

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2021 ● \$3.00 ● LANCASTERONLINE.COM

SUNDAY LNP

LancasterOnline



Solid gold

Manheim Township freshman Kaedyn Williams is school's first wrestling champ since 1970

● Sports, Page C1

LIVING

Irish immigrants to the area tell how Lancaster County can remind them of the remote reaches of their homeland.

● Page E1



NATION & WORLD

Demonstrators gather in Louisville, Kentucky, to mark the one-year anniversary of Breonna Taylor's killing.

● Page A9



Today's coupon value

\$144

● See Page A2 for details.



SUBMITTED

From left, Alexandra, Jordan and Kenneth Chitwood pose with their dog, Patches, at their East Lampeter Township apartment complex in fall 2020. In recent weeks, as calls, emails and visits have dissipated, Kenneth is left with sadness after losing his wife last fall.



ANDY BLACKBURN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Max Bartos, 18, was about to make his Broadway debut when the pandemic hit. He has remained creatively active over the last year while waiting for Broadway theaters to reopen.

LIFE DURING A PANDEMIC

HOW WE ENDURED

County residents share experiences in facing the challenges of survival mode

In only a matter of weeks, the COVID-19 pandemic swept across the globe to our doorsteps. Our lives became like suspended animation as we went home and waited. We found ways to endure — through separation, loss, growth, fear, joy, frustration, change. We've shifted our expectations and perspective to accommodate new realities.

It's been one year. More than 950 people have died in Lancaster County. Photos of crowded bars and big family dinners are like postcards from the past.

We've experienced the impact of COVID-19 in separate ways, with no two experiences exactly the same. Some of us haven't been back to our jobs in a year; others never stopped going; others don't have jobs to return to.

We've defined and redefined essential worker. We shuttered, reopened, shuttered and reopened in waves. We taught ourselves new ways to teach our children. We hoped for a vaccine that has finally arrived.

LNP | LancasterOnline reporters gathered stories of Lancaster County residents as we mark a grim but hopeful anniversary, of a time that has changed who we are and how we relate to each other. Through this series of snapshots of life amid a pandemic, we look at where we've

COVID-19 ONE YEAR LATER

been and where we might be going. These are stories of endurance.

Handling grief

Alexandra Chitwood died of COVID-19 four months ago. But for her husband, Kenneth, the grief is just starting to kick in.

A longtime counselor at Manheim Township School District, Alexandra, who was 47 and believed to be one of the first educators to die of COVID-19 in Pennsylvania, was beloved in her community — and it showed. After his wife's death, Kenneth was overwhelmed with calls, texts, cards and emails. People checked in on him. They brought food to his house and ate with him.

ENDURED, page A6

INSIDE: PANDEMIC AFFECTS ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE

● **LOCAL:** Readers share what they miss most and show us what's helping them get them through the pandemic, **Page B1**

● **SPORTS:** From the way we played to the way we watched, COVID-19 precautions alter profoundly the way we were able to experience the games we love, **Page C1**

● **MONEY:** Restaurants struggle to adapt and survive the harsh economic climate, **Page D1**

● **FOOD:** Stakeholders in the local food industry share how the pandemic pushed them to be creative, **Page E3**

● **PERSPECTIVE:** The past year exposes different takes on how to handle what we're up against, **Page F1**



SUZETTE WENSER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Janet Rushmerek works out at the Fitness & Aquatics Center at the Willow Valley Communities on Wednesday. Residents must make an appointment to work out, have their temperature taken daily, wear masks, social distance and clean the machines after using equipment.



SUBMITTED

ABOVE: Bryant Betancourt and his father were on a game drive through Lake Nakuru National Park in northern Kenya when the world locked down, leaving them scrambling to get home.

RIGHT: During the summer, Leola preschooler Victoria Hostetter, 5, created motivational Facebook posts. She has been keeping busy with school. Here, she's dressed up for Presidents Day.



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