

THE BARTON BEAT

EVERYTHING YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU NEEDED TO KNOW!

STAFF EDITORS

MS. SAPAN

MS. FARBERMAN

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Welcome to *The Barton Beat*! Happy Black History Month + Happy Valentine's Day! This is Clara Barton's new one-stop-shop for all things Barton. We look forward to keeping all members of our school community informed about the latest school-wide events, student opportunities and other exciting news! We want this newsletter to be for everyone- we are welcoming new ideas, contributions and lots of student input! We hope you enjoy the first of many issues to come!

LOOKING BACK...

ON DECEMBER 18, 30 GATEWAY STUDENTS VISITED PHILADELPHIA TO VISIT THE LIBERTY BELL, INDEPENDENCE HALL & THE CONSTITUTION CENTER. THANK YOU TO MR. GARDNER & MS. NELSON AND ALL OF THE CHAPERONES!

OUR ANNUAL SENIOR TRIP WAS HELD FROM JANUARY 26-28. 124 STUDENTS ENJOYED A TRIP TO THE HONORS HAVEN RESORT & SPA IN GLENVILLE, NEW YORK. THANK YOU TO MS. ESCORBORES AND ALL OF THE CHAPERONES!

LOOKING FORWARD...

FEBRUARY 13: PTA MEETING

FEBRUARY 14: FRIENDSHIP DAY FUNDRAISER- BUY A PACKAGE FOR A FRIEND, \$5- \$10 EACH!- VISIT ROOM B18 TO PURCHASE

FEBRUARY 16- 23: MIDWINTER RECESS- SCHOOL CLOSED!

FEBRUARY 20-23: REGENTS BOOTCAMP- SEE YOUR COUNSELOR IN ROOM 205 FOR MORE INFORMATION

MARCH 3: JUNIOR PARENTS' BRUNCH

MARCH 8 & 9: PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

MARCH 9: LPN APPLICATIONS DUE- SEE MS. KHAVINA IN ROOM 263 FOR MORE INFORMATION

MARCH 16: MARKING PERIOD 1 ENDS

UPCOMING & ONGOING...

CALLING ALL SENIORS! THE SPARK BASKETBALL GAME IS COMING UP IN MARCH- SEE MR. MEYERSON IN ROOM 363.

THE DENTAL CLINIC IS OPEN! SEE MS. ESCORBORES IN ROOM B52.

READ ALONG: THE FREEDOM WRITER'S DIARY WILL BE THE FEBRUARY BOOK CLUB READ- SEE MS. ESCORBORES.

SOCK DRIVE: JOIN US IN COLLECTING 1,000 SOCKS! BRING DONATIONS TO ROOM B50.

CHANGEMAKERS VOLUNTEER CLUB: JOIN US THURSDAYS IN ROOM 333 TO VOLUNTEER IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

HEALTH CAREERS CORNER

FEBRUARY IS CTE (CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION) MONTH! DID YOU KNOW THAT A PERSON WITH A CTE-RELATED ASSOCIATE DEGREE OR CREDENTIAL WILL EARN ON AVERAGE \$4,000- \$19,000 MORE A YEAR THAN A PERSON WITH A HUMANITIES ASSOCIATE DEGREE?

THAT'S LIFE-CHANGING! PLUS, YOU NOT ONLY GO ON TO FULFILL YOUR DREAMS, YOU ALSO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF THE PATIENTS YOU SERVE. BY BECOMING CERTIFIED IN A HEALTH CAREER, YOU'RE HELPING COUNTLESS LIVES THRIVE!

STAY FOCUSED AND MAKE SURE YOU GRADUATE WITH YOUR CERTIFICATION!

NEW CREATIVE WRITING AFTER-SCHOOL WORKSHOP! Do you enjoy creative writing? Then our brand-new "LEFT 2 WRITE" workshop is for you! Join us for this 6-week workshop, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, after 10th period. **SNACKS WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED!** Students must commit to all 12 sessions, February 27 - April 12. Please see Ms. Sapan in Room 223 to sign up.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS - BARTON'S ANNUAL T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST! Submit your designs to Ms. Sapan in Room 223 or by email at esapan@clarabartonhighschool.org. The winning design will be featured on the 2018 shirt!

LIBERTY PARTNERSHIPS IS BACK! Open lunch periods for tutoring and Regents Prep, Tuesday- Friday, Room 238B!

LIU GEAR UP! All 10th graders are welcome in Room 405 during their lunch periods for tutoring and other exciting opportunities!

ARE YOU ON OUR MAILING LIST? Make sure you join the "Finn File" to stay up-to-date on extra-curricular activities, scholarships & more! See Ms. Finn in Room 205.

DID YOU KNOW? Barton's website has a fresh new look! Check it out at www.clarabartonhs.org

THE STUDENT SAMPLE POEM: EMONIE FAULKNER

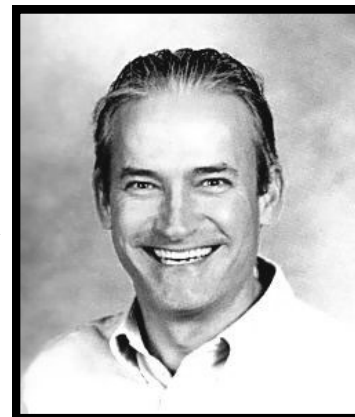
Hello, people of the congregation,
we are gathered here today to speak
on issues that affect quite a few of
us. I am woman, I am black woman.
Before slavery and till now, to be
women doesn't necessarily come
with respect. As a child they want us
to think about our dresses and our
clothes while they let the S.T.E.M.
programs be handed off to the boys.
Because the men are supposed to be
the providers. Because the men are
supposed to go to school, because
men are smart while women are
expected to stay home. Woman, to
be woman is to submit, to your
husband to your father, to those who
believe they have power over you. To
be woman is a gift and a curse. I am
woman, I see and hear the catcalls.
The Princess, The Baby,
The Sweetheart, as if you're the key
to unlocking our unlimited potential.
That we must come straight away for
your beck and call. To be woman is to
be afraid, to think before you speak
to certain people, to make sure you
walk with a friend because they can't
take both of us right? I am woman, I
am black woman. Should never
separate the two. I am not woman
first, then black. I am not black first
then woman. Never separate, always
together.

IN THE NEWS

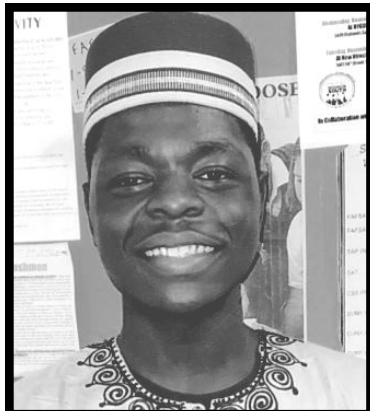
Check out the NY Times
Read 'Forget About the
Stigma': Male Nurses
Explain Why Nursing Is a
Job of the Future for Men.
Find it here:
<https://nyti.ms/2E401eI>

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT: MR. HEATON, SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER & IEP COORDINATOR

Growing up, I attended my local community public high school in Barrington, Illinois before I transferred to a private boarding school outside of Boston. I lived at my boarding school, with my teachers living in rooms just down the hall from me and I graduated in 1987. For college, I started out at Hamilton College in upstate New York but felt a bit lost. I ended up landing a job working with cattle ranchers in New Mexico for 3 months, where I slept in a trailer without electricity or plumbing. Eventually, I landed at the University of Chicago closer to home. I received my bachelor's in Public Policy at U of C in 1992. I also have two graduate degrees. I earned an MFA in New Genres from the San Francisco Art Institute, but my art career did not take off. After I finished this program I moved to Japan to teach English in public middle schools. After, I received my second Master's in Education, which I received from Hunter College in 2007. Barton students may be surprised to know that I have been actively playing in a surf-rock band for the last 10 years. Surf rock is based on sounds created by the Beach Boys, Dick Dale, and the Ventures back in the 1960s. Surf rock is mostly instrumental (no vocals) and features soaring guitar solos. I play lead guitar so my job is to be good at the guitar solos. All in all, I am very happy that the long and winding road of my life has led to Barton.



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: SAMUEL OJO, VALEDICTORIAN WRITTEN BY OPEYEMI JULIUS



I asked Samuel A. Ojo who he was as a person, to show that he is more than just that "guy with the highest average." His answer: "I'm from coming from a strict Nigerian household, my education has always been my priority. Every Nigerian/African knows the feeling of coming home with a high grade and their parents just look at it indifferently and tell you to do better. That is how it usually is in my home. I am not praised for my academic success, nor am I given anything I ask for because of that. My parents make sure to acknowledge my efforts and tell me to improve as a way of saying, "Good job, now let me see you top that." In my leisure time, I love to dance, cook/bake, play sports and tutor. . . My future aspiration is to become a defense attorney or actor. I am overall a fun, funny person that loves to interact with people."

I did a little poking around and got Humphrey Banful, Ojo's right hand man, to open up about his dearest friend: **Question:** If you were 25 years old and you reflect on high school and reflect on the friends you made in the process, how would you describe your relationship with Samuel? **Humphrey's answer:** We're brothers. M.O.B. We out here. But Sam is a helper. He always wants to make sure his friends are on the right path.

I asked Ojo how it feels to be the Valedictorian of an entire school and his response was: "It feels great to be the school's valedictorian... On graduation day in Middle School, I promised myself that I would be the valedictorian of my high school class and here I am today. That promise was my motivation; it was what pushed me forward when I faced personal issues, family loss and self-doubt.... I would not be here if it weren't for the help of my friends, therapy, Gateway, and my amazing teachers. Although I worked hard, there have been times that I have made mistakes and mentally gave up, but always proved to be the blessed God that he is and favored me so that my average just kept on increasing. I thank God." Hopefully, students after him realize the truth behind these words.

I met Samuel my sophomore year. He is a very charismatic person who cares and does everything he does because he loves it. After school every Monday, Ojo would assist Mr. Mirer in arranging his folders, Mr. Mirer named a system of alphabetically arranging folders "Ojo". He would say "So who wants to 'Ojo' the folders today." You see, it is the people like Samuel that make High School feel like a community, not just a place to come and get a diploma. My advice to other students reading this is to find a Sam before it is too late.

Interested in contributing to The Barton Beat with announcements, a column or a new idea? Please see Ms. Sapan or Ms. Farberman!

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

THE WORLD WILL SAY TO YOU, "BE A BETTER PERSON." DO NOT BE AFRAID TO SAY, "YES." START BY BEING A BETTER LISTENER. START BY BEING BETTER AT WALKING DOWN THE STREET. SEE PEOPLE. SAY, "HELLO." ASK HOW THEY ARE DOING AND LISTEN TO WHAT THEY SAY. START BY BEING A BETTER FRIEND, A BETTER PARENT, A BETTER CHILD TO YOUR PARENTS; A BETTER SIBLING, A BETTER PARTNER. START BY BEING A BETTER NEIGHBOR. MEET SOMEONE YOU DO NOT KNOW, AND GET TO KNOW THEM.

- CLEO WADE