

February 2024

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1. \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ won the \_\_\_\_\_ Spelling Bee, which was held on January 31 at \_\_\_\_\_. He will compete in March at the Carolina Panthers Spelling Bee. The top four finishers in the regional bee will receive invitations to advance to the Scripps National Spelling Bee. \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ was the runner-up.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (partnered with NextGen) won the “Are You Smarter Than a Gaston County Fifth Grader?” competition. \_\_\_\_\_ earned second place, and \_\_\_\_\_ took third place. Sponsored by the Gaston County Education Foundation, “Are You Smarter” is a popular annual event that pairs businesses and organizations with elementary schools in a fun game show format. Proceeds go toward the Ron L. Ensley grants for teachers to fund innovative classroom lessons and projects.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ received a Gold Key award at the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards for her piece, “Bartholomew.” \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ earned an honorable mention for her work, “Chamelieonized Chameleon.” \_\_\_\_\_, a senior at \_\_\_\_\_, was recognized with a Silver Key award for her piece, “Acceptance.” Barr and Caicedo will have their artwork showcased in March at the Mint Museum in uptown Charlotte.
4. The following students were named semifinalists for the prestigious University of North Carolina Morhead-Cain Scholarship: \_\_\_\_\_ Ben \_\_\_\_\_.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ had more than 140 students participate in the all-county high school band clinic on February 9-10 at \_\_\_\_\_. Students were chosen for the band clinic through an audition process. \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ conducted the symphonic band, and Dr. Ben Jones, an \_\_\_\_\_ graduate who is teaching at Catawba College, conducted the wind ensemble.
6. Piedmont Lithium provided the following grants to educators in \_\_\_\_\_ :  
\_\_\_\_\_, \$1,500;  
\_\_\_\_\_, \$2,500; \_\_\_\_\_, \$1,000;  
\_\_\_\_\_, \$1,250; \_\_\_\_\_, \$2,378; and  
\_\_\_\_\_, \$1,243.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ senior \_\_\_\_\_ is a regional semifinalist for the prestigious Jefferson Scholarship at the University of Virginia.

8. \_\_\_\_\_ hosted the South Central All-District Band Clinic, which featured more than 300 outstanding student musicians from across the Charlotte region. The following students from \_\_\_\_\_ were chosen for the all-district band:

\_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_

13. \_\_\_\_\_ juniors \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ participated in the 75th annual Mars Hill University Choral Festival.

14. The \_\_\_\_\_ relay team of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ won the 3A state swimming championship in the 200-yard medley relay. They also placed third in the 400-yard freestyle relay. In addition, \_\_\_\_\_ finished second in both the 200-yard individual medley and the 100-yard \_\_\_\_\_