

B A R B E R

JUNE 2018

S P I R I T



ADULT PROM EVERYONE'S A STAR

PG. 3



Barber National Institute



Dear Friends,

Summer may mean quiet, leisurely days for some, but the Barber National Institute will be bustling with activity as our summer camps get underway over the next few weeks. While one of the components of camps is play and recreation, there is no doubt that they fulfill many goals, including promoting social skills, fostering new interests and abilities, and building greater independence.

Children in Camp Shamrock and adults in ESO camp, many of whom received scholarships funded by our donors, will be at our main campus, while youngsters in Connections Camp will be busy on the campus of Penn State Behrend. But all of the campers will often be out in the community for a variety of fun activities.

Bike Camp, another opportunity funded by donors to the Barber Foundation, will soon conclude with many of the children and young adults riding their bikes independently. Parents repeatedly tell us that this is a dream come true for their child that would not have been possible without the therapists and teachers who help them at camp.

Our faculty will also be back for the extended school year program that helps prevent regression during the summer break with four weeks of fun and more relaxed learning.

Our camps give every child and adult a chance to shine and be an integral part of all activities. They embody the vision of our founder, Dr. Barber, when she said to the community, "All children are welcome here."

We are so grateful to our generous donors who support our camp activities as well as other important and life-changing programs at the Barber National Institute. On behalf of our children, adults and families, please accept our wishes for a safe, restful and rejuvenating summer.

Sincerely,

John J. Barber
President & Chief Executive Officer

In Memoriam

The Barber National Institute family mourns the passing of a longtime dedicated supporter who left an indelible mark on our organization from our founding throughout our years of growth and change. Charles "Chuck" Eisert, who passed away on June 10, 2018, at the age of 99, was appointed to our Board of Directors in 1981 and served as chairman for nine years, providing steady leadership through both positive and challenging times.



Mr. Eisert and his late wife, Mary, who served as an early teacher, were loyal friends of Dr. Gertrude Barber and instrumental in her efforts to establish facilities to serve children and adults with intellectual disabilities. When the City of Erie leased its former communicable disease hospital to Dr. Barber for the first school in 1958, Mr. Eisert was among a group of early supporters who helped move out the iron lungs used there for polio treatments.

Mr. and Mrs. Eisert were involved in nearly every fundraiser and event, and served as chair couple of the Christmas Ball in 1977. For their many years of service, the couple received the Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor accorded by the Barber National Institute.

Mr. Eisert was active in many community organizations, and played pivotal roles in several Erie businesses during his long and distinguished career. He retired in 1990 after serving as president and CEO of Gloekler Refrigeration.

"It was truly an honor to serve with Mr. Eisert, who was known for being articulate, bright and committed to helping in any way possible. He was a rock of strength at the time of Dr. Barber's untimely death and the transition to my leadership," said John Barber, president of the Barber National Institute. "Chuck had keen business acumen and a very high regard for serving our individuals and families. His leadership was invaluable during the early days of rapid development and growth of our organization as we became a leading provider of services in the disabilities community. His legacy will live on in the continuation of our mission."

Mr. and Mrs. Eisert had five children, 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Our condolences to his family and many friends on the loss of this true gentleman and outstanding humanitarian.

ON THE COVER

Tessa Pietkiewicz, Prom volunteer Elizabeth Donikowski and David Reed enjoy the festivities of this year's Prom sponsored by the Barber National Institute Expanding Social Opportunities (ESO) program.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT



**BARBER
NATIONAL
INSTITUTE**

We "Make dreams come true." We provide children and adults with autism, intellectual disabilities and behavioral health challenges and their families the education, support and resources needed to be self-reliant, independent and valued members of their community. In addition, we provide the professionals who serve them with world-class education and training.



ADULT PROM – EVERYONE’S A STAR

FRIENDS ENJOY GATHERING AT THE PROM.

The flowers, the photos, the dress attire – all were in place for “Under the Stars,” the theme for this year’s prom for adults with intellectual disabilities sponsored by the Barber National Institute. More than 200 men and women from across the community celebrated at the event held at the Bel-Aire Clarion Hotel and Conference Center.



The Prom is part of the Expanding Social Opportunities (ESO) program developed by the Barber National Institute with volunteers from all local colleges who assist at the dances.

“This event offers adults a great opportunity to do something special. Many adults look forward to getting dressed up and really make a night of it,” said Jaelyn Zacherl, associate director of Family Focused Services. “It is also an opportunity for adults to socialize with their peers and with their college-age peers who volunteer at all of our dances.”

Thanks to local vendors who made donations, including flowers from Potratz and Allburn Floral Shops, refreshments sponsored by the Sunflower Club and Curtze Foods, and corsages and boutonnieres created by residents at Niagara Village. The Bel-Aire Clarion also provided facilities at a reduced cost.

Robin Davis from Hair Cutz offered free makeup and hair styling for more than twenty women attending the prom, and also worked with Project Hope to bring dresses to the Barber National Institute where adults could select their perfect attire free of charge.



This marks the third year for the Adult Prom, although the ESO dances have been held for more than 17 years in the community. They are supported by volunteers from Gannon University, Mercyhurst University, Edinboro University and Penn State Behrend.

More photos are available online at BarberInstitute.org/prom.



FUND A DREAM

 Barber National Institute

Because of the generosity of our donors, services are available to help children learn to walk, speak, and read and write. Adults are learning work skills and getting jobs in our community.

Now, the 2018 Annual Fund is underway to achieve new dreams. Your donation to this year’s appeal will be at work in many ways, including funding updates to our facilities to better meet the needs of our individuals, continued growth in technology and exciting advances in our programs and services. Your gift will help ensure that every child and adult will have what they need to learn, grow and live as independently as possible.

Donations received by June 30 will be included in the 2017-18 Barber Honors, our annual donor report. Make a gift now online at BarberInstitute.org or use the enclosed envelope. For more information, contact Laura Schaaf, director of Giving, at 814-874-5802 or lschaaf@BarberInstitute.org

THE DREAMS YOU FUND



560 Children



Babies and Toddlers in Early Intervention from birth to age 3

675 Adults



Adults participating in ESO dances

200 Hours



Hours of job coaching every week

3,752 Adults & Children

 Barber Behavioral Health Institute

Children and adults receiving behavioral health services

\$248,600



Furniture, appliances and other necessities for residential group homes.

2016 -2017 Fiscal Year



Saturday, September 8

10 miles through Presque Isle's sand, trails, water and roadways.

Overcome **30 obstacles** with one goal: Beat the Beast.

Register for \$125 or fundraise for a free registration.

Sign up today at BarberBeast.org



One-mile course at Waldameer Park featuring **14 obstacles** that involve pulling, pushing, carrying objects and navigating ramps.

All obstacles are optional and can be completed by all participants, regardless of physical ability.

Cost is \$25. Optional **"Course Buddy"** can accompany participants free of charge.

Download registration form or sign up now at BarberBeast.org



Thank You 2018 Sponsors!





START A CHEER ZONE



BECOME A VOLUNTEER

GET INVOLVED

Do you want to be involved with the Beast without actually tackling the course? There are plenty of ways to be a part of this amazing event!

Volunteering is the next best thing to actually beating the Beast. By signing up, you will provide essential assistance to participants across the 10-mile course. Available positions to choose from include: obstacle monitor, registration, hydration & nutrition stations and finish line.

If you're part of an energetic group of people, then creating a Cheer Zone is for you. It's perfect for sports and gymnastic teams, musical ensembles or any group of people enthusiastic enough to cheer on participants along the 10-mile course. You can sing, dance, cheer or do anything you can to encourage participants. Creativity and energy are key, as participants will vote for their favorite zone after the race. The first-place Cheer Zone wins \$500, with awards of \$300 and \$200 going to second- and third- place finishers.

To volunteer or sign up for a Cheer Zone, visit BarberBeast.org and click on "Get Involved" for details.



MINI BEAST, ENORMOUS FUN

Students practice their fishing skills as they attempt to make a catch using a magnetic fishing rod.



Physical education teacher Brent Manti helps a student "feed the Beast" by sliding the scooter full of food into the Beast's open mouth.

Students of all ages showed that they could "Beat the Beast" in a Mini Beast obstacle course created by Elizabeth Lee Black School faculty. The course featured 13 unique, nautical-themed obstacles for students to experience, including a pirate beanbag toss, outrunning a giant ball through a maze and a "boat ride" to conclude the event.

The activities were created so that all students, regardless of age or physical ability, could participate. Once they were done with the course, the students were rewarded with stickers to prove that they conquered the course.





OVERCOMING OBSTACLES, TOGETHER

Lifesharing providers Scott and Ann Marie Tarasovitch with Dale Morrison, center.

Ann Marie Tarasovitch had a family like most others, with her husband, Scott, their two sons and Molly, their dog. Then, 10 years ago, Dale Morrison came to live with them, and their happy family got even better.

Dale, a 53-year-old man with an intellectual disability, is residing with the Tarasovitches as part of the Barber National Institute Lifesharing Program. Now, whether it's a quiet evening at home or beating the Beast on the Bay together, Dale has become an integral part of the family.

With Lifesharing, an individual with an intellectual disability is matched with a provider to integrate as a fully participating member of that family in what is meant to be an enduring, long-term relationship.

Ann Marie heard about the program and, soon after talking with another provider family, the Tarasovitch family decided they would open their home, too.

FINDING A FAMILY

Dale had been living in a variety of different situations but knew that what he wanted most was to be part of a family. As with most Lifesharing matches, Dale was introduced to the Tarasovitch family and had a series of visits to determine if their personalities, lifestyles and interests would be compatible. Ann Marie said she knew almost immediately that he was a good fit for her family. According to Ann Marie, Dale blended in so well, the transition was almost effortless.

"Once we met Dale," she said, "we just knew." For Dale, who always longed for a sense of community, the Tarasovitches gave him the opportunity to be a part of one. Now, not only does Dale belong to a community, he belongs to a family.

GETTING TO KNOW DALE

The enrichment in Dale's life was obvious immediately. "Dale really made a lot of progress right away when he went to live with the Tarasovitch family," said Debbie Brumagin, Lifesharing program specialist. "He really enjoys living with them as part of their family."

Ann Marie said one of Dale's defining characteristics is that he very much wants to help with anything in any way that he can. He also didn't waste any time introducing his new family to different interests and activities, like sharing his love of professional wrestling. Because of Dale, the family now has the official WWE Network and often throws WWE-themed parties for various wrestling events.

During the day, while the Tarasovitch family is at work, Dale attends the Community Supports Program at the Barber National Institute. Dale has a great affinity for the Barber National Institute and especially its founder, Dr. Gertrude Barber. Years ago, Dr. Barber served as Dale's godmother, and he continues to keep a framed picture of her in his room.

A FIREBALL FAMILY

For Ann Marie, Dale is one of the driving factors that motivates her to participate in Barber Beast on the Bay year after year. She beats the Beast to show her support for Dale and even waits for him to complete the adapted course so the two can cross the finish line hand-in-hand.



Tarasovitch, second row fourth from the left, with her team "Family Fireball."

As someone who exercises regularly, Ann Marie had a network of people she could turn to for support when she first decided to tackle the 10-mile obstacle course. Her group of friends that she worked out with at the Glenwood Park YMCA came together to form the team "Family Fireball."

Like Dale, Ann Marie has had her own obstacles to overcome over the past couple of years. She dealt

with serious physical illnesses, including multiple sclerosis and breast cancer. Despite these challenges, she never gave up and was always inspired by everything Dale had brought into her life.

"If you're willing to open your heart to an individual," Ann Marie said, "they just might fill your heart even more."

Lifesharing: What it's All About

Lifesharing enables an individual with an intellectual disability to join a provider in their home as a fully participating member of that family. Providers can be couples, families with children, empty nesters or a single person – the main requirement is providing a nurturing environment.

Individuals and providers are carefully matched to ensure they have compatible interests and personalities. The individual is then slowly introduced to the provider's home until a relationship develops and both parties feel comfortable enough to begin the move-in process.

Providers receive a federal tax-exempt stipend to cover services, room and board, and the individual's income and benefits cover their own medical expenses and personal purchases.

For more information contact Maggie Dimitriadis at (814) 878-5517 or Cherylynn McIntosh at (814) 874-5623.



A renovated Music and Recreation Room at the Adult Day Services facility in Pittsburgh was dedicated during the Art Show held in May. The room was dedicated in memory of Ronald Giannini, a longtime resident and day program participant, who passed away earlier this year. Attending the event were, from left, Thad Jackman, director of southwest regional programs; Bridget Barber, vice president for Health Services & External Affairs; John Barber, president and chief executive officer; Alexis Ducoeur and Kim Bogesdorfer.



A painting by Kaylee Poole won the award for best individual artwork from the more than 60 pieces exhibited in the Pittsburgh show.

2018 ART SHOW FLOURISHES

With nearly 600 pieces of artwork from youth, adult amateur and adult professional artists, the Jay and Mona Kang Art Show & Sale was the largest and most diverse exhibit in the show's 11-year history. The four-day event held annually at the Barber National Institute featured a variety of works ranging from paintings and photographs to sculptures. The Show has quickly grown to become one of the largest and most diverse in the region. Mark your calendars for next year's show set for April 5-8, 2019.



Adult artists whose works were selected for awards by a panel of judges were recognized at an award ceremony. On hand were, from left, Dr. Maureen Barber-Carey, Executive Vice President; Kathy Umlauf, Honorable Mention winner for her oil painting, "Horse Heads"; John Barber, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Barber National Institute; Rob Weber, Best of Show for his acrylic painting, "Grandest Day"; Barbara D. Crone, Best of Show Photography for "The Orant"; Terry Pytlarz, Honorable Mention Photography for "Seven Green Lights"; Sarah Perino, Honorable Mention Photography for "The Gift"; Bridget Barber, Vice President Health Services & External Affairs; and Drs. Mona & Jay Kang, presenting sponsors for the 2018 Art Show & Sale. Also receiving Honorable Mention Awards were Jason Amatangelo for his work in pencil, "Spun Pencil," and Ron McCorkle for his stoneware, "Requiem Series #1."



The presentation for youth artists included, pictured from left, Melissa Yeung, Honorable Mention for "The Girl with the Blue Earring"; John Barber, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Barber National Institute; Michaela Platz, Honorable Mention Photography for "Bonsai"; Dr. Jay Kang, presenting sponsor for the 2018 Art Show & Sale; Jesse J. Verner II, Best of Show for his graphite work, "My Cup of Tea"; Dr. Maureen Barber-Carey, Executive Vice President; Gamryn Catalde, Honorable Mention Photography for "Less Bitter, More Glitter"; Tyree Start, Honorable Mention for his graphite work, "Marine Pilot"; Tom Ferraro, Art Show & Sale judge; and Bridget Barber, Vice President Health Services & External Affairs. Also receiving Best of Show Photography Award was Isabelle Southard for "A New Perspective."

THANK YOU SPONSORS!

Jay & Mona Kang



BEi CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

BEi, a Barber National Institute affiliate located in Warren, Pennsylvania, held an open house for the community to conclude the 45th anniversary of the founding of the organization that serves adults with autism and intellectual disabilities.

Many representatives from the business, government and civic communities joined families and staff for the event, which showcased the range of services offered at the facility located at 44 North State Street in North Warren.

“TIMELESS POSSIBILITIES” COMES TO BAYFRONT

The Dr. Jay & Mona Kang Art Show included the unveiling of a new piece of public art welcomed to Erie’s historic east Bayfront neighborhood. “Timeless Possibilities,” an artistic collaboration with students and faculty at George Junior Republic, is now welcoming visitors to the main campus of the Barber National Institute.

The theme of the piece reflects the Barber National Institute philosophy that, in a world where all persons differ, everyone should have the opportunity to develop to their fullest potential.

“We believe that the opportunity for artistic expression is important for enriching everyone’s life, including persons with disabilities,” said John Barber, president and chief executive officer at the Barber National Institute.

Barber also noted the role that the Barber Institute has played in anchoring its surrounding neighborhood. “Just as we see potential in each person, we also believe that it is important to support the potential that can flourish in our community,” said Barber. “We have made a commitment to this east Bayfront neighborhood, and will continue to make an investment for its growth and stability.”

The colorful sculpture features parts of a deconstructed clock combined with nautical elements reflective of its Bayfront location. The piece, which measures 8’ by 15’, is fabricated with sheet metal cut, formed and welded by staff and students at George Junior Republic, an organization headquartered in Grove City, PA that provides educational, therapeutic and residential services for at-risk youth.



A student from George Junior Republic prepares to cut the ribbon at the dedication of the new sculpture, “Timeless Possibilities,” located on the Barber National Institute Campus.

“To allow at-risk students to be a major component in creating public art work is something that means so much to all of us,” said Glen Sanders, artistic director. “Participating in such a project shows these young men that they are important and that their actions can make a positive impact to others around them. This work of art is a lasting reminder of the belief that others have in their potential.”

The piece was transported to Erie courtesy of Barnhart Transportation, which also assisted with installation. Church Electric provided the equipment necessary to move the sculpture from the truck to a cement platform, and also assisted in securing the piece to its new permanent home.

Frank Fecko, supervisor of the Fine Arts Program at the Barber National Institute, designed a nautical mosaic added to the concrete base. Eight adults in the Fine Arts Program worked on the mosaic that consists of 12 panels that complement the sculpture.

The organization, formerly known as Bollinger Enterprises, was founded in 1972 by Annabel and Clifford Bollinger, a Warren area couple who wanted to provide meaningful employment and vocational rehabilitation services to all people with disabilities. The organization has grown from a small storefront to a 25,000 square foot facility that provides employment services, community activities and life skills development for adults in Warren and Forest counties.

Shown Left: Dr. William Clark, executive director of BEi, addresses a large group of visitors from the community as well as families and consumers.

Shown Right: Bridget and John Barber greet open house visitors State Representative Kathy Rapp, second from left, from the 65th district, and Sen. Scott Hutchinson, representing the 21st district.



Software Expands Communication for Pittsburgh Resident

The Pittsburgh Penguins, the Pirates, the Steelers – Will Morgan loves rooting for all of his hometown teams. Will has a vocabulary of nearly 50 words that he regularly uses, including the names of family and favorite staff.



Will Morgan uses new software added to the tablet in his group home to expand communication.

the developer of communication devices and software applications for persons with a variety of disabilities,

But the staff in Will's residential group home believed that he had a lot more that he wanted to communicate, and their determination to find a way to express it led to the start of a pilot program with a Pittsburgh-based communications company.

Staff in the Barber National Institute Pittsburgh residential program are working with Tobii Dynavox,

to assess how well their products work to enhance communication for adults such as Will. While the evaluation is in the early stages, everyone involved is excited about the possibilities.

"We were all blown away by how fast Will took to the software from the first night," said Patrick Then, Residential program specialist. "Will was able to be more engaged with making dinner – one of his favorite activities – and had meaningful interactions with the staff and the other residents during dinner. It was great to see."

Tobii Dynavox has worked with faculty in the Elizabeth Lee Black School for years to provide devices and applications for students, and was excited for an opportunity to test their products with adults. The software is used on a Surface Pro tablet already at the home, and therapists from Tobii Dynavox trained Will's group home staff and family on the systems.

The goals they will be working toward include having more meaningful conversations, making meaningful choices and increasing social interaction.

"Will is a great success story, and we know that, for him, speech is a way to expand the positive interactions in his life," said Patrick.

The communication software is now being pilot tested with residents at two group homes in Erie.



Corry Auction Raises Donation

In celebration of its 72nd anniversary, the Corry Auto Dealers Exchange held an auction of donated cars to benefit the Barber National Institute. Holly Callan, assistant manager, and George Pero, general manager, presented Barber Institute President John Barber with a donation of \$10,390 raised at the event. Area dealers who joined the Corry Auto Dealers Exchange in donating vehicles for the auction included New Motors, Humes Chrysler, Cunningham Chrysler, David Corry Chrysler, Dave Warren Chrysler, Webber Harris Ford, and NFI Empire.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



ERIE GIVES DAY

Aug. 14

BEAST VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Aug. 29, 6 p.m. • Forum

BARBER BEAST ON THE BAY

Sept. 8 • Presque Isle State Park

LADIES ONLY LUNCHEON

Nov. 17 • The Kahkwa Club

BARBER CHRISTMAS BALL

Dec. 8 • Bayfront Convention Center

CONSUMER CHRISTMAS DANCE

Dec. 9 • Bayfront Convention Center



For more information about all events, visit BarberInstitute.org



READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP

Isaiah Quinn celebrates at graduation with Dr. Maureen Barber-Carey, John Barber and teacher Shawn Miller.

Isaiah Quinn can tell you that the old adage is true: when one door closes, another opens. Isaiah was preparing to graduate from the Elizabeth Lee Black School, where he has been a student for the past three years. But just as that journey was coming to an end, a new opportunity – learning valuable employment skills – came into his life.

Isaiah was one of eight students who graduated in June after achieving many successes in school. Teachers say that Isaiah became especially skilled in learning to transfer the knowledge that he gained in the classroom into the real world.

During his time in teacher Shawn Miller’s class, Isaiah developed the skills to adapt to social situations and communicate his needs and feelings. He transferred to the Elizabeth Lee Black School because he was having problems in his home district. Since then, Shawn said that Isaiah has become much better at handling conflict, expressing himself, and managing and talking through anger.

Shawn said what he’ll miss the most about Isaiah is the insight that his student has given him, and the calming influence he has in the classroom.

“While I am so proud of seeing Isaiah take his place in the community, I wish he had more time to spend with us,” Miller said. “He’s become a bright spot in my day.”

One of those achievements is Isaiah’s transition to community employment. Over the past year, Isaiah has been working with the transition team at the Barber National Institute and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR.) As graduation nears, OVR staff meets with students who are transitioning out of school to assess employment skills and interests and provide on-the-job experiences.



Isaiah learned valuable job skills during a job placement this school year.

For Isaiah, the program led to a part-time job at Grapevine Laundry and Linens, where he worked in the afternoons after spending the mornings on school assignments in the classroom.

Isaiah’s job as a laundry production worker and customer service representative required him to assess the customer’s request and the specifics of the material before laundering the items and moving them onto the ironers. This involved learning how to safely handle the chemicals used for washing these different materials. Job coach Marquis Wallace worked alongside Isaiah to ensure that he could complete all of the responsibilities.

In addition to the duties of the job, Marquis and the school transition team also worked on the “soft skills” needed to make employment successful. For instance, Krista Amon, transition coordinator for the school, constructed a script that Isaiah could use to arrange for transportation to and from the worksite.

While graduation was bittersweet for the teachers and faculty Isaiah is leaving behind, they are happy to share in the pride of his accomplishments and hopes for a bright future.



Barber National Institute

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Bright Beginning Early Intervention (birth-age 3)
The Elizabeth Lee Black School (Approved Private School)
Autism Center
Happy Hearts Day Care & Inclusive Preschool
Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program
Pre Employment Transition Services for Youth

THERAPIES

Outpatient Behavioral Health Clinic
Traditional & Specialized Family Based Mental Health Services
Advanced Children's Therapies (ACT) Program
Speech Therapy
Occupational Therapy
Physical Therapy
Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services
Psychiatric & Psychological Services
Nutritional Services
Trauma and Grief Counseling
Health Services Department
Social Skills Training

LIVING IN THE COMMUNITY

Respite Care
Lifesharing through Family Living
Supported Living in homes and apartments
Residential Group Homes
Community Habilitation

DAYTIME COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

Club Erie
Community Endeavors
Community Participation Program
Prevocational Services
Transitional Work Services
Supported Employment
Adult Training Facilities
Older Adult Daily Living Centers

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Blended Case Management for Children & Adults
Family Support Services
Family and Sibling Support Groups
Agency with Choice, Habilitation Services

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Aktion Club
Connections Summer Camp for children with high functioning Autism/Asperger Syndrome
ESO Dances and Summer Camp (Expanding Social Opportunities)
Learn to Ride Bike Camp
Camp Shamrock Summer Program
Time for Me

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Before/After School & Summer Child Care Programs
Consultative services to schools & professionals
Swimming Lessons & Water Exercise Classes
Kids on the Block Puppet Troupe
Gift Shop

For more information, call the Barber National Institute at 814-453-7661 or visit www.BarberInstitute.org.

BARBER SPIRIT

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100 Barber Place • Erie, PA 16507-1863
814-453-7661 • FAX: 814-455-1132
Email: BNerie@BarberInstitute.org
Website: www.BarberInstitute.org

John J. Barber
President/Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Maureen Barber-Carey
Executive Vice President

William Gloekler
Chairman, Board of Directors

Bridget Power Barber
Vice President, Health Services&External Affairs

Mary Rotunda Cuneo
Manager of Strategic Communications

Anthony Esposito
Communication/Social Media Coordinator



REMEMBER US ON AUGUST 14 ON ERIE GIVES DAY



2018 Ball Chair Couple, Drs. Brian & Kate Stark.

It Will Be A Ball!

Mark your calendar for the 2018 Christmas Ball on Saturday, Dec. 8, at the Bayfront Convention Center. Doors open this year at 7 p.m. with dancing from 8 p.m. to midnight with Stiletto Fire, a dance and show band from Detroit, Michigan.

Chair Couple for this year's event are Drs. Brian and Kate Stark, longtime Ball attendees who have also participated in Barber Beast on the Bay since that event began in 2013.

Watch for event updates at BarberInstitute.org/ball

New: Barber Boutique

A new "Barber Boutique" at this year's Ladies Only Luncheon will feature unique items and artwork created by children and adults at the Barber National Institute, including scarves designed by our students. The original artwork for the scarves was created by students ranging from preschool through high school classes, and the designs were then refined for production by students in a computer illustration class at Mercyhurst University.

Eight scarves will be available with colorful motifs including animals, shapes and abstract patterns in oblong and rectangular shapes. Shoppers at the Ladies Only Luncheon will have their choice, and the scarves will also be for sale in the Gift Shop at Barber Place later this fall.

The Luncheon, now in its 16th year, will be held Saturday, Nov. 17, at The Kawkwa Club, and always sells out quickly. Watch for invitations and online registration in mid-September.



Molly Elliott and Matthew Santos, students in the Happy Hearts Preschool, display two of the finished scarf designs that were developed from their original artwork.