

The tortoise and the hilarious

The Rags to Riches storytelling act returned to the Wake Forest Community House Sept. 22, much to the delight of the first and second grade classes at Wake Forest Elementary.

Photos by David Leone



From left, Ava Rypkema, 4, Justin Haller, 4 and Preston Haller, 5, burst out laughing at the couple's antics.



◀ Melody Peters, playing the tortoise from the famous fable, greets audience member Natalia Davis.



▼ Lou Peters played the hare — and also the guitar — to entertain the kiddies.

Daniels joins Cedar Creek family

By CARRIE C. CAUSEY
Wake Weekly Staff Writer

YOUNGSVILLE — Students are first and foremost to new Cedar Creek Middle School principal Dr. Laverne Daniels. But staff are just as important.

Franklin County Schools held a reception for faculty to meet the principal Sept. 21.

Daniels told attendees, "I will meet with you, support you and protect you." Adding with a laugh and a nod to the school board officials in the room, "even if it's against central office."

"I will make sure you aren't disrespected by students or parents."

Daniels will take over for interim principal Geoffrey Hawthorne the first of October and leave her current position as principal at West Edgcombe Middle School.

"Working at Cedar Creek will give me an opportunity to work in my church community," she wrote in an e-mail. "It is closer to home and the school has so much potential. I look forward to assisting the staff in moving forward."

Daniels, a Rolesville resident, has previously worked as a teacher and assistant principal at Wake Forest-Rolesville

Elementary and principal of Robbins Elementary School in Moore County.

During her teaching career, she was nominated for Teacher of the Year for Wake County Schools in 1997 and received her National Board Certification in 2000 with a specialization in Early Generalist. Daniels has also published a series of children's books and a book to help struggling readers enhance literacy skills.

With her years of experience, Daniels said there is so much she would like to bring to the school. But don't expect drastic changes too fast.

"I need to first observe the practices that are already in place," she wrote. "We will set new academic goals and work hard at reaching them. We will put a strategic plan in place to become a school of distinction with high growth."

Daniels has aspirations of making Cedar Creek Middle a school of excellence with high growth and to ensure students are prepared for high schools.

During the reception, Daniels told staff she is willing to talk to them whenever they'd like and is always willing to meet with them.

That goes for parents as well.



The Wake Weekly/CARRIE C. CAUSEY

Dr. Laverne Daniels met with Cedar Creek Middle staff last week to introduce herself as the new principal.

She plans to meet with parents in the future.

"We want them to partner with us to make sure their children get the best education this school year," she wrote. "We

want every student to achieve high growth."

"Although I am sad about leaving West, I am just as excited about joining my new family at Cedar Creek."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Former SOS Club leaders Carol Anne Benson and Danielle Sudrabin are on the receiving end of a total slime annihilation, at the merciless hands of other SOS members during a previous fundraising event for the club. Slime will be on the menu during the upcoming Fun Fair event as well.

Get ready to bounce!

Sponsors wanted for Oct. 15 Fun Fair.

By DAVID LEONE
Wake Weekly Associate Editor

WAKE FOREST — The Wake Forest Rotary Club and Wake Forest-Rolesville Middle School's Social Organization and Service Club have joined forces to hold this year's Fun Fair.

The event includes multiple inflatables, a climbing wall, dunk tank, pie in the face table, food and skating at Wakefield's Jellybeans Oct. 15.

The SOS Club, which raises money from its annual dance for children's wards at area hospitals, also used to hold a fun fair at the school to raise additional money.

The dance did well enough this year that fun fair funds will go toward the Fisher House in Fort Bragg, which helps wounded soldiers with living arrangements and Wake Forest's Purple Heart Dinner, which honors soldiers injured in combat.

The event will be held in the Jellybeans parking lot.

"Jellybeans is going to be part of the event that evening. Money for the fun fair is going to include skating that night," said Michael Meyer, WF-R Middle counselor and Rotary Club member.

Sponsors are wanted to help pay for the inflatables, which are provided by Inflatable Fun Now out of Burlington.

Meyer said to expect smaller inflatables for little kids and competitive ones for the older kids, such as a joust, T-Rex obstacle course and bungee run. Since pies will be thrown and slime dumped on heads, there is some chance for splatter, so Meyer recommends all kids wear older clothes.

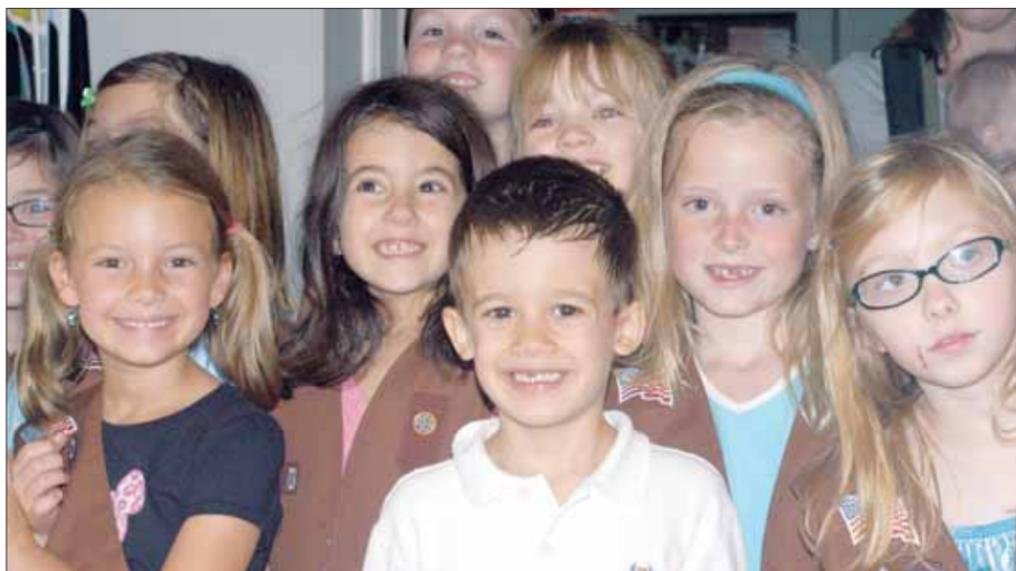
Food is provided by Spinner's Grill in Wakefield and a Kona Ice truck will be on site as well.

The fair is open to elementary and middle school-aged kids. Cost is a \$15 per person donation or up to four people for \$30, which includes all the games and climbing wall and the skating from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The dunk tank, pie/slime and food costs extra.

Jellybeans has discounted their entry fee (normally \$9-\$10), charging only what it costs them to keep the facility running, Meyer said, so the causes will earn more as a result.

Though the fun fair has been run by the students in the past, Meyer said, "This is a Rotary Club of Wake Forest event. They're really stepping up. The SOS Club will be assisting the Rotary Club and with organization. The kids have already made signs and they're going to make some commercials to play in school."

A rain date is to be determined. Tickets will be on sale soon at Jellybeans and Spinners and at the door. To sign up as a sponsor, visit wakeforestfunfair.com or e-mail information@sosclub.info.



The Wake Weekly/DAVID LEONE

Brownies delivered to The Wake Weekly office

St. Catherine of Siena Brownie Troop 780 toured The Wake Weekly office Sept. 22, to learn about the ins and outs of the newspaper business. The Wake Weekly intern David Allen guided the group, showing them proof print examples and explaining the function of the reporting, editing, layout, publishing and support staff. Above, the wide-eyed girls (and a sibling) peer into the reporters' room.