



# The WLC Reporter



Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative Middle/High School

March 2019

## Senior Project at WLC

by Amy White

If you know a senior at WLC, then you might have overheard conversations about senior projects and research during the past few months. Note taking, citations, finding good resources, experiential research vs print research -- all these considerations have been on the minds of students in the Class of 2019 as they prepared for their February research check-in.

Most know that senior projects are self-directed: students are given license to choose a project that interests them. But what many are not aware of, is how much research is required! Even though the essential questions the students tackle are of their own choosing, the project itself is laid out in a clear manner with expectations and due dates that scaffold the work. Research, both print and experiential, is the foundation of all that the students do. Before vacation, seniors met with senior project advisers and their mentors for a Research Check-in. All seniors complete 20 hours of print research and 25 hours of experiential research. The print resources include books, magazine and newspaper articles, trade manuals, or articles from databases from our library. This year some examples of the experiential research include preparing a sugar house, working with a veterinarian, researching and preparing gluten free recipes, studying and practicing Reiki, attending classes to be trained as a counselor to help victims of sexual and domestic abuse, and so much more.

If you are curious and want to see what this year's group of seniors has been working on, mark your calendars: all members of the WLC community are invited to attend Senior Projects which will be presented during the week of April 1-5. A schedule will be posted at the end of March.



Above, senior Emma Krug meets with Senior Project Mentor Zack Provost and Senior Project Advisor Katy Morshed to discuss her research. Krug completed over 150 hours in experiential research and 30 hours in print research while considering her essential question, "In what ways is participating in local politics important?"

## WLC Senior Wins Regional Daughters of the American Revolution Essay Contest



On February 9th, Lexi Balam, senior at WLC, was recognized as the winner of our region's Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Essay Contest. The DAR Good Citizens program and scholarship contest is intended to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship. The student selected as the school's DAR Good Citizen must have the qualities of dependability (which includes truthfulness, loyalty, and punctuality); service (which includes cooperation, courtesy, and consideration of others); leadership (which includes personality, self-control, and ability to assume responsibility); and patriotism (which includes unselfish interest in family, school, community and nation) to an outstanding degree. The second part of the contest is a timed essay that was administered under the supervision of a faculty or a DAR

It was completed in one sitting, within a two-hour time limit, and without assistance or reference materials. Each contest entry is evaluated by independent, non-DAR judges. The winning entry is advanced through state and national levels of judging. Lexi will represent our region in the state competition next month, competing against 20 other students from around NH. This will take place in Concord on March 15th.



Above, Lexi Balam reads her winning essay aloud at the Amherst Fire Station.



## WLC Students Visit Hitchiner Manufacturing Co.



Justin Jennings, Nick Hughes, and JJ LeBlanc visited Hitchiner with faculty members Amanda Kovaliv and Kathryn Gosselin. Founded in 1946 and headquartered in Milford, New Hampshire, Hitchiner Manufacturing Co., Inc. is the premier industrial supplier of complete-to-print, high-volume, complex thin-wall investment castings and fully-finished casting-based subassemblies and components. Leading companies in the automotive, aerospace and other industries

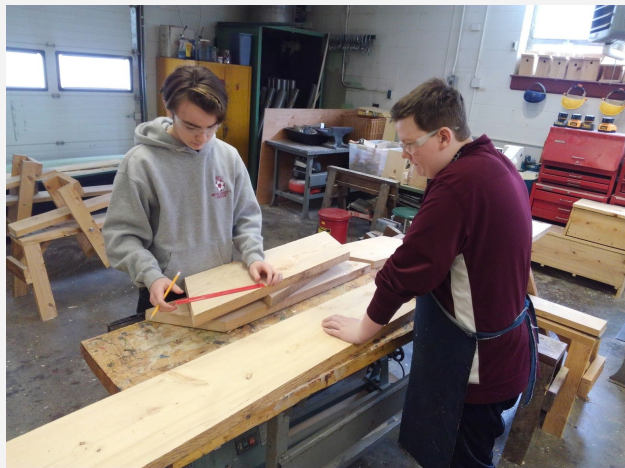


around the globe use their castings and rely on Hitchiner to provide volume production, reduced lead-times, and just-in-time manufacturing. WLC students enjoyed the tour of the facilities and loved learning about the company!



Kane’s Corner

(photos and captions by Justin Kane, WLC industrial technologies teacher)



Above, Ethan Smith and Hunter Scales mark cuts for a heavy timber bench. Designed by American farmer and conservationist Aldo Leopold, several of these benches are being constructed by the Green Woodworking class for placement out on the WLC trail network.



Sean Witt shows off his unique walrus-pattern boot jack.

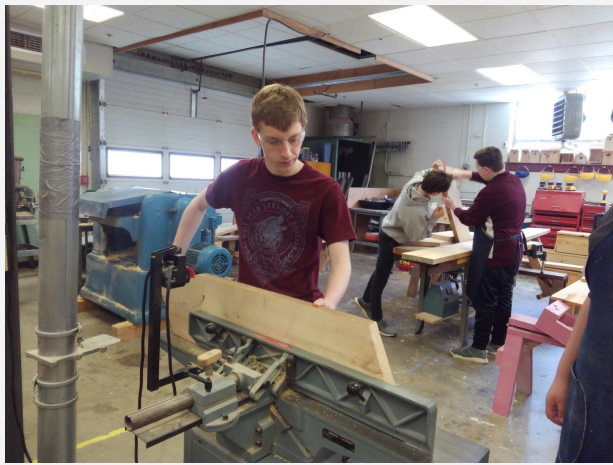
member.



Ruben Sistachs and Rafael Maciel work on their carved wooden spoons in 8th grade Tech Ed. Ruben is using a 19th century drawknife and sitting at a shave horse, a medieval European woodworkers bench re-designed and built by a high school Woodworking class earlier in the year.



Owen Hughes uses the table saw to shape a plank for a steam box. Owen’s Senior Project revolves around the design and construction of a series of glued-up veneer longboard skateboards using several different construction methods, including steam bending and cold glue vacuum-bagging. Both the steam box and vacuum apparatus will subsequently be available as tools for other WLC students and classes.



Justin Jennings joints the edge of a heavy hemlock board for a bench designed specifically for wildlife observation by the noted Forest Service hunter and conservationist Aldo Leopold. Green Woodworking students have created several of these benches to be placed along some of the WLC & Town Forest trails.



Troy Gardent uses a 133” bandsaw to shape a wooden spoon blank out of locally cut poplar wood. The spoon project introduces and reinforces lessons in design, orthographic drawing, materials science, machine & hand tools, and patience for 8th grade Tech Ed students.



Michael Marcinuk shows off his unique fish-pattern boot jack. 6th grade Tech Ed classes are making these boot jacks as an introduction to design, engineering drawing, and hand tool use. A second project later in the quarter will use the same skills to create items to be used on the much anticipated Ecology School trip.

Don’t forget **Coffee and Conversation** with the WLC principals the last Friday of every month!

This month, join us on March 29 at 8AM in the main office conference room!



