

BPN Summer 2017 Newsletter



Looking for something fun to do this summer...visit your local public library and check out a book!



PROMISE SCHOLAR CELEBRATION

This May, we inducted our Fourth Cohort of Promise Scholars bringing our total to 30! The program is an initiative that promotes access to high quality education for exceptional students residing in BPN. Students are awarded scholarships to cover the cost of their high school tuition while receiving support through additional programming as they progress through high school to become successful, college-bound graduates. Our Promise Scholars attend nine private high schools.

Student speakers included Jazmine Richardson (Sacred Heart Class of 2018), Paul Richardson (St. Joe's Class of 2019) and Sydney Wingard (Nichols Class of 2020) who spoke to the group about their experiences as a high school Junior, Sophomore and Freshman.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Promise Scholars	1
Spruce Up Buffalo	1
Summer Literacy.....	2
CA Dance Recital.....	2
Fresh Fruits & Veggies.....	3
M&T Volunteers & JA.....	3
Student Speaking Contest...4	

ABOUT BPN

- Public/ private partnership seeking to improve academic performance at the neighborhood's three schools while revitalizing the surrounding community
- In Partnership with M&T Bank
- Non-profit organization managed by M&T Bank

BUFFALO SPRUCE UP

The State of New York Mortgage Agency, Buffalo Promise Neighborhood, Belmont Housing Resources of WNY, University District Community Development Association, City of Buffalo, University Heights Tool Library, M&T Bank and other local volunteers participated in Buffalo Spruce Up on June 2.



This event was designed to help improve area homes and beautify the neighborhood. Over 75 volunteers and skilled workers performed beautification projects and minor repairs on resident homes. In total we completed 29 homes and three green spaces.



SUMMER LITERACY EVENT



To inspire children to keep reading and learning during the summer break, Buffalo Promise Neighborhood hosted the Kickoff to Summer Literacy, its annual book festival for students at Westminster Community Charter School, Highgate Heights and the BPN Children's Academy.

Organized by BPN, the event featured educational and entertaining activities that aimed to relay the importance of reading in a fun and engaging way. The day included a visit from the Police Athletic League who distributed bike helmets donated by Wegmans, the Erie County Sheriff's Department

provided Operation SAFE CHILD ID cards, and the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library joined the festival to provide library cards to those who didn't already have one. The Buffalo Zoo's Zoomobile was on site with interesting animals for the children to hold and fun facts to learn and Young Audiences also drew caricatures. We had a dance contest led by Billy Buffalo, temporary tattoos, face painting, a picnic lunch by Chef Jason, as well as carnival snacks.

Teachers from the schools were on hand to distribute free books and a new summer reading contest, Reading Rules Raffle, was launched. Students have the chance to be entered in a raffle to win prizes when they return to school in September.



CHILDREN'S ACADEMY DANCE RECITAL

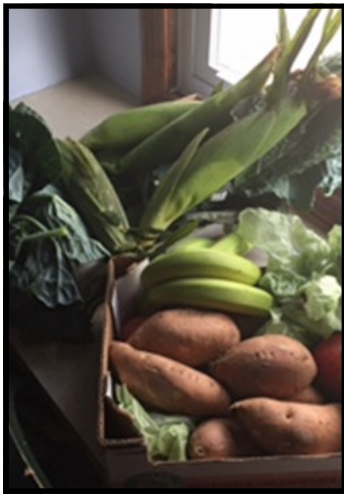


The Pre-K girls at BPN Children's Academy by EduKids Early Childhood Learning Centers were shining stars at their dance recital performed on stage at Westminster Community Charter School.

The girls demonstrated both ballet and tap skills they learned as part of the KinderMotion program at EduKids. Each girl's participation was sponsored by a community member and we couldn't be more grateful for their support of the children and this program. We are so proud of the girls. Thank you to Nancy Ware of EduKids, KinderMotion, Westminster and all of our sponsors.

FARM FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Buffalo Promise Neighborhood in partnership with the African Heritage Food Co-op will be selling farm fresh fruits & vegetables from July through December. Produce is seasonal but past boxes have included: red cabbage, apples, cauliflower, grapes, collard greens, broccoli, kale, mustard greens and sweet potatoes to name a few. A full box is \$30 and a half box is \$15. The pickup location will be Westminster Community Charter School. If you are interested in hearing more please contact Beverly David-Lewis at (716) 536-9395.



Date	Time	Location
July 7	4:00pm-6:00pm	Westminster
August 18	4:00pm-6:00pm	Westminster
September 22	4:00pm-6:00pm	Westminster
October 20	4:00pm-6:00pm	Westminster
November 17	4:00pm-6:00pm	Westminster
December 8	4:00pm-6:00pm	Westminster
December 15	4:00pm-6:00pm	Westminster

M&T BANK VOLUNTEERS & JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

Each year, M&T Bank's Management Development Program takes part in a leadership project as part of their graduation from the program. This year, with the help of BPN's partners at Junior Achievement of Western New York, the MDP participants were able to teach the Junior Achievement curriculum to 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students at Highgate Heights and Westminster Community Charter School.

The curriculum is designed to teach students about financial literacy, learning everything from how to establish the difference between a want and a need, to why it's important to know how to balance a check book. It's hard to tell who had more fun, the students or the volunteers! Thank you to everyone that participated in the training sessions. And a big thanks to our partners at Junior Achievement and M&T Bank.



STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN CITY-WIDE SPEAKING CONTEST

Congratulations to Highgate Heights students Razaiya Dillard and Zyere Safford, for their success in the Citywide Speaking Contest! The Richmond Speaking Contest for Buffalo Public Schools was held on May 23, 2017 at McKinley High School.

Razaiya, who performed the poem “Still I Rise” by Maya Angelou placed second and Zyere, who performed the poem “Let America Be America Again” by Langston Hughes finished in third.

The contestants, who competed against 22 students from other BPS schools, were coached by teacher aide Ms. Alexis Rosenthal, special education teacher Ms. Trina Land and ELA coach Mr. Jason Hall. Congratulations for your hard work and dedication to your craft!



We're on Facebook and we think you are too!

Like our page, **Buffalo Promise Neighborhood**, to stay up to date with all footprint news!

Only have a Twitter? Not a problem! We're there too! Follow us @**BuffaloPN**

