



MAKAYLA NEESE smiles as a bubble filled with fog, or water vapor, from dry ice bursts on her head as Emma Wills points to it behind her. The vapor-filled bubble was one of many demonstrations of science from Dr. Angelika Henke, owner of Elementastic Science Entertainment, at Lake Country Academy in Sheboygan. Press photos/Sam Castro

Elementastic shows kids The science of things

By Troy Laack
Sheboygan Press staff

Taylor Bogenschuetz of Elkhart Lake said she was entertained when Dr. Angelika Henke made her classmate's hair and her principal's hair stand up through the use of a 400,000-volt Van de Graaf generator.

"It was fun to see the hair go up," said Bogenschuetz, 13, an eighth-grade student at Lake Country Academy, 4101 Technology Parkway, where Henke, owner of Elementastic Science Entertainment, put on a show Friday.

Principal Carla Koeppe described what the experience was like.

"I didn't feel anything, not even embarrassment," Koeppe said. "You could feel the hair on your arms stand up but you couldn't feel anything on the hair on your head."

Andrew Grose of the Town of Sheboygan liked it when Henke used a leaf blower to make a 10-inch plastic ball hover over students.

"You would never think someone would take out a Black & Decker to blow something in the air," said Grose, 10, a fifth-grader at the school. "It was truly amazing."

Henke moved to Sheboygan from Germany six weeks ago and opened an office at Lake Country Academy where she operates Elementastic.



DR. ANGELIKA HENKE, owner of Elementastic Science Entertainment, blows off the bubbles that formed after she poured laundry detergent into a dry ice/water mixture at Lake Country Academy in Sheboygan.

"What we do is workshops and

birthday parties," Henke said. "We offer free shows for the schools, then the kids can sign up for workshops and they're going to be very hands-on."

Henke, who holds a doctorate in chemistry, lived in Sheboygan in the past and wanted to move back here.

Elementastic Science Entertainment

■ Located at Lake Country Academy, 4101 Technology Parkway, Town of Sheboygan

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"Just for the fun, I like teaching and I just like working with kids," she said. "I want to get more people interested in science."

Some of the Elementastic workshops include volcano eruptions, launching rockets, taking fingerprints, splitting a crayon into its color ingre-

dients, making an egg "swim," the lemon battery and the plasma ball.

"The kids actually do all of this," Henke said. "It's chemistry, it's biology, it's physics, it's technology - it touches everything."

Students in the workshops will meet once a week after school for eight weeks, Henke said. The experiments involve household chemicals and other things found in the home. The cost per child is \$75 for an eight-week workshop.

Among the experiments she did for Lake Country Academy students, Henke made an egg fit into a flask that had a neck smaller than the egg. One way she did that was by pouring hot water in the flask, then dumping the water out and placing the egg on top of the flask so that it slid into the flask. The hot water heated the air inside the flask and putting the egg on top of the opening created vacuum that sucked the egg into the flask.

Koeppe said the school is looking forward to working with Henke.

"I think her energy excites the kids," Koeppe said. "I think what she has to offer with her background is a fantastic enhancement to science."

Henke also will improve the science program at Lake Country Academy, Koeppe said.

"She's got a personality that's adaptable to any age from little ones on up through the adults," Koeppe said.