April 2014 - Volume 29 No. 3

Barker Central School District / Excellence in the 21st Century

he Banner



A Long Awaited Championship



Varsity team wins Niagara-Orleans League Boys Basketball Championship for first time since 1978.

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Bianca Pavlock received the "Do The Right Thing" Award.

VISION: "Barker Central School will provide the experiences necessary for our students to acquire the knowledge, skills, and traits to succeed intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally in an ever-changing world."

A Message From Your Superintendent



Dear Parent/Guardian:

I am writing to share a number of newsworthy topics. To begin, we have all endured a very long winter season. The number of weather-related advisories and warnings resulting in school closings or delays were far greater than any in recent history. In addition, the timing and severity of the weather events have made the decision to close or delay particularly difficult. Oftentimes, you needed to make last minute arrangements for your child(ren) especially on the two-hour delays. Thank you.

To date, we have used four full-day closings and three delays. Hopefully, the spring season will mean an end to the heavy snowfall and bring warmer temperatures to Western New York. If necessary, we still have one emergency closing day available.

Enclosed is the 2014 – 2015 school calendar. Parents/Guardians have appreciated the advanced notice of vacations and other non-student days. You will note that there is a full two-week winter recess. In addition, the calendar allows for up to five full-day emergency closings. However, we're hoping for a more mild winter season next year.

I am honored that the Royalton-Hartland and Barker Boards of Education recently approved the extension of the shared superintendent agreement through the 2014 – 2015 school year. The share not only results in considerable cost savings, but also provides insight into each district. Within each district are notable strengths in both programs and instruction and we continue to find ways to work together to not only reduce costs, but to also improve student achievement. For example, you will also note on the enclosed calendar that a superintendent's conference day is scheduled for October 24, 2014. A superintendent's conference day is also scheduled on that day for the Royalton---Hartland school district. Learning from one another—what works best in teaching and learning—is the purpose of this cooperative professional development opportunity.

I am also honored to announce that L. George Wilson, Class of 1957, has been selected to be the Distinguished Alumni Commencement Speaker at this year's graduation ceremony on June 28th. Dr. Wilson is currently a professor in the Department of Horticultural Science at North Carolina State University. His research and broad range of work and life experiences are fascinating. We anticipate that his address to the Class of 2014 will be enlightening and memorable for all that attend. Please visit the district's website to learn more about Dr. L. George Wilson.

In closing, thank you for your continued support to the Barker Central School District. It continues to be a pleasure to serve as your school superintendent.

Sincerely,

Ry Illan

Roger J. Klatt

From the Halls of Pratt Elementary School

Pratt Elementary School has had several major events this past winter including a spelling bee for grades 4 and 5 along with the annual Parents As Reading Partners program.

SPELLING BEE

During March, the 4th and 5th graders participated in the Niagara Region PTA Spelling Bee. This included a short written test that all 4th grade students were given. The top spellers, which included roughly half of each class, competed in an oral classroom spelling bee. The top four spellers from each homeroom then competed in a grade level spelling bee. Congratulations to the 12 participants in the local bee: Miles Clarke, Steven Class, Paige Dennis, Kaitlyn Goodwin, Genevieve Harris, Emma McGrath, Nathan Meza Ray, Siobhan McCracken, Ariana Peace, Cloey Sanders, Jordan Thering, and Keira Wass.



4th Grade Spelling Bee Regional Partipipants: Kaitlyn Goodwin, Miles Clarke and Keira Wass.

The 5th graders also took a local written test. The test consisted of 20 questions. The top nine spellers then participated in a grade level bee. Participants were: Nathaniel Heidemann, Lisbet Lopez-Paz, Jessalynn Coen, Faith Giarla, Joseph Brandt, Waylon Carey, Ellie Voss, Lena Fazzolari, and Carla Stoloski. The top three spellers advanced to the regional bee on Saturday, March 29th in Newfane. A special congratulations to Nathaniel Heidemann, Faith Giarla and Waylon Carey.

On Saturday, March 29 the top three spellers from both the 4th and 5th grades advanced to the regional bee in Newfane. Special congratulations to 4th graders Miles Clarke, Keira Wass and Kaitlyn Goodwin for representing Pratt Elementary at the regional bee. The three Pratt Elementary 5th graders who competed against 27 other students in the area and placed in the regional competition at Newfane were: Nate Heidemann - 5th, Waylon Carey - 9th, and Faith Giarla - 28th. Congratulations to all of our participants and winners.



5th Grade Spelling Bee Finalists: Front Row–Joseph Brandt, Faith Giarla, Nathaniel Heidemann, Waylon Carey. Back Row– Lisbet Lopez-Paz, Carla Stoloski, Jessalynn Coen, Lena Fazzolari, Ellie Voss.

PRE-K PROGRAM

Children who turn 4 years old by December 1, 2014 are eligible to attend the Pratt Elementary School's Pre-K Program for the 2014-2015 school year. Open house will take place on Friday, May 9 during the following times: 9:30-10:30 AM and 1:30-2:30 PM



Pre-K registration will be held from 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM on May 14 and 15.



New York State Math Assessment for Grades 3-8 will take place from April 30-May 2.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

If your child did not attend Pre-K at Pratt Elementary, but you want to register them for kindergarten for the 2014-2015 school year, please call 716-795-3237 to reserve a spot for them.



REACHING OUT WITH TECHNOLOGY

Mrs. Thibault's first grade class has been able to use Skype in their classroom to keep in contact with a member of the United States Air Force. Tammy Jones, mother of Will Jones, visited the first grade in November to talk about veterans. Will and his classmates have been able to use Skype to communicate with Mrs. Jones and ask guestions about Qatar. The first graders also created and sent valentines in February.



Will Jones and Mrs. Thibault use Skype to contact Mrs. Jones who is stationed in the Middle East until May with the United States Air Force.



DO THE RIGHT THING

Bianca Pavlock was presented with the Niagara County Sheriff's "Do the Right Thing" award at a ceremony this winter at Starpoint Central School. Bianca's quick action helped a fellow student who was choking during lunch. Congratulations Bianca. You are most deserving of this award!

GRANDPARENTS' DAY

The afternoon of Friday, May 16 will be an exciting day for Pratt Elementary as students will be able to invite their grandparents to visit with them for the afternoon.

PARP

The annual Parents As Reading Partners program wrapped up with an ice cream social on April 4. Throughout March students were focused on reading in a variety of ways which included a visit from a reading therapy dog, DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) Days, a bingo board with various reading tasks, and ice cream scoop cutouts displayed on lockers listing the titles of books read. This year, the theme for the program was "Here's

Students enjoyed their ice cream social time to wrap up a week of ELA State Assessment testing and a month of Parents as Reading Partners.

the Scoop, We Read for the Fun of It."



What's Happening at Barker Jr. / Sr. High School?

Weather caused many school closings and delays and forced rescheduling for several sports and activities. One such postponement was Tech Wars which was featured in the fall issue of the Banner. The event was rescheduled for April 23. As the 2013-2014 school year enters the final marking period several big events are coming up for junior and senior high school students. In addition to concerts, class night, the senior trip, and the 8th grade trip to Washington there are many other events and activities of note for grades 7-12.

PI DAY



Serena Flint and the prize she won on Pi Day.



Erika Moeller & Courtney 3 Bodine display cupcakes and pie they made for Mrs. Menz's geometry class.

On March 14 the Senior High School Math Department held a Pi Memorizing Contest and a Where's Pythagoras Contest. Kira Wheat, Devon Mangan, Jake Haight, Emma Duffy, and Brittany Luczak were the finders of Pythagoras.

Five finalists in the memorizing contest won \$3.14 on their lunch charge:

5th place - Dusty Walters

4th place - Lydia Dewart

3rd place - Caitlyn Mason

2nd place - Eadie Fuerch

1st place - Serena Flint , who memorized 200 digits of pi and also won the contest in 2012.

CAREER DAY & OLYMPIC DAY

On Thursday April 10, the 9th Annual Career Day will take place in the morning and Olympic Day in the afternoon for grades 5-8. All students in those grades will attend four different sessions to hear presentations from different career speakers. Some occupations to be presented will be fire fighter, police officer, sales manager, engineer, general contractor, and county health department. In the afternoon students will compete as a class in various activities in the high school gym.



GRADUATION:

Graduation will take place on Saturday, June 28 at 9:30 AM in the Herbert F. Ludwig Fine Arts Hall. The



doors will open at 8:30 AM for ticket seating which will run until 9:15 AM. Open seating will be from 9:15 AM until 9:30 AM. Each graduate will be issued a specific number of tickets. For the vast majority, this will meet their needs. Any family requesting more than the allotted tickets can do so by sending their prospective graduate to the High School office to complete an "extra tickets" request form, which will then be turned in by a specific date. Once that date has passed, any extra tickets will be distributed evenly to those who request them. Graduates who do not end up using all of their tickets are encouraged to turn them into the office so the tick-

ets can be put into a pool to be used to fulfill the requests for "extra tickets".

L. George Wilson, Class of 1957, will be this year's Distinguished Alumni Commencement Speaker. To read a bio about Mr. Wilson please visit the Barker Central School web site at www.barkercsd.net.

The high school cafeteria will be open for those people who would like to attend, but do not want to sit through the entire ceremony. The full ceremony will last approximately 1½ hours. The event will be recorded

and those who choose to watch it "LIVE" in the cafeteria will be able to do so on a large viewing screen. This option has worked well in the past for those that have young children who would be happier in this setting.

The atmosphere of the auditorium at last year's graduation allowed our graduates to be recognized in a very dignified manner. We look forward to seeing you at graduation.

HONORS AND AWARDS:

Parents and students are cordially invited to attend the annual Honors & Awards programs for Barker Sr. High School on Monday, June 9, 2014, at 7 PM for students in grades 9-12, and Barker Jr. High School on Tuesday, June 10 at 6:00 PM for students in grades 7 and 8. Both events will be held in the Herbert F. Ludwig Auditorium and will recognize students for their achievements over the course of the school year.





Barker Alumni Corner

The Barker Association is the most unique association in the United States. Run solely by volunteers, the Alumni Association's sole purpose is to present individual scholarships of at least \$1000 each year to deserving graduating Seniors and Alumni. These scholarships are presented each year at our banquet in June. The banquet also allows alumni to get together with each other and to 'reconnect'. The Association tries to stay in



touch with every Alumni by mailing information and a banquet invitation yearly to every BCS graduate all over the world, currently over 4000+ members.

Community Band



Celebrating its 30th year together, the Barker Community Band wishes to remind all musicians (Senior High School students and adults) that you are welcomed to join the band any time during the year. The band plays various concerts throughout the year for civic organizations, churches, and senior citizens. So musicians of all ability levels, dust off your instruments and join the fun and camaraderie Monday nights at 7:00 in the BCS music room. For more information, please call 795-9218.

B Athletics News & Notes

Led by seniors Jacob Haight, Mitchell Luckman and Bryce Moeller the Varsity Boys Basketball team claimed the Niagara-Orleans League championship this past winter season. It was the first such title for Barker since 1978. The team completed an 18-0 undefeated regular season and was seeded #1 in the Section VI Class C1 playoffs. Haight, along with Luckman, Moeller and Hayden Gooding all competed in the Exceptional Senior All Star Game against the Genesee Region. In the girls game, both Julia Atwater and Olivia Denny represented Barker and the Niagara-Orleans League on the court. The Varsity Girls Basketball team and Varsity Boys Swim team both received the Niagara-Orleans League Sportsmanship Award. Congratulations to Olivia Denny and Tim Flint for receiving the individual award for their respective team.



For all the latest news and information on Barker Athletics please visit the web site at:

www.barkercsd.net/athletics



All League Swimmers: Timothy Flint, Brooke Targus, Collin Webb, Alexander Goodlander. Not present—John Stansbury, Alonzo St. Louis, Casey Webb.



Nathan Luckman and Kyle Secore apply the defensive pressure.



Nolan Bouchane works towards the finish line in the breaststroke.



Christiana Carestia heads away from the wall in the backstroke.



All League Wrestlers: Daniel Gardner Jr., Hayden Hathaway, Jeremy Allen, Brent Bachman. Not present—James Brady.



Lindsey Williams pushes the pace in transition.



James Brady works on a pin during Senior Night.

☆ ☆ Making The News ☆ ☆ ☆ Jacob Haight - Barker Raiders All Time Lead- ☆ ☆ ing Scorer: 1,338 points ☆ ☆ ☆ Olivia Denny - Time Warner Cable Scholar ☆ ☆ Athlete of the Week ☆ ☆ ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆







All League Basketball Players: Mitchell Luckman, Hayden Gooding, Jacob Haight, Julia Atwater. Not present—Olivia Denny, Caitlyn Mason, Bryce Moeller, Christopher Sweeney.

OrleansHub.com All Area Basketball Team Recognition Julia Atwater, Honorable Mention Olivia Denny, Honorable Mention Caitlyn Mason, 2nd Team Hayden Gooding, Honorable Mention Jacob Haight, 1st Team Mitchell Luckman, 1st Team Bryce Moeller, 2nd Team Christopher Sweeney, 2nd Team

Barker Central School District School Calendar 2014-15

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Approved by the Board of Education on March 17, 2014

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2	Sup't Conf Day
3	First Day for Stude

First Day for Students

October

13 Columbus Day

Sup't Conf Day 24

November

11 Veterans Day 26-28 Thanksgiving Recess

December

22 - 31 Winter Recess

January

1-2 Winter Recess M. L. King Jr Day 19

February 16-20 Mid-Winter Recess 16 Presidents' Day

March 30-31 Spring Recess

April

1-6 Spring Recess Good Friday

May

3

25 Memorial Day

June

Last Day for Students 25 26 Sup't Conf Day (LAST TEACHER DAY)

CALENDAR D Т s т s 0 19 19 Jan 20 21 Feb 15 15 22 21 March 20 20 17 16 April 18 18 Nov 15 15 May 20 20 D June 20 19 TOTAL TEACHER DAYS = 187

TOTAL STUDENT DAYS = 183

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Upcoming Events

Please check the calendar at: www.barkercsd.net for more upcoming events or changes to the district calendar

<u>April</u>

7-9: PTSA Book Fair **11-21:** Spring Recess - No School

<u>May</u>

 Parent & Student Senior Trip Meeting, 7:30 PM in the auditorium
Pre-K Open House
Junior-Senior Prom, 6:00 PM @ Salvatore's Italian Gardens
14-15: Pre-K Registration
Grandparent's Day
20-23: 8th Grade Trip to Washington, D.C.
High School Band & Choral Concert, 7:00 PM in the auditorium
Memorial Day - No School
Class Night, 7:00 PM in the auditorium

<u>June</u>

9: High School Honors & Awards, 7:00 PM in the auditorium

10: Junior High School Honors & Awards, 6:00 PM in the auditorium

11-13: Senior Class Trip to New York City **14:** Alumni Banquet, 6:00 PM @ Barker Fire Hall

17-26: Regents Exams

28: Graduation, 9:30 AM in the auditorium

The Banner is a quarterly publication of the Barker Central School District. Please direct any questions, comments or suggestions to Jeffrey Costello, Banner Editor at 716-795-3201 ext. 5185 or via email at jcostello@barkercsd.net The 2014 Latrator is now on sale! Orders can be placed online at <u>www.jostens.com</u> or forms can be picked up in the high school office. Order by Friday, May 9, 2014. If you have any questions please contact Latrator advisor, Emma Dewart at <u>edewart@barkercsd.net</u>





Barker Central School 1628 Quaker Road Barker NY 14012

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