

Amazing Race deemed a huge success

Event raises about \$2,000 for the middle school

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Calico Jim, also known as Barrington Middle School Principal Richard Wheeler decked out in dreadlocks, a puffy pirate shirt, an eye patch, and a parrot on his arm took to the microphone and announced the start of The Amazing Race Barrington on Saturday, Oct. 23. The event served as a fund-raiser for the school.

Twenty eight teams of five people each waited for directions from "Calico Jim" and in staggered time increments went off to find and solve clues all over town for a chance to win a cash prize. The race was a treasure hunt with a pirate theme in the spirit of the fictitious swashbuckler, Calico Jim.

The winner was "The Green Hornets" made up of driver Bill DeWitt, his children Zeke and Ellie and their friends Coale and Alex

Kazounis. "It was very challenging," said Mr. DeWitt. "We slipped up on one clue but after we figured out where we were going, we were in good shape. We did some overthinking at times due to the complexity of the clues."

Each member of the team won \$50 and a "pirate's booty" of candy and other goodies. Mr. DeWitt donated his portion of the winnings back to the BMS PTO.

Second place went to The All Stars (Karen Flint, Andrew and Tucker Flint, Kevin Gower, Ben Sil-



Barrington Middle School Principal Richard Wheeler (left), aka "Calico Jim," poses with the winning team, the "Green Hornets" after the Amazing Race Barrington. Team members are (from left to right) Zeke DeWitt, Coale Kazounis, Bill DeWitt, Ellie DeWitt and Alex Kazounis.

via), and third place went to Link'd (Nat Rea, Isabelle Rea, Nina Regan, Katie Odjakjian and Molly Sullivan). Both runner-up teams received gift certificates to Sweet Lorraine's, movie passes and candy.

Mr. Wheeler was the mastermind behind the clues and did a great deal of leg work to make the competition as professional as the television program it was fashioned after.

"I enjoy doing this. Everyone involved was very enthusiastic and had a good time," he said.

The fund-raiser was sponsored by the PTO and member Deb Sullivan acted as a chairwoman for the event. Mrs. Sullivan said she and her husband Pat had participated in a similar race near Boston and has wanted to bring it to Barrington for a few years. Since this was the first effort, they kept it simple and hope to expand next year.

"The first ever Amazing Race Barrington was a huge success — from the volunteers to all of the racers, everyone came in with smiles and great stories of adventure. We hope everyone had a

great afternoon — learning about our town while engaging in some good competition. The Barrington Middle School PTO hopes this becomes a tradition for years to come," Mrs. Sullivan said.

Mrs. Sullivan said she believes the event raised about \$2,000 for the school.

Mr. Wheeler wanted to incorporate some historical significance relating to the town in his clues that were all written in pirate language. Each team was given a pirates "glossary" to help figure out the clues.