

Sheriff running for fourth term

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Forsyth County Sheriff William T. "Bill" Schatzman filed for reelection Monday, in hopes of winning a fourth consecutive term.

"For the past 11 years, our citizens have asked me to keep them safe and protect them from criminals," Schatzman said in a statement. "We have done this by improving the performance of the sheriff's office and making it more profes-

sional. In the process, we eliminated the nepotism, cronyism and favoritism that once plagued the sheriff's office and replaced it with a performance-based system that demands responsibility and full accountability."

Schatzman said that his administration's "one team with one mission" philosophy has resulted in the sheriff's office becoming one of the most efficient and effective in North

Carolina and it being accredited by the National Law Enforcement Accreditation organization.

"But there is always more to do," Schatzman said. "...We plan to crack down even harder on illegal drugs, get even tougher on gangs and domestic violence, increase monitoring of sexual predators and offenders, and take even more steps to prevent and solve crimes."



Sheriff Bill Schatzman

TABJ

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title at a large daily newspaper. Johnson joined the News & Record in 1987 and previously led its features and sports departments. He also teaches at UNC-Greensboro, where one of his courses is titled, "Race, Culture and Media."

T A B J announced last week that Phoebe Zerwick, a former Winston-Salem Journal reporter who is now a lecturer at Wake Forest University, has been added

to the panel.

The Triad Association of Black Journalists, founded in 2010, is an affiliate chapter of the National

Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) that represents professional communicators in Greensboro, High Point, Winston-Salem and surrounding areas. TABJ promotes diversity and encourages professional growth with a focus on journalists of color.

Learn more at www.TriadABJ.weebly.com.



McNeill



Photo by Layla Garris

Tim Lee (left) stands beside Spencer Hardy - the man to whom he will pass the baton in a few weeks.

Hardy

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Academic and Technology High School, where he led the School of Biotechnology from 2008 until 2011. Johnson, who is a former school administrator himself, said Hardy has the personality and people skills necessary to be successful in the position.

"He knows how to deal with these young people, and I think they will like him because he's an easy-going fellow. He doesn't throw his weight around," Johnson said. "...You've got some kids that need that extra supervision. Sometimes, you can be that lightning rod in that school for that kid, if you get the kids that really care for you, like you. You've got to make sure that you get kids to feel that you really care about them, so it doesn't take long for kids to figure out who's on their side."

Parkland Parent-Teacher-Student Association President Deena Dreyfuss said she is hopeful that Hardy's presence will usher in a new era of Mustang pride that will translate to increased parental involvement and community support.

"I'm hoping that the new principal will be able to get more parents to feel like they should get more involved," noted Dreyfuss, the mother of a Parkland senior and a student at Paisley IB Magnet who plans to attend Parkland. "...I think Parkland still doesn't get as much recognition for what they've done over the past few years as they should."

Spreading the word about all the good things that are going on at the school will be one of his greatest - and most important - challenges, Hardy said. In his 15 years as a school administrator, Hardy says he has learned the importance of building relationships with the students and families he serves.

"You have to be out and about with students, making those connections," commented the 46-year-old, who began his career as an alternative education teacher at Petree Middle School (now Petree Elementary). "You have to make sure that the students know who you are. You have to show the students that you're interested in them. You have to make sure the students know that you're there for them."

Hardy has put his belief in relationships into practice at Main Street, where students are encouraged to build positive connections with school teachers and staff through



Dreyfuss



Johnson

the TRP (Totally Responsible Person) program, which strives to provide support for students with behavioral challenges and set them on a more positive path and away from Main Street.

"It brought a human aspect to education," he said of the program, which he launched at Main Street with a grant from Wells Fargo several years ago. "In that kind of environment, relationships are very important because those students don't trust very easily. When you build those relationships, you're more able to educate those students... Each student needs to be handled differently in order to be able to get the results that you're looking for."

Since coming to Parkland in 2005, Lee says he has worked to raise students' achievement and expectations. Under his leadership, Parkland has seen an increase in its test scores, graduation rate and scholarship awards.

"I'm very proud of the amount of improvement

that our students have displayed in lots of areas," remarked the High Point native. "...I've enjoyed seeing the students grow. I've also enjoyed seeing the teachers grow and take on new challenges and meet those challenges."

As a school that serves a predominantly minority population with a high number of students who come from low income families, Parkland's accomplishments have sometimes gone unnoticed, but Lee said the school, which has been recognized on the state and national level for its improvements, continues to exceed the expectations that society has placed upon it.

"I hope I'll be remembered for helping to raise both the expectations and the achievement level of our students," he said. "...I've tried to instill that, no matter where you come from, what race or ethnicity, rich or poor, you have the ability to excel academically, and I believe our students have risen to that challenge."

Lee, a grandfather of two, said he plans to spend his retirement traveling, spending time with family and perhaps down the road working part time as an educational consultant. Leaving the Mustang family behind is bittersweet for him, Lee said, but he believes Hardy is a worthy successor.

"I think I'm leaving it in capable hands, and I think I'm leaving it in a good place," he said of the school, which is home to more than 1,700 students. "I'm very proud of the improvements that we've been able to accomplish here, but even with that improvement, I don't think that it has tapped out yet... as much improvement as Parkland's made, they can still continue to improve."

In his new post, Hardy says he plans to build upon the successes of the past to create an even brighter future for Parkland and its students. As has been the case throughout his career, Hardy says he will measure his success by his students.

"I wanted to be a teacher at the high school level, because I wanted my students to come back to me," he remarked. "I have to know I had some positive effect on people - that's what makes the job for me. That, and seeing my students walk across the stage (as graduates). That's what I'm in it for."

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