

CARLYNTON

School District News



Carlynton School District

- 44 *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*
- 46 Impacting the Future
- 47 Registering For Kindergarten
- 47 An Evening with Brittany Maier
- 48 Making Headlines

- 53 Save the Date!
- 54 A Taste of Carlynton
- 54 Spring Musical: *The Sound of Music*

CARLYNTON



1



2



3

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY



4



8



9



7



6



5

"A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men." – Willy Wonka

Carlynton's production of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* in December brought record audiences to four dynamic performances. The imaginative play appealed to young and old and a gifted cast brought scenes to life inside a most peculiar chocolate factory. From spoiled children with outrageous behavior to flamboyant Oompa Loompas and flying characters, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* did not disappoint.

The story line follows the lives of five golden ticket winners and their parents as they are led on tour through a mysterious chocolate factory. The business, owned by Willy Wonka, operates under the effort of short humans called Oompa Loompas. Four of the five ticket winners succumb to temptation during the tour. Augustus Gloop (**Stuart Dougherty**) falls into a river of chocolate, Violet Beauregarde (**Alexis Dixon**) expands into an oversized blueberry, Veruca Salt (**Rachel Welsh**) is tossed away as a bad egg, and Mike Teavee (**Kurtus Mastandrea**) is shrunk to a few inches in height and transported into space. Only the unassuming Charlie Bucket (**Jaimee Cabili**) is saved from disaster and wins the grand prize, becoming heir to the factory.

The show's success can be credited to Director **Tonilyn Jackson** whose critical eye shaped and guided the unique talent of the cast. Production Assistant **Tracy Post** organized all marketing and ticket sales for the play and oversaw the selling of advertisements for the program book. The beautiful scenery, with oversized candy creations and a twisting slide, was created under the direction and vision of Art Director **Michelle Dzurenda**. The lighting, sound, make up, costumes and choreography all contributed to a performance of pure imagination and wonder with a twisted moral tale of luck, gratitude and family values.



Left page, clockwise from top right: **1** Cast as the spoiled and selfish Veruca Salt, sophomore Rachel Welsh offered a sassy introduction in the opening scene of the play, explaining why she, above all others, deserved a golden ticket; **2** The modest Bucket family gathered around the family bed to watch as Charlie Bucket, played by Jaimee Cabili, opened a chocolate bar in hopes of finding a golden ticket. Members of the Bucket family included Brandon King and Kayla Wilson (standing) as Mr. and Mrs. Bucket, Kyle Auth as Grampa Joe, Hannah Clark as Grandma Josephine, Xavier Helbig as Grandpa George and Natalie Latta as Grandma Georgina; **3** Grampa Joe (freshman Kyle Auth) and Charlie (freshman Jaimee Cabili) read the fine print on the back of a winning golden ticket before meeting other ticket winners outside the gate to the chocolate factory; **4** Lucky golden ticket winner Augustus Gloop and his mother Mrs. Gloop delighted in the prospect of touring a chocolate factory. Seniors Kassi Longstreth and Stuart Dougherty portrayed the roles with a zeal for chocolate; **5** Veruca Salt (Rachel Welsh) stomped, screamed and barely tolerated her father, Mr. Salt, played by sophomore Nathan Latta. The anguished Mr. Salt made every attempt to appease his sulking daughter as they

prepared to meet Willy Wonka; **6** The five lucky golden ticket winners gathered before the gates of the Willy Wonka factory, each proclaiming an entitlement to the prize, save for the unpretentious Charlie Bucket, center; **7** Violet Beauregarde and mother, Mrs. Beauregarde, brag about their competitive spirit and chances of winning the grand prize. Violet, played by sophomore Alexis Dixon, boasts to her mother, junior Eliana Davis, that she has been chewing the same piece of gum for nearly a year; **8** Reporters from WCHS, Samantha Story and Terry Teller, followed the five lucky golden ticket winners on their journey of finding a golden ticket and during the tour of the candy factory. Seniors Kalista Heidkamp and Makayla Rittmeyer portrayed the inquisitive reporters, an adaption to the narrative conceived by the show's director (Mrs. Jackson); **9** The bizarre Willy Wonka, played by junior John Cantwell, is perplexed by golden ticket winner Mike Teavee's fanatic devotion to gaming. Junior Kurtus Mastandrea perfected the role of Mike Teavee. His hovering and doting mother, Mrs. Teavee, played by senior Rachel Roach, nervously clung to her son's side during the factory tour. This page, clockwise from top: **10** Willy Wonka (John Cantwell) lured everyone into his chocolate fantasy world

by cunningly pulling the strings to provide life lessons to all of the "lucky" golden ticket winners; **11** The lovely Mrs. Beauregarde (Eliana Davis) is surrounded by the Oompa Loompa Squad as they prepare to style her hair. When the transformation was complete, Mrs. Beauregarde was shocked to discover her lovely locks were fashioned into a pink beehive of cotton candy; **12** Grandpa Joe (Kyle Auth) and Charlie (Jaimee Cabili) become airborne inside the chocolate factory after tasting a special tonic created by Willy Wonka. In other scenes, Willy Wonka also flew above the stage as he created mayhem inside the factory; **13** Wonka (John Cantwell) shares an intimate moment with good friend Mr. Slugsworth who secretly set a trap for the golden ticket winners that would ultimately unveil the truest heart of the five. Senior Zachary Smith depicted the role of the the assumed villain; **14** Headlining the performance as WCHS studio reporters were Diane Fine and David Darlington, played by sophomore Tara Wade and senior Tyler Smith. In Act Two, the duo packed up their belongings when fired from the job because they did more squabbling than reporting of the updates of happenings inside the chocolate factory.

Impacting THE Future

Three Carlynton High School upperclassmen recently spent five incredible days in the nation's capital as delegates to the 2017 Envision Impact Series: Presidential Inauguration Leadership Summit. Senior **Mia Caruso** and freshmen **Benjamin Carothers** and **Camryn Kwiatkoski** departed for Washington, D.C. mid-January for a life-changing, history-making opportunity.

As affiliates of the leadership conference, Mia, Ben and Camryn were among 2,500 teens from 30 countries to witness the inauguration of Donald Trump, the 45th president of the United States. Ben, as he watched and listened to the ceremonies, said there was a big difference in physically being on Capitol grounds rather than watching it on television. "The impact was much greater," he said. While the atmosphere on the Capitol green was upbeat, protesters were not far away. Ben, Camryn and Mia admitted it was interesting to watch how strongly people felt on both sides of the continuum. Mia was interviewed by a CBS news reporter shortly after the inauguration. The interview was published on CBS Snapchat and Instagram.

As delegates for change, the students attended numerous presentations and informational sessions over the five-day period. They listened to world-renowned speakers, from the likes of Colin Powell, retired four-star general of the U.S. army, Spike Lee, award winning writer, director, actor and producer, and Amy Wambach, all-time leading scorer in international soccer history.

Ben said he appreciated comments made by Colin Powell who encouraged him and others in the audience to "do your best every day." The theme driven home by Powell, "leadership is followship," conveyed the message that a good leader must also know how to follow.

Standing out above others, Camryn and Mia said they admired and were inspired by a speech given by 19-year old Malala Yousafzai, a human rights activist who campaigns for the rights of women to receive an education. In 2012, Yousafzai, of Pakistan, was shot by the Taliban in an assassination attempt while traveling home from school. Ziauddin Yousafzai, a Pakistani diplomat and father to Malala, gave the keynote address during a luncheon and career fair held on the concourse of the Eagle Bank Arena located on the campus of George Mason University. The trio were impressed by the career fair which offered ample pathways to career choices.

The conference's message was clear: to empower next generation leaders as they uphold a journey to realize their potential. In break out sessions, Mia, Ben and Camryn had the chance to debate powerful issues involving national and global challenges in regards to leadership, health care and curing the future.

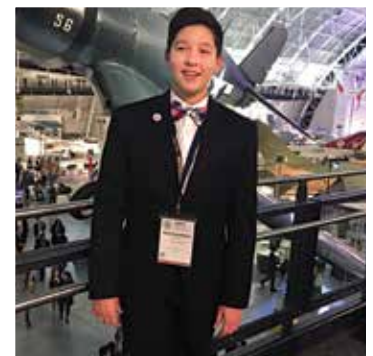
The summit's schedule, though rigorous, was not all hard work. Students had a chance to explore many of the museums and



Senior Mia Caruso, with the Capitol Building behind her, was interviewed by a CBS reporter following the inauguration of our 45th President of the U.S.



Discovering the key to leadership through hard work was the theme of the Leadership Summit. Camryn Kwiatkoski valued the time spent in the Eagle Bank Arena where a number of world-renowned speakers imparted a message of empowerment.



Ready for the exclusive Inaugural Gala, Benjamin Carothers stands tall in the Smithsonian National Museum of Air and Space.

monuments in the city and attended a dinner and formal gala in the Smithsonian National Museum of Air and Space.

The teens said they returned to Carlynton with an exposure to differing political viewpoints and a determination to make a difference.

All three students are well on their way to taking those steps. Mia, who attended a national security summit at the Pentagon in 10th grade, maintains good grades while balancing numerous extracurriculars. She is co-captain of the varsity cheerleading squad, a member of the girls' ensemble and track team and she will perform in her fourth spring musical later this month. Mia is also a lifeguard for the Special Olympics swim team. She plans to study political science in college.

Ben, enrolled in scholars and advanced placement classes, is vice president of the National Honor Society, a member of the boys' soccer team, debate club and ski club. Camryn, also a scholar and AP student, is president of junior high student council. She has studied dance from a young age and will perform as Louisa in this year's production of *The Sound of Music*.

The Presidential Inauguration Leadership Summit is held every four years during the week of the presidential inauguration. The 2017 summit marked the ninth year of engaging teens and empowering them to discover their passion, explore careers and realize dreams.



Registering For Kindergarten

The district will hold kindergarten registration at the end of March. Children who will be five-years-old by September 1, 2017 are eligible for enrollment.

Registration day for the 2017-2018 school year will be held at the elementary schools. Parents may register a child at Carnegie Elementary on Wednesday, March 29 or Crafton Elementary on Thursday, March 30. Children must be registered in the school located within the community in which they reside. Rosslyn Farms residents should register at Crafton Elementary.

In order for the registration process to run efficiently, parents are asked to visit the school at the following times based on the first initial of the child's last name:

A through G	Register between 8:30 and 10:00 am
H through M	Register between 10:00 and 11:00 am
N through S	Register between 12:30 and 1:30 pm
T through Z	Register between 1:30 and 2:30 pm

New student enrollment packets are available on the district's website at carlynton.k12.pa.us. Parents can download and complete the required information within the packet and bring it to registration. Other necessary forms include the child's health and immunization records, birth certificate and two proofs of residency.

At Carnegie Elementary, while the parent completes necessary forms, the child will be introduced to teachers and will participate in a series of placement assessments. Parents who register children at Crafton Elementary will complete forms and appointments will be made for screening at a later date.

Kindergarten is an exciting and critical time in a child's development and growth. For the parents of a child who is headed to kindergarten in August, the district offers a Pre-K Night for youngsters and parents to ease the transition. Pre-K Night will be held March 30th in Crafton Elementary and April 6th in Carnegie Elementary. The programs will run from 6:00-7:00 pm and will review the daily schedule of a kindergarten student, classroom expectations and helpful tips for preparing your child for the first day of school.

For additional information or questions, please contact the district registrar, Kristen Bonner, by calling 412.429.2500, ext. 1125 or emailing: kristen.bonner@carlynton.k12.pa.us.



Carnegie Elementary kindergarten students Emmett Spitzer and Olivia Schutz celebrated the 100th day of school by counting 10 pieces of 10 different finger foods, such as miniature marshmallows, fruity cereal, vanilla wafers and chocolate chips. The food was gathered into sandwich bags to total 100 items for an enjoyable snack.

An Evening with Brittany Maier

Nationally-famed savant pianist **Brittany Maier** presented a repertoire of music in concert February 16 in the Carlynton Junior-Senior High School auditorium. Sponsored by the Carlynton Best Buddies chapter, the evening of music raised awareness and funds to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Brittany Maier, who can play any song she's ever heard without practice, entertained the audience with the music of Adele, Michael Jackson, Billy Joel, Luciano Pavarotti, Andrea Bocelli and more. The concert closed with the audience requesting songs. Performing with grace and composure, she was disconcerted by none.

Maier began playing Franz Schubert's

Ave Maria on a toy piano at the age of six after hearing it played on a CD. At the age of 10, after receiving formal music instruction at the University of South Carolina's School of Music, she began composing her own original songs and released her first album when she was just 12-years-old. Maier was born prematurely, with limited vision and with autism. Her story is inspiring. She is known nationally and internationally, having performed on television and all over the world.

The concert also featured local vocalists Christina Chirumbolo and Meaga Strazisar who joined Maier in a few songs. In addition, the California University of Pennsylvania Dance Department performed "Life through the Spectrum," a piece choreographed to reflect the scope

of autism. In the auditorium vestibule, Carlynton alumni Joseph Smith of Benevolent Photography showcased a number of his pieces.

Proceeds from the concert performance will also support the planting of more Best Buddies chapters in Italy, thanks to alum Jason Bertocchi who formerly traveled to Rome and facilitated the organization of three chapters in the city.

The Best Buddies organization, with a membership of 35, is dedicated to building meaningful relationships between those with and without intellectual disabilities. The bonds create lasting friendships and build self-confidence so that those with disabilities can gain independence.



MAKING HEADLINES

Scott Albert



Mr. Scott Albert from the U Can Be organization has been offering career education training to upperclassmen by way of a tailored curriculum. Albert and a guest visit the high school monthly to lead discussions about entrepreneurship, careers in the trades, technology, film, science or politics. A session in February was led by Joseph Martelli, President and CEO of Boss Labor Group. A retired industrial engineer, Martelli now helps individuals in every craft of the trade to secure jobs in the power and fossil fuels industries. "Hone in on the one area in which you excel, and use that to direct your career path," Martelli said to students. He also encouraged them to research supply and demand for employment. "Jobs that are popular today may not be available in four to five years," he said, citing a decline in the nuclear industry. Students are finding that the U Can Be series is prompting up-close conversations with local business leaders who are guiding and connecting them with vital resources for career planning.



A team of fourth and fifth graders from Carnegie and Crafton elementary schools were lauded as a top three team in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit-sponsored History Bowl held at the Heinz History Center in the fall. **Charlie Burcham, Lana Mihelcic, Eva Milliner, Ella Synder and Bailey Vetter** won the third place title with 87 points. The tight race to the top was reflected in the scores of the three finalists. The second place team earned 89 points and the top team edged the competitors with 92 points. Over 50 teams competed in the History Bowl which challenges students to find

answers to questions related to historical facts, think and write creatively and solve problems with imaginative solutions. Students were also allotted time to explore exhibits in the history center.



Junior **Kaytlin Stevens** of Carnegie was given the honorary title of Mayor for the Day, thanks to Carnegie Borough Mayor Jack Kobistek. As honorary mayor, Kaytlin was asked to execute the duties with the same positive attitude she exudes in the classroom. Among the responsibilities as mayor, Kaytlin kicked off the holiday season in the borough on December 2nd by flipping the switch to light the holiday tree at the corner of Mansfield and Campbells Run Road.



Carnegie Borough Honorary Mayor of the Day Kaytlin Stevens was presented with a medal and proclamation to officially recognize the symbolic title. Kaytlin, seated, was recognized at the junior-senior high school among friends, teachers and administrators and is pictured with Principal Michael Loughren, Carnegie Mayor Jack Kobistek, teacher Frank Zebrasky and Superintendent Dr. Gary Peiffer.



In October, biology students travelled with teacher **William Palonis** to the Beaver County Environmental Center in the Beaver County Conservation District located on 18 acres of wetlands in Independence Township. Two Environmental Studies classes made the trip separately on back-to-back days. Warm, balmy weather yielded the perfect opportunity to comb the nearby creek for living organisms. Students learned about the ecosystem on the environmental center and the measures being taken to prevent pollutants, soil erosion and to preserve the natural resources.



Clockwise from above right: Freshmen Nicholas Cindrich, Evan Staker and Jack Jones used a large burlap sack to scoop and collect tiny creatures living in the creek; Mr. Palonis, left, with ninth graders Jordan Williams, Madison McMonagle and Jane Grabowski check out an Asteroidean or crayfish found in the creek; As some students waded through the creek with nets to find organisms in the water, others stayed on land to categorize and document the findings.



Carlynton students enrolled in a Family and Consumer Sciences class held a bake sale to raise money in honor of fallen Police Officer Scott Bashioum. Officer Bashioum was ambushed while responding to a domestic dispute in Canonsburg last year, leaving behind a wife and family. Moved by the story, senior **Jacob Elias** rallied to organize the baking of assorted cookies, brownies, cupcakes and muffins, as well as soliciting monetary and baked good donations from teachers and staff. An abundant display of goodies was sold during all three lunch periods, netting a profit of \$533.50. The proceeds were sent to the Scott Bashioum Children's Memorial Fund, established to provide for Bashioum's four children. Earlier in the school year, Family and Consumer Science students, led by teacher Suzanne Verbanick, collected left-over Halloween candy, sending over 50 pounds of sweets to troops overseas.



Bake sale organizer Jacob Elias stands with contributors Marisa Goelz, Patricia Maloy, Alexis Kowal, Kaylee Goolsby and Tashe-Ann Earle. The group oversaw the sale of all bake goods during lunch periods with proceeds benefitting the Scott Bashioum Children's Memorial Fund.



Carlynton's own **Rebecca Chenette**, choir director, made a grand appearance in Stage 62's fall theatrical performance of *The Music Man*. Chenette starred as Marian, Madame Librarian, as she sang and danced in the award winning musical with an ode to libraries and marching bands. The performances, held at the Carnegie Free Library and Music Hall, received rave reviews from sold out audiences during the shows two-week run. *The Music Man* was directed by Rob James and produced by Lori Dedola, both alumni of Carlynton. Additionally, several cast members included current students and graduates.



A Very Carnegie Christmas at the Carnegie Free Library and Music Hall featured a jazz concert with Richie



Senior **Sofia Carrasco** was honored in November with the KDKA Extra Effort Award sponsored by the Allegheny Health Network. The Extra Effort Award is presented to a student who achieves in the classroom, as an athlete and as a contributor in the community. KDKA sports anchor Bob Pompeani visited Carlynton to present the award to Sofia during a school-wide assembly.



Academically, Sofia is at the top of her class. She is a member of the varsity girls' soccer team and the cross country and track and field teams. This past soccer season, she was named to the All-WPIAL team and received All-Section honors. Sofia is also theatrically talented and held a leading role in last year's school musical *Pippin*. She will portray the part of Maria in the upcoming spring musical, *The Sound of Music*.



Top left: KDKA Extra Effort Award winner Sofia Carrasco with parents Socrates and Vicki Carrasco and sports anchor Bob Pompeani.
Bottom left: Sofia Carrasco was interviewed by KDKA sports anchor Bob Pompeani after the award presentation.



During the holiday season, members of Carnegie Elementary chorus performed with jazz artist Richie Cole and Orchestra.

Cole and Orchestra and special guests from Carnegie Elementary School. Choral students in grades four through six joined Cole on stage, directed by chorus teacher **Mary Ferro**, singing *Silver Bells* and *Carnegie Christmas*, a song written for the occasion by Cole. The jazz artist, who now makes his home in Carnegie, has played with the big bands of Buddy Rich, Lionel Hampton and Doc Severinsen, among others. He offered students high praise for good behavior and a flawless performance.



Students Annalyn Bell, Bridget Maloy, Rebecca Walter, Julia Zayats and Kayla Symsek performed with poise at the holiday concert.

Continued on next page >



MAKING HEADLINES *continued*



NEWS Staff Sargeant William Palonis, son of biology teacher **Bill Palonis**, visited the classroom to demonstrate tactical field care strategies to control life-threatening hemorrhaging by using a tourniquet. A medic in the Special Forces, Green Beret Unit, Palonis

demonstrated the procedure to students with the help of volunteer Jack Jones.



Carlynton hosted a forensics tournament at the high school in January, welcoming students from a number of local school districts. Several Carlynton students captured first and second place at the competition, qualifying to advance to a final round tournament to be held in the South Fayette School District. Those advancing in specific categories included:

Extemporaneous, a limited-preparation speaking competition:

Desmond Corrado, grade 8, first place

Sean Hart, grade 5, first place

Jonah Hunt, grade 8, second place

Impromptu, speaking about a topic with very little preparation time:

Audrey Robb, grade 7, second place
Prose, or short stories:

Mason Glover, grade 5, first place

Mary Dougherty, grade 6, second place

Bailey Vetter, grade 5, second place

Poetry, presentation of a selected piece

Mary Ella Synder, grade 5, second place

Drama, performing a dramatic piece:

Martial Delrosario, grade 5, second place



Student participation in the arts has grown considerably in recent years. Individuals are qualifying for music competitions and festivals and participating with peers from schools across the region. In January, band students **Faith Aliano, Andrew Clark, Kalista Heidkamp, Arabella Hunt, Sam Knabel, James Lukaszewicz, Tyler Smith** and **Rebecca Turske** participated in the Western Allegheny County Area Honors Band Festival (WACA) hosted at Sto-Rox High School. The district played host to the Western Area Middle School (WAMS) festival February 2-4. Carlynton seventh grader **Audrey Robb** and eighth graders **Eric Burcham, Rodrigo Corral-Hayes, Morgan Floyd, Megan Henke, Sara MacMurdo, Sofia Notaro, Mariam Thompson** and **Emma Weiland** were among some 115 participants in the festival. Students from Chartiers Valley, Cornell, Montour, Moon, South Fayette, Sto-Rox and West Allegheny middle schools performed in a grand concert directed by Carlynton's very own band director **Todd Obidowski** in the high school auditorium. Seniors **Kalista Heidkamp** and **Tyler Smith** qualified for Senior High District Band held in Mt. Lebanon High School on February 10-11 and **Kyle Auth, Rodrigo Corral** and **James Lukaszewicz** were selected for Junior High District Band held in Trinity Middle School March 3-4.



At the elementary level, the district will host the Pennsylvania Music Education Association Elementary District Band Festival and the junior-senior high school May 12-13 with a grand



Thanks to the generous support of the Carnegie-Collier Rotary, The Education Partnership and a number of Carnegie businesses, the student body of Carnegie Elementary received kits filled with school supplies, personal care products and notes of encouragement. The kits, given to over 400 smiling students, were valued at \$35 each. By way of the Rotary Adopt-A-School program, students gathered in the auditorium on

December 8 for a presentation. Mr. Justin Brown, Executive Director of the Education Partnership, involved students in an engaging presentation to depict positive character traits such as working hard, not being afraid to fail, taking chances and exhibiting kindness. Clifford the Big Red Dog joined Brown to reinforce good study habits. Following the assembly, students lined up, excited to receive a "power tool kit," distributed by local Rotarians and Carnegie business representatives. In addition to students receiving school supplies, all teachers were invited to visit and select up to \$600 in classroom supplies, two times within the school year, from the Education Partnership warehouse located in Pittsburgh's West End neighborhood.



Clockwise from left: Carnegie Elementary second grader **Peter Blain** inspects his bag of school supplies with delight. **Clifford the Big Red Dog** greeted students outside the auditorium, offering friendly hugs to first grade students **Carter Donlin** and **Hafiz Rhaman**.

A little earlier in the school year, the Carnegie-Collier Rotary also supplied dictionaries to third graders, a generous offering that is not



taken lightly by an enthusiastic **Charles Thornburg**. The Rotary's benevolence to the elementary school has made a positive impact for all students.

concert of 148 students from 64 schools on Saturday afternoon, May 13. Selected to participate from Carlynton are fifth and sixth graders **Gavin Corrado, Gabriel DiPietro, Georgie Gamble, Peter Gargis, Mareesa Garrett, Sean Hart, Elena Johnson, Clara Keller, Victoria McIntyre, Shea Plante, Simon Schriver, Mary Ella Snyder and Kendall Stark.**



On the choral festival front, Carnegie and Crafton elementary students will be performing in the 2017 PMEA Singfest to be held March 17 at Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland. They include fifth and sixth graders **Haylee Boggs, Sean Hart, Rachele Jacob, Victoria McIntyre, Rebecca Walter and Elaine Zhang.** At the secondary level, eighth graders **Hayle DeSimone, Zachary Holderbaum** and ninth grader **Elizabeth Duffy** successfully auditioned for junior high district chorus to be held May 5 and 6 in the Montour School District.



Jeff Smith, the "Geode Guy," visited third graders at Carnegie Elementary to impart a message about rocks, minerals and geodes. A geologist for 35 years, Smith took students on a virtual trip from Carnegie to an active geode mine about 100 feet beneath the Chihuahuan desert in Mexico. During the simulated tour, third graders discovered three different rock groups and minerals and later had the opportunity to select a geode from a specimen table and watch as it was cracked open to reveal the crystals, colors and patterns inside.



Jeff Smith



The Carnegie Science Center was host to the annual Science Bowl in January, with teams from 12 area school districts putting their heads together to decipher a number of critical-thinking challenges. Carlynton's team of **Wilson Choate, Mason Glover, Sean Hart and Chikamso Orji** took first place in the fourth and fifth grade division. A "Mystery Bags" competition asked



Wilson Choate, Sean Hart, Chikamso Orji and Mason Glover swept the fourth and fifth grade division of the Science Bowl held at the Carnegie Science Center with a first place victory.

participants to determine the contents and quantity inside a bag without looking. "Barge Building" required teams to build a barge from aluminum foil and test its strength by adding up to 100 pennies. "Calculation Station," held in Roboworld, was a mathematical scavenger hunt. Competitors searched signs to locate numbers related to robots and then solved mathematical equations. Sportsworld was home to the final challenge, "Calorie Count," another scavenger hunt to find statistics about

calories. In the seventh and eighth grade division, Carlynton had two teams tie for second place. These teams were comprised of **Azja Gardner, Pierce Greiner, Gwen Kalimon, Michael Kozy, Ethan O'Brien, Lukas Prepelka, Audrey Robb and Owen Schriver.**



Senior **Stephanie Bonifield** placed sixth in Impromptu Speaking out of 37 competitors at the Pine Richland Speech and Debate Invitational held on January 21. In preliminary rounds, Stephanie procured first and third to qualify for the final round. Some 35 high schools from Western Pa and West Virginia competed at the tournament. Members of the high school forensics team are led by English and Public Speaking teacher **Margaret Wilson.** Moreover, Stephanie will travel for the second consecutive year to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center Camp in Huntsville, Alabama. Stephanie was accepted into a select space academy, an exclusive eight-day camp where she will have the chance to take a simulated

Continued on next page >



Nearly 275 high school students from 15 public and private schools in six counties wrestled with global issues in the Model United Nations conference on January 27 at Duquesne University. Eleven Carlynton seniors participated in the event which simulated the convening of the UN General Assembly and other multilateral bodies. The conference allowed students to step into roles as ambassadors. Drafting resolutions,

negotiating with allies and adversaries and resolving conflicts were just some of the activities taking place. "It actually became a little tense as committees tried to resolve an issue," said participant **Molly Kozy.** Dr. Mark Frisch, associate professor and director of the event said Model UN allows students to realize the importance of the United Nations and discover the challenges of international diplomacy. American Government and Economics teacher **Tracy Post** offered the educational opportunity to students and accompanied them to Duquesne University.



Pictured above are participants Mia Caruso, Shayna Prah, Alexis Stewart, Nicole Auen, Monika Karpa, Sofia Carrasco, Zoey Petrocelli, Skyler Sevacko, Kellie Lesniak, Molly Kozy, Lorin Welsh and Piper Stevens.



MAKING HEADLINES *continued*

mission to Mars and partake in a Top Gun pilot aviation camp. Only 40 students out of thousands of applicants are accepted into this elite program that is offered just once a year. Her trip has been fully funded through a scholarship from the Society of American Military Engineers.



Study Buddies at Crafton Elementary gather monthly to complete projects, read, study and socialize. Every year, sixth graders are paired with students in kindergarten and first grade. The older pupils quickly become mentors, role models and protectors of their younger companions. Late in January, the buddies gathered to make Valentine Day cards for those serving in the military. Using colorful construction paper, cut-out hearts, stickers and markers, the students designed cards with personal messages of encouragement and appreciation. The cards were then mailed with the help of Operation Heart to U.S. servicemen overseas along with boxes of various snacks, pop tarts and granola bars.



The bond developed between younger and older students is a positive attribute of Study Buddies. Max Samangy and Christopher Airhart work together to create a valentine for a U.S. serviceman.



Kendell Stark, center, works with Study Buddies Gabriella Medici and Kaleb Kuttler to customize valentines of appreciation for those serving in the military.



Crafton Elementary third graders in **Amanda Meyers** classroom have been studying birds and received a special treat when Gabi Hughes of the Audubon Society visited the classroom to



Students gathered with curiosity around a cage to learn about a homing dove or messenger pigeon and its innate ability to return to its nest when left a great distance away by using a sensory modality called magnetoreception.



Ms. Gabi Hughes from the Audubon Society assisted Graydon Harvey as he observed a feather under a microscope.

talk about birds, their differences and similarities. Asking students to become scientists through careful observation, Hughes guided the pupils in discovering the sections of feathers and the characteristics that shelter birds from rain and cold weather. Students observed feathers under a microscope and placed droplets of water on plumes to discover their waterproof-like quality as the liquid rolled off. They also observed the differing shapes of feathers to determine if the feather was from a wing or a tail and how the aerodynamic shape helped a bird to fly. Youngsters also were able to assemble around a homing dove and learn about its special ability to find its way home from a drop off location. Ms. Hughes will return to the classroom again with a promise to bring an owl. Miss Meyers said the study of birds will tie into a year-end field trip to the Audubon Society in the Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve.

Carlynton athletes have hit some memorable milestones this year, sharing the spotlight or breaking some long-running records. In November, cross country runner **Luke Phillips** advanced to the PIAA championships in Hershey, the first runner is school history to qualify for states. As captain of the wrestling team, senior **Logan Witwicki** marked 100 career wins on the mat and captured the WPIAL title in the 152-pound weight class. Swimmer **Lucas Ulizzi** made Carlynton history this past season by qualifying for WPIALs in every event and every stroke: the freestyle, breast, back and butterfly, the sum of 11 events. On the hardwood, senior guard **Ashleigh Wilson** hit a three-pointer in the fourth quarter game against rival Avonworth to score her 1,000th point. Ashleigh is the 11th girl in school history to record 1,000 career points. In football, senior tight end/defensive end **Ray Bordenick** signed with California University of PA on National Signing Day, February 1. From Cougar to Vulcan, Ray looks forward to learning and competing at the collegiate level. In summation of the winter sports 'seasons, the varsity boys' and girls' basketball teams made the playoffs and the varsity boys' and girls' swim team were undefeated in the section.



An emotional Ashleigh Wilson is congratulated by teammates after hitting her 1,000th career point.



Ray Bordenick made a commitment on National Signing Day to play for the Cal U Vulcans as witnessed by Cougar football coach Scott Yoder and AD Nate Milsom.



Thanks to the generosity of a Rosslyn Farms family, the district received a beautiful vintage grand piano for use in the choral room. With original ivory keys, the piano is in remarkable condition. Choral director Rebecca Chenette, pictured with ensemble members **Nathan Latta, David Holderbaum, John Cantwell, Zachary Smith** and **Marco Moorby**, has been using the piano daily as she rehearses with choral groups and says she will take great care to preserve the beauty of the treasured instrument.



Elementary teachers in the district often take advantage of the Lending Library sponsored by the Allegheny Intermediate Unit. Recently, kindergarten students at Crafton Elementary took part in coding exercises



with the use of Puzzlets and a board game called Robot Turtles. Pictured, **Colleen**

LaRiviere, Aaron Heffner and **Joey Gawlas** find themselves engaged as they work cooperatively to solve an abstract concept using a Puzzlet. Carnegie and Crafton elementary teachers are swift to utilize the AIU Lending Library, which allows educators to borrow technology tools for the classroom on a monthly basis.



Students in **Lisa Ramandanes'** reading classes were very excited to receive books donated by Animal Friends after reaching skill levels. The Carnegie Elementary youngsters have been



participating in the PALS program this year in cooperation with Animal Friends. PALS

or Pet-Assisted Literacy Services helps to promote a love of reading by incorporating informal opportunities for students to read alongside literacy animals. Animal-themed story time gives pupils a chance to read aloud to a visiting dog or cat and learn about nurturing an animal.

Save the dates!

2017

Carlynton School District Events Calendar

March

- 10 Carnegie Elementary Talent Show, Carnegie auditorium
- 24-25 Carlynton Community Arts Extravaganza at the Carnegie Free Library and Music Hall (Student Showcase)
- 29 Kindergarten Registration, Carnegie Elementary
- 30 Kindergarten Registration, Crafton Elementary
- 31 Kennywood Ticket Sale for school picnic / Tickets \$26
- 30-31 Spring Musical, *The Sound of Music*

April

- 01-02 Spring Musical, *The Sound of Music*
- 03 A Taste of Carlynton, Chartiers Country Club
- 03-07 PSSA Testing, English/Language Arts
- 07 Crafton Elementary Talent Show, HS Auditorium
- 13-17 Spring Holiday Break
- 24-28 PSSA Testing, Mathematics
- 27 High School Spring Band Concert, HS Auditorium

May

- 01-05 PSSA Testing, Science
- 02 High School Spring Choral Concert, HS Auditorium
- 06 Elementary Kids of Steel one-mile run (Pittsburgh Marathon)
- 12-13 Carlynton hosts PMEA Elementary District Band
- 16 In Service Day, No school for students
- 16 Elementary Spring Band Concert, HS Auditorium
- 19 Elementary Spring Choral Concert, HS Auditorium
- 25 Kennywood School Picnic Day
- 26 Junior-Senior Prom, The Omni William Penn
- 29 Memorial Day, No school

June

- 02 Commencement, Class of 2017
- 05 Last day of school for students

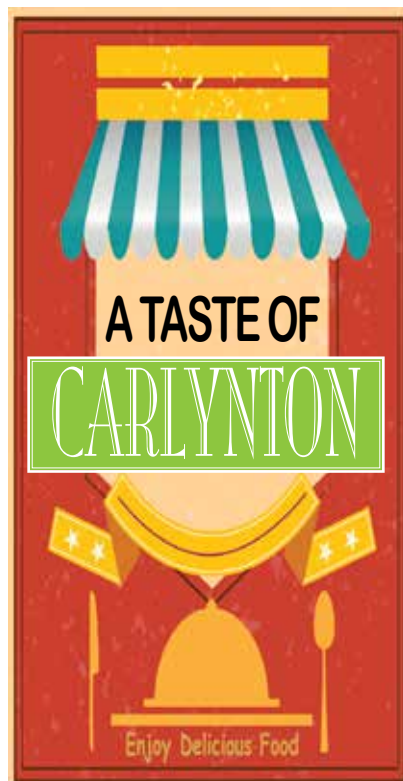
As of the print date deadline of InCarlynton, the 2017-2018 school year calendar was in the review process with a tentative first day of school scheduled for Monday, August 21, 2017. This date has not been officially approved; more information will be available on the district website in March and the 2017-2018 calendar will be published in the next issue of InCarlynton.

A Taste of Carlynton

The Carlynton Education Foundation, in its continuous effort to provide learning opportunities to students by fulfilling unmet funding gaps, will be hosting "A Taste of Carlynton" April 3, 2017. This community-wide event will be held at Chartiers Country Club from 6:00 to 8:30 pm and will showcase a sampling of foods from local restaurants, caterers and other food and drink vendors.

Partnering with the Foundation to bring a delightful cuisine will be Bakn, Central Diner, Industry Grille, LadyFingers Catering, Piccadilly Artisan Yogurt and Union Standard, to name a few. The event will also showcase many of the great things occurring in the communities of Carnegie, Crafton and Rosslyn Farms as well as the school district.

Residents of Carlynton School District and surrounding communities are invited to join the foundation at this lovely social event. Tickets are \$40 per person and can be purchased by going to the foundation website at carlynton.org. Tickets will also be sold at the door.



Spring Musical: The Sound of Music

If one of your "favorite things" is to explore area high school musicals, then you don't want to miss Carlynton's 2017 production of *The Sound of Music*. This classic and familiar story will open March 30 and run through April 2 with a cast of nearly 50 students.

Senior **Sofia Carrasco** will take on the role of Maria, a young, free-spirited woman who desires to become a nun. The convent sends Maria to the villa of a retired naval officer and widower to be governess to his seven children. Captain Baron von Trapp, played by senior **Ian Kobistek**, is charmed by the grace, kindness and music Maria shares with his children. They fall in love, marry and together find the courage to lead their family through the mountains of Austria to find freedom in Switzerland, escaping the annexation of Austria into the Third Reich of the Nazi regime.

Performing the roles of the von Trapp children will be sophomore **Maria Smereka** as Liesl, the eldest daughter, sophomore **David Holderbaum** as Friedrich, the second child, freshman **Camryn Kwiatkoski** as Louisa, the third child, fifth grader **Mateo Carrasco** as Kurt, the youngest son, seventh grader **Aniyah Carson** as Brigitta, the fifth child, fourth grader **Sarah Duffy** as Marta, the sixth child, and second grader **Gianna Medici** as Gretl, the youngest daughter.

Tickets for *The Sound of Music* are now on sale. They can be ordered by calling the ticket hotline at 412.429.2500, press 1 and then extension 2745. Reservations can also be made by emailing carlyntonmusicals@comcast.net and requesting the quantity of tickets for a specific performance date. The tickets will be held at Will Call on the evening of the show. Tickets will also be sold at the junior-senior high school in Room 103 (auditorium wing) on March 12 and March 19 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Tickets are \$11 reserved, \$10 general admission.



Captain von Trapp
(Ian Kobistek) with
Maria (Sofia Carrasco)

The von Trapp children with Governess Maria, Maria Smereka, David Holderbaum, Camryn Kwiatkoski, Aniyah Carson, Mateo Carrasco, Sarah Duffy and Gianna Medici.

