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THE BOY FRIEND



Spring musicals sustain a tradition

Since 1982, Carlynton Junior-Senior High School has upheld a tradition of notable musicals. From early performances of *Oklahoma!*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and *42nd Street*, the auditorium has come alive each spring with harmonic serenading and fine-tuned choreography.

This past March, the romantic comedy *The Boy Friend* opened to audiences. Some 30 students rounded out the cast in this light-hearted parody set in the Roaring 1920s on the French Riviera. Brimming with humorous spoofs and a memorable score, the musical portrayed the story of an English heiress who longed for a boyfriend. Despite her father's stern warnings, she finds love, along with nearly every member of the ensemble, closing the show on a delightful and starry-eyed note.

Over the years, the musical season has garnered a number of traditions aware only to those who take part in the rehearsals, performances, and preparations behind the scenes.

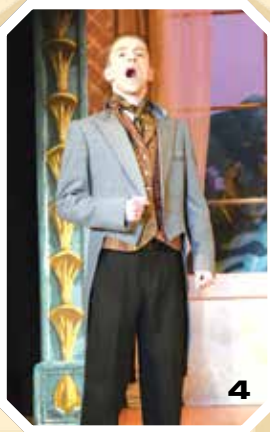


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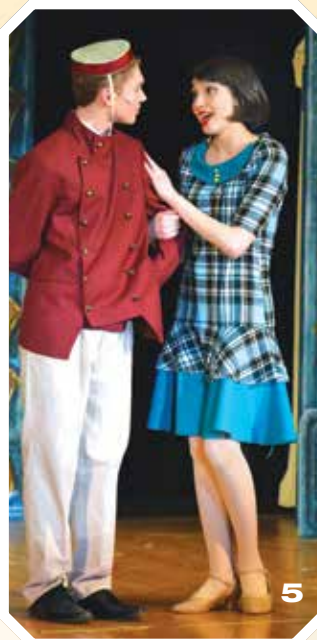


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1: In the drawing room of the Villa Caprice, the Perfect Young Ladies of Madame Dubonnet's Finishing School in France surround Polly, played by Maria Smereka, to ask if she has a boyfriend; **2:** Polly speaks with Madame Dubonnet, portrayed by Alawna Mallory, only to reveal she has fabricated a story about a boyfriend; **3:** Camryn Kwiatkoski and Nathan Latta, cast as Maisie and Bobby, develop a fondness for one another while dancing the Charleston.



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One such ritual takes place before every show opens as the cast and crew gather in the choral room to sing "Angels Among Us" while holding hands in a large circle. The singing often breaks into tears and warm embraces by the third or fourth performance, especially for senior cast members who realize this may be the last opportunity they will have to perform in a musical. Before the cast leaves the room, they fortify one another with a spirited "let's go!" chant.

For those who attend Carlynton musicals, the appearance of a camel in the middle of a performance is not unexpected. The camel, which requires two people to fill its immense, furry, fabric frame, made its first entrance on the stage in "Joseph" and has since made cameo appearances in nearly every musical.

A cast party after the final performance also conveys certain traditions. Mini awards are presented to seniors, and the seniors, in turn, pass down silly awards to underclassmen. The seniors also write and perform a mash up of songs from every show in which they have performed.

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4: John Cantwell performed in the role of Percival Browne, the wealthy, yet austere father to Polly. **5:** Polly meets the handsome delivery boy Tony when he brings a package to the finishing school. Love at first sight? Of course! **6:** While at the beach, the Perfect Young Ladies of Madame Dubonnet's Finishing School meet and dance with some attractive young men. **7:** The Perfect Young Ladies, Hayley Kerns, Aleah Mallory, Hanna Zaletski, Kailey Hepburn, and Sydney Mollica, gather by the sea for an afternoon in the sun. **8:** An upset Marcel is calmed by husband Lord Brockhurst. Jane Grabowski and Patrick Kietz-Carlson portrayed a distraught couple searching for their missing son. **9:** Polly and Tony meet at the beach for an afternoon of flirting while planning a future together. **10:** Hortense (portrayed by Elizabeth Duffy), the clever maid of Madame Dubonnet's Finishing School, hides a secret from the Perfect Young Ladies. Hortense has discovered the blooming relationship between Polly and Tony.

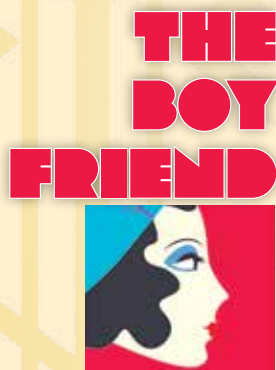
Additionally, a "Key to the Musical" is passed down from a senior to a junior who embodies a love and passion for theater.

The musicals have also imparted excitement to younger students. Each year, the cast of the spring musical travels to the elementary schools to perform a segment of the show to youngsters. Senior **John Cantwell**, as a child at Crafton Elementary, said his interest in theater was inspired by these assemblies. He has been a principle character in every play and musical since freshman year.

The impact of friendships and bonds developed during spring musicals is also realized by those who produce and direct the shows. Producer **Natalie Hatcher**, director **Cara Walkowiak**, and vocal director **Becca Chenette**, all performed in musicals as former Carlynton students. The elaborate set design for *The Boy Friend* was facilitated by alumni **Jesse Connor**. And former producer **Lori Dedola**, also a Carlynton alum, designs the program books.

The wall outside the auditorium features the framed program covers of nearly every Carlynton High School musical. The display marks over 35 years of talent, hard work, and passion, and advocates a promise to sustain a tradition that has captured hearts for decades.

11: Hortense distracts the ladies by leading the ensemble in a choreographed number to the tune of "Nicer in Nice." **12:** A somber Percival Browne faints after meeting Madame Dubonnet, a former sweetheart, and is helped off stage by Perfect Young Ladies Dulcie (Ellie Davis), Fay (Jaimee Cabili), and Nancy (Tara Wade). **13:** The Perfect Young Ladies gather at the Carnival ball on the Terrace of the Café Pataplon in Nice, excited for an evening of dancing with handsome young men. **14:** Alawna Mallory as Madame Dubonnet performs "Poor Little Pierrette" during a scene at the Carnival ball. **15:** In the final act of *The Boy Friend*, the ensemble sways to The Riviera Encore, one of many artistic choreographed numbers designed to entertain.





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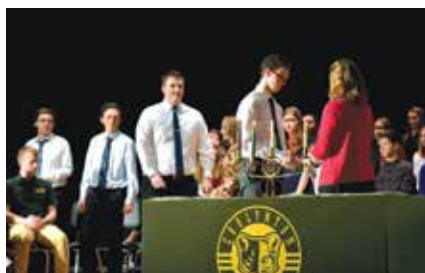
High school social studies students had the rare opportunity to meet scholar Anna Bikont, a non-fiction writer and journalist from Poland. Ms. Bikont visited the school in January to read excerpts from personal writings and her latest book, *The Crime and the Silence*. Once an underground



activist when martial law was imposed in Poland, Ms. Bikont is currently an assistant professor at the Warsaw University in the Department of Psychology. Her book addresses the truths of wartime atrocities against the Jews in the early 1940s. Teacher **Tim Patsko** arranged the visit as a real-time learning experience for students enrolled in a Holocaust Studies course.



The 2018 induction ceremony of the National Honor and National Junior Honor Societies was held in February to recognize those who excel academically. Sixty-five individuals were welcomed into membership. The evening ceremony was hosted by sponsors/teachers **Jamie Sonnie** and **Marisa Rusinko**, junior high officers **Desmond Corrado**, **Jonah Hunt**, **Reece Smith**, **Jaime Williams**, and senior high officers **Olivia Cindrich**, **Sydney Franchick**, **Owen Kalimon**, and **Hannah Stack**. Officers stressed the importance of character, scholarship, leadership, and service. New members were called forward individually to be recognized and pinned, followed by a candlelight



Sophomores (standing) Andrew Blain, Samuel Bigham, Alexander Bernard, and Kyle Auth receive a pin from advisor Marisa Rusinko during the honor society induction ceremony.



Honor society members Miranda Pinchot, Shanique Reid, Abigail Lherbier, Nicholas Cindrich, Benjamin Carothers, and Jamie Cabili stood among peers during a candlelight ceremony.

ceremony. They pledged to become leaders in the school and community, maintain high academic standards, and become involved in service activities both in and out of school. A reception was held in the cafeteria following the ceremony.

FORENSIC ALL-STARS



The fifth and sixth grade multiple reading Forensics team advanced to the final all-stars round in an elementary competition held at South Fayette Middle School. The team, comprised of **Lana Mihelcic**, **Ella Snyder**, **Charlie Burcham**, **Uzochi Orji**, and **Lucy Vetter**, read and performed a piece from the play *Ambition*.



Freshman Fakhar Almlook Munaf Mohammed has been named 2018 recipient of the Luminari ESL (English as a Second Language) Award. Fakhar wrote an essay focused on her perspective of diplomacy, sharing a desire to be "a leader of diplomacy so that all can live life free of war and fear." A Syrian refugee, Fakhar and her family moved to the Carnegie area from Turkey. She enrolled as an eighth grader as has been a

diligent learner. The Luminari Award addresses diversity in modern world terms to help young people to learn to



Fakhar Almlook Munaf

walk in others' shoes while respecting different points of view. As an award winner, Fakhar received a merit scholarship valued over \$1,200 to attend this summer's "I

Want to Be an Ambassador" camp sponsored by Luminari. The Pittsburgh-based nonprofit organization was founded in 2009 to foster activities that broaden minds, inspire innovations, and promote community engagement.



A high school robotics club has blossomed into thriving teams of students who stay after school to design and build structural robots with motors, sensors, and controllers using Vex robotic kits. In February, the STEM activity took 25 students to a regional tournament held in the Baierl Sports Center on the campus of

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Senior Shanique Reid and sophomores Elana Heffner and Nicholas Cindrich proudly show off the robot they built to compete in the tournament.



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North Allegheny High School. Working in their teams, students controlled the robots to earn points by stacking cones on goal posts and bases and moving them to certain zones within a sectioned-off square area. Points were earned for skill and by completing the highest stack within a time limit. Several Carlynton teams successfully advanced to the final elimination rounds. The competitors left the event inspired and ready to prepare for the next competition.



Basem Majed, Christian Wichelns, Sean Steding, robotics club sponsor Bill Harris, Saman Majed, Gabriel Wilcox, and Maggie Reigle were among the students to advance to the final round of competition.



Sophomores Nick Hunter and Basem Majed watch as senior Manny Corral-Hayes commands a robot to stack yellow cones during a practice run.



Teachers are determined to keep up with the latest and greatest advancements in educational technology. At Crafton Elementary, a Digital Learning Day was set aside in February for educators to introduce some thought-provoking lessons by integrating technology. Spearheaded by **Principal Marsha Burleson**, the day was held in association with the nationally-recognized Digital Learning Day, designed to provide a format for teachers to highlight instructional

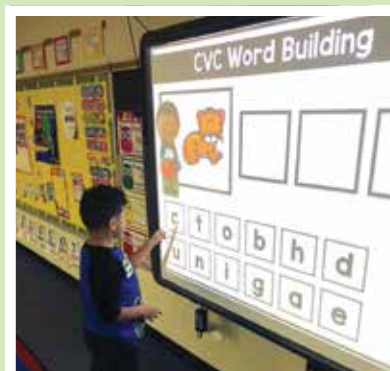
technology in the classroom through innovative practices.

While all teachers frequently use technology in the classroom, Digital Learning Day offered the chance for students in all grades to further explore, transform, and manipulate technology through the use of iPads, Kindles, iPods, Chromebooks, and Promethean Boards. At varying levels, students experimented with the learning platforms Kahoot, Lexia and Reflex Math. Some used Google Classrooms to great interactive notebooks while others created a Venn diagram to compare ideas. Socrative, SpellingCity and Story Online applications were used to reinforce writing and spelling. Upper grades were introduced to Prezi, a presentation software that uses motion, zoom, and spatial relationships to bring ideas to life. "My second graders loved Digital Learning Day," said teacher **Jessica Bigler**, who exposed Venn diagramming to students. "As they worked on their collaborative assignment, they fed off each other's responses. That is, as soon as they calmed down from the excitement of seeing what their classmates were typing in real time! This digital learning activity took our normal "turn and talk" to a whole new level."

Students enjoyed the opportunity to complete work and master lessons on digital devices. Some said they could accomplish more on a computer or iPad than using pencil and paper. In the end, Digital Learning Day used a variety of digital resources to teach digital citizenship, encourage multiple forms of collaboration, and inspire students to create by applying critical thinking skills.



Fourth graders Kellyn Palmer and McKenzi Tomaszewski use iPads to reinforce writing and spelling.



Kindergartener Raymond Young worked at the Promethean board to practice spelling using the Kahoot platform.



Second graders Delia Fletcher, Mitchell Glidden, Donovan Reddick and classmates used iPads to complete an interactive notebook about George Washington using Google Classrooms.



Working in small groups, the children created a Venn diagram to define comparisons and contrasts of their life to that of George Washington, sharing commonalities and differences.



First graders used iPads to access Kahoot to practice double digit addition, and OSMO, a problem-solving educational software application used to fortify additional math and reading skills.



Congratulations to freshman **Sofia Notaro** and **Evan Walker** who were selected to attend junior high district band in March. The band festival, held at Mt. Lebanon High School, showcases talented, young musicians who gather from a dozen area schools to perform in a grand concert under the direction of a respected guest conductor.



A pioneering application is changing the way pupils are learning in the classroom. With the use of Google's Expeditions AR technology, students were able to map a virtual tour of sites and objects by hovering a mobile device over a bar code cue. Augmented reality, a virtual reality teaching tool, is allowing youngsters and teens to take immersive virtual excursions all over the world with up close field trips to tour historical landmarks, stand in the eye of a hurricane, or travel through outer space. Just recently, World History classes took an expedition to Ancient Rome and engaged in a 360 degree tour of the Coliseum. Students were able to walk around the site, get in close to spot details, and step back to see the full picture. An American Cultures class was able to view soldiers in uniform and explore tanks used in battle during World War II. Augmented reality is leading groups of "explorers" through collections



Sophomores Jaelyn Melko and Mikayla Linn use augmented reality to view the underside of a World War II tank.



Seventh graders Alexis Rodgers and Elaine Zhang tour the Coliseum in Rome after cueing a mobile device to a bar code.

of 360 degrees and 3D images while educators point out interesting sights along the way. The experience is underlining lessons learned in books and in the classroom while engaging students with state of the art technology.



Read Across America was celebrated in the elementary schools in late February and early March. The annual reading motivation and awareness program calls for every child to celebrate reading in honor of the late children's author Dr. Suess. Reading teachers at Carnegie and Crafton elementary schools planned and coordinated a number of reading activities, including guest readers, story tellers, and themed dress-up days. The reading event ended with Family Reading Nights, bringing families together to make a mindful impact of the value of reading and the critical role it plays in learning.

TAKING TO THE ICE



Junior **Eliot Wilpula** represented the new Pittsburgh-area special hockey team, the Pittsburgh Royals, before the start of a Pittsburgh Penguins-Calgary Flames game in March. Eliot was among a handful of junior starters to be introduced during the pregame and joined



Eliot Wilpula

Penguin players on the ice wearing a Royals jersey with its new logo. Eliot has been playing hockey for over 11 years. The Pittsburgh Royals are sponsored by the Pittsburgh Penguins and the Hockey Sticks Together Foundation. The Royals aim to attract players with special needs to build socialization skills and friendships and to develop a passion and talent for hockey.



Jen McLinden of Animal Friends and her pup Ripp Van Wrinkle joined fourth graders in Crafton Elementary to read a tale about "man's best friend."



The Queen of Hearts Kim Adley visited both elementary schools to spin a tale about a charmed life as a queen. Pictured at Carnegie Elementary, students took part in the story by role-playing.



As a follow-up to lessons related to the Olympics, two engineers from Butler Technologies visited fifth grade classes at Carnegie Elementary to display technology used in the 2018



Destinee Santana and Milled Majed check out a sample of conductive printed ink technology that can be sewn into winter gloves for warmth.

Winter Olympics. Todd Gray and Jamie Orlando demonstrated a high-tech screen printer developed and used by Butler Technologies to create flexible heaters in the shape of an American flag. The flags were sewn into the parkas of Team

USA Winter Olympians and provided up to 11 hours of warmth. Students learned how the company uses lightweight ink-printed sensors and circuitry that flex, stretch, and bend, and can then be heat transferred to textile. The fifth graders were also able to see, feel, and touch the latest clothing product released by Butler

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Technologies - heated gloves made with conductive printed ink. The Butler-based company has become a leader in developing waterproof, wearable technology. Students also discussed careers in this type of field and the education and skills necessary for gainful employment.



With classmates observing, fifth grader Eva Milliner uses a laser to measure the temperature of a printed ink heater while learning about conductive ink screened technology from Butler Technologies engineers.



Seventh grade students are living healthier lifestyles thanks to health and physical education teacher **Pete Banaszak**. Earlier this year, the health and wellness classes used technology to create improvement plans for better health. With assistance from teacher **Ryan Gevaudan**, who set up a Google website, students completed surveys and collected data to plot an approach to wholesome living. Utilizing Google



During the "Health is Wealth" course, a scan code was created for students to scan and complete a survey to identify eating trends and habits among peers.



Seventh grader Austin Milliner shared his plan for a healthier lifestyle with classmates and students from a New Jersey middle school using Google Hangouts.

Slides, youngsters examined poor habits and resolved to make a change by composing a personal plan of action. They pledged to consume plenty of water, minimize the intake of sugar and fast foods, limit screen time on mobile phones, increase daily exercise, and to get at least eight hours of sleep each night. With Google Hangouts, the young teens connected with classrooms miles from Carlynton to share tactics to remedy bad habits. Engaging conversations occurred with peers from Seneca Valley Middle School, Hillsborough Middle School in

New Jersey, and Spartansburg Middle School in North Carolina. "This was an exercise in critical thinking when it came to their own well-being," said Banaszak. "By adjusting their behaviors toward better health, they could see firsthand how current health habits are affecting their lifestyle." Linking the project with other schools amplified the experience for students. The surveys alone garnered over 1300 responses, providing a resource for students to examine and compare trends among peers.



The Crafton Elementary Amazing Alternatives Club sponsored an Operation Heart collection of foods, snacks, and more for members of our military stationed overseas. Working with the non-profit organization Military Connections, students collected hundreds of items. Boxes were filled with lip balm, deodorant, energy drinks and postage stamps. Others contained granola bars, tuna packets, pop tarts and beef jerky. The group sponsored another



The 2018 Mr. Carlynton pageant featured a crew of high school juniors and seniors dressed to emulate their favorite superheroes. The theme was supported throughout the pageant as contestants portrayed incredulous super hero strength, talent, and skill, making for a night of laugh-out-loud episodes. Senior **Kolyn Schneider**, who imitated the persona of his personal superhero, "Pittsburgh Dad," became "Carlynton Dad" for the event. An opening video revealed "Carlynton Dad" running through the halls of the junior-senior high school, breaking the fall of a seventh grader, carrying books for friends, and leading cheers to amp school spirit. The act secured the title of Mr. Carlynton and Kolyn was awarded a crown and cape. Junior **David Holderbaum** received the Mr. Congeniality award and senior **Dom Darenkamp** prevailed as the People's Choice award winner.



Mr. Carlynton Kolyn Schneider, in white, is flanked by the contestants of the 2018 pageant. The superheroes changed into tuxedos for a fashion segment of the event.



Just one of many superheroes portrayed in the Mr. Carlynton pageant, senior Trevor Ruta captured the attention of the judges with astounding talent.

food drive in March and distributed dozens of boxes of non-perishable foods to local food pantries. Amazing Alternatives is a community service club led by teacher **Bridget Ward**. As an additional service project, many Crafton Elementary students raised money for the American Heart Association by jumping rope. The Jump Rope for Heart activity was led by physical education teacher **Josh Ficorilli** who promoted the importance of exercise to sustain a healthy heart.

MASTERING THE GAME OF CHESS



NEWS Second graders at Crafton Elementary are becoming experts in the game of chess. Last fall, teacher **Jim Bassano** received a mini-grant for a Chess in the Classroom program. With assistance from local chess master Jerry Meyers, the youngsters have been learning the game. By using a scoring system that tallied point values for wins and draws, three students were named chess champions of the year. Pictured above and proudly showing off ribbons won by compiling the most points while learning the game of chess, **Jonathan Engel** captured first place, with **Catherine Hites** and **April Kanai** following with a close second and third.

NEWS Students taking the Creative Writing and Presentation class worked to fine tune plays they wrote in class in order to submit them to the annual Young Playwright's Contest sponsored by City Theater. Teacher **Tonilyn Jackson** also had students

Athlete Achievers



Record breaker Katie Kozy medaled at the WPIAL championships in March.



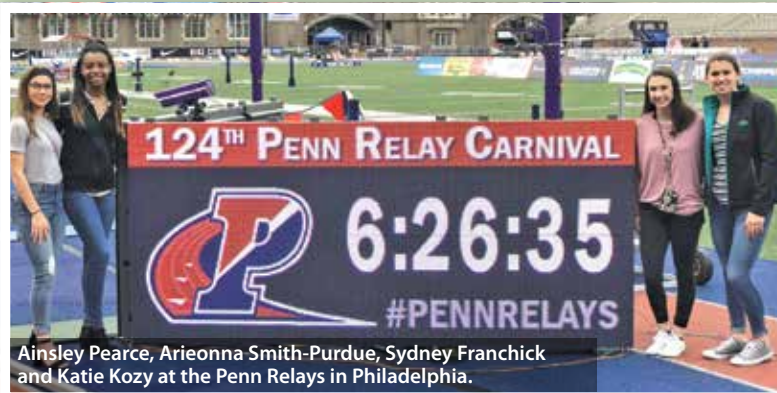
Junior **Katie Kozy** set a new school record and medaled in the 100 freestyle during the WPIAL championships

held at the University of Pittsburgh in March.

Joining her at the top of their game are a number of senior athletes who have committed to play a sport in college by signing Letters of Intent. **Bobby Chapman** will play baseball for the University of Northwestern Ohio. **Olivia Cindrich** will join the Lady Dutchmen of Lebanon Valley College as an ice hockey contender and **Kevin MacMurdo** has committed to Westminster College to swim for the Titans.

Rounding out the winter sports' season, two athletes successfully advanced to the PIAA state competition—sophomore wrestler **Eddie Huehn** and senior bowler **Owen Kalimon**.

In late April, seniors **Sydney Franchick** and **Arieonna Smith-Purdue**, junior **Katie Kozy**, and sophomore **Ainsley Pearce** were invited to compete in the Penn Relays in Philadelphia. The Penn Relays is the largest relay event in the world, drawing nationwide and international runners. The girls, competing in the 4 x 100, ran their best time of the season in front of 17,000 spectators and athletes. They finished 226th out of 624 teams and gained an experience of a lifetime.



Ainsley Pearce, Arieonna Smith-Purdue, Sydney Franchick and Katie Kozy at the Penn Relays in Philadelphia.

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perform seated readings of some of the original work before peers and other teachers. Classmates then offered valuable feedback about the insightful and thought-provoking writings. The young playwrights followed strict submission guidelines as outlined in the Standard American Formatting Guide for play writing. Plays submitted for the contest will be reviewed and judged by a committee made up of authors, actors, teachers, editors, and literary critics. Every entry will receive feedback and six plays, out of over 400 submissions, will be chosen to be fully staged and performed at City Theater in the fall. Students writing and submitting original work included **Hunter Bedzel, Kaitlyn Crowell, Jane Grabowski, Hayley Kerns, Bellaire Lowry, Aerial McNeil, Lacey Rybacki, Rose Talmonti, Rachel Welsh, Marshall Whitaker, and Kevin Zhang.**



Senior Kaitlyn Crowell (seated left), who wrote the play "The Self-Proclaimed Mean Girl," performs a seated reading of the piece with sophomores Jane Grabowski and Hayley Kerns, freshman Kevin Zhang, and senior Bellaire Lowry.



Sixth graders **Caden Crow, Gabe DiPietro, Ella Snyder, Bailey Vetter** and **Amyah Wren** brought home a third place title in the 2018 Envirothon competition held in April. The competition gauges student knowledge of environmental topics including aquatics, land and soil, forestry, wildlife, and current events. Students in grades six, seven and eight from a number of area school districts took part in the competition.



Every spring, Carnegie and Crafton elementary third grade pupils compete in an annual spelling bee contest. The bee is sponsored by the Carnegie-Collier and Crafton-Ingram rotaries who donate dictionaries to



The Carnegie-Collier Rotary sponsored the Carnegie Elementary third grade spelling bee. Champion Justice Ogar edged past Emma Arnold and Grayson Jodon, second and third place finishers, for the win.

Justice Ogar of Carnegie celebrated a first place win over 14 other finalists in his class, following a competition in the school's auditorium. As champions, Emery and Justice advanced to a regional spelling bee held at Seven Springs in May,

students in the fall. In early April, **Emery Delrosario** of Crafton secured the title of spelling bee champion following a competition held in the Crafton Borough Community Center with competing third graders from Crafton Elementary, Montour Elementary and St. Philip School. Near the end of April,



Emery Delrosario of Crafton captured the spelling bee title sponsored by the Crafton-Ingram Rotary. He and Justice advanced to a regional competition held at Seven Springs.

competing against students from 40 area school districts.



Seniors
Saman

Majed and Sean Steding received the prestigious SHASDA Award at a conference held in Southpointe in April. SHASDA, or South Hills Area School Districts Association, is represented by 23

South Hills area superintendents who meet monthly to collaborate and share ideas with a focus on meeting the demands necessary for educating students. Each year, SHASDA selects and recognizes two students from every school district who have succeeded in the face of adversity. Saman and Sean were honored for hard work and diligence to attain a higher grade point average while remaining involved in a number of STEM-related school activities. The keynote speaker for the conference was 2015 Carlynton graduate **Conor Richardson**, a pivotal player for the Duquesne University women's basketball team. She addressed the 2018 theme of conference, "Viewing Obstacles as Opportunities to Succeed," by sharing that dedication and perseverance pay off. Despite surgery for scoliosis and some serious setbacks with injuries, she overcame to play basketball at the collegiate level and complete an undergraduate degree in three years. SHASDA also hosts a student forum every spring, bringing together hundreds of students in roundtable discussions to gain a better understanding of what teens hope to gain from a high school education.



SHASDA award winners Sean Steding and Saman Majed with Principal Michael Loughren.

YOUNG INVENTORS



Sixth graders **Caden Crow** and **Gabriel DiPietro** secured a silver and bronze medal, respectively, at the annual invention convention held in the junior-senior high school in late April. The event hosted 38 students from eight area schools districts who exhibited self-made inventions to address everyday challenges. Fifth grader **Eva Milliner** and sixth grader **Ella Snyder** received the Triple Crown Award, given to those who have participated in a convention for three or more years.