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The Cometary



Winter/Spring 2021

Volume 17 Issue 3

Forty-four years is not enough

“Cameron High School, this is JoAnn. Cameron Middle School, this is JoAnn. Cameron Elementary School, this is JoAnn.”

These are words that anyone who has called these schools in the last 44 years has heard. But, starting on April 5, those will not be the words heard when dialing the high school. Mrs. JoAnn Trowbridge is retiring from the office that she has spent so much of her time answering questions, running reports, finding students, and helping hundreds of thousands of people navigate through these buildings.

When JoAnn started at CES on October 1, 1977, she was pulling in a whopping \$5.30 per hour! She worked for Mr. Jerry Peterson. Mr. Peterson has a lot of fond memories working with JoAnn. He said that “back in the day” she was the school nurse and handled all scrapes, bruises, ice packs, medications, lunch records, and even head lice. He said she was firm with kids when they needed it . . . and kind and gentle when kids needed that! He also recollected the many pranks she was behind, especially on his birthday. He shared one story when JoAnn organized all of the teachers to show up pretending to be pregnant because it was during a time that three staff members would be out with new babies. He remembered that her favorite saying was, “Grandpa was slow, but he was 90.” Jerry said, “Thinking back, maybe she was talking about me!”

She also worked for Mrs. Pat Schroeder at the elementary school. Pat has great memories of JoAnn and her work ethic. She said, “When I was the new principal, JoAnn Trowbridge was my right hand every day . . . and offered her left hand when I needed it! It’s difficult to describe the components that ensure an elementary school office is both organized and runs smoothly, but JoAnn’s combination of professional and personal skills made it happen! Days in the elementary school at Cameron were beyond busy, but JoAnn was always willing to stop what she was doing to help a student, colleague, or parent with a question or concern. JoAnn’s many years of service and dedication to the School District of Cameron are to be commended! Congratulations, JoAnn, and best wishes to you in your retirement!”

When she was planning to transfer to the new middle school, Mrs. Lisa Walther took on the huge task of filling JoAnn’s shoes. Lisa said, “JoAnn has been a mentor to me ever since that first day. Many of the procedures we use for events that happen during the school year were developed by JoAnn and are still used today. JoAnn has had an impact on how the elementary, middle, and high school offices run on a daily basis. She is positive, hardworking, compassionate, and consistently prioritizes kids. JoAnn, thank you

for your hard work and dedication to our students, school and district.”

Moving to the middle school when it opened, Mrs. Trowbridge worked for Mr. Tom Spanel. Mr. Spanel said, “JoAnn kept everyone on their toes, especially the principal.”

At the high school, JoAnn worked for Mr. John Meznarich. Mr. Meznarich said, “JoAnn has a true love for all the kids who come through here. It has been a pleasure to work with her and be one of the ‘monkeys in her circus.’” Mez is the last of the principals whom JoAnn has guided. It is widely known that JoAnn “ran the office” of each building and kept everyone in line.

Staff and students alike will certainly miss this kind, wonderful, thoughtful, fun-loving, prank-playing woman.



Good-bye, Cameron schools. CHS office secretary Mrs. JoAnn Trowbridge is retiring from the District after serving it for 44 years. We wish JoAnn nothing but the best!

Save a life - donate blood

FBLA will be hosting a blood drive on April 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please see Mrs. Hopkins to sign up or go online to American Red Cross to sign up.



Notes from Mr. Meznarich - principal

Graduation

The 2021 Graduation celebration will be on Friday, May 28. Final details will be released later this spring.

High school Virtual Learning Day

Every spring, the state of Wisconsin tests students in grades 3-8 with the Forward Exam. Due to the extremely large number of students enrolled in the Cameron Academy of Virtual Education, they need additional classroom space to test their students. To help make this possible, high school students will have a virtual learning day on Tuesday, April 20. Students will report to their classes on Google Classroom from home instead of coming to school.

End of year info

The last student day will be Wednesday, June 2. Students will have a full day of school. Students will be turning in their computers on that day so it is extremely important that students are there with all of their computer equipment. All fines and fees should be taken care of prior to the end of school.

Summer school

There will be two sessions of summer school offered for students to earn back credit for classes they were unsuccessful in during the year. Summer school will run in June. Dates and times are currently being determined. Information will be sent to those students who need to come in for summer school.

2021-22 school year

Returning students will have their 2021-22 schedules in hand prior to leaving for the summer. Our school schedule is based on student requests and as such, changes to

student schedules are not permitted. An informational letter will be sent out in July with more specifics

for the 2021-22 school year. Mark your calendars for the start of next school year which will be Friday, August 27.

Academic Excellence Award

Cameron High School has named Frankie Pica, daughter of Tony and Sarah Pica, as its 2021 Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholar. Each year the school names its top academic senior after the first semester and notifies the Higher Educational Aids Board, which offers the scholarship program, in an effort to encourage Wisconsin's top academic seniors to attend universities in the state. Students selected as Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholars will receive a tuition scholarship renewable for 4 years, worth \$2,250 per year, as long as a 3.0 grade point average is maintained at a Wisconsin public or private university. The State of Wisconsin took legislative action to provide tuition and fee schol-



arships to Wisconsin's top high school scholars beginning in the 1990-91 academic year and have done so each year since.

Frankie hopes to attend UW-Madison to pursue a degree in journalism. Congratulations, Frankie.

Technical Excellence Award

Cameron High School has named Tyler Larson, son of Doug and Lisa Larson, as its 2021 Technical Excellence Scholar. This scholar-



ship is awarded to a high school senior who demonstrates the highest level of proficiency in technical education subjects. The scholarship program was started to encourage students to attend technical colleges in Wisconsin. Tyler will receive a tuition scholarship renewable for three years worth \$2,250 per year as long as a 3.0 grade point average is maintained at a Wisconsin Technical College.

Tyler plans to attend WITC-Rice Lake and major in Web/Software Development. Congrats, Tyler.

Deadly deadlifts

by Alyssa Guinto

Powerlifting is a strength sport. The whole point is to show how strong you really are, and the basics of the sport are fairly simple. In a competition, the powerlifter stands alone on a platform and tries to lift the heaviest weight they are capable of in a single repetition, while the judges make sure they are following the rules. The powerlifter performs three competition events; squat, bench press, and deadlift.

The first competition of the year was held on Saturday, March 6 at Elk Mound High School, and 16 of our very own Cameron boys and girls competed, with nine of them competing for the first time ever! Even though the State competition was canceled, 7 of the 16 students would have qualified including Josh Halverson, Rylee Ladd, Devon Tasker, Jada Thompson, Beth Kurshinsky, Nick Schuman, and Nick Johnson.

Because of COVID, the lifting world is a little different. There are

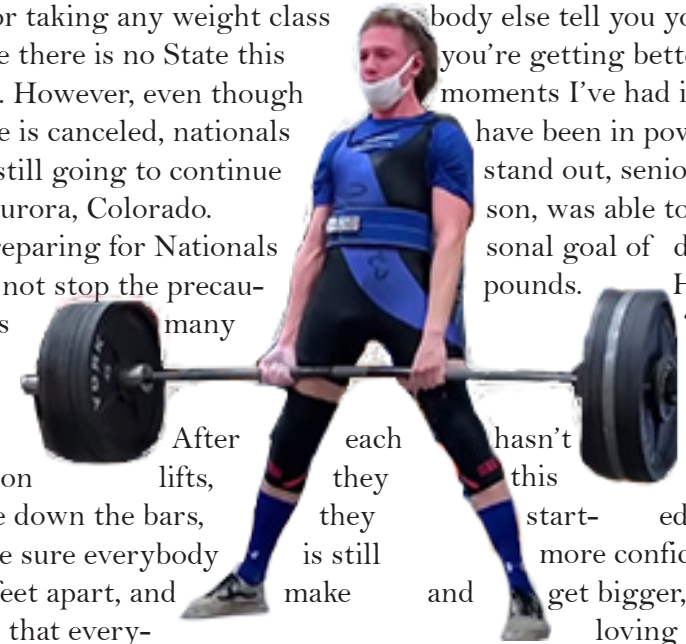
only scrimmages being held. They haven't been handing out medals or taking any weight class since there is no State this year. However, even though State is canceled, nationals are still going to continue in Aurora, Colorado.

Preparing for Nationals will not stop the precautions many are taking. After each person lifts, they wipe down the bars, make sure everybody is still six feet apart, and make sure that everybody is wearing masks even when they are on the platform.

Powerlifting coach Mr. Brett Ridout said, "It's so cool to see them hit new personal records, because in today's society I think we get put down a lot. And

this is a way for you to build yourself up rather than having somebody else tell you you're good, you're getting better. The best moments I've had in coaching have been in powerlifting." One stand out, senior Josh Halverson, was able to reach his personal goal of deadlifting 500 pounds. Halverson said, "Though wearing a mask sucks, COVID affected me in sport. I first started to become more confident in myself and get bigger, but I ended up loving the sport. Now with this being my last year I'll make the best out of it and do the best I can."

The powerlifting sport has inspired many kids and coaches. It brings the absolute best out of competitors, "red face and all."



Heavy weight. Senior Josh Halverson lifts his personal best of 500 lb. in the dead lift.



All together. The 2021 powerlifting team. Left side back row: Coach Brett Ridout, Kobe Sevals, Sean Oliver, Logan Crawford, Dan Nichols, Nick Johnson, Jeremy Benck, Caden Gifford, Devon Tasker, Coach Jeff Ladd. Front: Josh Halverson, Keara Butterfield, Beth Kurshinsky, Jada Thompson, Rylee Ladd, Rylee Rank, Laila Peterson, and Westin Candler. (not pictured Nick Schuman)

True grit and determination

by Tristen Holub

“The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination to the task at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand.” - Vince Lombardi

As an athlete in any sport, everyone plays hard, learns from their mistakes, and sets themselves goals in order to keep improving and become the best athlete they can be. Often times it takes more sacrifice, grit, determination, and perseverance than one may realize. Cameron School District has always been home to a multitude of very impressive athletes that strive to put in hard work, push their personal limitations to new levels, and devote their time and effort to better their teams and themselves. Recently in the spotlight, two outstanding athletes from our hometown have been awarded two of the highest awards possible for a Heart O’ the North Conference athlete--Richie Murphy and Tanner Gerber.

Senior Richie Murphy was recently awarded the Heart O’ the North conference award for Basketball Player of the Year for his developments and all-around playing capabilities throughout the 2021 basketball season. Richie



Just gettin’ started. High school senior, Richie Murphy, goes for a layup during warm-ups before a big game.

has been involved in basketball his entire life. From a young age he began playing basketball, among other sports, and eventually he started to play for Cameron in the second grade. In fifth grade, he began playing AAU basketball and has since continued to play every year possible. Furthermore, throughout the year, Richie has put in numerous hours of hard work and practice in order to better his skills in the several sports that he participates in; he stated that throughout the summer he practices weekly and plays tournaments on the weekends, as well as daily practices during the basketball season. As he has played on throughout the many years of involvement, Richie stated that not only has he set personal goals for himself, but a big part of his accomplishments have included the goals that his team has set as a whole.

Accordingly, “It felt good to be awarded the Heart O’ the North award,” Richie stated, “but after we lost the playoffs, I felt like I didn’t accomplish as much as I had hoped for my senior year.” However, in his final statements he relished, “... but, setting high goals allows you to get to places that you didn’t think were possible--so dream big, set high goals, and it will push anyone to become better.”

Secondly, junior Tanner Gerber was awarded the Heart O’ the North Conference award for Best Wrestler of the Year after winning his third consecutive state title.



Win. High school junior Tanner Gerber, along with his coach and father, David Gerber, look forward to the next match. According to Tanner, he has been wrestling for as long as he can remember, since the time that he was around five or six years old. Since then, he, too, has put in an almost immeasurable amount of effort into practice, workouts, tournaments, and matches in order to further develop his skills

and talent as a wrestler. When asked how it felt to win state, Tanner stated, “it’s kind of an unexplainable feeling, indescribable.” Furthermore, in order to get to

the point that he is within his wrestling career, he stated, “I have always tried to get better. I set out to win my first title, and since then I have just wanted to keep getting better and win the next match.” As time goes on, Tanner plans to continue to get better and further develop his skills throughout the year in order to bring his all into the next season. In order to win this year’s Heart O’ the North Award, he said it had mostly to do with the developments he made throughout the season, and how dominant his season was.

Congratulations!

The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination to the task at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied ourselves to the task at hand.
- Vince Lombardi

National Merit Scholarship

Congratulations, Frankie Pica, for winning The National Merit Scholarship.

National Merit Scholarships are available only to high school students who take the PSAT (Preliminary SAT) in October of their junior year. Winners must also be full-time high school students and U.S. citizens to qualify. Winning a National Merit Scholarship depends on more than PSAT scores. Academic record, SAT scores, extra-curricular activities and leadership experiences, and an essay are also



And then an artist is born

by Kaleb Crotteau

As a fun activity for the students to enjoy this trimester, Mrs. Angie Leschisin decided to do a recreational art class for students to enjoy their study hall. While it’s not credit worthy, people who enjoy art can be in this study hall; for something to do, and if they need to work on their school work instead of their art piece, that’s a



Painting stars. Seniors Alivia Hall and Vanessa Odash spice things up their senior year by doing some art for a change.

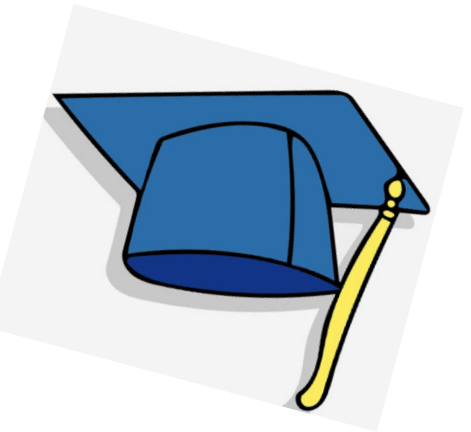
considered. Other factors include recommendations from your school, your school's curricula and grading system, and your state residency. The career or the college selected may also be factors.

Frankie earned \$2,500 towards her freshman year of college. Winning this scholarship is very prestigious. Some colleges even boast about the number of "National Merit Scholars" they enroll.

This is the first Merit Scholar that Cameron High School has ever had. Way to go, Frankie!



Top 10%. To the left are the students representing the top 10% for this year's graduating class: Carter Richter, Matali Andersen, Avery Krahenbuhl, Frankie Pica, Henry Huth, Nick Johnson, Bree Rubenzer, Carly Lynch, Meghan Fostvedt, and Anna Eichman.



Artistic geek. Senior Emma Briese goes from a study freak to an artistic geek with her butterfly hoop.

ing an amazing job at leading her study hall in more of an artistic direction. It is time to get creative!

choice, too. This study hall consists of using silk dyes and acrylic paints on items like hand bags and silk hoops, and each student gets to decide what s/he wants to do as far as art goes. The best news is you can do whatever designs you want and go at your own pace. Why wouldn't you want to be in this study hall? Some of the students in the class held up some of their projects up to the camera and are looking fantastic. Mrs. Leschisin is do-

Sneak Peek

Extra, extra, hear all about it . . . a quick sneak peek of our soon-to-come 2021 yearbook. The publications team has been working very hard to get 104 pages done before our deadline. Pictures and paragraphs are being written and taken all over the school, making sure we capture our favorite memories at Cameron High. Not only is Mrs. Hopkins’ publications class excited to see their final product, but many seniors are very eager to

see what their fellow classmates voted them for in the senior best pages. With graduation getting closer, Mrs. Hopkins will soon be finalizing the yearbook order for this year! That means that if you haven’t turned in your yearbook order forms, now is the perfect time! Mrs. Hopkins will still be able to take the order forms as long as they are turned in before May 1, 2021.



One glance. Seniors Kaleb Crotteau, Bree Rubenzer, Tristen Holub, Chloe Strenke, Alyssa Guinto, and Frankie Pica have been preparing this year’s yearbook.



Bridge busters

by Frankie Pica

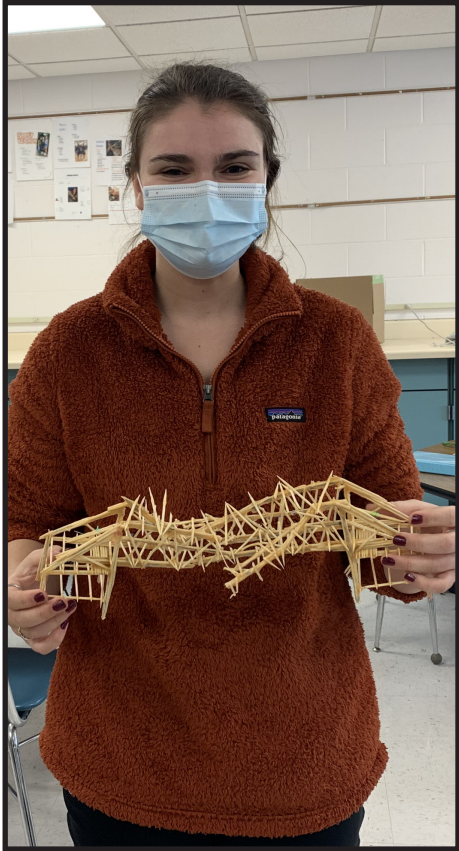
“This is a big concept, people!” Mr. Whittenberger often said this to his physics students when attempting to get them to focus. This time, he couldn’t be more right as the seniors faced the final challenge of the class. The students were tasked with constructing a bridge using no more than 250 toothpicks and a bottle of non-epoxy glue. The students spent weeks designing and building their bridges. Perfect scores were awarded to bridges that held at least 35 pounds before breaking. To the surprise of many of the students, over half the class earned that perfect score. After every bridge had been smashed by Mr. Whitt’s patented Bridge Buster (a piece of wood), Avery Kra-



Tough girls. tough bridges. Carly Lynch and Meghan Fostvedt both used triangle patterns to build their bridges, which helped them hold more weight. Carly’s design held 75 pounds, and Meghan’s design held 67 pounds.

henbuhl was declared the winner. Her bridge withstood a staggering weight of 142 pounds before being crushed by the Bridge Buster. “I was very surprised,” Avery said. “I did not think my bridge was going to hold 142 pounds!” How can a bridge made with toothpicks hold that much weight? Mr. Whitt’s physics class had the answers. Over the course of two trimesters, students learned about the dynamics of force, weight, and momentum. While building the bridge, they had to bring together that knowledge. Key to the suc-

cess of a bridge was its ability to evenly distribute the weight of the Bridge Buster. If one weak spot bore the brunt of the weight, it crumpled easily. To make an even bridge, the students used shapes best able to distribute weight, such as triangles and arches. Through this, they found that they were using construction methods similar to those of civil engineers, who use physics to create safe and strong bridges. The physicists’ hard work and ingenious designs paid off. What a way to end the class!



We have a winner! Avery Krahenbuhl’s bridge held 142 pounds, the most weight of any bridge in the class. Congrats, Avery!

Cameron High School

YEARBOOK ORDER FORM

ORDER BY: 05/01/2021 To purchase online, go to jostensyearbooks.com.

STEP 1: SELECT YOUR PACKAGE

Yearbook	\$55.00
SIGNATURE PACKAGE	\$70.00
Includes Yearbook, 1 Line of Personalization, Color Autograph Section and 5 Multicolor Signing Markers	

STEP 2: PERSONALIZE YOUR YEARBOOK FOR \$6.25

Choose one personalization option: name, monogram or crest

☐ NAME

(29 characters max.)

☐ MONOGRAM

Mon 1 Mon 2 Mon 3 Mon 4

☐ CREST

Cre 1 Cre 2 Cre 3 Cre 4

STEP 3: ADD ICONS* FOR\$3.65 EACH

*IMPORTANT: To add icons, you must first purchase personalization in Step 2. Enter the 4-digit icon code from the chart below into the boxes provided.

5236	5480	5581	5682	5783	5884	5985	6086	5011
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STEP 4: ENTER YOUR INFORMATION AND TOTAL YOUR ORDER

Student Name:

Grade:

ID#:

Homeroom:

Contact Phone:

Contact Email:

Bridge Lab Results

Avery Krahenbuhl	142 lbs.
Frankie Pica	107 lbs.
Carly Lynch	75 lbs.
Meghan Fostvedt	67 lbs.
Austin Shoenecker	39.5 lbs.
Henry Huth	25.5 lbs.
Nick Newland	23 lbs.

The best tasting convention

by Kaleb Crotteau

As a wrap up to the trimester students of Mrs. Hopkins’ Intro to Business class, they came together to bring some extra joy to our day. These genius students combined everything they learned about



Sweet snack swag. Julian Pense and Kyle Nelson reeled in customers with their swag. They created Lil DD’s Schmookie bars.

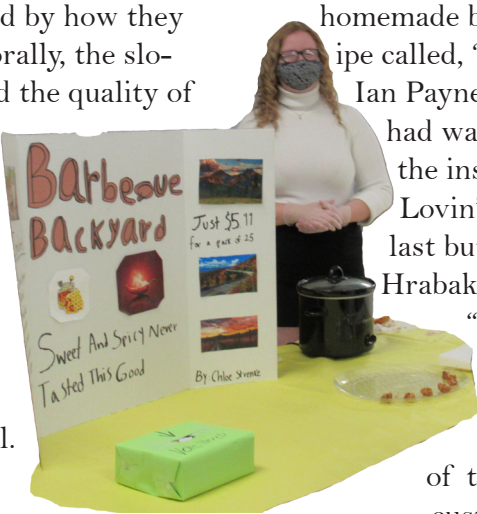
marketing and finance to host a snack convention which was held on March 2. Each student in the class, whether in pairs or alone, made a unique type of food and

had their peers try out the new and delicious treats that you wouldn’t think were possible creations. They were evaluated by how they sold their product orally, the slogan and exhibit, and the quality of the snack.

Julian Pense and Kyle Nelson had what they liked to call, “Lil DD’s Schmookie Bars,” made of chocolate, peanut butter, and caramel on a pretzel. Kopper Mense and Alec Olson made chips that were partially dunked in milk chocolate, called “Wavy Choco-

late.” Amber Heath and Drew Brion had a unique mix of dip called, “Dippin’ Chips,” which was a mix of beans and an assortment of vegetables that you wouldn’t expect inside of any dip, but it was spectacular. Chloe Strenke made a homemade barbeque chicken recipe called, “Backyard Barbeque.” Ian Payne and Grant Paetzold had waffles with bacon on the inside called, “Tough Lovin’ Waffles.” Finally, last but not least, Brooke Hrabak had what she called, “Brownie Balls.”

At the end of the event, the customers judged each of the stands and the customer’s scores were added up and the contestant with the highest score of all of them was Chloe Strenke, with her “Backyard Barbeque.” All the displays were fantastic with snacks. They were unique and truly something that was worth enjoying.



Backyard rockstar. Snack convention star, Chloe Strenke did an amazing job with her chicken, achieving the highest overall score from the students and peers during this amazing event.



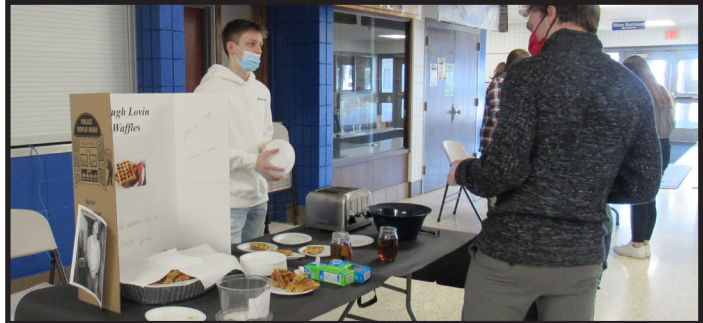
Teammates in discussion. Senior Brooke Hrabak uses her best sale strategy to convince senior Kaleb Crotteau to vote for her Brownie Balls.



Always a hit. Sophomores Kopper Mense and Alec Olson introduce the way to their Wavy Chocolate snack.



Ready, set, sell. Juniors Drew Brion and Amber Heath demonstrate their yummy salsa at the snack convention.



Walffles anyone? Sophomore Grant Paetzold and senior Ian Payne sweet talk their customers into trying their amazing snack.

My soul is fed with needle and thread

by Chloe Strenke

This year is a new beginning for Mrs. Adams Fabrics & Designs class. With the coronavirus, Mrs. Adams was very creative in bringing ideas to improve the class setting during this hard time. She didn’t want anyone to go out and buy supplies, since they can be very expensive, so she had the great idea of upcycling. Most of her leftover fabrics brought many ideas of upcycling projects that were very unique and interesting in different ways. She did leave the option of going out and buying fabrics, if students couldn’t find anything in the classroom leftovers.

The class started off virtually following coronarivus guidelines of going virtual for one week. There were some students who never once in their life touched a sewing machine!

Mrs. Adams made those students feel as comfortable as possible—students could wait and start on the book work. Some who had the experience on sewing machines

from family members started working on the first project which was a pincushion. The steps to this project were placed on Google Slides. It was very thorough and went through each individual step. If there were questions that needed to be answered, Mrs. Adams

Go for it. Senior Bree Rubenzer created a whale for her grandfather who passed. It is made of his flannel and jeans.

Fabrics & Designs class was always a safe place for everyone who was involved. Being in the class I can say that we talked about many world issues and there were no arguments. I can’t say that I’ve been in a class with people that are as mature and civilized to not argue when it comes to controversial topics.

There was never a time that students didn’t use creativity to invent their own projects. Some projects made were PJ pants, wallets, and knitted scarves for everyday use. A cover for a hot coffee cup always comes in handy! And so does a face mask . . .especially when they are so expensive to buy. Why not wear my own that I made?

The most interesting thing of this Fabrics & Designs class was that everyone was at a different

step in the class; some would be working on bookwork, some would be on their fifth project, and Mrs. Adams made that okay. “Everyone is at a different place in this class and that’s okay because everyone learns at a different speed and adapts to things at different times during the process,” said Mrs. Adams. Everyone had many skills and gifts when it came to this class. The friendships that were created in this class will never fade from our memories.

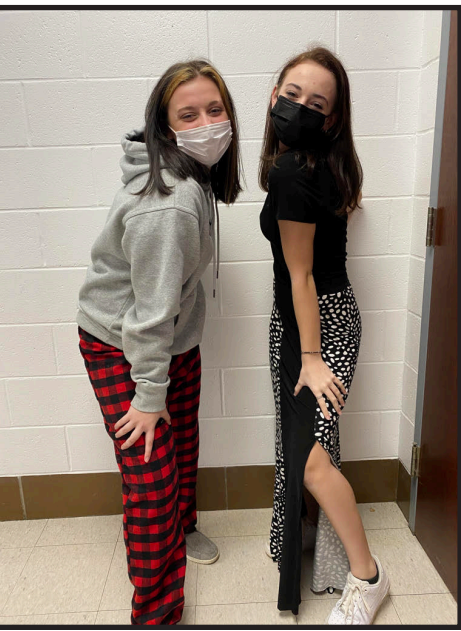
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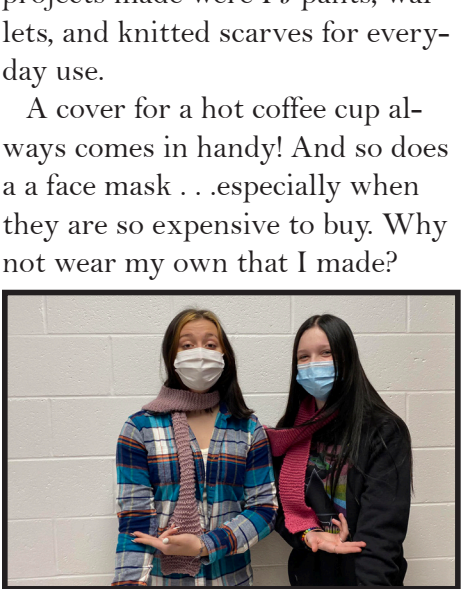
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It’s all fun and games until the bobbin runs out. Freshmen Jamye and Caitlin show off their new creations.



Girls just want to have fun. Cozy pajama pants with a little bit of style.



Keep calm and cast on. Arinah C and Madison G. made beautiful scarves in fabrics & designs.

COVIDy Clubs

COVID has affected a lot of our clubs and what they can participate in. Leave it to our groups, however, to find ways to keep things engaging for their members.

FBLA

The State Leadership Conference will be held virtually this year with our competitors testing ahead of time or providing videos for pre-judging. On April 12, our State qualifiers (Henry Pike, Frankie Pica, Henry Huth, Avery Krahenbuhl, Ashlie Falstad, Erin Salm, Taylor Severt, Sophie Griffin, Katelyn Kohel, Ava Pich, Sydney Leschisin, Carli Wilson, and Jordyn Allen) will take advantage of an online interactive day together here at school and end the day with the Awards Ceremony where they'll learn if they made it to Nationals (top 4 in each event).

Additionally, FBLA members were involved in reading the Berenstain Bears Trouble with Money book to the first graders. Although it was read virtually,

FBLAers eventually had enough books for each first grader to take home. Then, FBLAers talked with the students about saving and spending money. They had worksheets to practice their experiences with coins. Candy coins and chocolate dollars were shared with the 1st graders, as well.

The Comet FBLA group is planning their next annual Red Cross Blood Drive on April 21.

FFA

The District Speaking Competition was held in Cameron this year – again virtually. FFA members from neighboring schools logged in with judges to compete in events such as The Creed, Employability Skills, Public Speaking and others. Volunteers from Cameron helped judge these events.

FFA members also held their annual fruit sale and hosted two Red Cross Blood Drives, bringing in a lot of donors.

SPANISH CLUB

The Spanish Club is looking forward to their trip to the

Dominican Republic this June. This trip was scheduled for last summer but was delayed due to COVID. Fingers are crossed for a go this year.

The club also held a fundraiser during Valentine's Day with treats delivered to loved ones. They are planning to make Cascarones (confetti-filled eggs), a Hispanic tradition.

FORENSICS

Virtual forensics is in full swing right now. Numbers are down because (believe it or not) students prefer live speaking contents; however, they sure do have a quality team full of veterans this year. They have recorded and submitted videos for Sub-District (all kids advanced) and most recently District. Results from District will be shared by the end of March and then they will participate in a virtual state competition for those who qualified. These are the 2021 participants and categories: Addy Adams (prose); Jeremy Benck, Luke Salm, Ethan Gifford, Zory Parker, and Mikey Kuchera (group interp); Katelyn Dummer (prose); Jasmine Gilles, Erin Salm, Taylor Severt, and Cali Romsos (group interp); Avery Krahenbuhl and Frankie Pica (group interp); Rylee Ladd (prose); Rachel Larson (solo acting); Brooklyn Moravitz (farrago); Seppie Pica (prose); Henry Pike (extemp); Bree Rubenzer and Zoe Rubenzer (play acting); Emma Swan and Taylor Rundhaug (group interp); Tori Wintone (prose). Good luck!

Way to go, Comets. Keep your chin up and take advantage of all the opportunities you have here-- COVID or no COVID.

Charitable Comets

by Bree Rubenzer

Service, scholarship, character, and leadership are the four core values of the National Honor Society, and this year's members have surely upheld them. The National Honor Society at Cameron High School is represented every year by a group of hard-working, intelligent, and driven young adults. These students complete an individual service project, as well as 30 hours of community service. Giving back to the community is an extremely important part of NHS, one that this year's seniors have demonstrated admirably.

Meghan Fostvedt, a member of National Honor Society, organized a fundraiser for Chase Jensen, a student in our school who has developed mental and behavioral issues due to severe trauma he experienced at a young age. His parents sent him to New Vision Wilderness Therapy, an intensive, and extremely costly, therapy facility in Medford, Wisconsin. Chase received some of the best care, including outdoor therapy and ex-

treme counseling sessions, during his twelve week stay. Meghan sold t-shirts and wristbands supporting mental health awareness and raised about \$1,300 for Chase and his family.

Meghan said, "Being in NHS and having the opportunity to give back to my community is an experience I am extremely grateful for. I love helping and caring for other people, and seeing their smiles and tears of joy when they receive help from the community is what makes me most happy." Meghan continued, "To be representing the four cardinal traits at Cameron High

School is an honor, and I believe it will help me become a better person overall."

As a member of the Army National Guard, Matali Andersen used

her experiences in the military as inspiration for her project. Matali put together two projects both for the same goal: to support veterans and active military members. For her first project, Matali visited the fourth graders at Cameron Elementary to teach them about Operation Gratitude and what it means to be in the military. She then had them create Christmas cards to send to soldiers deployed overseas during Christmas. For her second project, Matali organized a Christmas Dress Up Day in the high school to raise money for the Wounded Warrior Project.

A few other projects included a halftime bean bag toss organized by Richie Murphy to raise money



Doing good. Austin Weis presented a check to the Nazarenus family.

for the Folz family after a scary accident at a boys basketball game; a veteran's tribute plaza done by Anna Eichman, which honors Cameron alumni who have served in the military; a donation drive for Benjamin's House in Rice Lake put together by Tristen Holub; and a bean bag toss and ping pong tournament to raise money for Farm Rescue organized by Henry Huth. Addy Adams also volunteered to work at the 2020 general election, and Austin Weis raised just short of \$3,000 for Tyler Nazarenus, a husband and father in the Chetek community who was diagnosed with brain cancer in February of 2020.

These projects have certainly spoken for the character, drive, and commitment of this year's NHS members. "Giving back to the community makes me feel like I've accomplished something great," says NHS member Tristen Holub. "It's a great feeling to know you're helping someone else when they need it, and it's a humbling experience I'll take with me for a long time."



Money smart. During FBLA Week in February, FBLA members Carly Lynch, Rylee Ladd, and Aurora Thompson read the Berenstain Bears book to the first graders in Mrs. Winters' class. They had fun teaching/learning about money and the importance of saving it.



A Valentine's Day surprise. Cameron Elementary's second grade students had fun making cards for the residents of Dove Healthcare for Kyndra Scheubel's project.