into a song that the captivated youngsters couldn't wait to get up and dance while singing along.

Up next was the second grade Portuguese language class where the sign on the door notifies everyone that English isn't allowed in the room.

Speaker Ralston and the group were in awe as Jamilla Jennings conversed with her students in Portuguese. Despite not understanding a single word, everyone in the room, including Superintendent Steppe was not only proud of the results but also thrilled they were able to put on a remarkable display in front of the third most powerful man in Georgia.

"I've had a great visit and I'm incredibly impressed with all of the work that's going on here in the schools," Speaker Ralston said. "I was fascinated by the Portuguese immersion program. I think that can be a real model for training students to compete for jobs at the international level, which is what we need to be thinking about."

The tour moved across the street to the high school where Principal John Hill along with Assistant Principals C.T. Hussion and Jennifer Ludlum joined the group at the PAES Lab, which stands for Practical Assessment Exploration System. Under the tutelage of Cindy Dobbins and Tracy Underwood, the class offers work and life skills training with students clocking in upon arrival and clocking out when exiting the room.

"It's an elective and it provides a work-like environment," Associate Superintendent Dr. Williams said. "This

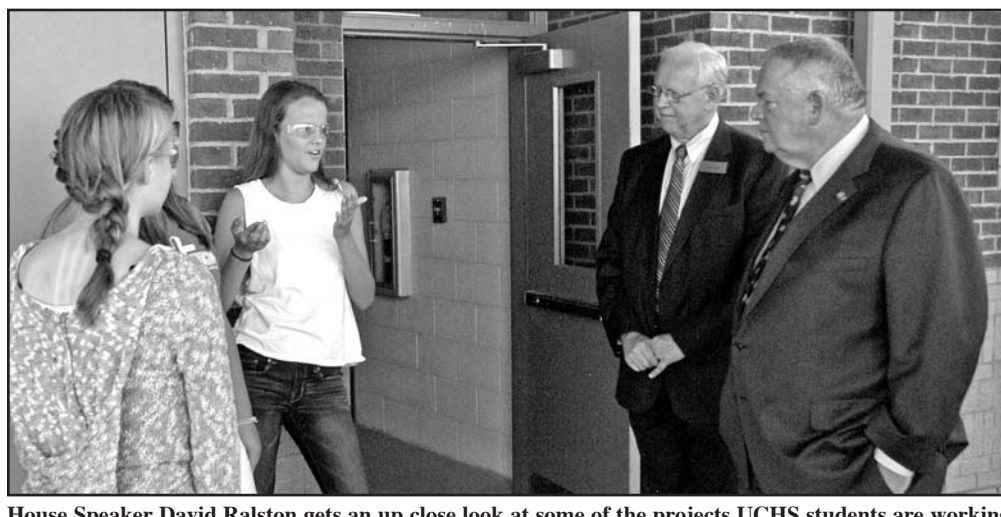
is the first full year that we've had it, last year we implemented it at mid-year."

Before making the final stop at the fine arts building, Clint Johnson's engineering lab was on display and Speaker Ralston was able to chat and get an up close look at the individual and group projects that were currently in the works.

The Fine Arts Center, which was loosely based on Fannin County's fine arts building, but with a few tweaks, making it unique to UCHS, drew high marks from Speaker Ralston.

The group toured the back stage area which holds classrooms, dressing rooms, and plenty of storage, and that's where they met UCHS Band Director Will Stafford. With a handful of band members on hand, they provided a barely rehearsed, one-song, a Capella concert of Gregorian chants, that went off without a hiccup.

New Drama teacher



House Speaker David Ralston gets an up close look at some of the projects UCHS students are working on. Union County Superintendent Gary Steppe accompanied Speaker Ralston during his visit.

Chris Adams received a "welcome home" greeting from those in the group from Union County. Adams discussed the never ending supply of cutting edge technology, gadgets, and toys that will be available during productions, once Adams and staff are able to digest the vast amounts of training they've been receiving. Ad-

ams and staff are trying to learn 'the ins and outs' of the different systems and bells and whistles that come with the facility.

"We're just really proud of Union County Schools and we think that we have some very neat and outstanding programs," Superintendent Steppe said. "The Speaker

had an opportunity to come by and spend some time with us, and we wanted to show him some of the things we are doing, and I think he liked what he saw."

"I'm very, very impressed with the facility and the work that's going on here at the high school," Speaker Ralston added.

EMC...from Page 1A

ly rural community in Indiana, followed by a 20-year stint as the CEO of Blue Grass Energy Cooperative in Kentucky, a 56,000-meter co-op located near Lexington.

In recent years, Brewer has been serving as an executive search consultant for the

National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), helping cooperatives across the country with their CEO search efforts.

Brewer and his wife, Paulette, have two sons and three grandchildren.

BRMEMC President

Bill Prather said that Brewer would bridge a critical gap for BRMEMC as it moves forward.

"Dan Brewer will help bridge a critical gap for the EMC as we search for our next permanent vice president and general manager," Prather

said. "Dan brings a wealth of experience to the table, and has the skill sets needed to move this cooperative forward."

The EMC Annual Meeting is Sept. 12. Two board of director seats are up for grabs and one has already been de-

cidated.

In Union County, Mickey Cummings, Patrick Malone and Charles Rich are on the ballot by petition.

In Towns County, Roy Perren, who got on the ballot by petition, faces Jerry Nichols, who was nominated by

the EMC Board of Directors.

In Fannin County, Larry Williams is unopposed on the ballot after gaining admission to the ballot by petition. Prather, the EMC Board of Directors' president, declined the nomination to seek another term on the board.

Caught...from Page 1A

to surround the residence. As we were pulling in the back of the residence, three people got in the vehicle at the residence and were leaving in a fast manner.

"Other units in the area were able to block them off," Lt. Osborn said. "The State Pardons and Parole officials alerted us that Chevy Saunders was dangerous and would flee. We initiated a felony traffic stop and Mr. Saunders was arrested without incident."

"Also in the vehicle were two small children, which Saunders was not allowed to be around," Lt. Osborn said. "The investigation revealed Saunders had been there (Track Rock Gap Road residence) since Aug. 24, which violated another law. Being a sex offender, Saunders was supposed to notify

Union County that he was in the county. He also was in the presence of children, which violates another law."

Authorities contacted the Department of Family and Children Services to come to the scene, Lt. Osborn said.

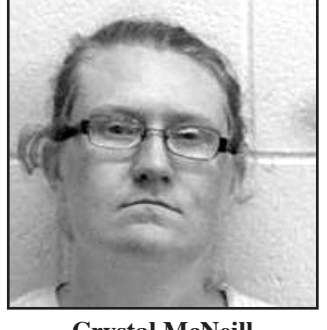
"The small children, which belonged to Saunders' sister, Crystal McNeill, were taken into custody by DFACS," Lt. Osborn said.

Further investigation led to the arrest of the two persons with Saunders, Lt. Osborn said.

"Mr. Saunders was charged with parole violation and failure to register in Union County as a convicted sex offender," Lt. Osborn said. "The two persons with him, Lori Land, and Crystal McNeill were charged with possession of methamphetamine with



Lori Land



Crystal McNeill

intent to distribute, possession of marijuana, less than an ounce, and possession of drug-related objects.

"Ms. Land, whose house was being rented by, also was charged with disorderly house," Lt. Osborn said.

Likewise, Saunders also was charged with possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute, possession of marijuana, less than an ounce, and possession of drug related objects, Lt. Osborn said.

Saunders is being held on a parole violation and no bond on the other charges. Land, 41, is being held without bond, and McNeill, 31, is being held on \$20,000 bond. All three are being housed at the Union County Jail, Lt. Osborn said.