



The Historic Carrollton Covered Bridge

The Bridge

Volume 4, Issue 8

May, 2013



Important Dates

May 11	GED Examinations at CTEC; 8:00 a.m.
May 13	Board of Education Meets at BOE Office; 6:00 p.m.
May 16	Annual Student Art Show at A-B College
May 13-17	WESTEST 2 Testing for Students in Grades 3-11
May 20-24	WESTEST 2 Makeup Testing Window
May 24	Amended to Become an Instructional Day
May 27	Memorial Day Holiday: No School
May 28	Board of Education Meets at BOE Office; 6:00 p.m.
June 1	PB Commencement; 1 pm Barbour Co. Fairgrounds
June 5	Last Day for Students
June 6	Final ISE Day
June 7	Closing Prep Day
June 15	GED Examinations at Bd. Of Ed.; 8:00 a.m.
June 10	Board of Education Meets at BOE Office; 6:00 p.m.
June 24	Board of Education Meets at BOE Office; 6:00 p.m.
June 28	GED Examinations at Bd. Of Ed.; 8:00 a.m.

In recognition and thanks to all Barbour County school employees:

A truly special teacher is very wise and sees tomorrow in every child's eyes.

~Author Unknown~

Yes folks, this is what you are and what you do ~~ you are special, you are wise and, most of all, you see tomorrow in every child's eyes. You care not about their status and you care not what others think of them ~~ you only care!

Since 1984, the National PTA has designated the first full week in May as Teacher Appreciation Week, a special time to honor the men and women in all their capacities who lend their passion and skills to educating our children. All of you are teachers in truly special ways and, for all those things you do, noticed or not, we honor you every week, but especially this week and this month, for not only seeing tomorrow in every child's eyes but for helping them reach it.

Whether the children are in your school classroom, your cafeteria, the hallway or on your bus, you see their tomorrows with pride and joy in seeing them accomplish even the smallest tasks. You see the pain of the loneliest of children who have a hard time fitting in and you reach out to them seeing, wanting and making the best of tomorrows for them. You have picked them up and dusted them off, you have praised them and, with stern but gentle hands, you have guided them to see for themselves what you see for them. You have always taken care of each and every one of our students; you have done whatever it takes in making their education and well-being your highest priority.

So, once again, it is with humble honor, on behalf of the Barbour County Board of Education and the school administration, that I take this opportunity to say

**THANK YOU for all those tomorrows you see in every child's eyes
and**

THANK YOU for helping every child reach them!

Recent Grants Will Help Facilitate School Access & Playground Usage

A pair of Barbour County Schools projects have been selected for grant funding in recent weeks.



First, Kasson Elementary/Middle School was one of six schools in the state to be awarded a West Virginia *Schools on the Move* grant. The \$5000 funding will allow the school and its PTO to purchase and install much-needed play equipment and safety zones in the K/PreK play area in an effort to improve children's health and fitness.

Secondly, a \$9200 proposal by Barbour County Schools and the County Commission has been approved through the Secretary of State's office for *Polling Place Access* improvements at both Belington Elementary and Philippi Middle Schools. It is anticipated that the Kasson, BES and PMS projects will all be completed during the upcoming summer.

Barbour County Well-Represented at 2013 Spanish Immersion Camp

The West Virginia Department of Education will sponsor the 2nd Annual West Virginia Spanish Language Immersion Camp from June 26 through July 2. The free seven-day residential Spanish immersion program will provide student participants an opportunity to dive into the language, its food, music, art, history, geography and the customs of the Spanish-speaking world.

All five applicants from Barbour County have been selected for participation by the State Department. Shown here are, from left, teacher, Matthew Bright; participants, Tristan Riffle, Skylar Foster, Katelyn Mahoney, Megan Abe, and teacher, Theresa Kittle. Not pictured is Chris Neyens. Tristan probably best expressed the group's excitement, saying, "I really wanted to go to the Spanish Immersion Camp because I find Spanish to be so interesting. My friends and I always try to take Spanish classes because it's so much fun to learn about the language and the culture."



Mock Disaster Activity at PBHS Provides Students with Pre-Prom Safety Lessons

A carefully orchestrated and realistic automobile accident scene captured the attention of hundreds of Philip Barbour High School students on April 25 in the lead up to the school's annual Spring Prom. Dozens of volunteers played roles in the scenario at George Byrer Field as the results of drinking-and-driving and poor decision-making hit home with the teen-aged audience.

With police vehicles, fire trucks and even a helicopter at the scene, a variety of student council and faculty actors played roles in the aftermath of the "tragic event."



Three months in the planning, the outdoor assembly involved the coordinated efforts of the school administration and staff, many local agencies and first responders. While participants used the event as an important training exercise, they hoped that the "surreal" experience would stay with observers beyond Prom Night.

Nancy Pope of Health Net 6 said, "I just hope that it makes an impact. If it saves just one life, then it's worth it all." From all reports, PB's Prom Weekend was a safe and quiet one.

Philip Barbour's HSTA Club Helps Win Northern Regional Science Symposium

On April 13, 2013, the Northern Region of Health Sciences and Technology Academy met at Morgantown High School to hold its annual Science Symposium. In attendance were the Mountain HSTA region (Barbour, Preston, Taylor, and Tucker Counties), the Monongalia/Marion county region, the Ohio/Marshall county region, and the Eastern Panhandle region. Throughout the day, students presented science projects they had been researching during the 2013-14 school year. At the end of the day, the closing ceremony revealed that Mountain HSTA had earned the highest average score of all Northern students, winning the regional symposium award.

Pictured with the trophy, below, are Philip Barbour High School's Mountain HSTA students, along with HSTA sponsors, James Poling and Mark Lamb.



The Health Sciences and Technology Academy (HSTA) has reached out to 9th -12th grade under-represented students since 1994 and supports them through high school and college, following them to professional school to ultimately help prepare them for careers in the health sciences or technology. The goals of the program continue are to increase the college-going rate among under-represented students in the West Virginia; to improve science and math education; to empower communities through leadership development of their youth; and ultimately, to increase the number of health care providers in West Virginia's currently underserved rural communities. Studies show that ninety-seven percent of HSTA students attend college and ninety-four percent graduate from college.

Training for Next Generation Content Standards Planned

The Next Generation Content Standards have been passed by the WVDE and will be implemented in the core content areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Social Studies across all grade levels. While the state has not yet developed Next Generation Standards for Science, the county will have training for science teachers as well this summer so that they may learn about the infusion of the literacy standards that will be forthcoming with the full adoption of the national Common Core Standards. Professional Development for the Next Generation Standards will be available this summer to all core area teachers.

The training dates for the elementary (K-5) Next Generation Content Standards have been established. They are July 16, 17 and 18 at Philip Barbour High School.

The middle and high school training dates have not been fully established. The trainers are in the process of establishing those dates as they have to work around other trainings being held this summer and attempt to accommodate teachers who teach multiple subject areas and may thus need to attend multiple sessions.

All of the dates will soon be available on the Professional Development page by logging onto Barbour County School's website <http://www.wvschools.com/barbourcountyschools/> and clicking the link on the right labeled "Staff Development."

The trainings held this summer will be conducted by Barbour County teachers. These trainers attended a multiple-day workshop at the end of April and are currently meeting to develop the sessions they will deliver this summer. Assistant Superintendent, Jeff Kittle, commended the trainers for their dedication to this project. He expects that they will do an excellent job this summer and hopes all are able to attend.

The BCS Professional Development website will begin to be updated in the near future as the staff completes the process of closing 2012-13 and begins to build next year's calendar.

— Odds 'N' Ends —

➤ **May 29th Instructional Day:** School personnel should note that Wednesday, May 29, tentatively designed as a two-hour delay date, has been rescheduled as a full day of instruction.

➤ **BMS Student Earns State Honors:** An eighth grade student at Belington Middle School has earned runner-up honors in the West Virginia Young Writers competition. Rylee Shahan will represent Barbour County Schools in the Grades 7-8 division at the 2013 awards program at the University of Charleston on Friday, May 24, with her essay, "New York Times." Her language arts teacher at BMS is Ashley McCauley.

➤ **Certification Reminders:** Professional personnel whose teaching certification is due to expire on June 30, 2013 should note that the course work required for renewal and an application for renewal must be submitted to the Personnel Office prior to the opening of the 2013-14 school year, preferably before June 30th. Also, the state has made several changes to the certification renewal process and related requirements. Staff members are encouraged to contact their respective colleges for answers to any questions that they may have.

Personnel who have completed hours that make them eligible for salary classification advancement should submit all paperwork as soon as the class is completed since the county's state aid funding is based, in part, on current salary information. More importantly, the state will back-date any salary increases only to a maximum of three months.

➤ **PB's 50 Year Commencement:** Some 180 seniors will be awarded diplomas during Philip Barbour High School's 50th Commencement Exercises on Saturday, June 1, beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Barbour County Fairgrounds. The traditional Baccalaureate Service will be held in Wilcox Chapel at A-B College on Thursday, May 30, at 7:00 p.m.

Retired Employees Group Recognizes Personnel for Dedication to Students



The Barbour County Association of Retired School Employees expressed their support for current teachers and staff members with cookie trays during School Employee Appreciation Week on May 9-10. More than 20 members baked approximately 100 dozen cookies to be distributed among the county's schools and departments. BCARSE is an information, service and social organization of more than 100 local retired school employees.

The new principal of a large high school is making his rounds of the school on the very first day when he hears a commotion and loud laughter coming from one of the classrooms. He rushes in and spots a tall young fellow out of his seat and seeming to be making the most noise.

With a chance to make an example, he seizes the lad by the back of his shirt, drags him into the hallway, and tells him to report to the office and wait for him there. Returning to the classroom, the principal restores order and lectures the class for several minutes about the importance of good behavior. Finally, calming down, he says, "That's better...now, are there any questions?"

One girl in the back raises her hand. "Yes, sir," she asks, "When can we have our teacher back?"