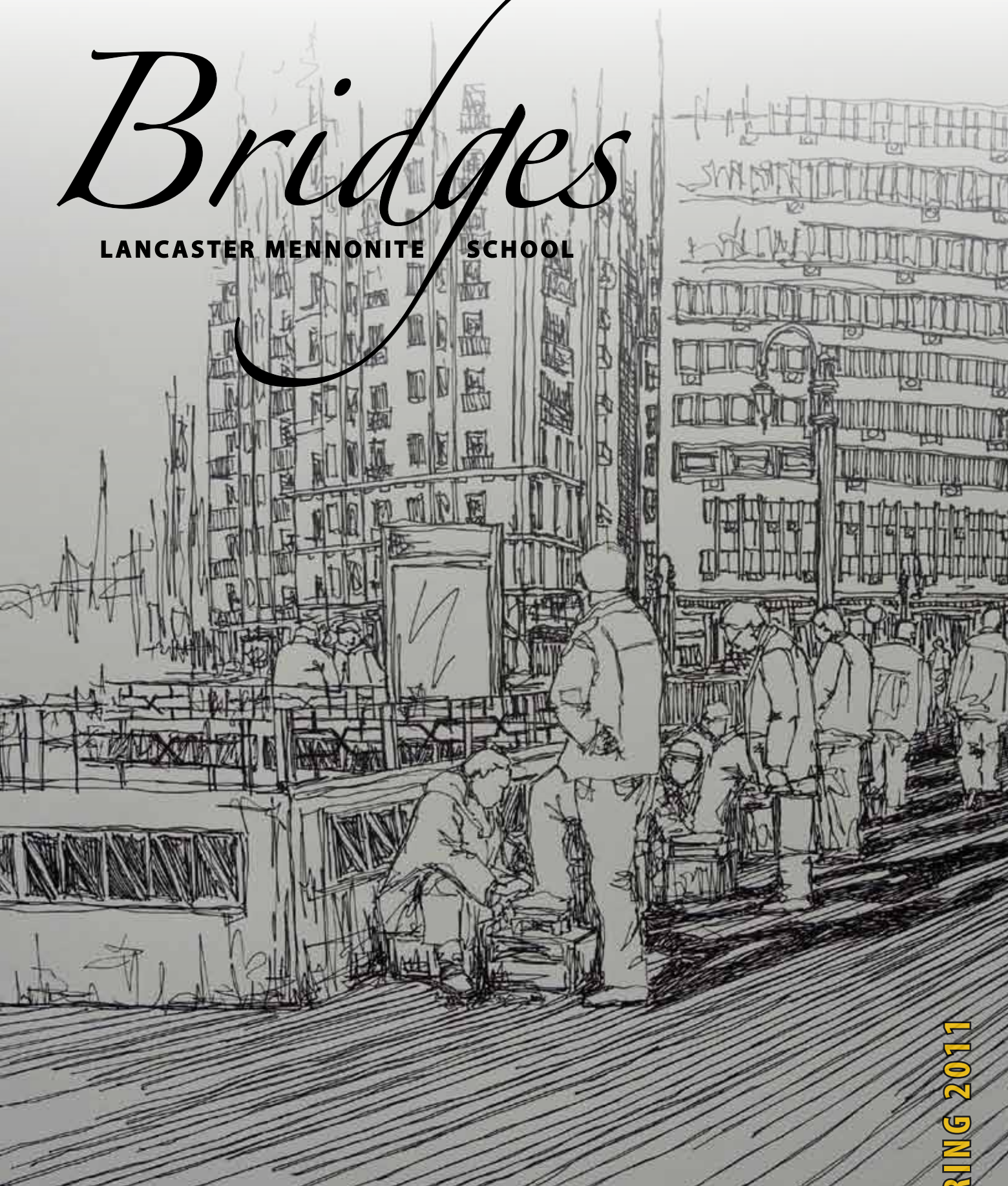


# Bridges

LANCASTER MENNONITE SCHOOL



**3** LMS to offer Chinese

**4** Yearbook a 17-year tradition

**14** Two alums are honored

*cairo, egypt*

**SPRING 2011**

- 4** Yearbook a tradition of excellence
- 6** FFA prepares students for success
- 7** Visionary leader to step down
- 8** School news
- 12** Alumni notes
- 14** Alums of the Year



J. Richard Thomas

from the superintendent

## Great teachers make great schools

**This issue of *Bridges* includes a story about a tradition of excellence—the LMS high school yearbook, the *Laurel Wreath*. The 2010 yearbook captures the growing excellence of LMS as it describes curriculum growth since 1942—growth that today includes Advanced Placement and dual enrollment classes.**

This 2010 edition of the *Laurel Wreath* also catches the growing diversity of LMS. That year “Zhang’s sat with Zimmerman’s, Kim’s with King’s and Lee’s with Lehman’s,” but in 1942 the senior class “consisted of 99 percent Mennonite, white students mostly from Lancaster and nearby counties.”

The book also reflects the community that is created as the yearbook staff works together to ensure the excellence and winning tradition of their product. At the back of the book the editors give “Thanks to the Lord for giving us the strength and gifts to create an awesome book.” And they give thanks to Mrs. Moyer “for being the mother hen to all her chick-lings” as they affectionately recognize an adviser who has cultivated strong student/teacher relationships.

In many ways the story is really about this great adviser and teacher. She is “great” because of her skills, commitment to holistic education, and an understanding that it is “all about the students.” With this understanding she teaches communication skills, but more importantly, she mentors students in a transformative educational process.

At LMS we know that one size does not fit all, so we work at many different “traditions of excellence” within a large variety of curricular and co-curricular opportunities.

As important as the curriculum and activities are, more important are the teachers, advisers and coaches who consistently provide holistic excellence. Simply put, great schools are made by great teachers. To me that is the most important message of this story about the yearbook. Thank you, Jane Moyer, for being a great teacher. ❖



*Bridges* is the quarterly magazine of Lancaster Mennonite School, sent to 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, PreK–8**  
2257 Old Philadelphia Pike  
Lancaster, PA 17602  
(717) 394-7107

**New Danville, grades PreK–6**  
393 Long Lane  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
(717) 872-2506

Address alumni and school news to [sprungerdl@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:sprungerdl@lancastermennonite.org) or call (717) 299-0436, ext. 701.

Editor: Fern Clemmer  
[clemmerfe@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:clemmerfe@lancastermennonite.org)

**Volume 38, No. 3**

Cover art: Senior Elizabeth Keener received a Gold Key award in the 2011 Scholastic Art Awards program for this drawing. Go to page 8 for a photo of Keener with a full view of the artwork.

## BRINGING LOCAL AND GLOBAL TOGETHER

# Lancaster Mennonite to offer Chinese

**Editor's Note:** This story includes excerpts from a story that appeared in the *Intelligencer Journal/Lancaster New Era* on April 8—reprinted with permission.

In August LMS will begin to offer Mandarin Chinese (official language in China) at the Lancaster Campus. The school also approved the addition of Introduction to Chinese Language and Culture at the New Danville Campus.

Xiaodong Fan, Millersville, has been hired to lead this program. He also will teach a Chinese cuisine class in the high school's Family and Consumer Science classes and offer a biblical foundation course targeted to students who have little or no background in Christianity. In addition, he will work with the high school's Chinese students and guide the school in better serving persons of other cultures.

Fan was born in China's Sichuan Providence. He was an English professor in China before first visiting the United States in 1989 through the China Education Exchange program under Mennonite Central Committee. He was among a group of eight Chinese professors who spent a year at Goshen College in Indiana, learning about American culture, religion, linguistics and computerized instruction. It was there that Fan was introduced to the Mennonite faith.

"I was not a Christian when I was in China. It was the Mennonite professors that influenced my beliefs," he said.

"I was totally shocked when I was taught that we were supposed to love our enemies," Fan recalled of his early exposure to Bible teachings.

His daughter, Tingting, attended Locust Grove and then graduated from LMH in 2006.

Joining the Lancaster Mennonite staff is a way "to give back to the Mennonite community that supported my daughter and me," said Fan, who became a naturalized U.S. citizen two years ago.

LMS also will give Fan the opportunity to share his faith with his students.

"I'm excited to work in the Mennonite Education system because it combines both academics and beliefs," he said.

He also is looking forward to connecting with and assisting the 44 Chinese students who are enrolled at the high school.

Superintendent Richard Thomas says the new Chinese program is an important part of the school's Graduate Profile goal to be a transformative presence in our community and world. He believes the school's world language program, along with the many other ways "we bring local and global together," are helping students acquire important career skills for the 21st century. ❖

**"I'm excited to work in the Mennonite Education system because it combines both academics and beliefs."**

**- Xiaodong Fan  
Chinese teacher**

Fan has taught at Hempfield since 2006 where he built a respected Chinese program. He also conducts long-distance Internet classes for students at other schools and has been an adjunct professor for Messiah and Elizabethtown colleges. He studied reading/language arts and technology education at Millersville University, eventually earning master's degrees in both fields. He attends Lancaster Chinese Church.



## TEACHING LIFE SKILLS FOR SEVEN DECADES

# Yearbook is a tradition of excellence

Sitting down with 65 years of LMH *Laurel Wreath* yearbooks is truly a journey back in time. “*Mennomorphosis*,” the creative title given to the 2010 yearbook, could also describe the entire collection as it chronicles the life of a high school and its many changes since the first book was published in 1946.



The 1946 and 2010 *Laurel Wreath* yearbooks are book ends to the school's 65-volume collection. The 2011 edition will be released in mid-May. Below, yearbook editor Jason Spicher, computer editor Morgan Steffy, and adviser Jane Moyer review a spread for the new book.



But while “who we are” continues to evolve, the quality of the book has remained steady for decades. This year the *Laurel Wreath* claimed its 17th consecutive Gold Medalist rating from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. Prior to that, yearbook awards included at least eight consecutive Keystone Awards from the PA Scholastic Press Association.

The school's goal to produce a quality book goes back a long way. Looking through some mid-60s yearbook files found recently in the basement of Graybill Hall, current yearbook adviser and English teacher Jane Moyer discovered a request—and approval—to spend \$12 to have a national scholastic press association critique the book.

“This shows they took the job seri-

ously to do a quality book,” Moyer said. “It wasn't just something they threw together. They intentionally wanted high journalism standards for the yearbook.”

Moyer says membership with an association continues to be key.

“We pay really careful attention to the critiques they do,” Moyer said, “and we use that as a teaching tool for the next year.”

In addition, the school works with Jostens, a printing firm that specializes in high school yearbooks. Also, LMS often sends student representatives to Jostens' three-day summer workshops where they learn about layout principals, design ideas, and copy writing.

Behind a winning book are the students and adviser who are committed to getting the job done on time.

“We have never missed a major deadline,” Moyer said.

## Opportunities

While the students are putting together a winning book, they are learning life skills that will remain with them forever. Besides developing design, writing and photography skills, they learn:

- teamwork
- problem solving
- budget planning
- leadership
- interpersonal communication skills
- handling stress and criticism
- organizational skills
- time management



Because business ads are needed to fund each yearbook, the student business managers also learn a lot about bookkeeping and how to present themselves professionally in a business setting.

Also significant—the staff gets to use the computer software program, InDesign, rather than Yeartech, Jostens' yearbook software. InDesign is the number one choice of professional designers and graphic artists.

### Commitment plus

In the mid 1960s when Jane Moyer was a student at LMH, she was sure with strong support from her classmates that she would live her dream of serving on the yearbook staff. But whether it was

her occasional unfinished classroom assignment or the time she got caught playing a trick on a residence hall student, she failed to receive the required teacher recommendation.

"I always wanted to be on the yearbook staff," the 1967 graduate confessed, "and now I've been on it for 21 years!"

No other adviser has served as long. Janet Gehman is second with 11 years.

### All about the students

In 2007 Moyer wrote a demonstration essay for her Composition I class, titled, "So why do you advise yearbook?" It was inspired by a student who asked her a similar question on a particularly chaotic day in the yearbook room.

In the essay Moyer explains that, despite deadline hassles, lost computer files, personality clashes, criticism and many exhaustingly long days, "It is the people who make it worthwhile."

"Years later I hear from former staff members who remember our days stuffed together in that (yearbook) room with special fondness.

"Some have gone on to careers that use the skills they practiced in yearbook. But I like to think that they've acquired more than writing, layout, business, or computer skills.

"I like to think that they have learned the importance of using the creativity God gave them, working hard to meet a goal and having fun while they do it." ❖

## Alumni received leadership training in yearbook class



JEREMY HESS

Donovan Witmer, 1993, is the associate publisher, creative director and editor of *Susquehanna Style Magazine*, an upscale lifestyle magazine for south central Pennsylvania. He says his experience with yearbook was good preparation for his career in publishing.

"*Laurel Wreath* was the first practical experience that I had with learning to tell stories in words and photography," he said. "It also influenced my understanding of working with a group of people to impart a concept or execute a campaign."

Another part of yearbook that taught him about teamwork and leadership was the peer mentor arrangement, where seniors work with and train a junior partner.

"It was a great way to learn a role, share the responsibilities and bring two visions to the section—in my case, *Student Life*," he said.



Yearbook impacted the decision of Meagan Kanagy, 2006, to choose journalism and art photography majors at Penn State University. That led

to a photojournalist position at *The Journal News*, a large newspaper in White Plains, New York, and then to a Photoshop specialist assignment at *Clipper Magazine*. After she marries in the fall, she and her husband will be the new assistant directors of ministry at Alliance Christian Fellowship, the Penn State campus church where they were student leaders. With the part-time job, she will still

have time for wedding and portrait photography.

Kanagy says her yearbook experience has helped her work easily with people "through less-than-pleasant situations."

"We definitely had to learn teamwork and responsibility, which came into play in college and now in my professional career," she said, "but my most sharpened skill was leadership."

Like Witmer, Kanagy praises the peer mentor arrangement used in the yearbook class.

"Most of us had someone in leadership above us to answer to, but many of us also had someone to whom we had to be the leader," she said. "This is an awesome cycle the *Laurel Wreath* has going for it, and Mrs. Moyer is the glue that keeps it all together."



JONATHAN CHARLES

FFA secretary Jenae Rohrer, an LMH senior, encourages other FFA members to participate in an upcoming activity.

## FFA prepares students for success

**For the second time in recent years, LMH's Hans Herr FFA Chapter has been first or second in the state for the number of Keystone Degrees received. This year LMH received 12 degrees, second only to Garden Spot who had 13, and in 2007 the school was first with 15.**

According to FFA adviser Ryan King, only three or four percent of FFAers in the state receive a Keystone. This year 22 percent of our 55 FFA members were Keystone winners.

To earn this degree, a student must be an FFA member for three years, earn \$1,000 or work 600 hours in a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program, and demonstrate leadership in the school and community.

King says a Keystone Degree generates good publicity that leads to good networking and improved chances for FFA-related jobs and acceptance in college degree programs.

"Knowing what it takes to get the degree means a lot to potential employers," King said. "It's great for resumes."

King told the story of a Keystone winner whose employer knew about the careful record keeping that the award requires and, as a result, promoted the employee to a managerial position in his restaurant.

Some Keystone winners go on to receive national awards. Since 2005 when King first began teaching at LMH, four

have received the American Degree: Jennifer Garber Hershey, 2005; Linford Hershey, 2006; Scott Umble, 2006; and Janessa Weaver, 2007.

Other outstanding awards since the chapter was established in 1992 include four students being named state officers—Phil Eby, 1997; Paul Hostetter, 2001; Jeremy Ranck, 2001; and Scott Umble, 2006. Also, the Ag Mechanics Team won a national award in 1997, and the Farm Business team has also enjoyed numerous awards.

King says there are many factors that make the LMH FFA program strong:

- A middle school FFA program that creates early interest
- Emphasis on record keeping or SAE's
- State-of-the-art facilities
- Meeting time during school day that doesn't compete with sports
- Committed advisers with strong ag backgrounds/education
- Supportive administration
- Participation in FFA Leadership Conferences
- Excellent competition ops that connect students to the ag industry ❖

### FFA contests include:

- Agricultural Mechanics
- Agricultural Sales
- Dairy Foods
- Farm Business Management
- Floriculture
- Forestry
- Horse Evaluation
- Livestock Evaluation
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Public Speaking
- Safe Tractor Driving
- Small Gas Engine
- Small Animal/Vet Skills
- Wildlife
- PA Envirothon

### Life skills learned in FFA:

- Public speaking
- Leadership Training
- Organizational Skills
- Teamwork
- Problem Solving
- Service
- Networking
- Applying concepts learned in classroom to real life scenarios – SAE program

## Visionary leader to step down

**After 22 years of leadership at the Kraybill Campus and 10 years as a social studies teacher at the Lancaster Campus, Kraybill Principal John Weber has announced his retirement, effective June 30. Taking his place is J. Daniel Martin, the current middle school principal at Kraybill.**

During Weber's leadership, Kraybill developed strong and effective educational programs and, according to Superintendent Richard Thomas, "a caring staff that plants seeds of transformation in the lives of students."

Under his leadership, Spanish was added to the elementary and middle school program. His vision also included facilities of excellence—the gymnasium, music and home economic rooms, computer lab, renovation of the meetinghouse, the addition to the rear of the elementary wing, and the Palazzo Gallery.

During the summer of 2007, he and his wife, Janet, rode their tandem bicycle from Oregon to New Hampshire to raise funds and implement the vision of "Gateway for Kraybill," which includes a new entrance, an additional classroom and other improvements.

While funding is still needed, the goal is to begin construction this spring.

At LMS, John served on the Curriculum/Administrative Team and, says Thomas, provided "excellent leadership, counsel and insight to the whole LMS system."

"It has been my privilege to work with John for many years, beginning when we were both LMH teachers," Thomas said. "We also worked together in the broader world of Mennonite education as principals of neighboring Mennonite schools. And now, since the merger of Kraybill and LMS, we are colleagues again."

Weber, who attends Akron Mennonite Church, is moderator of the Atlantic Coast Conference of Mennonite Church U.S.A. He also was chair of the Mennonite Elementary Education Council, leading it to merge with



John Weber



J. Daniel Martin

the Mennonite Secondary Education Council and form the Mennonite Schools Council.

Martin, who comes with nearly 45 years of teaching and school administration, will become principal at Kraybill on July 1.

"I am confident that Dan will continue the strong leadership the campus experienced with John Weber," Thomas said. "We are looking forward to his leading in this way." ❖



## Opportunity to impact lives for generations to come

We all know alumni who thrived under the loving care of LMS teachers. And we know about alumni forming lifelong friendships here, even finding spouses. The impact of a Christ-centered education is hard to measure, but the value is evident.

Today's economic challenges are stretching educational funding and

reducing middle class spending power, but now, more than ever, students need the value of a Christian education.

That's why we have the Sustaining Hope Endowment program. It can ensure that our young people receive a valued Christian education. It can ensure accessibility and affordability to families. It can ensure that students will have the opportunity to learn the Bible and discover how it influences

who we are, what we do and how we interact with one another.

The Sustaining Hope Endowment program is a doorway for you to leave a legacy and impact lives for generations to come.

Please consider a gift today. Contact Director of Advancement Heidi Stoltzfus at (717) 299-0436, ext. 308, or [stoltzfushe@lancastrmennonite.org](mailto:stoltzfushe@lancastrmennonite.org). ❖

LMH chess players are, left to right: Jonathan Bender, Peter Weida, Benjamin Bauman and John David Satriale.



## Celebrating Achievements

### WEIDA TIES FOR SECOND IN STATE CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

During the State Chess Championship held in March, LMH senior Peter Weida, playing in the highest division, tied for second best player in Pa. and was the top 12th grader in the state. Weida finished his high school career as the top player in the Lancaster Scholastic Chess League for the sixth consecutive year, an unprecedented feat in the League. LMH team members Benjamin Bauman, Jonathan Bender and John David Satriale individually earned medals in the state's U1000 division. Bender and Satriale tied for seventh place, and Bauman tied for second highest player with a rating under 800. As a team, they finished tied for sixth.

### WRITING AWARDS

In March, LMH students Grace Hernquist, grade 9, and Meghan Hershey, grade 11, won National Gold Key (writing) Awards. They will receive medals at an awards ceremony in Carnegie Hall later this spring. They advanced to the national level after winning Gold Key awards during the Lancaster County Regional Scholastic Writing Awards Contest. Other Gold Key winners at the regional level are Micaiah Barley, grade 8; Michelle Bendit, grade 12; McKenzie Sauder, grade 12; and Saier Zeng, grade 12.



Gold Key winners are front, L-R: Grace Hernquist and Micaiah Barley. Back: McKenzie Sauder, Meghan Hershey, Michelle Bendit and Saier Zeng



### NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS

LMH seniors Kyle Kreider, left, and Matthew Lauver have been named finalists in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program.

### SPELLING BEE FINALISTS

Locust Grove seventh grader Rachel Steckbeck was runner-up at the 53rd Intelligencer Journal Championship Spelling Bee that was held March 18 at Conestoga Valley Middle School. Locust Grove eighth grader Charlotte Schreyer also participated in the championship bee.



Rachel Steckbeck



Charlotte Schreyer

### ARTISTS SHINE

Caitlin Erb, gr. 11; Elizabeth Keener, gr. 12; and Alessandra Levato, LMMS gr. 8; were Gold Key winners in the 2011 Scholastic Art Awards program. In addition, 16 students won one or more Gold Keys in the Lancaster County Young Artist contest. LMH winners are: Carson Bohlen, Hyobin Chung, Caitlin Erb (and Realtor Award), Elizabeth Keener (and Hammel Silver Award, Lancaster County Art Association Drawing Award, Merit Award), Sophia Mast (and Lancaster Designer Crafts Jr. Craft Award), Emily Shank and Hadassah Stoltzfus. At LMMS: Alessandra Levato (and Lestz Jr. Award) and Katelyn Wenger. At Kraybill: Alec Drawbaugh, Nathan Eby, Christian Ginder, Hannah Good, Sam Lazowski and Andrew Milligan. At Locust Grove: Lauren Lanas (and Demuth Award).



Scholastic Art Gold Key winners, left to right are: Caitlin Erb, Elizabeth Keener, and Alessandra Levato





## Top FFA honors

Seven LMH seniors received top honors at the April 5 FFA Banquet. They are, left to right: Melina Godshall, Star Keystone Entrepreneur Off Farm; Jasmine Graybill, Star Keystone Placement Off Farm; Caitlyn Kelly, Outstanding Senior Female Leader; Katie Andrews, Dekalb Agricultural Accomplishment Award; Christopher Newswanger, Star Keystone Entrepreneur On Farm; Hans Shuman, Star Keystone Placement On Farm; and Curtis Ranck, Outstanding Senior Male Leader.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL QUIZ BOWL ENJOYS SUCCESS

The LMMS quiz bowl team took second place in the Lancaster-Lebanon Middle School Quiz Bowl Tournament held Saturday, March 12, at Ephrata Middle School. LMMS team members are eighth graders Micaiah Barley, Emily Rosenfeld, Austin Sauder, Jeremy Berthold, Grant Turkki and Arianna Camacho.

### STUDENTS EXCEL AT GEO BEE

LMMS eighth grader Emily Rosenfeld was one of eight Lancaster County students and one of 100 across the state to qualify for the April 1 Pennsylvania National Geographic Bee at State College, where she finished in the top 20. In January Rosenfeld and Emily Peifer (Locust Grove) took first place at their campus bees.



Emily Rosenfeld



Emily Peifer

### FOUR ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Four LMH seniors received athletic scholarships this year: Jason Sauder for Division I golf at Charleston Southern University; Katie Andrews for Division I field hockey at Penn State; Rachel Dickinson, Division II field hockey at Millersville; and Curtis Ranck, Division II soccer at Cedarville.



Jason Sauder



Katie Andrews



Rachel Dickinson



Curtis Ranck

### STUDENTS COLLECT ITEMS FOR LOCAL AGENCIES

The high school FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) club collected over 1,200 baby items from classmates for the Susquehanna Pregnancy Center, Cornerstone Pregnancy Center, and MOM's House of Lancaster.

### BAER ADVANCES TO STATE CHOIR FESTIVAL

This winter LMH junior Anne Marie Baer (soprano 1) qualified for the Pa. Music Educator Association (PMEA) Region V State Choir Festival. ❖



Anne Marie Baer



## FBLA awards

LMH senior Polly Yixin Zhang placed 10th in the Accounting 2 competition during the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) State Conference in early April. Zhang and eight others were selected to advance to state competition during the regional event held earlier. Pictured above, they are, front, left to right: Grant Benner, Polly Yixin Zhang, Candy Guiying Mu, Jaclyn Dagen. Back row, left to right: Brent Dimmig, Zachary Lare. Missing from the photo are Gahye Kim, Philip Yui Jae Lee, and Katherine Peck.

For more student achievements, visit our web site at [www.lancastermennonite.org](http://www.lancastermennonite.org).



## Kraybill benefit auction May 13 & 14

**Strawberry pies, NFL autographs and more—two locations!**

The Kraybill Campus will hold its Benefit Auction and Pig Roast Friday and Saturday, May 13 and 14. A highlight both days will be the sale of 250 fresh strawberry pies made by LMS alum Eileen Benner, who will use her original recipe. In addition, four pies made by retiring staff will be sold at Saturday's auction. The following schedule is a partial list. For complete information, go to [kraybillauction.org](http://kraybillauction.org).

### FRIDAY AT THE KRAYBILL CAMPUS

- 4:30-7:30 p.m. Southern-style pig roast
- 6:30 p.m. Auction (items for women and children plus Adventures with Teachers)

### SATURDAY AT KRAYBILL CAMPUS

- 8-10 a.m. Breakfast
- 9 a.m. Candy Drop
- 9:30 Auction
- 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. Chicken Barbecue
- 1 p.m. Quilt Sale



### SATURDAY EVENING AT THE LANCASTER CAMPUS

- 6 p.m. Autographing session with NFL players Brent Celek and Todd Herremans from the Eagles, as well as Jamie Silva from the Indianapolis Colts.
- 8 p.m. Sports Memorabilia Auction

## LMS summer day camps scheduled ... *register by May 31 and save!*

### BASKETBALL

- Girls basketball, grades 5–10..... July 11–15
- Boys basketball, grades 5–10..... July 18–22

### FIELD HOCKEY

- Jr. high field hockey, grades 6–8.....June 20–24
- Sr. high field hockey, grades 9–12..... August 8–12

### SOCCER

- Jr. high boys soccer, grades 6–8.....June 13–16
- Elem. coed soccer, grades 1–5.....June 27–30
- Girls soccer, grades 6–12..... July 25–29
- Sr. high boys soccer, grades 9–12..... August 8–12

### TENNIS

- Beginner/intermediate tennis, gr. 5–8.....August 1–5
- Intermediate/advanced tennis, gr. 9–12..... August 8–12

### VOLLEYBALL

- Jr. high volleyball..... July 25–28  
(girls, grades 6-9, and boys, grades 6-8)

### OTHER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

- Spiritual fitness, grades 10–12.....June 10–12
- Spanish Immersion, grade 1.....June 20–24
- Eagles football, ages 6–14..... July 11–15
- Coed culinary arts, grades 4–9..... July 18–22
- Sewing/Crafts, grades 4–9..... July 18–22
- Dramatic Drawing, grades 5-9.....August 1–5
- Painting, grades 6-10.....August 1–5

*For a complete listing and application, go to [www.lancastermennonite.org](http://www.lancastermennonite.org) or call (717) 299-0436, ext. 310.*

## Student-led conferences bring parents out

The LMMS eighth graders did a bang-up job in directing the parent-teacher conferences in early March—good enough to elicit a whopping 100 percent in parent attendance.

In these first-ever student-led conferences, students shared reflections, goals, and artifacts from core subjects—including their Bible journals that were written in SOAP format: S for Scripture, O for observation, A for application, and P for prayer.

Teacher Brenda Bare said, “As a teacher listening to students share with parents, I was standing on holy ground

to hear them talk about meaningful verses that included how they were personally applying the verse and their prayer.”

She said one student, reflecting on Matthew 6: 20–21, said his treasure is his younger sister who is severely disabled. “Their thoughts were deep and sincere,” she added. “This is an example of how we teach middle school students to reflect upon Scripture and be centered in Christ.” ❖

## Lancaster Campus sign connects school to community



Community response to the new sign erected this past year at the Lancaster Campus has been very positive. Persons say they feel more connected because the sign regularly announces upcoming events.

The sign also more clearly defines the campus entrance, making it easier for visitors to find the campus and reducing turnarounds by those mistaking the road as public access.

In addition, the sign is an economical way to advertise the entire LMS system 365 days a year to the 24,000 motorists who pass by the school each day. ❖

## Mark your calendar

May 15	Spring Open House at Lanc., 1–3 p.m.
May 15	High School Spring Concert, 3 p.m.
June 3	Senior Class Dedication Service, 7 p.m.
June 4	Commencement, 10 a.m.
August 18	Lancaster New Student Orientation, 6:30 p.m.
August 23	First day of school

## Two spots left in Spanish Immersion Program!



Jennifer Esbenshade, New Holland, has been hired to teach the school's first Spanish Immersion class which begins in August at the Locust Grove Campus. Two open spots remain in the program that will begin with the first grade. Each year an additional grade will be added. Contact Principal Judi Mollenkof at (717) 394-7107 or [mollenkofju@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:mollenkofju@lancastermennonite.org).



## Career Fair

On April 5, 120 LMS eighth graders from the Kraybill, Lancaster, and Locust Grove campuses met at the Lancaster Campus for a Career Fair. The interactive event involved 18 presenters (many are parents), including a fireman, pastor, physician, farmer, auto mechanic, athletic trainer, interior designer, and geotechnical engineer. In the photo above, Joe Calhoun from WGAL talks to the students about his work as a meteorologist. The event is part of the school's career development efforts for eighth graders. Students at all three campuses complete a career research lesson and shadow someone in a career of their choosing. Completion of the activities leads to a career reflection paper.

## CAREER AND FAITH

This year's high school Career and Faith Week brought alumni and others to LMH to talk about their work and how faith factors in. The week included 2005 grad Michael Charles, who teaches social studies at LMH (and three other teachers); 1998 grad Shannon Windle, co-founder and project director at Heads Up Lancaster (far right in picture); Beggar Folk, a local folk band; and 1977 LMH grad Mike Bontrager, founder and CEO at Chatham Financial, the world's largest independent interest rate and currency risk advisor.



### CLASS NOTES

**Anita Denlinger Yoder, 1985**, New Holland, received her real estate license last spring. She and her husband, Glen, have opened Hometowne Realty Professionals, LLC, and she continues to operate her company, Heritage Design Interiors, New Holland.

**Jason Samuel, 1988**, Goshen, Ind., is general manager of Goshen College's radio station, WGCS, 91.1 FM-The Globe, which has been named this year's "Best College Station in the Nation" by the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System. He has been with Goshen College since 2003, where he also is an assistant professor of communication.

In December, **Stephen R. Beachy, 1990**, Millersville, became a partner at Trout, Ebersole & Groff, LLP. Steve, a CPA who joined the firm in 2001, serves on the firm's Tax Department Committee and leads the Quickbooks department.

**Valerie Weaver-Zercher, 1990**, Mechanicsburg, is editor of the newly released 30th anniversary edition of Doris Longacre's *Living More With Less*. Weaver-Zercher combines the book's original ideas with contemporary experience and perspective on how to live more lightly in today's world. For more information, go to [heraldpress.com/](http://heraldpress.com/)

titles/livingmorewithless.

Sisters **Kate Good, 1995**, and **Rebecca Good Fennimore, 1997**, Lancaster, both are involved in family ventures related to Good Enterprises, Inc. The website, [www.fix-itandforget-it.com](http://www.fix-itandforget-it.com), is supervised by Kate, who also is an assistant publisher at Good Books. She oversees a Facebook page for "Fix-It and Forget-it" and reports more than 500,000 fans. The Good Cooking Store, newly opened in Intercourse and managed by Rebecca, offers a wide range of bakeware, cutlery and cookware.

**Laurie N. Keener, 2001**, Lancaster, is an R.N. at Regional Hospital.

**Randal H. Keener, 2003**, Harrisonburg, Va., graduated from Hesston and Goshen colleges and is a seminary student at Eastern Mennonite Seminary. From March to August 2010, he and a friend hiked the Appalachian Trail.

**Amanda Zimmerman, 2004**, Philadelphia, graduated with her doctorate in physical therapy from Widener University in May 2010. She received the Academic Excellence Award, and was published in the *Journal of Allied Health* (winter of 2010) for research performed on physical therapy for women with breast cancer. She is em-

ployed at Strive Physical Therapy and Fitness in Burlington, New Jersey.

In December **Rebecca Dickinson, 2005**, Millersville, received her master of science degree in statistics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). She is pursuing doctoral studies.

**Katharine (Kate) Hoffer, 2005**, Millersville, has been in Cunen, El Quiche, Guatemala, since July where she is a Peace Corps volunteer for the program, Healthy Homes. There she connects with people interested in learning about preventative health. She also is writing SPA grants to build infrastructure projects in the communities where she works. She teaches English and is learning K'iche, the Mayan language.

**Leah Bomberger, 2006**, Lancaster, served four months in Haiti with Global DIRT (Disaster Immediate Response Team). Her team supported cholera clinics with staffing, supplies, and logistical capabilities. **Sarah Grosh, also 2006**, remains there with the same organization, working as a registered nurse.

**Matthew Burkhart, 2009**, Lancaster, fired 1-under 71 for Messiah College at the Out Door Country Club in York to



## THANK YOU!

Phonathon has been great again this year. We have over 370 new alumni donors who participated in the \$20 for \$200 match! It is not too late to give to phonathon if you have not done so. Please consider what you can to help us reach our goal, which this year is \$300,000. The phonathon volunteer pictured at left is Carol Shenk Borman, 1986.

win the individual title at the York College Spring Invitational, featuring 49 players from nine schools. Burkhart is a sophomore majoring in accounting.

**Eric Umble, 2009**, Lancaster, a sophomore majoring in clarinet performance at the University of Kansas, placed first in the 39th annual Arapahoe Philharmonic Concerto Competition for Woodwinds, Brass and Percussion, held in Littleton, Colo.

### MARRIAGES

**Michael A Keener, 1999**, and Carrie Rudy, September 17, 2010. They live in Lancaster. Mike is employed by Les Weaver Heating and Air Conditioning of Ephrata.

**Rachel Webster, 2000**, and Stephane Duteriez, October 16, 2010. They are living in County Kilkenny, Ireland, and working for L'Arche.

### BIRTHS

Lavonne and **Ron Miller, 1984**, Lancaster, third son, Jesse Lee, December 6, 2010.

Kevin and **Ruthie Hoover, 1986, Moyer**, Homer, Alaska, adopted two more children: Martha Joy, third daughter, born December 4, 2003, and Levi Colton, fourth son,

born May 30, 2005.

**Wendel, 1988**, and **Candance Sauder, 1992, King**, Leola, fourth son, Blake Michael, June 8, 2010.

Jeremy and **R. Diane Moyer, 1989, Ryman**, Cleveland, Ohio, second son, Lucas Gabriel, November 2, 2010.

Keith and **Melanie Miller, 1990, Martin**, Elizabethtown, seventh child, Tirzah Praise, September 3, 2010.

Keith and **Rebecca (Becky) Grove, 1992, Fester**, Honey Brook, third son, Chase Owen, April 21, 2009.

Shawn High and **Abbey Rohrer, 1997**, Lancaster, second child, a daughter, Harper Jane, June 21, 2010.

**Myron, 1997**, and **Courtney Bechtold, 1998, Brubacher**, Lancaster, third son, Coye Logan, December 30, 2010.

**Benjamin and Sarah Gehman Bixler, both 1998**, Harrisonburg, Va., third child, a daughter, Evangeline Janae, July 23, 2010.

Nathan and **Denise Hoover, 1998, Olmstead**, Croghan, N.Y., fifth child, third son, Trenton Richard, January 28, 2011.

**Eric and Regina Landis Martin, both 1998**, Manheim, second child, Isaac Ray, December 26, 2010.

Jessica Adam and **Joel Buckwalter, 2000**, Ephrata, third child, Cayla Grace, October 14, 2010.

Clinton and **Dara Melrath, 2003, Oberholtzer**, Nottingham, a son Caleb Ray, February 24, 2011.

### DEATHS

**Ruth N. Heiss, 1944**, Lancaster, March 3, 2011.

**Stanley Benner, 1963**, Cambridge, Ontario, March 7, 2011.

**Brenda Harbold Derr, 1965**, Sarasota, Fla., December 6, 2010.

**Ann Raifsnider Howard, 1974**, Manheim, January 14, 2011.

**Steven G. Mast, 1976**, Coatesville, January 5, 2011.

**Shawn A. Horvath, 2005**, Denver, March 14, 2011.

**Rhoda H. Campbell Wenger** (former faculty), Willow Street, March 12, 2011. ❖

For information about

**2011 CLASS REUNIONS**  
go to [www.lancastermennonite.org](http://www.lancastermennonite.org) and  
click on "Alumni" and "Class Reunions."

Joseph Leaman, 1998

## Serving others in daily life

Lancaster Mennonite School is happy to present Joseph Leaman as its first Young Alumnus of the Year. Although the school began its alumni award program in 2000, this is the first year for the Young Alum award which recognizes young alumni whose lifestyles reflect the mission of the school. Its intent is to inspire other young alums to lives of excellence and service.

Leaman is account manager at BCF Group, Inc., an independent insurance firm in Lancaster that provides both personal and commercial coverage and group health insurance. His previous roles there include customer service agent and account executive.

“What I enjoy most about my job is meeting with clients,” Leaman said. “BCF is blessed with wonderful customers. I feel privileged to service their insurance needs.”

BCF President Brad Forney says Leaman’s strengths include dependability, integrity, and respect for co-workers.

“Joe does excellent customer service work and finds creative solutions for our clientele,” Forney said. “He takes great care of our people.”

Leaman also is heavily involved at Stumptown Mennonite Church where he serves as a worship leader and is a member of the Partnership for a Missional Church steering team and the Gift Enablement Team. In addition, he teaches Sunday School and Summer Bible School and has served on the worship planning committee.

“He is a gifted worship leader and good communicator in teaching or

preaching,” Stumptown Associate Pastor John Leaman said, describing a

recent sermon by Leaman as “a wonderful message.”

“Joe has a desire to make his daily life a mission, whether in business, church or social life,” John said, adding that Leaman’s great sense of humor “wins friends wherever he is.”

Leaman has a strong desire to grow in his relationship with Jesus Christ.

“I want to become more like Christ and be a witness for His Kingdom,” he said. “I recognize I need more willingness to step out of my comfort zone for Jesus’ sake.”

Leaman continues to be involved in his alma mater as well. Besides being a strong supporter of the school and attending school events, he has helped with the 3 v 3 basketball tournament held each fall and recently completed a two-year assignment on the alumni board. He says he enjoys chatting with classmates during the annual phonathon.



His support of Lancaster Mennonite is a way to give back to a school that he says gave him “a strong sense of community.”

“Looking back I definitely feel teachers and staff genuinely cared for students,” he added. “I believe this care was the direct result of their personal relationships with Jesus Christ. As a young Christian, the importance of being surrounded and guided by brothers and sisters in Christ had an impact which even today I probably do not fully appreciate.”

Leaman attended Locust Grove, K-8, and LMH, grades 9-12. He holds a degree in business administration with a management focus from Millersville University. Since college, he received his Property & Casualty Agents License and has a Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC) designation. ❖

Margaret Allen, 1958

## Her passion: caring for children

**For Margaret Allen, Lancaster Mennonite School's Alumna of the Year, the Bethany Child Care Center in Philadelphia was an answer to prayer.**

"I feel it was what the Lord was preparing me for through the years," the 1958 LMH graduate said. "My passion is children. It was always my desire to be in service for the Lord, and every step of the way he has led me to care for children."

In 1972 Allen helped to develop the Bethany Child Care Center after a community survey revealed the need for child care services. Today she is the center's executive director.

Under her leadership, an additional building was purchased and the center grew from 35 to 78 children. It provides child care for infants through age 13.

Paulette Novelle, a group supervisor at Bethany since 1984, talked recently about her relationship with Allen.

"She's a very good director and knows her business in child care," Novelle said. "She is very persistent in her goals for the students and the teachers."

"She's also a very good person to work for. That's why I've been here so long. She has taught me a lot."

Prior to her work at Bethany, Allen was a secretary/bookkeeper at the New York City Head Start Program at Infinity Mennonite Church (formerly Seventh Avenue Mennonite), where she also directed an after-school program. Earlier she was a nanny and also served in a variety of other capacities such as office worker at numerous hospitals.

Allen also has served on multiple boards and committees for groups such as the Mennonite Central Committee Peace Section, Eastern Mennonite Missions, Diamond Street Mennonite Church (Philadelphia), and Diamond Street Community Center.

She also taught Sunday School and Summer Bible School at numerous congregations, including 10 years at Diamond Street Mennonite. In addition, she was a camp counselor at Camp Hebron and was involved with the New York City MYF.

She also was secretary for the African American Mennonite Association and helped organize and direct the first Mennonite inner-city churches' black woman conference at Black Rock Retreat.

Other community involvements include helping to provide inner-city employment opportunities, serving on Philadelphia's Advocate Committee to raise funds for a community playground, placing needy families in work-related training programs, and serving as treasurer and board president at Diamond Street Community Center.

Allen studied at the Ontario Mennonite Bible Institute in Kitchener, Ontario; New York University; Hesston College; City College of New York; Temple University; and Antioch College.

About her LMS experience, Allen



says her Bible teaching was the best part, but academics also played an important role in who she is.

"The business management course I had under Brother Clyde Stoner was instrumental in helping me develop Bethany's total framework," she said. "Through that training I was able to set up office files and management procedure." Residence hall life was another highlight, she said, teaching her "independence, self control and structure."

Allen, who lives in Philadelphia, has a daughter, Jowanna, and attends the Word of Life Christian Fellowship Church in Haddonfield, New Jersey. She enjoys traveling and has been to 22 U.S. states plus Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Geneva, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Italy, Canada, Jamaica, Trinidad and Barbados. ❖



# LANCASTER MENNONITE SCHOOL

2176 Lincoln Highway East  
Lancaster, PA 17602

**POSTMASTER:**  
**Time Sensitive Material.**  
**Requested in Home Dates May 9-11**

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Lancaster, PA  
Permit No. 280

Parents: Each LMH alum receives a personal copy of *Bridges*. If this is addressed to a son or daughter who has established a separate residence, please give us the new address. Contact Matt Weaver at [weaverm@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:weaverm@lancastermennonite.org) or (717) 299-0436, ext. 706. Thank you.

*Centered in Christ ▪ Transforming Lives ▪ Changing our World*

## LMS Opportunities, Open House

### OPEN HOUSE, LANCASTER CAMPUS

**May 15, 1–3 p.m.**

- Information about all four campuses
- Tours and conversations with teachers
- Program information
- **Scholarship information**
- Refreshments
- High school Spring Concert at 3 p.m.

For more information or to visit our four campuses:

**Kraybill, grades PreK–8**  
(717) 653-5236

**Lancaster, grades 6-12**  
(717) 299-0436, ext. 312

**Locust Grove, grades PreK–8**  
(717) 394-7107

**New Danville, grades PreK–6**  
(717) 872-2506

### MENNONITE SPORTS ORGANIZATION

**June 17 deadline for fall season**

Providing Christ-centered sports opportunities for elementary-age children



#### Schedule for 2011-12

- FALL** Boys soccer, PreK-6  
Girls field hockey, grades 1-6
- WINTER** Boys and girls basketball, grades 2-6
- SPRING** Girls soccer, PreK-6

For more information, go to [www.mennonitesports.org](http://www.mennonitesports.org) or e-mail at [mso@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:mso@lancastermennonite.org).

[www.lancastermennonite.org](http://www.lancastermennonite.org)

