

RETIRED EDUCATORS OF NEW YORK HUDSON-KRAMER MEMORIAL GRANT WINNERS

Once again, the Central Western Zone had the opportunity to chose a recipient for the RENY Hudson-Kramer Memorial Grant. Two science teachers, Mary Coolbaugh and Jonathan Pragle, from Marcus-Whitman High School were the winners of the \$1,000 grant. The check was presented on June 4, 2021, at a yearbook assembly by CWZ Past Co-President Sandy Kushner, who administers the grant for the zone.

The Marcus Whitman Science Department is designing and will build an on campus maple sugaring facility. The grant money will be used to purchase an electric steam finisher and bottler that will allow the syrup to be brought to the appropriate temperature before bottling immediately. Increasing a focus on agricultural literacy, the maple sugaring facility will demonstrate to students that there are alternatives to production agriculture besides dairy and crop production. The facility will provide hands on, technology based lessons giving students real life experience for future college preparation, career and/or sustainable hobby skills. The facility will increase STEM skills as students benefit from the latest technology and engineering in an agriculture business setting. Students from all grade levels will benefit from the maple syrup facility at the school.

The RENY Hudson-Kramer Memorial Grant was established to support and encourage our still active colleagues teaching in New York State public schools. The grant is given to honor the memory of Ross C. Hudson and Florence Coulter Kramer. The grant is awarded every two years by the Central Western Zone.

