

CARLYNTON

School District News



Carlynton School District

- 48** Homecoming 2016
- 51** Bring Your Imagination to Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
- 51** Pupil Services to Present Training Sessions

- 52** Making Headlines
- 55** Foundation Supports Enrichment Grants
- 55** Save the Date!

CARLYNTON



Homecoming 2016 brings Broadway to Carlynton

In the days and hours preceding the 2016 homecoming, Carlynton students and teachers planned festivities with enthusiasm. Groups gathered after school to design and build floats, hang lights and props in the gym for the semi-formal dance and coordinated a host of other activities to celebrate an event that comes just once a year. At the pinnacle of this annual occasion is the spine-tingling announcement of a king and queen.

Everything was planned prudently and precisely – and then came the rain. First a few sprinkles, followed by showers. As if perfectly timed for the queen's coronation, a deluge collided with the football field and its inhabitants.

Dubbed a "Night on Broadway," homecoming took on the guise of New

York City and its famed Broadway Avenue. Decorated floats in the parade depicted well-known Broadway shows, such as *Cats*, *Wicked* and *Grease*, and teens in costumes aboard staged platforms tossed candy as they trekked down Washington Avenue in Carnegie. Despite the rain, members of the homecoming court traveled in shiny convertibles, smiling and waving to spectators along the route.

Honus Wagner Field was adorned in green and gold streamers and the stands were filled as the court was introduced. Sophomore class representatives **Patricia Maloy** and **Maclaine Greiner** stood at center field followed by junior reps **Arieona Smith-Purdue** and **Mason Melko**. The homecoming court was

announced with grandeur. With umbrellas as backdrops they walked in pairs onto the field: seniors **Hannah Bogats** and **Ray Bordenick**, who was elected "king" earlier in the day at a boisterous pep rally, **Sofia Carrasco** and **Ian Kobistek**, **Hannah Diulus** and **Will Ford**, **Meaghan Maloy** and **Logan Witwicki** and **Morgan Vonada** and **Jordan Lange**.

At half time of the football game between the Cougars and the Steel Valley Ironmen, the Cougar marching band performed in a downpour. The homecoming court gathered on the field near the 50-yard line, sheltered beneath sturdy umbrellas. As it was, the rain did little to dampen spirits. A cheer arose from the stands as Sofia Carrasco was declared the 2016 homecoming queen.



The following evening, the homecoming dance in the high school gymnasium featured skyline scenes of the Big Apple, glitzy centerpieces with musical playbills, and appetizers of New York-style deli sandwiches and hot dogs, fruit kabobs, assorted cookies and creamy cheesecake.

Girls in glittering dresses and boys in suits and ties gathered to capture selfies on cell phones to preserve the memories. The evening was filled with laughter and dancing, the rain forgotten, drawing another homecoming to a close under the bright lights of Broadway.

Opposite page: In the minutes before the announcement of the homecoming queen, members of the court gathered closely in anticipation.

This page, clockwise from top left: Seniors Meaghan Maloy, Hannah Diulus, Sofia Carrasco, Hannah Bogats and Morgan Vonada were named to the 2016 homecoming court; Male members of the court included senior Ian Kobistek, Logan Witwicki, Ray Bordenick, Will Ford and Jordan Lange; A pep rally offered time to introduce the homecoming court to the entire student body. Will Ford and Hannah Diulus walked arm-in-arm as they entered the auditorium; Greeted with cheers and applause, Morgan Vonada and Jordan Lange made their way to the auditorium stage; (Both photos), A friendly competition during the pep rally wrought boys against girls as they worked in teams to answer trivia questions about high school events and teachers.



Flanked by Jordan Lange, Will Ford, Logan Witwicki and Ian Kobistek, newly proclaimed homecoming king Ray Bordenick sports a rightful crown.



2016 homecoming queen Sofia Carrasco with Morgan Vonada and Hannah Bogats.



Clockwise from top right: The parade included floats of Broadway shows and costumed characters. Members of the sophomore class portrayed the hit musical *Cats*; Sophomore class representatives Maclaine Greiner and Patricia Maloy stand at center field as they are introduced to the crowd; Huddling under an umbrella, junior class representatives Arieona Smith-Purdue and Mason Melko made their way to the center of the field; Homecoming couple Ray Bordenick (suited up for the game) and Hannah Bogats stand under an arch as the announcer share a little about their personal interests and plans for the future; The rain did not dampen the smiles of court members Sophia Carrasco and Ian Kobistek; A sea of umbrellas made for a colorful background for the cheerleaders who cheered from the sidelines in dripping slickers; Despite the deluge, the band played on without missing a beat, providing music as the homecoming court was presented.

The homecoming dance and other festivities were supervised by teachers Wendy Steiner, junior class sponsor, Laura Begg, student government sponsor, and Tracy Post, sophomore class sponsor.



BRING YOUR IMAGINATION TO



For all the chocolate lovers out there, this year's fall play might just be the most satisfying show you'll ever see. Make way for Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, adapted by Richard George and Carlynton's own Tonilyn Jackson.

The cast of 30 represents a wide variety of student interests, including members of the band, chorus, the football, volleyball and soccer teams, cheer squad, national honor society, Best Buddies and robotics clubs. As rehearsals transpire, students are eagerly taking on iconic roles and working hard to convey a tale that is sure to bring a smile to audiences.

In leading roles, junior **John Cantwell** will portray Willy Wonka, adding his experience and talent to the stage alongside freshman **Jaimee Cabili** as Charlie Bucket, who brings energy and outside training to the role. Joining them are the seasoned **Rachel Roach**, a senior in the role of Mrs. Teavee, as well as seniors **Kassi Longstreth** and **Stuart Dougherty** as Mrs. Gloop and Augustus. Senior **Nate Wilcox** will depict Mr. Salt alongside junior **Rachel Welsh** as Veruca. Junior **Ellie Davis** will play Mrs. Beauregarde to sophomore **Alexis Dixon** as Violet, and junior **Kurtus Mastandrea** will perform the role of Mike Teavee.

With a fresh twist, the Carlynton version of the play will include four never-before-seen characters. Junior **Tara Wade** and senior **Tyler Smith** will star as WCHS news anchors while seniors **Kalista Heidkamp** and **Makayla Rittmeyer** will portray reporters who broadcast the happenings inside the factory.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory follows the adventures of five lucky golden ticket winners and the peculiar lessons learned inside a chocolate factory with a little help from grandparents, Oompa Loompas, and some good old fashioned imagination.

Performances run December 1-3 at 7pm and December 4th at 2pm. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students. There will be a special ASL performance on December 4th.

The decision to present *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* was announced in the spring of 2016. An adaption of the original novel written by Dalh, *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, starred Gene Wilder as Willy Wonka in a 1971 film. Coincidentally, the unfortunate passing of Mr.

Wilder this past August occurred on the very day of auditions for the Carlynton cast.

Save the date and get your golden ticket to this year's show. "In your wildest dreams you could not imagine such things could happen... just wait and see!"
- Roald Dahl.

Pupil Services to present training sessions

The Office of Special Education and Student Services will present the following Parent Training Series during the 2016-2017 school year. The sessions are open to all parents and students of the district.



November 16 - Safety in the Community, Online Safety and Safe Relationships presented by Three Rivers Center for Independent Living, open to students 14 and older and their parents

Session 1 - 9:30 am at Carlynton Junior-Senior High School, Collaboration Center

Session 2 - 6:30 pm at Carnegie Elementary

December 14 - Soft Skills for Employment presented by Three Rivers Center for Independent Living, open to students 14 and older and their parents

Session 1 - 9:30 am at Carlynton Junior-Senior High School, Collaboration Center

Session 2 - 6:30 pm at Carnegie Elementary

January 18 - Parent Involvement in the IEP Process

Session 1 - 9:30 am at Carnegie Elementary

Session 2 - 6:30 pm at Carnegie Elementary

February 8 - DART Early Intervention Transition to Kindergarten

One Session Only - 6:00 pm at Carnegie Elementary

(Reschedule date, if necessary, will be February 22)

March 15 - Childhood Trauma, Resources for Parents and Caregivers

Session 1 - 9:30 am at Carnegie Elementary

Session 2 - 6:30 pm at Carnegie Elementary

April 11 - Autism

Session 1 - 9:30 am at Carnegie Elementary

Session 2 - 6:30 pm at Carnegie Elementary

May 16 - ERs, and RRs and IEPs, Oh My! Understanding Special Education Jargon

Session 1 - 9:30 am at Carnegie Elementary

Session 2 - 6:30 pm at Carnegie Elementary

Childcare is available for all evening sessions upon request. Please contact Mrs. Rozanne Donovan at **412.429.2500, ext. 1112** or email: rozanne.donovan@carlynton.k12.pa.us.



MAKING HEADLINES



Freshman **Jaimee Cabili** was named the 2016 winner of the Allegheny County American Legion essay contest. Jaimee's essay cited the benefits of the GI Bill while addressing the question, "How does our government keep Lincoln's promise to our veterans." The American Legion administers the contest locally and nationally to give middle and high school students an opportunity to showcase their talents and abilities in English through the use of originality and accuracy in research. The Legion also hopes the contest will make teens aware of the responsibilities and duties of a good citizen.



Thanks to the diligence of elementary librarian **Jill Rishell**, Carnegie and Crafton elementary schools became Common Sense Digital Citizenship Certified Schools for the new school year. As Common Sense schools, students will be better prepared to navigate the challenges that technology brings to the classroom. They will also learn tools to gain digital citizenship through a variety of online resources designed to define the manner in which students interact with technology. Through Common Sense programs, student will be schooled in Internet safety, cyberbullying and digital footprinting.



Junior **Jonah Schriver** participated in the Software Engineering Institute's High School Cyber Security Competition at Carnegie Mellon University this past summer. During the workshop, Jonah and other high school students across the region learned about the dangers lurking in cyber space including identity theft, social engineering attacks, malware and ransomware. Focusing on methods hackers use to manipulate physical objects in personal computers, homes and utilities, the program gave participants hands-on experience to harden and protect computer systems using state-of-the-



High school students **Stephanie Bonifield, Manny Corral-Hays, Elana Heffner, Issac Heffner, Xavier Helbig, Liam Gleason, Basem Majed** and **Marco Moorby**, and teachers **Bill Harris** and **Michael Kozy** represented Carlynton at the Allegheny Intermediate Unit STEAM Showcase in September. As an awardee of a STEAM grant last year, students demonstrated how science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics have redefined what they are learning in the classroom. Carlynton students featured several robots at the showcase including a robotic golden retriever named Marvin. Marvin, made entirely of cardboard and duct tape and painted a bright yellow, was quite the attention-getter as he interacted with people by barking, wagging its tail or shaking hands with its paw. The dog's actions are controlled by a Birdbrain Technologies Hummingbird duo microcontroller. He was recently designed, constructed and programmed in Robotics Club. Two ultrasonic range sensors control his responses, similar to the echolocation, or biological sonar, in a dolphin or a bat. The sensors pick up changes in light to cause reactions when approached.



Senior Stephanie Bonifield and seventh grader Issac Heffner prepare Marvin, a robotic dog, for the AIU STEAM Showcase.



Preparing a Dragon robot for a demonstration, freshmen Basam Majed and Xavier Helbig make some minor adjustments.

art Windows and Linux security software, tools and techniques. Jonah, working in a team of ten students, captured first place in an activity that challenged teams to hack into a simulated or virtual CMU network. As a follow up to the workshop, Jonah recently job-shadowed at UPMC, observing the innerworkings of various IT departments including network security.



Reading current events in the local newspapers is a common practice for fifth grade students in **Mr. Scott Donnelly's** class. An article about self-driving Uber cars in Pittsburgh started a discussion and lead to an essay assignment: "Why did Uber select Pittsburgh for its self-driving car headquarters?" Further research about the topic led to investigations in science,

math, technology and engineering and available jobs in the region related to these opportunities.



High school principal **Michael Loughren** recently took part in a week-long conference in Washington, D.C. at Georgetown University. Orchestrated by the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, the mission of the conference was to study and better comprehend a balanced, multi-system approach to support positive development and outcomes for youth at risk. Loughren will continue to work with representatives from the Allegheny County court system to strengthen the connection between school, the juvenile system and child welfare agencies.



On October 21st, Classrooms without Borders brought a live performance of Ann Kirschner's *Letters to Sala* to the Carlynton High School stage. An adaptation of Kirschner's novel *Sala's Gift*, the performance was a touching story of a young woman's bravery during the Holocaust. Professional actors and actresses portrayed the story under the direction of Jenna Oberg. Students in grades 7-12 were able to make connections to lessons related to World War II and the Holocaust as they watched the story unfold. They were also given the unique opportunity to view an extraordinary art exhibit correlating with the play. The display was comprised of letters from the actual collection of those sent to and from Sala when she was forced to work as a slave in over 15 different Nazi work camps. Carlynton's connection with Classrooms without Borders began last year when Superintendent **Dr. Gary Peiffer** facilitated an invitation for students to attend a performance of *The*



Diary of Anne Frank at the Pittsburgh Public Theatre. Dr. Peiffer corroborated an insightful study of the Holocaust by traveling to Poland last summer with Classrooms without Borders to gain first-hand experience by touring concentration camp sites and meeting survivors. The travel has impacted the development of a multifaceted Holocaust curriculum to be offered as an elective course to students next year.



The high school student government opened and operated Grimm's Ghostly Golf at the Crafton Park miniature golf course for several weeks in October, adding a kid-friendly element to the Halloween season. Students worked to clean the course and added a few additional obstacles to reflect the holiday, making the course more challenging. The money raised will be used to purchase tables for the new senior patio located outside the cafeteria.



The Back Packs for Kids program facilitated within the district provides a back pack filled with food and personal care items to students in need. The program is conducted confidentially, sending the back pack home with students on Friday. Recipients are asked to return the bag on Monday so it can be filled for the following weekend. The district has extended the back pack program to the elementary schools thanks to a partnership with local churches, Student Transportation of America (the district bus company) and other organizations who provide monetary donations and assist with shopping. Information about Back Packs for Kids is sent home with students at the beginning of the school year. Individuals wishing to receive a weekly back pack can contact any building principal.



High school English teachers **Kristen Fischer** and **Wendy Steiner** dedicated time this past summer to attend the Fluency Project through the Create Lab at Carnegie Mellon University. The CMU Create Lab teaches skills in digital mapmaking using data. Digital mapmaking is the process by which a collection of data is compiled



In Mrs. Steiner's English class, senior Darryl Porter used an Audiovista to observe a 360-degree virtual view of the interior of a castle while studying the medieval era, triggering data-prompted inquiry among students.

and formatted into a virtual image. "There is a lot of raw data available online pertaining to a myriad of subjects, from environmental issues to human migration, and we've learned how and where to access that," said Fischer. Fischer and Steiner, as they engage students, want to inspire them to become creators of data, rather than simply consumers. As an example, teens are learning to use data to tell stories, creating an argument to defend the story, and enacting social change. During time at the Create Lab, Fischer and Steiner were presented with various examples, both local and national, of student-led projects that accomplish this goal of advocacy. The support with CMU is ongoing. Fischer and Steiner believe the continued contact and support will further propel and strengthen learning in the classroom.



Crafton Elementary is the 2016-2017 recipient of a Carnegie STEM Excellence Pathway Partner, a program collaborated through the Carnegie Science Center to provide professional development for teachers and learning opportunities for students. As a Pathway Partner, students at Crafton will be



treated to an educational assembly and receive online tools to augment STEM learning.

Continued >



MAKING HEADLINES *continued*



High school students enrolled in a Criminal Justice course traveled to Point Park University to visit the school's crime house and forensic lab. Students were able to meet and learn from PPU students and Allegheny County Medical Examiner Dr. Edward Strimlan. The day-long field trip gave students a first-hand look at crime scene

investigation, evidence collection and analysis and criminal profiling. Those attending included teacher **Tracy Post** and students **Amber Bayton, Jacob Elias, Devin Howells, Hunter Kephart, Alexis Kowal, Kellie Lesniak, Zack Pifer, Brandon Rogers, Michael Smith, Justin Stengel, Adam Trombetta, Romeeca Wade** and **Nate Wilcox**.



Lessons about Newton's third law of motion – for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction, and decoding the metric system were just a few exercises that led to the Crafton Elementary sixth grade rocket launch at Crafton Park. In the weeks preceding, youngsters discussed the parts of a rocket and then carefully assembled the cardboard models in the classroom, gluing fins and brushing on paint to give each a custom look.

On the day of the launch, students eagerly walked to Crafton Park and were divided into three teams. Rockets were propelled from a secure launch pad area. The distance they traveled into the air was tracked with metric measuring devices and then recovered as it fell to the earth. The events brought parents and other relatives to the park to watch a child's rocket lift, accelerate and zoom into the sky.

The afternoon also included a session in chemistry as students participated in experiments led by Steven Reinstadtler from Covestro. Under a nearby pavilion, an activity led by Lab Ratz helped students understand aerodynamics with the use of air pressure. The lessons learned on this day will again be discussed and put to test when sixth graders attend the Challenger Learning Center in Wheeling, WV later in the year.



Sydney Jarvis stirs a mixture of ammonia, Elmer's glue, water and food coloring. The rapid stirring of the liquid created a chemical reaction to form a polymer or putty.



Sixth grade teacher Bridget Ward and Rylee Sites watch as Rylee's rocket is propelled into the air.



Divided into three rotating groups, the tracking team measures the height each rocket travels into the sky. Tracking a rocket are Victoria McIntyre, Emily Mankin, Peter Gargis, Sam Moose, Rowen Egenlauf and Garin O'Leary. Parent Beth Johnson maintain a record of each rocket.



A number of Carlynton School District teachers and administrators took part in the Foundation golf outing in September, including this friendly foursome, Michael Donovan, Chris Colonna, John McAdoo and Bill Palonis.

Foundation supports enrichment grants

The Carlynton Education Foundation's third annual golf outing in September at The Club at Shadow Lakes raised \$9,500 in proceeds, thanks to generous sponsors and the many golfers who came out for a good cause.

The Foundation, with a goal to provide support for educational programs for District students, recently awarded the following teacher enrichment grants in October:

Annemarie Bunch - Alternate seating and work space stations to support the Emotional Support classroom at the junior-senior high school;

Mary Campbell - Set of headphones to support students working independently while minimizing distractions in second grade at Carnegie Elementary;

Erin Cummings - Classroom set of solar powered calculators to support student achievement of common core mathematics standards in the fifth grade at Carnegie Elementary;

Allison Fekety - Equipment to support the implementation of "Sensory Breaks" to assist student learning in the autistic support classroom at Carnegie Elementary;

Emily Hanley - Classroom set of solar powered calculators to support student achievement of common core mathematics standards in the fourth grade at Carnegie Elementary;

Russ Pedersen - Purchase and refurbishment of used musical instruments to support the music program for grades 4 - 6 at Carnegie and Crafton Elementary;

Marlynn Vayanos - Classroom subscription of Scholastic Art to increase literacy in grades 7 - 12 by incorporating reading strategies across the art curriculum through the use of non-fiction, contemporary articles; and

Steven Vayanos - Books and readers to develop a Spanish lending library for students in grades 9 - 12 to promote bi-literacy and literacy across the disciplines.

The Foundation will host "Breakfast with Santa" on December 3rd and "A Taste of Carlynton" on April 3, 2017. Be sure to mark your calendar. And please remember the Foundation when making purchases on Amazon Smile. By selecting the Carlynton Education Foundation as your charity of choice, .5% of each eligible sale will benefit students of the district.



Save the date! 2016-2017

November

08 In-Service Day, No school for students
11 Veteran's Day, No school
24-29 Thanksgiving Holiday, No school

December

01-04 Fall play, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*
03 Breakfast with Santa
05-15 Winter Keystone Exams
06 High school winter choral concert
09 Elementary winter choral concert
14 Elementary winter band concert
15 High school winter band concert
23-Jan 2 Winter Holiday Break