

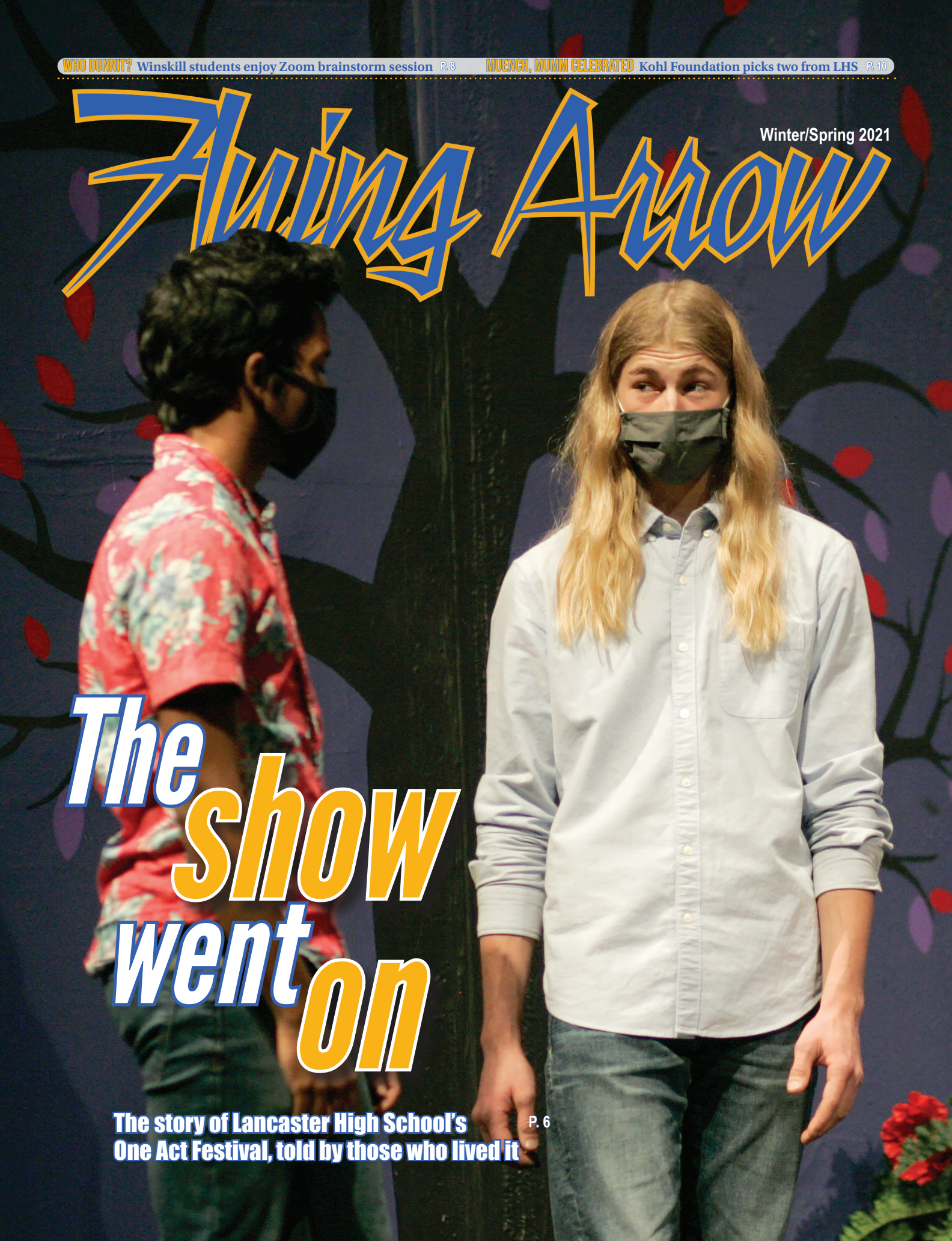
# Flaming Arrow

Winter/Spring 2021

## The show went on

The story of Lancaster High School's One Act Festival, told by those who lived it

P. 6





Lancaster High School

National FFA Week

Feb. 20-27, 2021

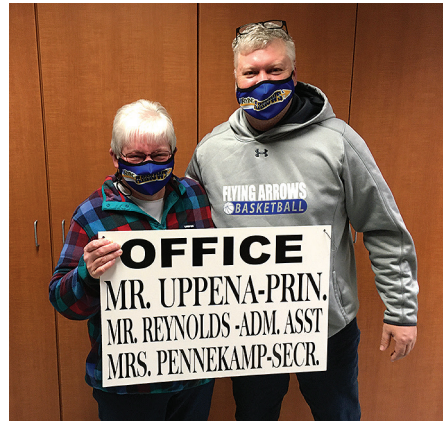


# Celebrating one of the high school's all-time greats

Lancaster High School celebrated one of its most familiar faces when Kathy Pennekamp retired earlier this semester.

Mrs. Pennekamp and I go way back. I was an office helper when I was a student at LHS. Mrs. Addison and Mrs. Pennekamp must have taught me well, as I don't recall being fired.

Spending five days a week in Lancaster this school year, I think



I began to grow on Mrs. Pennekamp (though we'd have to ask her to know for sure). We'd sometimes reminisce about the good old days and we even found a mutual interest in baseball cards: her grandson is a collector like yours truly.

On behalf of everyone, thank you for everything, Mrs. P!

Robert Callahan | Editor

## LANCASTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



### FLYING ARROW

Vol. 4 • No. 2 • Issue #9

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**Amber Yutzy** - Teacher Assistant

# The right ingredients



**With a heap of help from Compeer Financial  
and a dollop from the Lancaster FFA,  
LHS students are cooking and baking their best**

BY ROBERT CALLAHAN

One of the many joys of adulthood is the thrill of a new kitchen appliance in your home.

Lancaster High School students in Jessica Schaefer's Food Science class experienced the thrill twice over last semester thanks to a grant from Compeer Financial.

Two new electric ranges were installed in the high school's Food Science laboratory last fall. Lancaster High School was one of 66 high schools in Compeer Financial's territory in Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin to receive a grant.

The \$1,000 grant was combined with a donation from the Lancaster FFA to purchase the electric ranges from Weygant's Appliance & Mattress in Platteville.

"It has been a game-changer," Schaefer said of the grant. "The morale in my kitchen is just so much better.

"The students aren't fighting over who gets what kitchen now. They are more confident, they know that things are going to work out and they aren't anxious."

The grant program seeks to promote agriculture education and inspire youth to gain a deeper understanding of the ever-changing agriculture industry by funding programs and the modern classroom equipment.

Lancaster High School's Food Science class was first offered during the 2012-2013 school year. First taught by Kelsey Sambs, the class was taught by Tevis Mott and David Wright before Schaefer took the reins in 2017.

"I grew up on a dairy farm, so we were always instrumental in growing our food because my grandma had a huge garden," Schaefer said. "We always did canning and preserving and freezing and baking and cooking.

"A class like food science is second nature."

A one-semester elective course, Food Science is offered to Lancaster High School juniors and seniors.

"Meat, cheese, cupcakes and milkshakes ... now that we have your attention, join us as we explore your favorite foods and the science that goes into making them" reads the course description in the high school's Program of Studies. The culture and heritage of food is also discussed.

"Whenever you go to a family function, who brings what dish," Schaefer explained. "Even this year, when we celebrated apart, at Thanksgiving I really tried to do the family favorites.

"It was so neat just to reach out to different family members and get those recipes. When you are making them, you are thinking of those people and sending

them messages, asking, does this look right?"

Students also learn firsthand the science and procedures of food.

"I worked with Mrs. Corell and told her I wanted to set up the Food Science class as a lab. We talk about a thesis: if we do this, then this will happen to the food," Schaefer explained. "When we do the lab reports, there's claim, evidence and reasoning. Some of the students struggle the first couple of times, but by the end of the semester it is old hat to them. They just get it. They can come up with a thesis on their own and they understand what they are testing. They know what to look for."

Which labs are the favorites of students?

"The candy lab is a huge one. We talk about crystallization and changing the sugars," Schaefer said. "A lot of the students have an epiphany when they realize you have to get it that hot and you have to stir it, otherwise it doesn't turn out.

"We do a pie lab. We investigate the different fats in a pie crust. We do sugar cookies, and some of the students aren't very happy about putting sour cream in there."

Zach Gruber, a Lancaster High School senior, enrolled in Food Science last semester.

"I like cooking and learning about food is pretty fun in general," he said.

What did Gruber learn in the class?

"That I am really bad at following directions and I need to get better," he

said. "There are also a lot of things to do with food that I have never heard of."

Gruber most enjoyed making fudge prior to the holidays.

Like Gruber, Lancaster High School senior Caitlynn Hahn enrolled in Food Science because she enjoys food. Her favorite dish was a scrambled egg quesadilla made during the breakfast unit.

Both Gruber and Hahn were appreciative of the new ranges.

"It is really nice because the new ovens heat up a lot faster than the old ones," Gruber said.

Hahn agreed.

"It is a lot faster to get things done," she said. "We actually get things done in our class period."

With two sections of Food Science offered second semester, the new ranges will be used aplenty.

"We really needed this," Schaefer said. "The students really needed this."

**"It has been a game-changer. The morale in my kitchen is just so much better."**

# THE ONE ACT FESTIVAL

Lancaster High School's Hillery Auditorium hosted a One Act Festival Nov. 20-22. "With three one act productions, we could keep everyone involved while keeping the practices shorter and less populated," explained Director Torie Leslie. Photos by Robert Callahan.



*Gabriella Dressler (Nancy) was suspicious of her neighbors in "Twitch."*



*"Underground railroad!" Kylie Larson played the role of Emma in "Twitch."*



*Brady Sperle played Andrew Powers, age five, in "Why Do We Laugh?"*



*Carolyn Recker (left) and Jacob DiVall (right) delivered haunting performances in "One Lane Bridge."*



*Nolan LaMantia played the eldest Andrew Powers in "Why Do We Laugh?"*



*Thirty-one talented students comprised the One Act Festival cast and crew. Chris Smoody and Brandon Larsen provided construction assistance, as well as imagination of the stage and Hillery Auditorium booth.*

# 30 Plays in 30 Minutes



*"All hail Pluto!." Abby Timmerman (center) played the role of Pluto in "Solar System."*

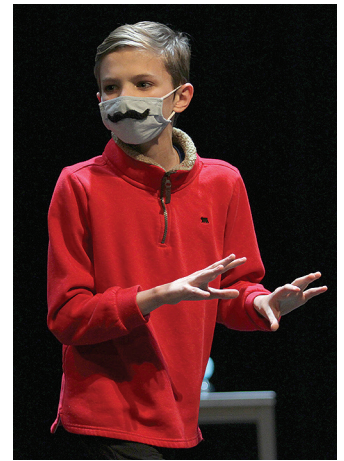
Lancaster Middle School students presented "30 Plays in 30 Minutes" by Kamron Klitgaard on Jan. 15-16 in the Hillery Auditorium. "Putting on a play this year seemed almost impossible, but we were able to pull through with the help of our wonderful kids," shared directors Ashley Miller and Torie Leslie. "We love what we do, we love them ... we had fun putting it together despite the masks, social distancing and quarantines. The show must go on, and so we made it happen." Photos by Robert Callahan.



*Leah Addison met an author (with mixed results) in "Recipe Book."*



*Teacher Emma Jensen put her muscles to use for student Katie Gallagher in "Kindergarten Boots."*



*Brody Wilson warned of the consequences of unpaid rent in "Melodrama."*



*More than 30 Lancaster Middle School cast and crew were part of "30 Plays in 30 Minutes." Thirteen Lancaster High School students offered a helping hand as student directors.*

# One to remember



Lancaster High School's  
cast and crew rose to the occasion  
to provide a memorable One Act Festival



BY ROBERT CALLAHAN

In the midst of a global pandemic, the show went on.

A talented Lancaster High School cast and crew presented a One Act Festival Nov. 20-22. The festival featured “One Lane Bridge”, “Twitch”, and “Why Do We Laugh?” by Stephen Gregg.

Director Torie Leslie was hopeful the Hillery Auditorium would be home to a production last fall, but as the school year approached, was unsure how it could be possible.

“I had hope that we would [have a production] just because I knew that they were going to try to do everything that they could, but in the beginning I was thinking there was absolutely no way we can do that,” she said. “I didn’t know how I was going to get 30-plus kids on the same stage at the same time and be able to tell the story while still following all the guidelines and the rules and all of that.”

The following is an oral history of Lancaster High School’s One Act Festival, as told by Leslie, LHS seniors Abigail Hartline, Kieran Jahnke and Zach Mendis, juniors Gabriella Dressler and Kylie Larson, and crew member Maleta Schwantes, also a senior.

**Leslie:** That’s where the idea of the One Act Festival came in, so we could do the three shorter plays with smaller, casts, with simpler sets, so that we could still do the play, but we could keep people a safe distance apart. I had a different play picked out at the end of last school year. When COVID happened, I couldn’t see how that would be possible, but I wanted to do something.

I remembered that I had been in a one act festival in college and I knew there were lots of people involved in that, but I only ever saw the people who were in my show. I figured we could do something like that and still have the play, but we would keep people further apart and they would be on the stage less time because the plays would be shorter.

*Although unfamiliar with the concept of a One Act Festival, cast and crew were grateful for the opportunity.*

**Gabriella Dressler:** I was overjoyed. I was so upset

when we learned COVID was taking away a bunch of stuff. When forensics was canceled last year, it broke my heart. When I learned we had the chance to perform, I thought, we are going to do this and we are going to do everything we can to keep going.

**Abigail Hartline:** In a year where we didn’t get much, it was really exciting to be able to have at least one semi-normal thing happen, so I was I really excited.

**Kieran Jahnke:** When I learned that we would be able to have a play this year I was very surprised. I wasn’t sure that we’d be able to do one this year because of the way things were going. I was glad to hear that I’d be able to do the play my senior year.

**Kylie Larson:** I was really excited. I didn’t think that we were going to be able to. When I found out, I was at first kind of curious about how we were going to do it, and once I learned more I was just really excited to

get going and get working on it.

**Zach Mendis:** I was excited. This was my second year doing plays. For me not to have a show for my senior year would have sucked, but we ended up getting it at the end and it was a great time.

**Maleta Schwantes:** When I found out there was going to be a production this year I was very surprised and I couldn’t want to see how Ms. Leslie was going to pull it off.

*As it turns out, Leslie wasn’t quite sure how she would pull it off either.*

**Leslie:** I started thinking that directing one play by myself is a lot of work, so to do three totally by myself was going to be daunting, if not more difficult. I thought, I need help. That’s where the idea of the student directors came in.

*Hartline, Dressler and Larson were chosen as student directors. While all would choose to do so again if given the opportunity, serving as a student director was no walk in the park.*

**Hartline:** The opportunity to student direct this year was amazing. I was excited to take on the challenge and figure out what being a director entails. I was grateful for the chance to be a leader, be creative, and try



Robert Callahan photo

*Abigail Hartline (right) starred as Meredith Wilfred, age 16, in “Why Do We Laugh?”. She also served as a student director for “Twitch”.*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

# WHO DUNNIT?



**Winskill Elementary fourth graders  
brainstormed their own mysteries  
with the help of an award-winning author**

BY ROBERT CALLAHAN

W inskill Elementary School fourth graders sharpened their pencils and brainstormed their very own mysteries during a Zoom call with author Kate Messner on Tuesday, Jan. 12.

The visit was made possible thanks to funding from the Friends of Winskill.

“Mr. Murphy has had all these cool people he is Zooming with,” Lancaster Community Schools Library Media Specialist Carrie Post said. “I thought I would aim big. When [Friends of Winskill] said yes, I was like, oh my gosh, I can’t believe it. I was thrilled.”

Messner’s works are wide-ranging, from written award-winning picture books to mysteries and thrillers. Prior to becoming a full-time writer she was a TV news reporter, as well as an educator who spent 15 years teaching middle school English.

Fourth graders hung on Messner’s every word as she detailed the creative process she uses when beginning a story.

Messner first considers the who, what, when, where, why and how of the mystery, she shared.

When brainstorming what item could be stolen, students provided a mix of possibilities: NASCAR models, the Hope Diamond, a Super Bowl ring, or a copy of Messner’s hit book, “Breakout”.

“I can see these are some pretty talented mystery writers in this group,” Messner noted.

As the brainstorming session continued, Messner suggested a quick-write.

“The best way I have found to write a heist scene about how somebody breaking into a place to steal something ... is to imagine that place and try to get a movie going in your mind and then just write

as fast as you can to describe what’s happening,” she said. “Write as fast as you can, how this thing got stolen. Imagine I am reviewing an audio and video file of the crime while it’s happening. What do I see, and what do I hear?”

Each of Winskill Elementary’s three fourth grade classrooms grew quiet as students furiously wrote for two minutes.

“This was a very fast brainstorming session, but right now you have the building blocks for a mystery: you have the thing that got stolen, you have suspects, you have at least one investigator, who is going to be the main character in your mystery; and you have started brainstorming

**“Many students were Kate Messner fans before the visit, but her fan base has grown quickly. We are grateful for the time Kate spent with us and we want to thank Mrs. Post and the Friends of Winskill, who made this event possible!”**

how this heist took place and what clues might be left behind,” Messner told students. “You can continue writing from here.”

A question-and-answer session following the brainstorming activity. One student asked Messner if she has always enjoyed reading and writing.

“I have,” Messner replied. “I have loved reading ever since I was tiny. Before I could even read I would follow my whole family around with piles of books, begging everybody to read with me. So, books have always been one of my favorite things.

And as soon as I was able to hold a pen or a pencil, I wanted to write my own stories.”

When asked if one or more teachers made a difference in her life, Messner cited her first grade teacher.

“She was the first person who told me I was a good writer,” she recalled. “I had written a story about a girl throwing snowballs at her brother, with a lot of detail. My teacher said, I am going to put this on the bulletin board, you can really write. And I thought, wow, I can really write.”

Fourth grade teacher Jim Addison, a fan of Messner’s works, was excited for the opportunity for Winskill’s Elementary’s fourth graders.

“I think Kate Messner is a fantastic author, especially for this age,” he said. “When Mrs. Post had let me know the visit was a possibility, I was definitely ecstatic about the opportunity.”

Students did not hesitate to share their ideas with Messner during the Zoom call.

“I could feel their energy in the classroom that day,” Addison said. “Kate showed tremendous interest in their ideas and students were ecstatic to share them.”

Addison is grateful for the support of the Friends of Winskill.

“I am not sure if an opportunity like that would happen without their support,” he said. “It gave the students something to look forward to and it drove interest in not only reading, but in writing.

“Many students were Kate Messner fans before the visit, but her fan base has grown quickly. We are grateful for the time Kate spent with us and we want to thank Mrs. Post and the Friends of Winskill, who made this event possible!”

# Kristin Muench, Eric Mumm earn Herb Kohl honors

*Muench, a LHS senior, will receive a \$10,000 scholarship*

The selection committee for the Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Student Scholarship, Teacher Fellowship and Principal Leadership program has announced recipients of the 317 Herb Kohl Foundation awards for Wisconsin students, teachers and principals. Awards in the amount of \$6,000 are being made to 101 teachers, 16 principals, and their schools, and \$10,000 scholarships will be given to 200 graduating high school students.

Lancaster High School senior Kristin Muench has been selected as a 2021 Herb Kohl Foundation Excellence Scholar. She will receive a \$10,000 scholarship that may be used at any postsecondary institution and is not limited to Wisconsin. Kristin is the daughter of Kelly and Jim Muench of Lancaster.

Applications were due in November. Kristin was notified she was a finalist in December and has been anxiously awaiting scholarship recipients to be announced since, she said.

"I am extremely honored to be selected as a Herb Kohl Student Excellence Scholarship recipient," Kristin said. "This large scholarship will assist me greatly as I pursue an engineering degree at



Photo courtesy of Mary Hampton Photography

*Lancaster High School senior Kristin Muench has been chosen as a 2021 Herb Kohl Foundation Excellence Scholar.*

the University of Wisconsin-Platteville this fall."

Kristin was also named the Academic Excellence Scholarship recipient of the 2021 graduating class in February. She presently has a 4.0 grade point average.

"Receiving this scholarship would not have been possible without all my experiences at Lancaster High School," Kristin said. "The wide variety of college-level courses offered at Lancaster have not only

prepared me for the future, but I also believe that they helped my transcript stand out from those of other applicants.

"Additionally, having a variety of extracurricular options at Lancaster High School allowed me to be involved and build a diverse resume."

Kristin was a part of band, Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), cross country, track, LEO Club, Student Council and National

Honor Society at LHS. She also participated in the Southwest Wisconsin Conference Math Contest.

Kristin was grateful for the help of the LHS faculty as she navigated the application process.

"The faculty at Lancaster High School were very helpful in the application process itself," she said. "They were more than willing to write me letters of recommendation and proofread my essays that were necessary in the application process."

Kristin was also grateful for the support of her family.

"My family was so supportive of me during the application process," she said. "They were willing to help whenever I needed advice on the best way to word things and helped me proofread my essay multiple times."

## **Mumm named Herb Kohl Teacher Fellow**

Lancaster High School technology education teacher Eric Mumm was named a Herb Kohl Foundation Teacher Fellow. Lancaster High School will receive \$6,000 on his behalf.

"Surprised, absolutely," Mumm said of his selection. "I don't think I'm the best teacher in the building, so to be on that list is kind of cool. I just also think there are a lot

of people on staff that are equally or more so deserving of that honor.”

Mumm, who is in his eighth year at LHS, was nominated for the honor by Lancaster Middle School social studies teacher Andrew Haas.

“I have always kind of looked up to what [Andrew] has done in his department and some of the cutting-edge things he has done,” Mumm said. “He is certainly very good at connecting with his students. What he has done is incredible, so to have him nominate me is humbling.”

Mumm feels the honor is special not because he has “made it,” but because it shows he can and hopes to improve.

“In my eight years of education, I’ve improved so much,” he said. “I’m excited to see what the future holds.”

While teaching during a global pandemic has been less than ideal, Mumm believes it will offer opportunities for growth.

“I think we will do a disservice to education if we don’t learn anything from this situation,” he said. “I think we have been forced to do things that we normally wouldn’t do, both good and bad, but I think if we focus on the good things we have been uncomfortable with—but maybe it has progressed us in a way that is better—if we focus on that, when we finally get the all-clear and we are ready to hit the



Robert Callahan photo

*Lancaster High School technology education teacher Eric Mumm has been chosen as a 2021 Herb Kohl Foundation Teacher Fellow. Mumm began his career at LHS in 2013.*

ground running, if we do it right, we can shoot out of a canon and we can take a large step in education.

“Obviously, this has been a trying time for everybody, but learning and getting through that adversity should do good things for us if we use it correctly.”

Excellence Scholarship recipients have demonstrated excellence in the academic arena and high motivation to achieve, have displayed a broad range of activity and leadership outside the academic setting, and have shown strong promise for succeeding in college and beyond.

Fellowship recipients are educators who have been chosen for their superior ability to inspire a

love of learning in their students, their ability to motivate others, and their leadership and service within and outside the classroom.

Leadership Award recipients are school principals who are being recognized for setting high standards for instruction, achievement and character, and creating a climate to best serve students, families, staff and community. Excellence Scholarship, Fellowship and Leadership Award recipients are selected by a statewide committee composed of civic leaders, and representatives of education-related associations and the program’s co-sponsors: The Wisconsin Newspaper Association Foundation, Wisconsin Department of

Public Instruction, Wisconsin Council of Religious and Independent Schools (WCRIS), regional Cooperative Educational Service Agencies (CESA), the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators, and the Wisconsin Homeschool Parents Association. Initiative Scholarship recipients, chosen by their schools, have demonstrated exceptional initiative in the classroom and have shown strong promise for succeeding in college and beyond, but have not yet received other academic-based scholarships.

“We are thrilled that during such a tumultuous time in education, Wisconsin’s students, teachers, principals and schools are recognized for their devotion to education and learning”, said Dr. Chris Cody, WCRIS board president.

The Kohl Foundation Scholarship and Fellowship program was established by Herb Kohl, philanthropist and businessman, in 1990. Since then the foundation has awarded nearly \$25 million to Wisconsin educators, principals, students and schools.

“Education is the key to the future of Wisconsin and our nation. I am very proud of the accomplishments of these students, teachers, and principals and look forward to the great contributions they will make in the future,” Kohl said.



**MATH CONTEST**  
LANCASTER HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPANTS



# LHS outshines competition at SWC Math Contest

*Flying Arrows bring home 21 medals, most of any SWC school*

Lancaster High School took top honors at the Southwest Wisconsin Conference (SWC) Math Contest, held virtually on Wednesday, March 3.

Twenty-one Lancaster students earned a medal, the most of any SWC school. The Flying Arrows tallied seven gold medals, seven silver medals and seven bronze medals.

Lancaster freshman Leah Muench earned the top score in Division 3. Plus, Lancaster Middle School eighth grader Christina Buttles earned a silver medal.

“As a math department, we try to challenge and raise the bar for our students while supporting those that struggle,” explained Lancaster High School math instructor Wendy Fuchs. “We like math and it is rewarding to see our students enjoying math also. It is exciting to see them perform well at a competitive level!”

Fuchs is joined at LHS by math colleagues Michelle Noble and Lo-

gan Prochaska.

Lancaster Middle/High School principal Mark Uppena praised the efforts of students and staff.

“A credit to our students, obviously—we have some really bright students—and a credit to our math

**“When the light shines on our students, they come through. What an outstanding performance, especially this year, given the circumstances.”**

department as well for preparing our students to be able to succeed,” he said. “I know we don’t spend a whole lot of time practicing for this type of competition, but that just means they are doing a solid

job all the way around and that the students are prepared and working hard.

“When the light shines on students, they come through. What an outstanding performance, especially this year, given the circumstances.”

**Gold Medalists:** Abigail Mergen (third place in Division 1), Josephine Hoerth (third place in Division 2), Evy Dhyanchand (fourth place in Division 2), Leah Muench (top score in Division 3), Alaina Stader (fourth place in Division 3), Anna Murphy (second place in Division 4) and Kristin Muench (third place in Division 5).

**Silver Medalists:** Tyler Fishnick, Myleigh Bender, Christina Buttles, Kate McWilliams, Kaitlyn NeCollins, Kelsey NeCollins and Ellie Riedl.

**Bronze Medalists:** Ariana Hauck, Abigail Esser, Devin Tydrich, Will Bussan, Avery Crooks, Matthew Hughey and Matthew Vesperman.



# LHS FBLA chapter qualifies 19 for state competition

Wisconsin Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) members of the Lancaster High School chapter competed alongside students from 37 schools at the Region IV competition in a virtual conference hosted by the Ithaca High School FBLA Chapter on Saturday, Feb. 6. Lancaster High School students competed in a variety of events to earn a spot in the state competition and attended professional development workshops.

At regional leadership conferences, FBLA members compete in academic events related to Business and Information Technology and learn from each other at student led seminars as well as from business professionals. These events provide students real work experience that allows them to bridge the gap between school and real world experiences. The conference also provides students the chance to expand their network and be recognized for their efforts. Students had the opportunity to watch exclusive

presentations given by U.S. Senators Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson as well as business and industry leaders such as Dan Kelley, Chief Financial Officer at American Family Insurance and Joe Thomas, former NFL player for the Cleveland Browns and UW-Madison Athletic Hall of Famer.

Many Lancaster students had an amazing showing at this year's conference, with 19 qualifying for the state competition. LHS also took home third place in the Outstanding Chapter Award for Region IV. Students who place in the top three of their event advance to state.

**First place:** Paige Lolwing (Graphic Design), Avery Crooks (Journalism), Megan Lucey (Client Service), Morgan Cooley, Kristin Muench and Leah Muench (Entrepreneurship); Ross Howard, Erin Kelly and Rylee Wagner (Hospitality and Event Management)

**2nd Place:** Ella Jackering and Madi Reukauf (Intro to Event Planning)

**3rd Place:** Kelly Freymiller (Agribusiness), Will Bussan (Cyber Security), Synger Runde (Intro to Business Procedures), Violet Hibbard (Business Ethics), Natalie Moore (Impromptu Speaking), MaKenna Breuer (Intro to Business Presentation), Sydney Busch and Lydia Mack (Public Service Announcement)

**5th Place:** Erin Wolf (Intro to Business Communications)

**7th Place:** Hope Williams, Macie Bender and Tatianna Place (Sports and Entertainment Management), Rylee Jo Bass (Business Communication)

**8th Place:** Larry Pluemer (Intro to Business)

Wisconsin FBLA is the state organization for all students participating in business education programs. In the 2018-2019 school year, Wisconsin FBLA-PBL operated chapters at 214 schools across Wisconsin, with a total of 6832 members with an additional 53 professional division members.

## One to remember

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something new. Watching the cast's collaboration and watching them string the show together from a different perspective was a really cool experience that I wouldn't have without the opportunity to student direct.

**Dressler:** It is definitely difficult to work with your peers because some of them are older than you, and as an upperclassmen, most of them are younger. It is just trying to get people to listen to you. I think that was one of the hardest things, is to get that respect. It was also really fun to see your vision come together from when we first got our scripts to the end, with all the blocking and special effects and stuff.

**Larson:** It had its difficulties for sure, but overall, I think it was a great opportunity. I definitely learned a lot. It was really hard to see something and be able to start off with all those creative ideas and make it into what it was. I really enjoyed it. I had a lot of fun.

**Leslie:** I was happy it was those three just because I knew they've had the experience and they want what I want: which is they wanted it to look great, they wanted it to work. they wanted it to be a good experience and they wanted everybody to learn something from it. They wanted something they could be proud of at the end.

*In a year of abnormal, the process became a source of normalcy for those involved.*

**Leslie:** I think it all saved us some mental health because it was something that—even though it wasn't perfect and it wasn't what we were used to—was some semblance of normal and it was all of us working together for the same goal, that part was the same.

The fact that we became a family by the end, that was the same. The process was the same. It was just in smaller chunks. We had challenges with the masks and with six feet apart and all of that, but I am glad that the students stepped up and made it happen, because we all wanted something to happen.

*Admittedly, the masks took some getting used to.*

**Dressler:** It was kind of difficult [to perform in a mask] because you can only show emotion from the top of your nose upward. That's a lot harder to do because you can't really smile or frown or show you are upset with your mouth or anything like that. It is also more difficult to talk. We were given little mask barriers that made it easier to talk.

**Hartline:** It was challenging. A big part of acting is facial expressions and projecting, and with the mask, you take away both of those things. It was really challenging, but I think we managed OK. We had to rely a lot more on our body gestures. It was a whole new way of acting, almost.

**Jahnke:** It was very different and challenging to perform wearing a mask. Not only did it make it more difficult to speak loudly and clearly, it also made it difficult to show expressions and emotion.

**Larson:** It was very difficult. It definitely messes with pronunciation, and it is really hard to show emotions when half of your face is covered up. I think that overall we did pretty well working with them, especially since we got little cups to put underneath our mask, that helped a lot.

**Mendis:** It was pretty hard for me because you have to be really loud in order for people to hear you through the mask. You also had to pretty

much be facing the audience the whole time, just so they could hear you. I had to be walking backward to move around sideways.

*Cast and crew enjoyed several aspects of the One Act Festival experience.*

**Dressler:** It was really fun to be acting and directing because you don't usually get that kind of opportunity. To be involved in more than one production is really unique and interesting. I love that. I love being on stage. But it was also really fun to be part of the behind the scenes work and hopping others as a whole.

**Hartline:** I think it was was a completely different setting than every other play. I thought it was really cool



Robert Callahan photo

*Zach Mendis starred as Aiden in "Twitch." A two-year Lancaster High School theatre veteran, he also played the role of Ezra in "One Lane Bridge."*

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## One to remember

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there were different vibes: comedy, horror and sentimental. I just thought it was really cool that we got to experience multiple and not just one this year.

**Jahnke:** I think what I enjoyed most is that we were able to make it work despite a global pandemic constantly imposing conflicts. Even though we had three separate plays, I got closer with the handful of people in my act that I would during a normal play season.

**Larson:** I really enjoyed being able to take something that was so hard to do and be able to make not one but three plays happen and let the public enjoy it.

**Mendis:** It was crazy. I have never seen us do three plays before. So having very three different plays all in one festival, it was a good experience for audience members and for us as well.

**Schwantes:** I enjoyed how much color I was able to incorporate on the stage through the lights.

*What will those involved in the One Act Festival remember years from now?*

**Dressler:** Definitely the stress from COVID-19. In the play I directed, one of our actresses returned the day before the dress rehearsal. She jumped at the opportunity to become better and she was able to perform and I was very happy for that. I think that is one of the biggest things I will remember.

**Hartline:** I think I'll remember our heart to hearts. I think we all knew what a challenge it could be, and just being able to talk through our emotions and how we felt, and how it felt to put to be able to put on a play, I'll definitely remember that.

**Jahnke:** The 2020 One Act Festival will undoubtedly

be one to remember. Not only was it my last play, but it was different from any other play I've been in. From having three individual plays in one show, to wearing masks and having separate practices, this year's play will not be soon forgotten.

**Larson:** First of all, I think I'll just remember the experience overall, being able to put on something like this, especially during a global pandemic. It's so difficult to be able to do that. And I'll just remember the struggles of it and that you can always overcome it, especially as an actor. I'll always remember the memories, the struggles, the bonds made, friendships, everything like that.

**Mendis:** Getting through everything with the whole pandemic is going to be a hard thing to forget. Especially with the play, going from possibly not happening at all to us being able to put on a show, it was something crazy.

**Schwantes:** Years from now I will remember how hard we worked to be able to put on not only one production but three productions for the community.

*Years from now, Leslie will remember the One Act Festival similarly to other productions.*

**Leslie:** I think it is what—to an amplified extent—what I remember about every show, and that's the amount of work and dedication that comes out of these kids to pull it together, and it was just amplified because it had to be. There was never a moment where I thought, we're not going to be able to do this, because we've always been able to do it. They've always proven that they can do whatever they're supposed to do.

I will look back on it and I'll think about the masks and the six feet apart and those obstacles. I'll remember it just because it was under a magnifying glass, how well they work together and how strong they are and how dedicated to their craft they are.



Lancaster Middle School held its annual spelling bee on Friday, Feb. 26. Makenna Gratz was crowned champion, while Ella Scullion was named first alternate, John Muldoon was named second alternate and Ashley Gruber was named third alternate. Makenna represented LMS at the Telegraph Herald Regional Spelling Bee, where she finished 10th.

Robert Callahan photo

# FLYING ARROW SCOREBOARD

The Lancaster girls basketball team won its first 11 games en route to a 17-7 record in 2020-2021, and 5-5 mark in the Southwest Wisconsin Conference (SWC). The Flying Arrows defeated Dodgeville, 64-60, in a Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) Division 3 regional quarterfinal before falling to eventual regional champion Prairie du Chien. Lancaster senior **Kiley Kelly** was named to the All-Conference first team. She led the Flying Arrows with 14 points per game and surpassed the 1,000-point plateau for her career in a late-season win over Southwestern. Lancaster junior **Bridee Burks** earned a spot on the All-Conference second team. She scored 10.9 points per game and pulled down 5.6 rebounds per game. Kelly was also a WBCA All-Star team selection (Division 4, South).

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The Lancaster boys basketball team challenged for the SWC title in 2020-2021 and finished the regular season with a 13-7 record overall and 6-4 record in conference play. The Flying Arrows were upset by Prairie du Chien in a WIAA Division 3 regional quarterfinal, 59-55. Lancaster senior **Hayden Knapp** earned a spot on the All-Confer-



Robert Callahan photo

*Lancaster sophomore Ryan McCartney wrestled to a sixth place finish (195 pounds) at the WIAA Division 3 individual championships.*

ence first team. He scored a team-high 20 points per game, while averaging 5.3 rebounds, 2.1 assists and 1.9 steals per game. Lancaster senior **Preston Noethe** was named to the All-Conference second team. He scored 6.7 points per game and grabbed 7.1 rebounds per game. Lancaster seniors **Hayden Wagner** and **Cole Raisbeck** both earned All-Conference honorable mention nods. Wagner averaged 10.8 points per game and collected 5.5 rebounds per game. Raisbeck scored 7.2 points per game to go along with a team-high 10 rebounds per game.

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The Platteville/Belmont/Lancaster gymnastics team finished 3-1 in SWC duals in 2020-2021

and second at the SWC Championships. The Hillmen finished third at the WIAA Division 2 Platteville sectional. Lancaster senior **Brooklyn VanNatta** earned second team accolades on the vault (8.225) and beam (7.517). Lancaster senior **Hailey Doyle** earned second team honors in floor exercise (8.483).

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The Lancaster wrestling team battled to a 3-1 record in SWC duals in 2020-2021. Lancaster senior **Remington Bontreger** (126 lbs.), sophomore **Ryan McCartney** (182 lbs.) and senior **Allen Cohen** (195 lbs.) earned All-Conference first team honors. Bontreger finished the 2020-2021 season with a 13-5 record and ended his prep career

with 142 wins and 15 losses. He qualified for the WIAA individual championships three times and won two silver medals. McCartney was 17-4 this season and qualified for the Division 3 individual championships at 195 pounds by winning a sectional championship at Mineral Point. He finished sixth at the individual championships at Wausau East. Cohen wrestled to a 16-5 mark this season and ended his prep career 27-23. Earning All-Conference second team honors were: freshman **Devin Tydrich** (113 lbs.), sophomore **Joe Esser** (120 lbs.), senior **Dustin Tydrich** (152 lbs.), senior **Isaac Oyen** (160 lbs.) and sophomore **Bryce Galle** (170 lbs.). Devin Tydrich wrestled to a 12-6 mark this season, while Esser was 15-6 and Galle 12-3. Dustin Tydrich tallied 14 wins to seven losses in his senior season, qualifying for sectionals in the process. He finished his prep career with a 42-18 mark. Oyen was 11-4 in 2020-2021 and 78-47 in his prep career. Lancaster freshmen **Jamin Crapp** (106 lbs.) and **Colby Lull** (145 lbs.) earned honorable mention accolades. Crapp was 10-3 in his freshman campaign, while Lull was 10-6 and qualified for sectionals.



Not pictured: Andrea Kunz

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**THANK YOU**

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**STUDENTS**

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