

LANCASTER MENNONITE

www.lancastermennonite.org

Bridges



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*Central in Christ
Transforming Lives
Changing our World*

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Lancaster Mennonite Bridges is published by Lancaster Mennonite School for alumni, parents and friends. LMS exists to transform students so they can change our world through Christlike love, peacemaking and service. The school welcomes students without regard to sex, race, nationality or ethnic origin.

Lancaster Mennonite School has four campuses:

Kraybill, grades PreK-8

598 Kraybill Church Road
Mount Joy, PA 17552
(717) 653-5236

Lancaster, grades 6-12

2176 Lincoln Highway East
Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 299-0436

Locust Grove, grades PreK-8

2257 Old Philadelphia Pike
Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 394-7107

New Danville, grades PreK-5

393 Long Lane
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 872-2506

Address alumni and school news to sprungerdl@lancastermennonite.org.

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Volume 34, No. 4

Cover photos: Top left photo—John and Janet Weber, set to raise funds for Kraybill's renovations. Center photo—LMS friends study the footprint for the new academic/welcome center scheduled for the Lancaster Campus. L-R, they are: Superintendent Richard Thomas, Board Chair Diane Umble, Director of Advancement Heidi Stoltzfus, Janet and Calvin High (who provided \$2 million matching gift), Steering Committee Chair Gerald Horst, and students Henok Yohannes and Charise Garber. Bottom photo—artist's rendering of new Lancaster Campus facility.

Plans move forward for signature academic building

In December a \$2 million matching gift, the largest cash gift in school history, set off a drive to raise funds to provide a signature academic building and welcome center for the Lancaster Campus. Since then, \$1.2 million has been raised toward the match, and the school's goal is to raise the remaining \$800,000 by June 30. If funding allows, construction will begin in July for the \$12 million project and finish around August of 2008. The three-story facility will provide the following:

- **New classrooms for mathematics, science, business education, and family and consumer science, including state of the art science labs.**
- **A welcome center that includes office space for system-wide personnel.**

The design team continues to meet every other Monday afternoon to finalize the design and budget for the project. The school is studying the feasibility of a ground source or geothermal system for heating ventilation and air conditioning (as well as a green roof on part of the building). While the initial cost for the geothermal system is more, the long term result is a lower cost to operate and the system helps meet the school's goals for a "green" building. The building will include highly insulated walls.

The current classroom building will continue to house high school offices, including guidance, and will give needed space to the middle school for expanded science laboratories and other classroom areas.

To learn more about how you can help move the project to ground breaking, call Director of Advancement Heidi Stoltzfus at (717) 394-7107 or Superintendent Richard Thomas at (717) 299-0436, ext. 301. Gifts may also be sent in the attached gift envelope.

Faculty comment on new facility



Duane Evans

The new academic building will be a great upgrade for the chemistry classes as it provides a more complete and safer environment for our investigations and discovery learning, so essential for science. With our new facility, computers in the classroom will become a useful reality for research, investigation and data collection, unlike the present facility where we often have to move the class elsewhere for computer access. Not only will the room and equipment be upgraded, but the techniques and methods also will be brought up to speed.



Jean Forshey

For Family and Consumer Science, the new building means that we will have updated and modern facilities with proper ventilation, better instructional areas and larger storage. We will have six lab kitchens instead of four, larger sewing/craft facilities, the addition of demonstration centers for instruction, room for Nutritional Science, better refrigeration for foods classes, and better storage and room space for child development programs such as Story Time and Preschool. Over all, it will bring our already excellent program into the 21st century.

I am looking forward to having added technology such as a Smart-board, which, through the use of a computer, will allow me to explain and illustrate mathematical concepts in a much more efficient and exciting way.

I am also looking forward to a climate-controlled classroom that will be more conducive to learning. ■



Merle Reinford



Artist's rendering above shows the new academic building/welcoming center as viewed from the north and at left, as viewed from the northeast (new facility shown in four-color). ART:

CORNERSTONE
DESIGN•ARCHITECTS

Students raise funds for new facility

About 400 high school students raised funds for the academic building when they participated in a mini-golf tournament at Water's Edge on April 17. The mini golf tournament, organized by the high school Student Council, raised \$12,000 for the building project through tournament entrance fees and sponsorships.

In addition, the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Club members wrote letters inviting former LMS business students to consider donating a gift where 90 percent of the donation would go toward the new academic building and the remaining 10 percent would benefit the FBLA club. Adviser Kirk Benner said that, besides raising needed funds for the school, the hands-on project was an excellent opportunity for students to get experience in fund raising as they organized, wrote and mailed nearly 300 letters. ■



PHOTO: AUDREY LANDIS

Dream and passion to meet on open road

By John Weber, Kraybill Campus Principal

The dream to cycle across America on a tandem bicycle with my spouse of 42 years began several years ago when, as a couple, Janet and I discovered a love for cycling. But it wasn't until the fall of 2006 during renewed discussions to renovate two entrances and lobbies at the Kraybill Campus that the dream began to take shape.

The discussions, which had been dormant for the past four years, ignited our dream to com-

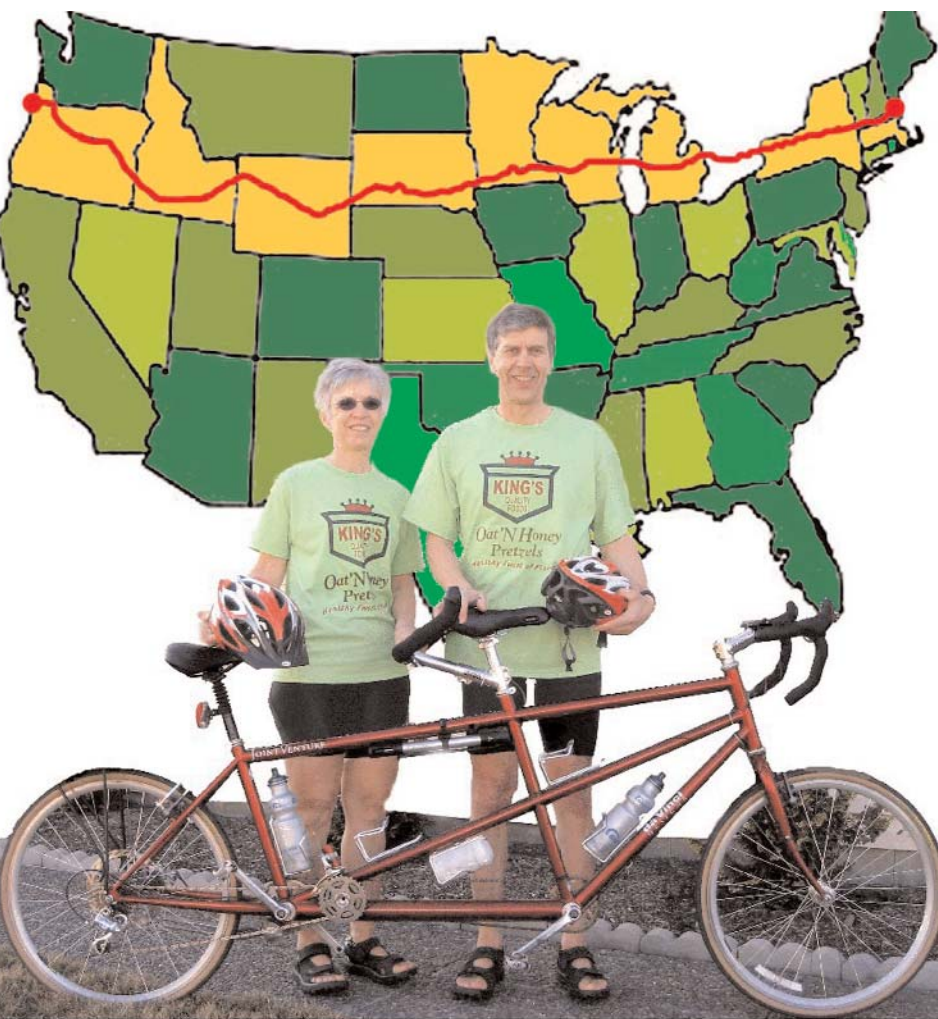
bine cross country cycling with raising capital funds for the renovation project. Cycling for a greater cause was clearly preferable to biking just to enjoy the scenery and meet new people.

Plans are to ride tandem from Astoria, Oregon, to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, from June 16 to August 6. The trek, taking us across the northern tier of the states and southern Ontario, is being organized by the America by Bicycle Organization which conducts fully-supported rides across America. The cost of the trip has been underwritten by several businesses, allowing all donations to go to the Kraybill renovation project. Janet and I have a goal to raise \$100,000 toward the renovations by inviting friends of the school to make pledges or send a one-time gift.

For me, riding for the project is an opportunity to support Mennonite education. Having invested nearly 32 years of my life in Mennonite education, I can clearly see the importance of a Christ-centered education for the future of our students, communities and congregations. My career in Mennonite education includes my undergraduate studies at Eastern Mennonite University; teaching social studies and driver education at Lancaster Mennonite High School, 1971–1981; and my administrator/principal position at Kraybill, 1989 to the present.

I believe the future of our churches and communities depends on nurturing the lives of the emerging generation to become disciples of Christ, and I believe Mennonite education plays an integral part in making that happen. That's why I am willing, with Janet, to undertake the monumental physical challenge to cycle 3,700 miles across America. For me, this is being in mission—supporting a school where students' lives are being transformed and equipped to become contributing members of society and faithful disciples of Christ.

We look forward to fulfilling this dream and invite your prayers and support for both the ride and a successful capital campaign project. Persons interested in the progress of the ride may follow our journal entries by logging on to weberbikeride.blogspot.com. ■



John and Janet Weber, both 62, plan to pedal across America this summer to help raise funds for the campus improvement project at Kraybill. They are pictured here wearing the logo of King's Quality Foods, their major trip sponsor. Since purchasing their daVinci tandem four years ago, the Webers have logged nearly 11,000 miles. They are looking forward to adding 3,700 to that to help provide more opportunities for students at the Kraybill Campus. For the Webers, the trip promises to be a special bonding experience as their tandem riding will require close communication and teamwork. They will be joined by 60–80 other cyclists through America By Bicycle Inc., an organization that provides fully-supported long distance



The artist rendering above shows the proposed front entrance. The art at the right shows the proposed rear entrance that is being funded by the Kristin Palazzo Memorial Fund. ART: CORNERSTONE DESIGN•ARCHITECTS



What will the renovations include?

After years of feeling the need for front entrance improvements, the Kraybill Campus is happy to announce construction plans that will include new entrances and lobbies at front and back, a vestibule at the rear of the school that will connect the primary wing (Prek–3) with the intermediate wing (grades 4–6), and an additional kindergarten classroom. The total cost for the renovations is \$800,000.

An expanded kindergarten program and a new pre-kindergarten program have increasingly called for additional classroom space. In addition, the shootings at the Nickel Mines Amish School have affirmed the decision to include security features at the front and rear of the school and provide a quick alternative indoor route to link the school’s three wings.

The school would like to begin construction on the rear lobby this summer if 80 percent of that segment cost is received (\$60,000 is still needed). That lobby, which is being dedicated to former Kraybill student Kristin Palazzo, who died in November, will connect the rear of the middle school wing to the auditorium/gym area. The lobby will contain art created by Kristin during her years at Kraybill. For more information about the Kristin Palazzo Memorial Project or any other phase of the renovation plans, please call Gary Hiller at (717) 653-5236.

The renovations will provide:

- improved campus security
- visitor-friendly entrances and lobbies with handicap accessibility
- enhanced esthetics
- needed classroom space
- better traffic flow and efficiency

How can I help?

Send your financial gift or pledge in the attached reply envelope and check the “Kraybill Campus Entrances & Lobbies” giving option on the envelope flap. Thank you, in advance, for helping the Kraybill Campus provide a quality, Christ-centered education for present and future generations.

Thanks to the sponsors listed below, your entire gift will go toward the Webers’ \$100,000 goal.

daVinci Designs, Denver, Colo.

Green Mountain Cyclery, Ephrata

Gerald & Linda Horst, New Holland

King’s Quality Foods, Mohnton

Oregon Dairy, Lititz

**TCW Computer Systems, Inc.,
Manheim**

LMS education helps students discover gifts

DeVon Groff, president/co-owner of Groff's Heating, Air Conditioning and Plumbing, says his years at Lancaster Mennonite helped lay the foundation for who he is today. Having the opportunity to be president of the FFA brought out the leadership skills he didn't realize he had. He particularly remembers the affirmation he received from Superintendent Richard Thomas, then an agricultural science teacher.

"He (Thomas) was fantastic in the ag program," the 1977 high school graduate said. "Being FFA president really stretched me, but he encouraged me to be motivated and do the best I could, even though my grades weren't that strong."

As he worked hard to be a good leader, Groff also found he was developing the kind of servanthood that is his motto today as he works with people in the business world.

Six years later Lancaster Mennonite graduated another president—Edith Yoder—who today heads up Bridge of Hope, a national organization based in Philadelphia that ends and prevents homelessness for single women and their children.

"Lancaster Mennonite had a huge impact on my spiritual and academic worlds," she said, giving credit to teachers such as Janet Banks who nurtured in her a love for reading, and Myron Dietz whose Bible class had her and her classmates "reading, dissecting and discussing Donald Kraybill's *The Upside Down Kingdom*."

"And one chapel in particular stands out in my mind," she added, describing a speaker who talked about his work with the poor in Washington D.C.

"I felt a deep sense of calling to respond to God's love and compassion for the poor in our country and in our world. All these things, I believe, helped shape God's purposes in my life and the work I have felt called to ... particularly now as we have the opportunity to help launch this ministry (Bridge of Hope) nation-wide."

Ever since the school began, Lancaster Mennonite has been preparing students like DeVon and Edith for life. Stimulating class discussions led by topnotch Christian teachers, challenging chapels and classes, and friends who share similar values nudge students toward positive character develop-

ment and productive lives. Classes such as Personal Finance, Business Principles, Career English, agriculture science and technology, and many others offer specific guidance in career development or training.

Providing leadership and service opportunities are National Honor Society, Student Council, FFA, Future Business Leaders of America, student-led chapel services, weekly student-led Bible studies, and Shadow Day for Juniors, which is a yearly event where each junior "shadows" someone in a specific occupation.

During a recent survey, seniors praised the school for these many opportunities but asked for even more guidance in gift discernment as they prepare for careers. As a result, the school's seven-year educational strategic action plan includes more intentional career/vocational planning for all students.

Establishing a framework that names faith as a critical component in making life decisions, they developed a K–12 educational plan for career/vocation education that includes the following:

- **Teachers at all levels watch for opportunities to encourage the development of one's gifts.**
- **Students in grades 4 and 8 identify various careers and the qualities important for success in each career.**
- **Sixth graders participate in a career fair.**
- **Beginning in sixth grade, students write reflective essays on their general school experience and faith commitment.**
- **Seventh graders identify their interests through an inventory.**
- **Eighth graders take the Holland Profile Test and explore computer-based TechKnowledgeE—activities that help them investigate a career of interest through writing a career research paper.**
- **The high school holds an annual Career and Faith Week where alumni share their stories about careers and discernment of gifts (see sidebar on page 7).**
- **Individual and Family Studies, a required course for juniors or seniors, includes career education.**
- **Students in 9th and 10th grade health classes develop a wellness plan.**
- **Faculty integrate career education components into the curriculum.**
- **Seniors share their pilgrimage and post high school plans with family, friends, and faculty. ■**



DeVon Groff, 1977



Edith Yoder, 1983



More than 100 sixth graders from Lancaster Mennonite's four campuses came together in September for the first annual career fair. (Above, Bill Hannegan, assistant news editor for the *Intelligencer Journal*, interacts with students.) The career awareness event, presented by the Lancaster-Lebanon Science & Technology Alliance (LLSTA), represented a variety of vocations such as health care, engineering, construction, environmental science, agriculture, chemistry, computers, statistics, biology, electronics, and communications. At right, Audrey Landis, left, and Katie Landis get a taste of what it's like to be a professional photographer as they shadow 1997 alumnus Jeremy Hess, of Jeremy Hess Photography. Hess invited the students to observe and assist him during a recent photoshoot at the school, as a way to teach the students about digital photography.



Career and Faith Week

This winter Lancaster Mennonite High School students had a chance to consider how their faith can affect career choices and workplace behavior as they heard from four successful business persons—all LMS alumni—during Career and Faith Week.

Alumni guest speakers included Sheryl Eberly, 1973, a leadership development consultant with North Group Consultants, Lancaster; Marlin Horst, 1968, president and CEO of Premier Custom-Built, Inc., New Holland; Kent Martin, 1985, president and CEO of Signature Custom Cabinetry, Ephrata; and Dr. Clarence Rutt, 1949, a retired surgeon from Landisville.

During morning chapel services, the speakers talked about discovering and being good stewards of their God-given talents. They shared life stories that demonstrated their passion for excellence and faithfulness in the marketplace and later continued the dialogue in various classes.

Career and Faith Week grew out of the school's educational strategic action plan that includes helping students identify gifts and abilities and learning about various career options. ■



Kent Martin, of Signature Custom Cabinetry, was one of four alumni who talked to high school students during Career and Faith Week January 29–February 2. Martin also shared in numerous classes, discussing the Christian work ethics that guided him and his brothers in their journey from humble beginnings to success. The students had an opportunity to ask Martin questions about the business and how he prepared for

■ Eleven Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) members qualified for State Competition at the FBLA Regional Competition on January 8: Yun Sik Kim, first place in Business Law; Charles Korir, second in Java Programming; Micah Kulp, first in Global Business; James Metzler, first in Accounting II; Peter Mickley, second in Business Procedures; Jonathan Nofziger, first in Global Business; Jason Sprunger, first in Cyber Security; Nathan Vecchiarelli, second in C++ Programming; Eric Yoder, first in Accounting I; Chad Newcomer, third in Computer Applications; and Henok Yohannes, third in C++ Programming. The State Competition was in Hershey, April 30–May 2.

■ LMS sophomore Eric Umble, son of Ronald and Diane Umble, was selected for the 2007 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) All State Band Festival which was held recently at Hershey during the PMEA State Conference. Earlier, Umble, who plays the clarinet, qualified for the Region V State Band Festival, and bass 2 vocalist Patrick Ressler, son of Gerald and Mary Alice Ressler, qualified for the Region V State Chorus Festival.

■ Rolando Santiago, executive director of Mennonite Central Committee USA, will give the commencement address at the high school on Saturday, June 2, at 10 a.m. The dedication service on Friday, planned by the Senior Class Committee, will begin with a concert by Campus Chorale at 6:30 p.m. followed by the dedication service at 7:30. Tickets are required for Fine Arts Center seating Saturday morning, (limited to the graduates and their guests), but Friday evening's events are open to the public.

■ LMS recently announced three new staff appointments, effective July 1. Judi Mollenkof, who has been principal at the New Danville Campus since 1999, will now also serve as principal at the Locust Grove Campus. Mollenkof brings over 20 years of administrative experience to her dual position including 13 years at a K–12 international school in Tokyo. Mollenkof also previously provided leadership for Lancaster Mennonite



FBLA Club members, left to right: Charles Korir, Yun Sik Kim, Henok Yohannes, Jonathan Nofziger, Chad Newcomer, Peter Mickley, James Metzler, Jason Sprunger, Eric Yoder and Micah Kulp.



Eric Umble



Patrick Ressler



Rolando Santiago



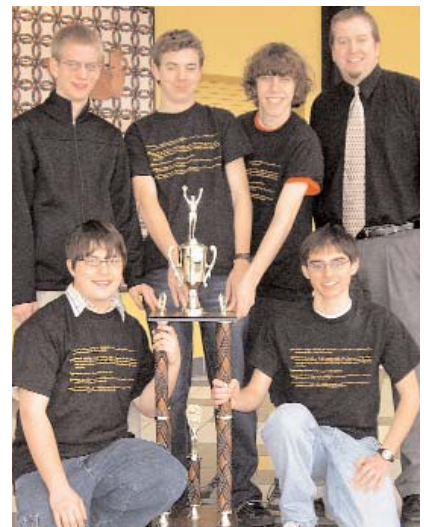
Judi Mollenkof



Jennifer Miller



Jeff Shank



Quiz Bowl team, front, L-R, Jason Sprunger and Darren Weinhold. Back, L-R, Jonathan Nofziger, Ted Maust, Frank Peiffer, and Coach Kris Horst. PHOTO: JAMES SENFT

High School's residence hall.

Jennifer Miller, who has served at the New Danville Campus for eight years, will assist with administrative responsibilities there as she continues teaching first grade. Miller, who has been recognized as a master teacher, has served on Lancaster Mennonite's Validating the Vision (VTV) steering committee for re-accreditation, is a member of the VTV Implementation Committee, and is a mentor for first-year teachers at New Danville.

Jeff Shank, who works out of the advancement office and is director of alumni relations, will also serve part time as assistant principal at Locust Grove. He will work with student recruitment and relate primarily to the lower elementary grades. He previously

taught at the middle and high school levels of Lancaster Mennonite and also was an elementary teacher in Baltimore for several years. Shank recently led the school's VTV re-accreditation process, giving him an understanding of all parts of the school. He is currently enrolled in the principal certification program

at Pennsylvania State University.

■ The HS Quiz Bowl team won the Lancaster Lebanon League Tournament, their first League title, and advanced to the state tournament. The four team members involved in the championship round were: senior Jason Sprunger, senior Frank Peiffer, junior Ted Maust, and junior Darren Weinhold. The team also will receive an invitation to a national tournament.



■ The 13th annual “Kraybill Cup” Golf Tournament will be held Tuesday, June 12, at the Par Line Golf Course, Route 230, Elizabethtown. The scramble tournament starts at noon and concludes with a full-course steak dinner at 5:00 p.m. The \$65 fee per golfer includes a light lunch before golf, a variety of snacks and beverages throughout the golf course, nice prizes, and the friendly hospitality of Par Line Golf Course, which is owned by LMS supporters.

To register, contact Gary Hiller at

May 11 & 12	Kraybill Pig Roast & Auction
May 20	Spring Open House, Lancaster campus, 1–3 p.m.
May 20	High School Spring Concert, 3 p.m.
June 1	High School Dedication Service, 6:30 p.m.
June 2	High School Commencement, 10 a.m.
August 20	Lancaster Campus New Student Orientation, 6:30 p.m.
August 22	First day of school

(717) 653-5236 or hillerg@lancastermennonite.org, or go to kraybillmennonite.org/event_golftournament.php.

■ In early March, Peter Weida, an eighth grader at Locust Grove, won the K–8 state chess championship. Weida also was named top player in the Lancaster Scholastic Chess League after being undefeated in all 13 regular season games. Weida, son of Thomas Weida and Elizabeth Brubaker-Weida, helped his team win both section and league titles. In state play, the high school team tied for fifth in the U1300 division.



Above photo: Chess team, front, L-R, Yun Sik Kim, Peter Weida. Standing, L-R: Ted Maust, Peter Horst, Ey Jae Kim, Joel Nofziger and coach Merle Reinford.
PHOTO: JAMES SENFT

FFA students take top awards at banquet

Nine students took the following top awards at the annual FFA Banquet on April 3:

Neal Hershey	Star Keystone for On Farm Entrepreneurship
Jessi Bowman	Star Keystone for Off Farm Entrepreneurship
D. J. Weaver	Outstanding Keystone Male Leader
Audrey Landis	Outstanding Keystone Female Leader
Richard Hannum	American Welding Society Award
Taylor Hofford	Ag Mechanics Award
Dean Weinhold	Small Gas Engines Award
Ann Ntari	H. O. Sargent Award
Sara Wenrich	Dekalb Agricultural Accomplishment Award

In addition, four FFA students took first place awards in the recent Red Rose (Lancaster County) public speaking competition: Josiah Rohrer, Extemporaneous Public Speaking; Katelyn Leaman, Senior Prepared; Michael Becker, Junior Prepared; Jay Hernley, Conservation. Amie Martin was second in Junior Prepared, Erin Secker was second in Creed Speaking, and Casey Kelly placed third in Junior Prepared. All went on to compete at the Eastern region competition in Lebanon County on April 26.



FFA Banquet’s top winners, left to right: Ann Ntari, Taylor Hofford, Audrey Landis, Richard Hannum, Sara Wenrich, D. J. Weaver, Jessi Bowman and Neal Hershey. Dean Weinhold, absent from the picture, is also a top winner.

SCHOOL UPDATE

■ In Jen Miller's Bible curriculum, New Danville first graders learn about families in other countries and how God loves us all. In photo at right, Samuel Mwangi, father of first grader Josiah Kanyiha, talks about Kenya, Mr. Mwangi's homeland.

■ Kraybill's 30th annual Benefit Auction & Southern Style Pig Roast will be held Friday and Saturday, May 11 and 12. Call (717) 653-5236 for more information. The schedule is as follows:

Friday, May 11

4 p.m. Auction preview
Food Stands
Silent Auction
4:30-7:30 p.m.
Southern Style Pig Roast
7 p.m. Friday Night Auction
Children's Activities 5-8 p.m.

Saturday, May 12

7:30 a.m. Breakfast Foods
8:30 a.m. General Auction
Cafe & Gift Shop
Baked Goods
10 a.m. Outside Food Stands
Teacher Adventures
Noon Dining Experiences
1 p.m. Quilt Auction
Children's Activities begin at 9



PHOTO: EDIE HESS

■ A newly-formed parent booster club has been working hard to bring boys club lacrosse to the high school. Plans are for the club to compete in the Lancaster area, beginning with the 2007-08 school year. Indoor winter club lacrosse will be played at the LANCO fieldhouse, and spring practices and home games will be held at the Locust Grove Campus. Coaches and players are needed; please contact Athletic Director Mike Yoder at (717) 299-0436, ext. 365, if interested. For more information about "Learn to Play" camps to be held this summer, call Mary Jo Meinzer at (717) 898-8987. Donations to support the new program may be sent to the Lancaster Mennonite Lacrosse Booster Club at 2176 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster, PA 17602. ■



More than 34 top-quality quilts and wall hangings will be sold at Kraybill's auction Saturday, May 12. PHOTO: GARY HILLER



In January, Kraybill middle school students Carissa Sherer (center) and Andrea Engle, left, placed first and second in Lancaster Mennonite School's Middle School Spelling Contest and advanced to the *Intelligencer Journal* spelling bee. Locust Grove 8th grader Sean Criswell placed third and served as an alternate. The bee was hosted by Kraybill in the Kraybill Meetinghouse. PHOTO: GARY HILLER

Students grieve loss of classmate



This spring LMS classmates grieved the loss of senior Devin Hiestand who died March 14 from injuries sustained in an ATV accident on the family farm. A memorial service was held at the school in April. The family has invited friends to contribute to the Lancaster Mennonite Scholarship Fund as a way to remember and celebrate Devin's life. Gifts may be sent to 2176 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster, PA

Open House May 20 at Lancaster

Lancaster Mennonite School will hold a Spring Open House on Sunday, May 20, for parents and students exploring Christian education at the elementary, middle and high school levels. The open house, which runs from 1–3 p.m. at the Lancaster campus, will include conversations with staff, program and scholarship information, campus tours and refreshments.

There is room at all grade levels at the school's four campuses—grades PreK–8 at Kraybill, grades 6–12 at Lancaster, grades PreK–8 at Locust Grove, and grades PreK–5 at New Danville.

Guests are also invited to the high school's annual Spring Concert at 3 p.m. that day. For more information call (717)

LMS summer day camps scheduled

Basketball

Elementary girls basketball, grades 4–6July 9–13
 Girls basketball, grades 7–10July 9–13
 Boys basketball, grades 7–10July 16–20
 Elementary boys basketball, grades 4–6July 23–27

Field Hockey

Jr. high field hockey, grades 6–8June 11–15
 Sr. high field hockey, grades 9–12August 6–10

Soccer

Girls soccer, grades 6–12June 18–22
 Elementary coed soccer, grades 1–5June 25–29
 Jr. high boys soccer, grades 6–8July 30–August 3
 Sr. high boys soccer, grades 9–12August 6–10

Tennis

Beginner/Intermediate tennis, grades 4–8July 30–Aug. 3
 Intermediate/advanced tennis, grades 9–12Aug. 6–10

Volleyball

Jr. high coed volleyball, grades 6–9June 25–29

Photography, spirituality, culinary and drama

Spiritual fitness, grades 10–12June 8–10
 Intro. to digital photography, grades 6–10June 11–13
 Intro. to digital video editing, grades 6–12June 14–15
 Coed junior culinary arts, grades 4–6July 16–20
 Coed advanced culinary arts, grades 4–9July 23–27
 Middle school drama, grades 6–8August 6–10

For a brochure and application, please call (717) 299-0436, ext. 310.

In March, Lancaster middle school teacher Doug Ehst led a middle school chapel titled "Caring for God's Creation." Using a PowerPoint presentation, Scripture passages, and a creative video showing middle school families being "green" in their homes, he challenged the students to view caring for our environment as a spiritual act of stewardship and love for our Creator. ("Green" is a term used to describe persons who make choices that protect God's creation.) The chapel discussed causes of global warming and climate change and how one's daily choices can help solve or contribute to these conditions.

As students left chapel, they were challenged to make at least one change that cares for God's earth. Changes could include encouraging parents to drive an energy-efficient car, creating less waste, recycling, using compact florescent light bulbs, watching less TV, redefining needs and wants, and planting a tree.

During the week of April's Earth Day, Ehst led a high school chapel on the same subject. ■



After a chapel on "Caring for God's Creation," Anya Kreider, a seventh grader at the Lancaster Campus, persuaded her parents to work with PPL to make sure their electricity comes from a renewable, non-polluting source. Here Anya and her parents, Barry and Erika Kreider, examine the papers to make that happen.

PHOTO: KARINA KREIDER

CLASS NOTES

Phyllis Pellman Good, 1966, Lancaster, participated in a media stint in January to promote her slow-cooker cookbook, *Fix-It and Forget-It 5-Ingredient Favorites*, a collection of 700 recipes submitted by at-home cooks nationwide, each including the time needed for preparation and cooking. The TV spots, including live interviews and cooking demonstrations, aired on 15 TV news affiliates from Pittsburgh to Tucson, Ariz. Good, a New York Times best-selling cookbook author whose cookbooks have sold over nine million copies, also taped a segment for the CNN Airport Network while at the studio.

Matthew B. Hartzler, 1991, Lititz, has been named vice president and manager of operations at Warfel Construction Co. Hartzler joined Warfel in 1995 as a project engineer and was promoted to a project manager in 1997, then assistant manager of operations in 2003. He graduated from Penn State University with a bachelors degree in structural design and construction engineering technology.

Christopher M. Lehman, 1993, Salem, Ore., has been hired as the Oregon correspondent for the Northwest News Network. His stories are aired on nine public radio stations in the Pacific Northwest.

Mark Cote, 1995, Millersville, was named headmaster at Living Word Academy and was ordained as a pastor at Zion Church of Millersville.

W. Christopher Horst, 2002, Lancaster, is in Galati, Romania, where he is conducting a feasibility study for HOPE, a Christian nonprofit microfinance organization with headquarters in Lancaster. To follow his adventures, visit <http://chrishorst.blogspot.com/>.

Jonathan Shoff, 2003, Lititz, recently received the Louis Vyrer Performance Award which is based on academics and a performance audition that was held at Millersville University last spring. He is a senior music education major at Millersville. As part of the award, he was featured recently as a soloist in Beethoven's Third Piano Concerto with the Millersville University and Community Orchestra. After his May 12 graduation, he hopes to teach music and continue giving piano

lessons on the side. Jonathan is actively involved on the worship team at Cross-Way Church of Lancaster.



Jonathan Shoff

Rachel Lehman, 2005, Leola, was one of a select group of first-year students at Goshen College to be awarded the President's Leadership Award for excellence in academics, school and community activities, service, and articulation of their experiences and beliefs.

MARRIAGES:

Benjamin (Jami) L. Eller, 1994, and Amanda Kilpatrick, June 3, 2006. They reside in Lancaster. Jami is a senior

Alumnus shares faith story with business community

By Gary Hiller, Director of Marketing

At the LMS Alumni Association's second Business Networking Breakfast held March 30, 42 alumni and friends learned about the remarkable success of Signature Custom Cabinetry from 1985 alumnus and president of the company, Kent Martin.

In his brief talk, Kent mentioned many circumstances beyond his control that led to sales of \$25 million per year with 42% growth per year in the past 10 years.

"What you see here is an accident," Kent explained, "unless you believe in providence."

Kent gives God the credit for the phenomenal success of one of Lancaster County's fastest-growing businesses.

"God has a plan for us," he said. "We need to discern what God's plan

is, not make our own plan."

Kent and his brother, Devon, class of 1988 and now a Signature vice-president, had no master plan for their lives when they graduated from Lancaster Mennonite High School. However, they inherited some woodworking tools from their grandfather and started experimenting in their basement. "Does this sound like a plan?" Kent asked.

From the basement, they moved to Kent's oversized two-car garage for more experimenting with wood products and with brother Delayne, class of 1991, founded Signature in 1989.

Eventually, they found a niche selling high-end custom cabinets through dealers. In 1995, they hired a sales manager and experienced 75 percent growth in one year. Kent credits God for providing this sales manager, who took the initiative to call Signature to

ask for the job.

Kent's managers share a common faith and listen to each other in discerning God's direction for the business. Asked, "How do you hear from God?" Kent responds with the proverb that "many advisors make victory sure." Kent and his senior managers also solicit prayer requests from the employees and pray for them every Monday morning. No wonder Signature was named as one of the "Fifty Best Places to Work in Pennsylvania" for 2003, 2004 and 2005.

Alumni also learned from each other during the breakfast event, as plenty of time was allowed to network. The event was sponsored by High Construction Company, Signature Custom Cabinetry, Inc., and Premier Companies, LLC. ■

civil engineering designer for the ArroGroup.

Beth A. Leatherman, 1995, and Karim Bendahmane, July 15, 2006. They reside in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Jill Musselman, 1997, and Eric Siegrist, June 10, 2006. They live in Lancaster.

Dayna Weinhold, 1999, and Jonathan Reidenouer, December 29, 2006. They live in Lancaster. Dayna is a reporter for the ADvertiser, a weekly newspaper published by Engle Printing & Publishing Company.

Julie A. Zimmerman, 2001, and Jonathan Fridley, May 21, 2005. They reside in Elkhart, Ind.

Bethany McKenney, 2002, and Daniel Wickham, July 15, 2006. They live in Wellington, New Zealand. Bethany graduated from Temple University in January with a BA in Film & Media Arts and anthropology.

Douglas Herr, 2003, and **Shannon Griffith, 2004**, January 6, 2007. They live in Ephrata. Doug is an associate with Walmart and Shannon is a cook at Landis Homes.

BIRTHS:

Tom and **Deb Stoltzfus, 1985**, **Roedema**, Lancaster, second daughter, Alyssa Renae, June 10, 2006, joining Sophia Nicole, age 2.

Gerald and **Lynda Zimmerman, 1987**, **Weaver**, New Holland, third son, sixth child, Anthony Manuel, born September 8, 2004, adopted December 6, 2006. Anthony was fostered in their home since birth.

Jeremy, 1987, and **Gabriela Leaman**, New Holland, a daughter, Aryel Eowyn Dayle, January 9, 2007.

Jeremy Ryman and **R. Diane Moyer, 1989**, Cleveland, Ohio, first child, James Wesley Moyer Ryman, December 12, 2006.

Darrell and **Ladina Stoltzfus, 1990**, **Rishel**, Marietta, fourth child, daughter, Ellie Joy, September 21, 2006.

Doug and **Tina Groff, 1991**, **Friesen**, Brownstown, second daughter, third child, Leah Grace, March 7, 2007.

Jason, 1992, and **Noel Benner, 1992**, **Garman**, Lititz, twin girls, Amber Holly and Brooke Michelle, November 30, 2006.

Wesley and **Marcy Miller, 1992**, **Eber-sole**, Lebanon, a son, Kyrell, September 20, 2006, joining Ked, Keturah and Kelton.

Steve and **Lori Thomas, 1994**, **Heitland**, Willow Street, third child, first son, Aaron Jeffrey, December 19, 2006.

Mark C., 1994, and **Andrea Stoner, 1994**, **Leaman**, Jerusalem, a son, Henry Stoner Leaman, December 30, 2006.

Michael and **Holly N. Zimmerman, 1996**, **Steffy**, Denver, a son, Kyle Bradley, November 21, 2003.

Aaron, 1997, and **Kristen Weatherlow, 1997**, **Buckwalter**, Lancaster, second daughter, Charlotte Ann, January 24, 2007.

Greg, 1997, and **Lanessa Hess**, Denver, first child, Kirsten Lydia, October 15, 2006.

Jeremy J., 1997, and **Allison Hess**, Lancaster, second son, Hudson Thomas, January 17, 2007.

Drew, 1999, and **Mandy Hooper**, Ephrata, a son, Trenton Timothy, September 9, 2006.



Loren Zimmerman, front left, chats with Marian Rutt and John Denlinger at the March 30 Business Networking Breakfast held at the offices of Signature Custom Cabinetry, Inc. PHOTO: GARY HILLER

DEATHS:

J. Kenneth Fisher, 1943, Chester Springs, August 23, 2006.

Jacob A. Hartz, 1948, Morgantown, February 13, 2006.

Velma Bomberger Weaver, 1952, Manheim, January 3, 2007.

M. Glenn Umble, 1958, Atglen, February 2, 2007.

Ethel Martin Campbell, 1966, Greenwood, Del., January 28, 2007.

Daniel Swartzentruber, 1970, Greenwood, Del., from a heart attack related to diabetes, February 11, 2006. ■

Phonathon thanks

Thank you for helping to make the **Alumni Phonathon** a successful event again this year. Please remember to send your gift for the annual fund by May 30 to LMS Alumni Phonathon, Lancaster Mennonite School, 2176 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster, PA 17602.

Alumnus helps world understand Amish forgiveness

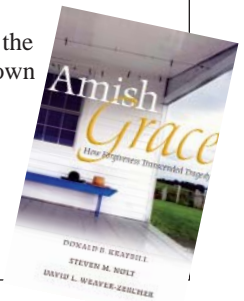
When five Amish school girls were murdered at the West Nickel Mines School in October, LMS graduate Donald Kraybill served as an important spokesperson as society and the media strained to understand a people who could forgive so quickly, even in this darkest hour. As the story unfolded, The Young Center, where Kraybill is based, fielded hundreds of media calls from around the world.

In an essay written for the Christian Century Magazine and reprinted in the Philadelphia Inquirer, Kraybill wrote: "As Anabaptists, the Amish take the life and teachings of Jesus seriously. Without formal creeds, their simple (but not simplistic) faith accents living in the way of Jesus rather than parsing the complexities of religious doctrine. Their model is the suffering Jesus who carried his cross without complaint and who, hanging on the cross, extended forgiveness to his tormentors: Father, forgive them for they know not what they do. ... Such courage to forgive has jolted the watching world as much as the killing itself. The transforming power of forgiveness may be the one redeeming thing that flows from the blood shed in Nickel Mines this week."

Kraybill is a distinguished professor and interim director of the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies at Elizabethtown College. He has written many books on Amish life, including, *The Riddle of Amish Culture*. Coming out this fall is *Amish Grace*, a book that Kraybill co-authored with Steven Nolt and David Weaver-Zercher. It explores the many questions being asked about the religious beliefs and habits that led the Amish



Donald Kraybill, 1963



This picture from nearly 30 years ago of the class of 1982 is a reminder that class reunion season is upon us (see schedule at right). For the class of 1982, the July 28th weekend will include a two-person golf scramble Saturday morning followed by a tour and dinner at the LMS campus in the evening. On Sunday, Chuck and Diane Hooper will host the group at their home in Elkton, Md., where there will be games, boating, fishing and other activities for the entire family. For more information, contact Doug Shenk at (574) 674-8254 or doug1mindy@sbcglobal.net.

Class Reunions

- 1952** July 7, 2007
- 1957** October 11–12, 2007
- 1962** July 7, 2007
- 1967** October 13, 2007
- 1972** September 15, 2007
- 1977** November 17, 2007
- 1982** July 28–29, 2007
- 1991** Missed in 2006; Details coming soon
- 2002** August 25, 2007

For more information, go to www.lancastermennonite.org or call (717) 394-7107.

A visit with Ruth Leshner

For Ruth Detweiler Leshner, class of 1971, an important part of her four years at Lancaster Mennonite High School was her experience in the residence hall.

“What a rich time with friends,” she said. “The campus was a beautiful place to unwind at the end of the day.”

And, oh, the memories. The Mechanicsburg resident recalls the year she and her friends ice skated “for at least a mile on the Millstream.” And she remembers getting up early to play tennis before chapel, playing basketball “till our hair fell down and we could hardly keep our coverings on,” listening to Amahl and the Night Visitors every Christmas “in our PJ’s,” and the bells that signaled meal time, study time, quiet time, and lights out. Sometimes that strict “lights out” bell came too early, she said, admitting to reading Huckleberry Finn by streetlight.

When asked how Lancaster Mennonite impacted who she is today, Leshner talked about the teachers.

“My first Bible class with Bishop David Thomas captivated me on the Mennonite Church’s approach to Scripture as authoritative for one’s life but in the loving spirit of Christ and for his church,” she said. “With Brother Myron Dietz, I gained respect for Anabaptist history and of martyrdom for our faith. With Charles Longenecker I began to learn that you could take the challenges that may come in the sciences without losing your faith. These three areas—the church, theology, and the scientific aspects of psychology—continue to be of great interest.

“But I would have to say that the friendships of these years have also been great gifts to me, then and now. And the music with Arnold Moshier—the classes and Campus Chorale—have been quite influential.”

Today Leshner, a psychologist, is a partner in the private group practice, Behavioral Healthcare Consultants, Lancaster, which recently added a satellite office in Lemoyne.

Prior to that, she interned at the Philadelphia Psychiatric Center (now



Ruth Leshner

Belmont) and worked as a staff psychologist, team leader and chair of the psychology department at Philhaven.

“I truly treasure the opportunities to participate in the life journey of others as together we move toward greater psychological and spiritual health and sense of well-being,” she said. “I count it a privilege to help people find relief and/or meaning from suffering and to improve family and work relationships.”

Leshner also finds time to serve as an adjunct professor for Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana, where she teaches an intensive two-week class on Religious and Psychological Assessment for the Pastoral Care Department every other summer. She and her husband, Emerson, live in Mechanicsburg.

Education: B.S. in psychology from Eastern Mennonite University plus a masters degree in theology and a doctorate in psychology—both from Fuller Theological Seminary.

Family: Ruth and Emerson have two children—Benjamin, who graduated from LMS in 2005 and Katherine, a junior at LMS.

LMS involvements: Besides being a parent, she (with Emerson) has been a strong financial supporter of the school. Other involvements include helping with the junior-senior post banquet

activities, supporting several of the athletic teams, and giving classroom/chapel presentations.

Church/community involvements:

She is a member at Grantham Brethren in Christ and East Chestnut Street Mennonite. She is also a member of the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) East Coast Committee, MCC US Board Executive Committee, the Community Building Team of Susquehanna Conference of the Brethren in Christ, and the board of Bridge of Hope National. Prior involvements include serving on the board of Eastern Mennonite Missions and the Mennonite Church General Board, worship planning in her own congregations, and serving as a church/congregation consultant. In addition, she, with Emerson, wrote the Adult Bible Study Guide for Mennonite Publishing House and Faith and Life Press.

Interests outside of work: Flower gardening, landscaping, cooking, reading.

Her passions: I’m very interested in both theology and the neurosciences and the implications for both faith and health. ■

Teaching for the tests of today and tomorrow

It has been an amazing year of student achievements at Lancaster Mennonite School.

- All fall sports teams advanced to state level competition.
- College entrance exam scores of our students continued to be significantly above the national, state and local public school averages.
- Students at the Kraybill, Locust Grove and Lancaster Campuses won silver and gold keys in the Scholastic Art Competition.
- More of our FFA Chapter members earned the top state degree (Keystone Degree) than any other school in the state.
- Future Business Leaders of America members advanced to state competition.
- Student musicians advanced in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Competitions.
- The chess team went to state play and a Locust Grove eighth grader was named tops in the state in the K-8 division.
- The high school Quiz Bowl Team won the Lancaster-Lebanon Tournament Championship.
- Our Ag Business Management FFA team placed first at state competition and earned a silver medal at nationals.

These educational opportunities go far beyond the trophy case, however, as they help prepare students for life's tests. It is important that Lancaster Mennonite School continue on this journey of academic and co-curricular excellence—a vision that began with our founders and was one of the factors that led to the merger process and our planned PreK–12 curriculum.

We live in an environment influenced by the No Child Left Behind Act that requires government-operated schools to administer many tests. These tests, which are concentrated in certain areas, are leading some schools to decrease the amount of



J. Richard Thomas

art, music and other electives being offered. This attempt to bring accountability to education, though perhaps necessary, seems to be resulting in some schools losing the broad education that is needed to prepare students for the changing times in which we live.

At LMS, we take academic tests seriously and prepare our students for them. However, we believe that preparing students for the tests of life is equally important.

Preparing students for the tests of today and tomorrow provides reward for faculty, parents, alumni and friends. That is why we invest time and treasure in education at Lancaster Mennonite School and invite other students to take advantage of the educational opportunities offered here. Such education is a missional vision which, centered in Christ, transforms lives and changes our world.—jrt



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