

Fall 2006

# The Bridge

Luzerne County Community College Alumni Magazine

**Journalism/  
Broadcast  
Communication  
Spotlight**

**LCCC Looks To  
The Future**

**Science  
Cowboy**

**New Art  
Gallery  
Unveiled**

**Checkered  
Flag Alumnus**

**Faculty  
Reflections**





# From the President

BY PATRICIA C. DONOHUE, Ph.D.

Luzerne County Community College has been providing accessible and affordable higher education since 1967. With over 22,000 graduates and over 16,000 students each year, LCCC is proud that over 84% work in our region and contribute to our economy.

But we can't achieve this success alone. We rely on the support of our community to ensure students receive the financial support and finest education available right here in our region, as you received when you attended LCCC.

Things are different now from when you were a student. We are seeing growth and change in the region, and, therefore, we too must grow and change. As our local economy and workforce needs continue to shift, we must alter our academic programming and our current facilities to meet those needs.

The vision for the future of Luzerne County Community College that we have established through our strategic planning process builds upon our strengths and prepares us for a world of profound change. The LCCC Master Plan provides for the best use of our resources to accommodate those needed changes.

For example, as the need for more intensive public safety training increases, LCCC has begun planning for a new Public Safety Training Institute on campus to ensure the safety and protection of our communities.

LCCC is also expanding our health care education to address the nursing shortage in our region, and we are expanding our hospitality programs to meet the growing hotel, restaurant, and tourism needs of our area. These and other expansions included in our Master Plan require facility upgrades and additions on campus.

We have a long way to go to complete LCCC's vision, and we need your help to reach our goal. While the College is supported by local and state funds and tuition and fees, this funding mainly sustains the basic operations of LCCC; it doesn't provide for significant changes in programming and facilities. Therefore, alternative funding is needed for LCCC to continue with our mission of ensuring access and affordability for higher education to all students.

LCCC is beginning our community campaign for sustained growth to seek the additional funding needed. We appreciate the ongoing support of our alumni, and are grateful for the generous donation the LCCC Alumni Association has pledged towards the Public Safety Training Institute. Our alumni are among our strongest and most consistent supporters.

I invite you to join your fellow alumni in contributing to our capital campaign and helping us to continue to make LCCC the best educational experience where all students can succeed.

## Table of Contents

1. *From the President*
2. *The Schulman Gallery*
3. *Master Plan*
5. *Nursing Reunion/  
New Century Scholar*
6. *Chris Spall  
Alumni Spotlight*
7. *Augie Piazza/  
Dental Health Alumni*
8. *Brooke Yeager  
Faculty Focus*
9. *Broadcast Communications  
Highlight*
11. *Alumni Association  
President Message*
12. *Lewis Attardo  
Alumni Spotlight*
13. *Remembering Robert  
Janosov/Professor  
Emeritis is Ordained*
14. *Titans Coach  
Addresses Grads*
16. *Calendar/Alumni Benefits*
16. *Retirees/In Memoriam*
17. *Class Notes*

## Credits

### Contributing Writers

**Robert Bogdon  
Lisa Nelson**

### Contributing Editors

**Sandra A. Nicholas  
Bonnie Lauer '87  
Robert Bogdon**

### Photography

**Mark James '96  
LCCC Archives**



# The New Schulman Gallery Opens This Fall

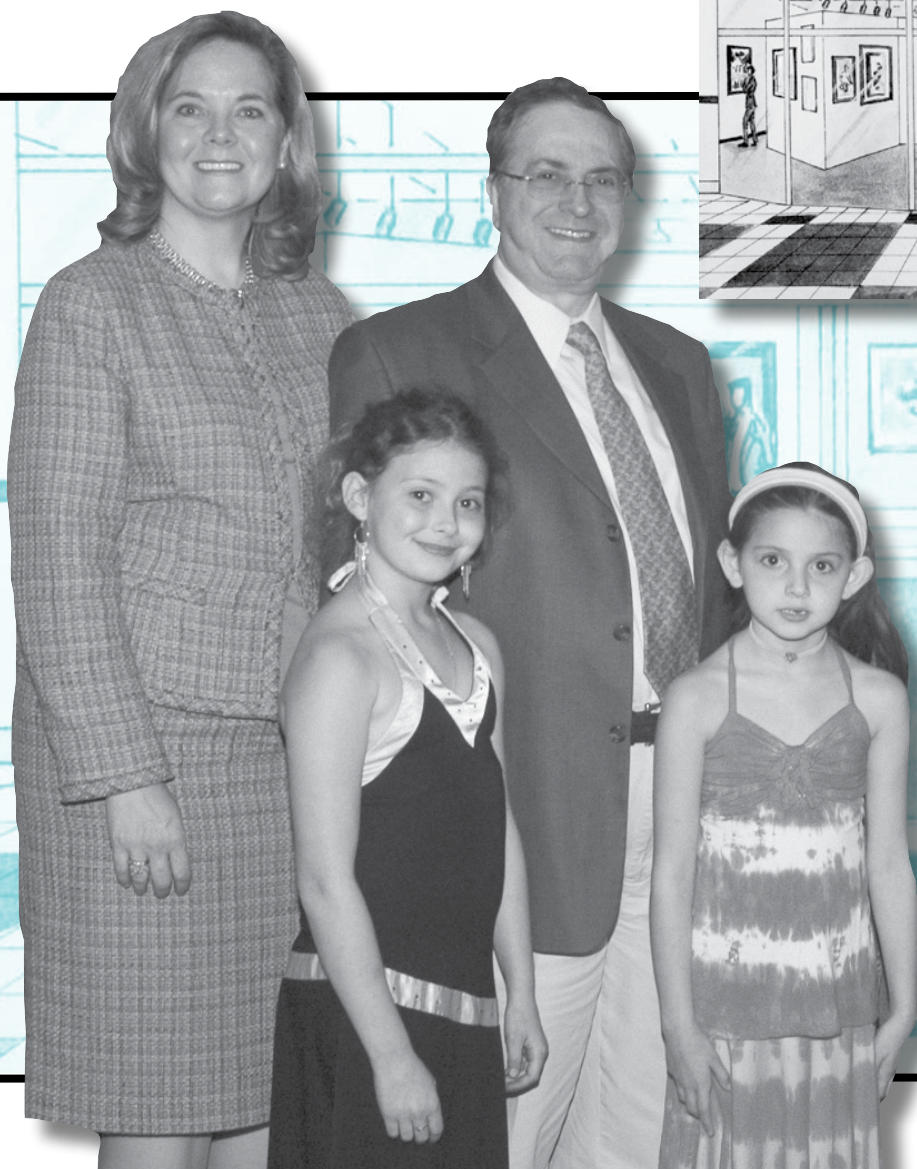
The College recently received a generous donation from Dr. Norman and Mrs. Roxanne Schulman in support of the effort to raise funds to create an art gallery space within the Campus Center. The Schulman's lead gift is the first naming gift for a facility in LCCC's history. As a result of their generosity, all of the College's students as well as members of the community will have the opportunity to learn about art and culture. The location will be convenient because the Campus Center also contains the bookstore, cafeteria, counseling office and fitness center and is the hub of activity for students.

The Schulman Gallery will provide a professional setting to show student art in individual and group shows, as well as serve the community as a venue for faculty and area artists to exhibit their work. In addition, the College

will support various endeavors, such as a visual arts competition and juried shows for local high schools.

Renovations will include a wood floor, new lighting, movable panels and a glass front wall and doors. Construction began this summer and is expected to be completed during the Fall 2006 semester.

Dr. Schulman is the medical director of Radiation Medicine Specialists of NEPA, which is a radiation oncology treatment center for cancer patients. Mrs. Roxanne Schulman is secretary/treasurer of Radiation Medicine Specialists and serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the LCCC Foundation.



*Roxanne Schulman, Norman Schulman, M.D., Rebecca and Sarah Schulman*

# A Look At The Future - LCCC's Master Plan



**Artist's rendition of Public Safety Training Institute and Health Sciences Building**

Increasing contacts from regional hospitals, public safety officials, hospitality companies, and many other businesses and industries have registered the same message: More and better trained workers are needed in northeastern Pennsylvania. "Providing training which supports a well-trained work force and economic growth for the region is a key part of the mission of community colleges," says LCCC President Patricia C. Donohue, Ph.D. "To meet this increased demand and increased enrollment on campus, Luzerne County Community College has begun master planning for the College's and the region's future."

Over the past year, surveys and focus groups with college faculty and staff, community members, and area businesses helped guide the College's strategic plan. The College's architectural consultants, A&E and H2L2, also gathered and analyzed data that served as the foundation for the College's master plan to meet the growing needs of LCCC.

The three main purposes of the master plan are to better serve students; to better contribute to the economic development of the region; and to prepare for the future.

The need for more nurses and well-trained health care professionals plus hands-on technical training for the area's first responders are two of the main areas the new master plan will focus on. Concepts for the master plan have been developed including the creation of two new facilities at LCCC's main campus in Nanticoke.

A new Public Safety Training Institute will be developed. The Public Safety Training Institute will be built on LCCC property across Prospect Street and consist of a burn building, fire fighting props, emergency vehicle driving course, classroom

buildings, a firing range, canine training area, and a helicopter landing pad. The new facility will be able to train up to 4,000 emergency personnel each year and cover a 10-county area.

"This is a great opportunity for the emergency services in our region," says James Wills, President of the Luzerne County Fire & Rescue Association and Kingston firefighter. "We will now have the ability to standardize training using a fixed facility which would provide more realistic training for the first responders in northeastern Pennsylvania."

According to Dr. Donohue, the development of a new Health Sciences Building is key to the plan. "It is clear that the healthcare industry is and will be of growing concern in Pennsylvania and particularly in northeastern Pennsylvania," Dr. Donohue notes. "LCCC must plan its facilities to prepare for the future of this industry. Additionally, the Health Sciences Building is a perfect complement to the Public Safety Training Institute we are planning," Dr. Donohue adds. The proposed building will serve students pursuing associate degrees in nursing, surgical technology, respiratory technology, dental hygiene, dental assisting, emergency medical services, and physical fitness. It will serve as a center for the College's wellness programs.

The new Health Sciences Building will simulate a hospital setting and will allow all health care students to interact together. The new facility also will offer simulator equipment, an expanded working dental clinic, and be able to offer additional educational programs in other health fields.

Dr. Donohue notes that another area of growth for the region is the hospitality industry and therefore, emphasis is on the development of increased Hotel and Restaurant Management



facilities. “With the growing demand in our region for recreational and entertainment venues such as casinos, new restaurants, and spas, hospitality education is a key area for growth for the College,” Dr. Donohue says.

Additional key areas which will be considered as the College develops the facilities for the future include increased and better organized student services space, increased and improved faculty space, and a redesign of instructional space that allows for a more flexible delivery of education (lecture, teams, group projects). Current trends in campus design would include areas for students to gather to study, talk, work on laptops, and other activities.

The College’s Board of Trustees approved the College’s master plan. The master plan will

now be submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for approval and consideration for funding.

The six to eight-year plan has a total cost of just over \$41 million and includes several phases.

“The vision of Luzerne County Community College should build upon its strengths and prepare for a world of profound change that is more global, more diverse, and filled with great technological advances,” Dr. Donohue says, “As LCCC’s enrollment continues to rise and the need for more academic programming also begins to increase, we are quickly outgrowing our current facilities. The master planning process helps us determine the best use of our facilities to meet the needs of our region’s workplace.”



# 30th Anniversary Nursing Reunion Held



The College celebrated the 30th anniversary of the nursing program with an all all-class reunion during the Fall 2005 semester. More than 100 graduates, faculty and health care professional attended the event.

Faculty members Nicholas Frusciante '79 and Mildred Slocum co-chaired the event. During a brief program Dr. Dana Charles Clark highlighted



the history of the program and its accomplishment of graduating over 2,500 nursing professionals.

A class gift program has been initiated to purchase new equipment for the program. All graduates are encouraged to support this program by sending in their contribution to the LCCC Alumni Association, 1333 S Prospect Street, Nanticoke, PA 18634.

## LCCC Grad Named "New Century Scholar"

William A. Katsak, a graduate of Luzerne County Community College, was named a New Century Scholar during the Spring 2006 semester. This program is an extension of the All-USA Academic Team. He received this honor by being the highest scoring student in Pennsylvania in the All-USA Academic Team competition. Katsak was honored at the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) convention in Long Beach, California. As a New Century Scholar, he represented all community college students in Pennsylvania at the AACC opening ceremonies.

Katsak graduated in May 2006 from LCCC with a Computer Science degree and a 4.0 grade point average. While at LCCC he was very active in numerous college and community activities.

Katsak resides in Plains with his parents, William '79 and Kathy Kairo Katsak '83. He was



homeschooled by his parents for his primary and secondary education. Katsak will be continuing his education at Bloomsburg University and major in Computer Science in the Fall 2006 semester.

# Chris Spall - Motorsports Success Story

“When the cars start up, your eyes can’t focus; you can feel the vibration from the engines in your chest. It’s an incredible rush.”

When Chris Spall '02, attended his first motorsports race, he was hooked from the beginning. “I fell in love with the sport,” Spall says. “I am a big fan of drag racing.”

Spall had been working in a road course shop and had never thought he would ever wind up working in the motorsports circuit. But his interest in the sport never left him. Spall learned of a seminar at Luzerne County Community College on drag racing and decided to attend. That’s when Spall first heard about the motorsports program at LCCC. Shortly after, he enrolled in the program.

“I started LCCC as an adult student several years out of high school,” Spall says. “I enjoyed taking the night classes. The quality of the instructors and the attention and time they gave me were the greatest motivation for finishing my degree. They made sure I learned not only the techniques of each aspect of motorcar design, but the theories on how everything works. I still use the techniques that I learned at LCCC.”

Among the faculty Spall remembers fondly are Bob Lauer, Craig Waldner and the late Al Brown. “These guys kept my interest and made learning enjoyable,” Spall reflected. His instructors educated him in the theory of horsepower and all that’s involved in making a race engine that is highly efficient and fast.

Bob Komnath, the director of the Motorsports and Automotive programs at LCCC helped Spall break into the drag racing arena through a job with the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) Northeast division. Komnath hooked Spall up with the Amato Racing Team after the team had contacted the school looking for potential students to hire.

Spall is currently the team leader for Tony Pedregon’s Q Power Nitro Funny Car. Spall began his career with Tony’s team handling maintenance of the super charger, ignition system, and as the team fabricator on the car. Spall has been with Tony’s team for the past three years. This past May, Tony Pedregon and his Q Power Race Team visited the Winner’s Circle with a holeshot win at the Summit Racing Equipment NHRA Southern Nationals at Atlanta Dragway in the NHRA Nitro Funny Car division.

In 2005, the Team finished seventh in points with two wins, they were the number one qualifier three times and they recorded the second-quickest elapsed time in NHRA history at 4.680 seconds in Chicago.

Spall says one of his favorite moments was the team’s first win at Pennsylvania’s Maple Grove Raceway in September of 2005. “Our team had come back from a scary starting line accident at the previous race where a crew member had been injured,” Spall recounts “We beat a team that has won 13 championships to win the race at what would be my home track.”

Spall lives locally in Carbondale with wife, Debbie and daughter, Taylor, age 10.

He spends much of his job traveling across the country with the race team all the way from Seattle, Washington to Gainesville, Florida. The team’s headquarters in based in Indianapolis.

Spall hopes to work his way up to team owner someday. “It’s not a job, it’s a lifestyle,” he states. “The car doesn’t wait for you if you have a cold or aren’t feeling well. Your world revolves around the car. You have a race to prepare for and you are an integral part of the team. The thrill of my job is being on the leading edge of the sport and creating a high performance vehicle. There’s a lot of work and a lot of travel.”

**Chris Spall**  
**Class of 2002**





# LCCC Alumni Named College Trustee

August "Augie" Piazza '69 has been named to the Luzerne County Community College Board of Trustees by the Luzerne County Board of Commissioners. He is a member of LCCC's first graduating class and served as president of the Student Government Association. He continued his education at Mansfield University and earned his master's degree from Wilkes University. He completed his Principal's Certification and Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility from Temple University.

Augie recently retired as the Superintendent of Schools in the Wyoming Valley West School District in June 2006. He is an adjunct professor at Wilkes University's Graduate Department of Education.

In addition to his many community activities, Augie is a member of the Luzerne County Community College Foundation Board and co-chair of the college's "40th Anniversary Committee" to plan events to recognize the

founding of LCCC. He also co-chaired the "Class of 1969" 35th Reunion in April 2004. Piazza lives in Jenkins Township with his wife, Corine. They have two children, Maria and Jeffrey.



# Dental Health Alumni Day Held



***Shown are, from left, first row - Jeanne Farrell, '78 LCCC Faculty; Dr. JoAnn Gurenlian, keynote speaker; Julie Cleary LCCC Faculty; and Bonnie Lauer Second Row: Leesa Clowes '04; Misty Bergstrom '04; Tammy Stauffer-Uhrin '04; Jacqueline Krysick '04; and Carrie Thomas '04.***

The seventh annual dental health alumni day was held on May 12, 2006 and featured keynote speaker, Dr. JoAnn Gurenlian. Dr. Gurenlian discussed the link between systemic disease and oral health care, focusing primarily on Diabetes Mellitus. She is an internationally recognized speaker who addresses topics related to the dental hygiene process of care, oral pathology, oral

medicine, women's health and leadership and professional development.

More than 120 graduates and dental health professionals attended this annual event for a day of education and fellowship. The program was chaired by LCCC faculty member Julie Cleary. The eighth annual event is planned for May 18, 2007.



# These Boots Were Made For Teaching

## Spotlight On Brooke Yeager

Wire rim glasses, dry wit, lab coat, the smell of formaldehyde from a recent experiment and, of course, the cowboy boots. He is an icon of the Science department who has always made an impression on a large majority of the LCCC's students and alumni.

Brooke Yeager was hired in the Fall of 1968, as a Biology professor to a new concept in higher education – a community college. “The idea of a community college was quite a bit different,” Yeager says. “We were the new kid on the block.” Yeager started out at the College’s original Wilkes-Barre building, next to the Hotel Sterling. “It was a different world then,” Brooke Yeager reflected, “the Vietnam War was going on, registration was done using manila cards, there were no computers, copy machines, or voice mail.”

Most of the faculty were quite young in their late 20's and early 30's. “We had five Biology teachers, one Chemistry and one Physics instructor in the Science department.” Yeager says most of the early classes were required to take science courses to finish their degree.

Once LCCC moved to Nanticoke and watched enrollment steadily increase in the early '70's, Yeager and the rest of the faculty started to be reassured that this new concept of higher education was going to be permanent. The Science department grew also with classes, offices, and labs no longer crammed together, but spread throughout several of LCCC's then nine buildings. When the nursing program was added to LCCC's educational degrees, the Science department responded by restructuring many of their courses to emphasize human anatomy.

“Words and concepts like DNA and RNA were just beginning to be recognized and studied in the 60's,” Yeager says. “These were brand new subjects and concepts at the time. Now, I'd be completely surprised if a student never heard of DNA.”

Yeager uses current events and popular TV shows to help students grasp science topics. He says shows like CSI spend most of their episodes utilizing DNA evidence to tie a suspect to scene. “I try to take it to its basic level with the students: what is it about DNA that a forensic scientist can do this.”

“What I think most of my students learn in my Introduction to Biology courses is really how to study,” Yeager says. “The first and most challenging role for me as a teacher in Biology is to get students to learn, observe and appreciate life happening all around them. We know so much about our surroundings and yet still have so much more to learn.”

Many of Yeager's students have found him to be a great mentor. Yeager says he often takes time out to assist students looking for a career path and directions to get there. “LCCC really is a great place to start your education,” Yeager states. “The faculty's number one job here is teaching. We make our students feel welcome.”

Because Yeager has been with the College for so long, a large number of LCCC's graduates have taken at least one course from him. “I really like to keep in touch with our alumni,” he says. “It's great to see what career paths these students have taken and it's great to hear of their successes.”

Yeager says the College's alumni are very faithful and generous to LCCC. As the founder and continued advisor of the Science Club, Yeager is instrumental in encouraging alumni to help support the College's Science department through donations for updated equipment. “The alumni have been very supportive in helping fund microscopes, greenhouse equipment, Chemistry lab equipment, and many other items that the College's budget may not be able to afford.”



# Media Savvy: Spotlight on

Whether it's the thrill of the deadline or the artistry of telling a story in words, video or music, LCCC's Communications Department has always been the brewing ground for some of the most creative artists of media.

The department is currently made up of Broadcast Communications Technology, Journalism Communications, Integrated Entertainment Technology, and Music Recording Technology boasting an average of 125 students per year.

"Much of the personnel involved in local media are LCCC's graduates," says Tom McHugh '72, Chairman of the Broadcast Communications department. "Our graduates have made strong connections with our faculty and are highly prepared to enter the field when they graduate." McHugh also says the department has been successful in acquiring and integrating the latest technology that matches and excels what students will be using in their careers.

The department began in 1976 when then LCCC President Tom Moran introduced the Journalism program. Only five students were enrolled in the program at the time, but soon the Journalism classes and students grew to graduate hundreds of reporters, editors, and writers in the field. The student newspaper, *The Outlook*, became a strong platform for Journalism students plus any LCCC student could contribute a story, publish a poem, write a column or query administration about a question or concern.

Broadcast Journalism Communications was shortly added to the curriculum 10 years later in 1985. John Monick oversaw the broadcast area at the beginning. Faculty in the two programs consisted of Monick, Kathy Bozinski, Ron Reino, and Gayle Slezak. The original studios were in a small room off the old library building on the Nanticoke campus where students could practice their craft by producing programs for air on

the campus closed circuit network.

Not long after, the current home of the department, the Advanced Technology Center (ATC) was built in 1990. The new building offered permanent facilities for WSFX, LCCC's student run radio station and a full-scale television station which became Luzerne TV. In addition, then state-of-the-art video editing suites were added, allowing students to compile various pieces of video and music into commercials, public service announcements and documentaries. The department also established its first Mac lab, allowing the department to enter the age of animation.

Faculty member Ed Ackerman, long-time editor of the *Pittston Sunday Dispatch*, joined LCCC in 1991 to strengthen the Journalism department. Ed brought the professional experience necessary to teach the students what it really takes to succeed in a newspaper career. He acted as faculty advisor for *The Outlook*, spending countless hours with students in composition and paste-up of the paper.

As the years progressed, and enrollment grew, some faculty members were added while others decided to pursue other ventures. Long time faculty member John Monick accepted a position as Director of Technology for Southern Columbia School District in Bloomsburg. Kathy Bozinski decided to put her energies into her broadcast career and began working full time as reporter and on-air anchor for WBRE-TV, Channel 28. Kathy, as many may know, is now the Public Information Officer for Luzerne County.

It was during that transition in 1998 that two new faculty members came on board. Andy Petonak was hired as a Journalism instructor, bringing with him a wealth of experience in journalism, newspaper reporting and public relations. Also, Tom McHugh, former



# Broadcast Communications

Vice President of WVIA-TV/FM was brought on board to teach broadcasting. Tom's 23 year career in radio, TV and music recording seemed like a perfect fit for LCCC.

Ron Reino stayed at LCCC as Broadcast faculty and has been for many years, the full-time advisor of WSFX, the student-run College radio station on campus. He says many of LCCC's students stay local and find rewarding careers in the media. "We have students at WBRE, Entercom, Citadel, Route 81, and many others," Reino says. "They build a strong portfolio of their work here."

Reino says the radio station has changed dramatically with the emerging technology. "We switched to digital in the early 90's making production much easier and fun." Reino says WSFX is most remembered for its annual Holiday Comedy show featuring comedy work written and produced by students.

The department was also toying with the idea of beginning a new major in the program – Music Recording Technology. The program started first as a diploma program in 2001. Because of its success – classes filled almost immediately – the program was expanded to an Associates Degree in 2004. This program is designed as a career move for a student to enter or advance in the fields of multi-track music recording and live sound reinforcement as an audio engineer, recording technician, or a house sound and monitor mixer for concert producers, music recording studios and music performers.

"Garage bands are enrolling in the new Music Recording program to record tracks with our mixers and latest digital technology in field," McHugh says. "They are creating high quality CDs to eventually showcase their music. The program is now the largest in the department with over 50 incoming

freshmen this fall," McHugh added.

Ed Kuehner, faculty instructor from the Mobile Electronics program developed the department's newest addition, Integrated Entertainment Technology in 2005, offering both a Certificate and Associates degree. Known by many as Smart House Technology, the Integrated Entertainment Technology curriculum educates students in the theory and skills to integrate whole-system audio, video entertainment and automation and security systems into today's modern home and business.

McHugh says technology is becoming integrated within all media fields and students need to be cross-trained to be flexible and knowledgeable in their careers. "The digital skill-sets learned by our students blend very well with each other," says McHugh. "The digital video and audio editing that a student learns can be utilized in radio, TV, music, websites, film, you name it! Our focus is integrating all programs within the Broadcast Communication department," McHugh says. "Many of our students take classes throughout each curriculum and we are also interfacing with the Art department pretty heavily." Courses in broadcast copywriting and advertising are offered through the Broadcast department to students majoring in Advertising in the Art department. In fact, Advertising majors must take Intro to Public Relations and three other courses in the department to finish their degree work.

The Communications department is continuously evolving as technology advances and social and cultural trends take this field into new avenues. LCCC is the only college in the area that can adapt and change and continue to provide our students with the best and most advanced education available for this field.





# A Message From The President Of The Alumni Association

A warm and enthusiastic hello to all of our LCCC Alumni and welcome to the more than 700 graduates who received their degree in May 2006!

It's been a very exciting year on campus with new developments and campus improvements. The College has several new degree programs such as Kitchen and Bath Design, Integrated Entertainment Technology, Nuclear Engineering Technology and Web Development Technology.

We also have several new clubs and activities on campus including four Honors Societies and the only NAACP chapter in our area. We are preparing to celebrate the college's 40th Anniversary during 2007-2008. Watch for the next issue of The Bridge for more information.

During the Spring semester our busy members of the Alumni Association held our annual Phonathon and we sincerely thank all of you who pledged to support your alma mater. This year we awarded more than 20 scholarships to very deserving and appreciative students. In addition we purchased new equipment for several departments including the dental, nursing, and respiratory programs. By the way, it's not too late to send in your donation for the 2006 Phonathon – please do so today!

On Saturday, May 6, 2006, we hosted our eighth annual Flea Market and Collectible show. It was our most successful to date with more than 70 vendors selling crafts, flea market items, collectibles and food. In addition we also had Dr. Lori, a certified Art and Antique Appraiser, from Bucks County, who, for a nominal fee, can evaluate your "treasures" to determine if they have any monetary value. She does a fascinating program every year. Mark your calendar today to attend next year on Saturday, May 5, 2007!

Our 17th Annual Craft Festival will be on Saturday, October 21, 2006. You all know how beautiful Pennsylvania is in the fall and this is a peak fall foliage weekend. During this event you will be able to experience the talent of over 125 incredible crafters selling a variety of hand crafted

items from jewelry to pottery to photography. Please stop by!

We are very excited about the new growth which will be taking place on our main campus in the next few years. The College will be embarking on a multi-year capital campaign to build a Public Safety Training Institute and a Health Services Building to consolidate our health related educational programs. The members of the Alumni Association are very proud to be a part of this project and have made a pledge of \$150,000 to support the Campaign.

My warmest thanks to all for all your help. Stay in touch!

Lisa Owens '97



# Lewis Attardo: Reflections Of My LCCC Teachers

After receiving my A.S. Degree, LCCC Class of 1970, I continued both my formal education and lifelong learning at several other academic institutions. I give a lot of credit for my professional success to some of the great faculty at LCCC who prepared me to become a better “learner.” Over the years, I have told people that one of the most valuable assets I took away from my LCCC experience was an enhanced ability to learn. The faculty there took the time to help me with my confidence, which in turn made me a much better student.

Many of us from Wyoming Valley had wonderful parents who inspired and encouraged us to do our best, taught us about work ethic and the value of family. But when we arrived at LCCC, the faculty were people who attempted to enlighten us. I learned a deep appreciation for other cultures, their societies, religions and their histories. Because of inspiration sparked by Professor Robert Janasov, who taught us Russian history, I took history for most of my electives until I received my B.A. degree. Remember, we were still in the Cold War, and most of us were children of WW II veterans, so most of us were not raised to have a favorable opinion when it came to “the Russians.” I later went on to work with senior level government and industry officials in Russia, Yugoslavia, the Ukraine, the Georgian Republic and other former Soviet states on strategies for the privatization of former state-owned industries.

And then you have to love Brooke Yeager, for fascinating us with biology and science. Some of us were fortunate enough to absorb some of his passion for what we do today. In my case, for over 20 years, I have been assisting entrepreneurs in the US, Europe and New Zealand, engaged in biotechnology and life science to commercialize their research. I believe entrepreneurs are the only others who may be as passionate about what they do as Brooke was about teaching biology.

Then, there was Paul Bankovich. Even though I struggled through three years of high school algebra, I never got it until I had him as

an instructor, thanks to Paul’s unique teaching methods and patience with students. I have never had a better teacher. Sorry Paul, I still don’t like algebra, but I have helped my children get through it.

Then there was my Public Speaking professor, who I can picture, but I am a bit embarrassed to admit that I can’t remember his name (age does these things!) I was never much for getting up in front of people, and then I took his summer session class. He taught us that “You are the content expert when you are up there; it is your material so be confident.” I have been a speaker at easily over 400 business, professional and academic conferences and events convened across the US and in Europe, some of which had over 1,000 participants in attendance. I have lectured or taught courses at universities and testified before governments across the world. I currently serve as an instructor or conference presenter at least 20 times a year somewhere in the US, Europe or New Zealand. I guess I must have gotten over my fear of public speaking.



**Lewis C. Attardo '70**  
**Statewide Program Manager, Business Technology Commercialization, State Director's Office-Florida Small Business Development Center Network, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL**  
**Independent consultant, specializing in the development of knowledge-based economies**

# Remembering Robert Janosov

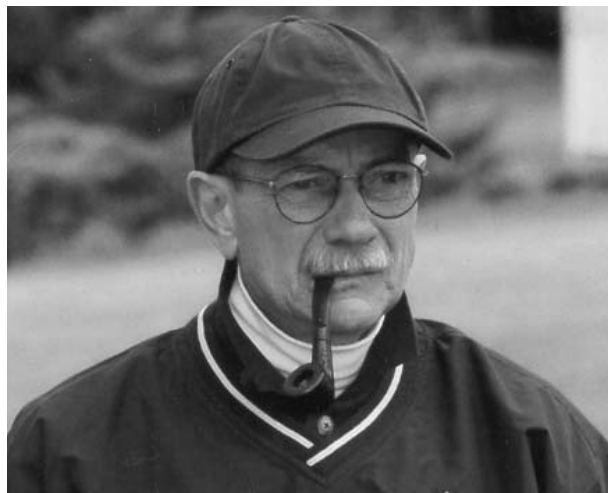
Robert A. Janosov passed away on October 26, 2005 after a lengthy battle with lung cancer. Professor Janosov was a prominent member of the faculty of Luzerne County Community College for 35 years and the recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Award and the Allan Allan Faculty Excellence Scholarship Award.

A true historian, Mr. Janosov taught, researched and published the heritage of Northeastern Pennsylvania's anthracite region. He served as a historical consultant for the U.S. Department of the Interior, the National Park Service, the Pennsylvania Bureau of Historical Preservation and the preservation of the Huber Breaker in Ashley. He was the author of *Cold and Gold from the Pocono's: A History of the Stegmaier Brewery, Wilkes-Barre PA* published in 1977.

He was appointed by Governor Edward J. Rendell as a commissioner of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commissioner in 2003 and reappointed in 2004 as board member of the Pennsylvania Bureau for Historical Preservation.

He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Teddi, and dogs Quincy, Gabby, and Sprite Man.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Janosov Scholarship c/o the Luzerne County Community College Foundation.



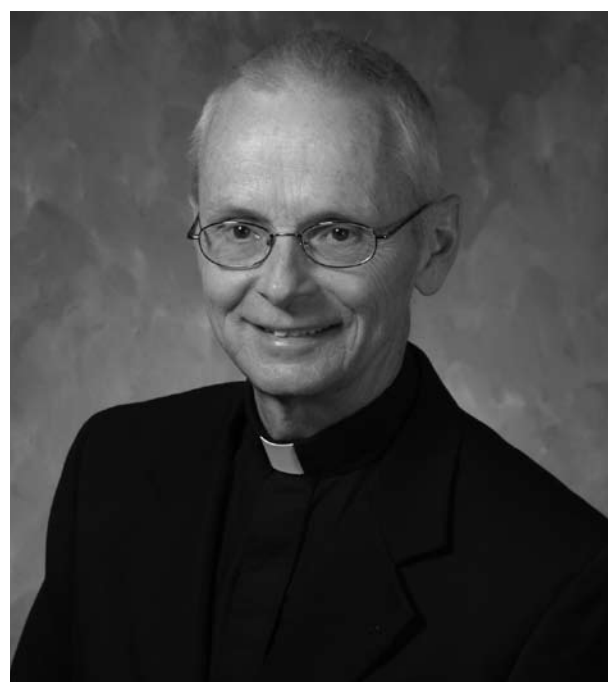
*Robert A. Janosov, emeritus professor of history and education*

# Former English Professor Is Ordained

The Rev. Robert J. Kelleher was ordained as a Catholic Priest for service in the Diocese of Scranton on June 24, 2006.

Rev. Kelleher is a professor emeritus of Luzerne County Community College having served as a faculty member of LCCC for 33 years before retiring in 2001. He was married for 27 years before his wife Eileen passed away from cancer in 1998. They had three children and now three grandchildren.

As a seminarian, Kelleher recently completed his theological studies for the priesthood at Blessed John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, MA, where he earned his Master of Divinity degree. Rev. Kelleher has been assigned as the associate pastor of St. Ignatius, Kingston.





# “Titans” Coach Addresses Grads

Motivational speaker and retired football coach Bill Yoast addressed the over 700 graduates at Luzerne County Community College’s 38th annual Commencement ceremony.

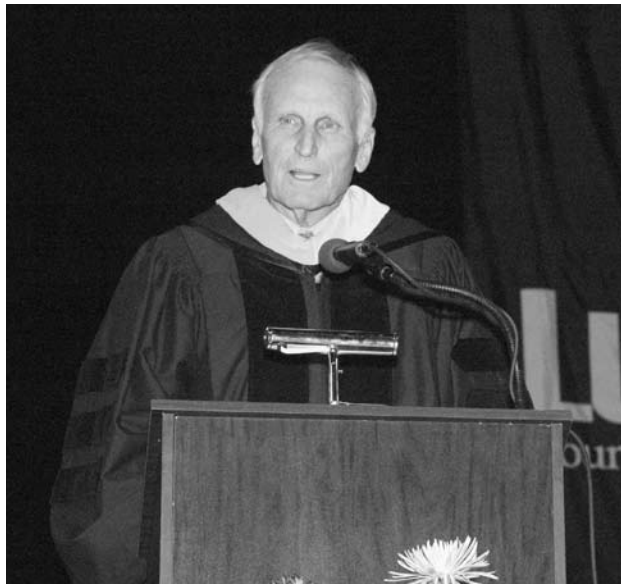
Yoast spoke of his experiences as a football coach at the T.C. Williams High School that later became the inspiration for the Disney movie, “Remember the Titans.” Yoast told the grads that whatever success he experienced in life was due to good decisions and those came through experience, but experience came only by making bad decisions.

With early aspirations to become a minister, Yoast later turned to coaching and athletics. He began teaching and coaching football, basketball, baseball, and track in Sparta, Georgia. After four years, he moved to Roswell where he taught and coached football and track for seven years. He then found himself in Alexandria, Virginia where he spent the next 30 years of his career. Yoast’s many teams in football, baseball and track won various championship seasons and he was named Coach of the Year in both Georgia and Virginia. His message to the students he coached and worked with was one of trust, respect, kindness, integrity and loyalty.

Along with Herman Boone, Bill Yoast helped transform the T. C. Williams High Titans into a model team and model school. During their 1971

season, the team was ranked second in national polls and went on to win their state finals which was portrayed in the Titan film. That journey also has been chronicled in Yoast’s critically-acclaimed biography, Remember This Titan.

The father of four daughters and grandfather of seven, Yoast is now retired. Yoast has delivered his messages on leadership, team building, change, and diversity across North America.



## Ideas For Your Life Insurance Policy

***Donate pennies for dollars...today  
Provide a scholarship for a student...tomorrow  
Leave a legacy of giving...forever***

**A 30 year old can provide a \$25,000 scholarship for only \$34.67/month**

**A 40 year old can provide a \$25,000 scholarship for only \$53.00/month**

**A 50 year old can provide a \$25,000 scholarship for only \$96.00/month**

Through a small monthly contribution you can provide for both your loved ones and your alma mater. Your contribution is tax free.

For more information, please contact Bonnie Lauer,  
Director of Alumni Relations at (570)740-0734.

# Three Faculty Members Receive National Award

The National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) recently recognized three LCCC faculty members as "Outstanding Faculty". Ed Ackerman, Journalism, Dr. Janis Wilson Seely, History / Social Science, and Brooke Yeager, Biology, were nominated by their fellow faculty for this prestigious award.

## Alumni Calendar

September 19, 2006

Alumni Association Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Alumni Room, Campus Center

October 21, 2006

17th Annual Craft Festival, 10:00- 4:00 pm  
7th Annual Droptoberfest, custom car and truck show

Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) SOLO II Autocross Competition

November 14, 2006:

Alumni Association Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Alumni Room, Campus Center

January 29, 2007

Alumni v. Student basketball game

January 29, 2007

Alumni Association Meeting, Alumni Room, Campus Center following game

March 13, 2007

Alumni Association Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Alumni Room, Campus Center

March 19-29, 2007

Alumni Association Phonathon, Campus Center

May 5, 2007

9th Annual Alumni Flea Market & Collectible Show, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Educational Conference Parking Lot

May 5, 2007

Dr Lori, Fine Antiques & Art Appraiser, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Educational Conference Center, Large Auditorium

May 14, 2007

Alumni Association Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Alumni Room, Campus Center

May 18, 2007

Dental Health Alumni Day, ECC

Please call (570)740-0735 or check out [www.luzerne.edu/alumni](http://www.luzerne.edu/alumni) for more information on any of these events. All events are open to the public – please join us!

## Alumni Benefits

**Many discounts and services are available to LCCC Alumni including:**

The Continuing Education Department of LCCC offers a 15% discount on credit-free personal enrichment programs;

20% discount at the bookstore (some exclusions apply, i.e. textbooks)

Career services including resume enhancement and job announcements; Check out <http://depts.luzerne.edu/career> for more information.

Use of the college library and computer terminals

Membership in the Cross Valley Federal Credit Union ([www.crossvalleyfcu.org](http://www.crossvalleyfcu.org));

Many of these services require an alumni ID card. To obtain yours please contact the alumni office at (570) 740-0735 or email: [alumni@luzerne.edu](mailto:alumni@luzerne.edu). For more information on the Alumni Association, check out: [www.luzerne.edu/alumni](http://www.luzerne.edu/alumni)

# RETIREES

The following are members of the faculty, administration, and staff who have retired in the past year after many years of service to the College and its students. We wish them well in their future endeavors.

**Ann Anderika**

Learning Support Specialist

**Marilyn Atherholt**

Learning Support Assistant

**George Barkasy**

Service Technician, Print Shop

**Karen Drury '87 +**

Secretary, Financial Aid

**Francis Hanify**

Faculty, English

**Jeanette Jabers**

Reading Specialist

**Robert MacNeal**

Faculty, Hotel & Restaurant Management

**Sherry Safka**

Secretary, Physical Plant

**Sylvia Swalla**

Custodian

+ deceased

# Your *Gift* is Important

Heartfelt thanks go out to our alumni, friends and community businesses, faculty and staff who have made gifts to LCCC. Thanks to your philanthropy, LCCC continues to make life better for current students by providing scholarships, financial aid, library books, technology and other necessities. Nothing touches the lives of LCCC students as much as the Annual Fund.

## Benefits to You

Charitable gifts are generally exempt from taxation for those who itemize deductions on their tax returns. The higher your tax rate, the more you can save when you make a donation to the College.

Gifts of appreciated property (stocks, bonds or mutual funds), held for longer than one year, allow you to bypass capital gains tax normally due when you sell the assets and provide you a charitable income tax deduction that reduces the cost of your gift.

Matching gifts allow you to double, or possibly triple your gift at no additional cost to you, and are credited in full toward leadership gift club membership. Contact your human resource office to see if you work for a matching gift company.

Alumni participation is also one of the criteria used to leverage gifts from private and public foundations as well as corporations. Any gift of any size publicly demonstrates your pride and helps the College continue its tradition of excellence.

## How You Can Help

Several gift options are available to you for making a financial contribution to LCCC. They include: a pledge, an outright contribution by cash, check or charge (Mastercard, Visa or Discover), securities (stocks, bonds or mutual funds) and a planned gift (bequest and charitable trust arrangement) through the Heritage Society.

# IN MEMORIAM

Sincere condolences are extended to the family and friends of the following alumni and faculty who have passed away since the last publication of "The Bridge" in August 2005.

**David Blake '76** (General Studies)

**Harold "Jack" Cole** (Retired Faculty)

**Janet Davis '72** (Medical Office Assistant)

**Karen B. Drury '87** (Criminal Justice)

**Edward Garrity** (Academic Counselor)

**Betty Gitkos '78** (Nursing)

**John F. Glofka '80** (Electrical Electronics Technology)

**James Groblewski '81** (General Studies)

**Joseph Gurka '71** (General Studies)

**Jerome Hanas '74** (Electrical Electronics Technology)

**Gertrude Hines '92** (Social Science)

**Robert A. Janosov** (Retired Faculty)

**Stanley Kaskey Jr. '78** (Criminal Justice)  
**Donna J. Kioske '78** (Office Management Technology)

**Lora L. Leach '04** (Office Management Technology)

**Stanley Norkitis '75** (Hotel & Restaurant Management)

**Gerard O'Connor '80** (Academic Counselor)

**Louise Pasternak '86** (Education)

**Lorraine Konopczyk Pekol '82** (Nursing)

**Joseph Preat '77** (General Studies)

**Joan Rogers '85** (Nursing)

**Lynette Rosencrans '92** (Electrical Electronics Technology)

**George Scoble '83** Fire Science Technology

**Michael Selecky '80 & '99** (Commercial Art / Electronics Engineering Technology)

**Debra Snyder '95** (Legal Office Technology)

**Daniel Swire '82** (Commercial Art - Graphic Design)

**Joseph A. Tarreto '96** (Nursing)

**Michael Turco** (College Trustee)

**Linda Uranowski '81** (Nursing)

**Annette Wiernusz '80** (Computer Science)

**Kathy Zaleta '80** (Nursing)



## Class of 1970

Charlene Bellas Berti (Office Management Technology) is the director of the West Pittston Library. Charlene continued her education at College Misericordia and received her master's degree in library and information science degree from Drexel University. She and her husband Louis have two children, Luisa and Luke.

## Class of 1973

David Bartosiewicz (General Studies) is a fourth grade teacher for the Pocono Mountain School District, Swiftwater. David has taught at the district for more than 31 years.

## Class of 1976

Maureen Dillon (Health, Physical Education & Movement Science) was recently included in The Citizens' Voice top 100 athletes of all time in Luzerne County. Under the direction of coach Ruby Carmon, Dillon helped to lead the women's basketball team to consecutive national championship tournaments (NJCAA) conducted in Indiana (1975) and Texas (1976). Dillon led the team in scoring both years. She went on to play at Slippery Rock University and was also a standout softball player locally on several women's teams.

## Class of 1977

Valerie Lokuta (Office Management Technology) was recently named the assistant to the vice president at the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce. She was previously employed at Pride Mobility Products, Exeter.

## Class of 1978

Martin A. Stronko (General Studies) recently earned his bachelor's degree in business administration with a minor in management from College Misericordia, Dallas. Martin also earned an associate's degree at LCCC in automotive technology in 1981. He is employed by Polyglass USA Inc. He and his wife, Mary Lynn, live in Hazleton and have a son, Marty Brian, a student at LCCC.

## Class of 1979

Michael Thomas (Architectural Engineering Technology) will have an exhibit of his artwork throughout the month of September at the MacDonald Art Gallery in Dallas. The exhibit is called "Ten Series In Partial View" and will feature Thomas' photography and architectural designs.

## Class of 1980

Jacqueline Arlotto (Medical Office Assistant) is a receptionist/scheduler for Hazleton Radiology Associates. She has three children, Blaise, Adam and Danton.

## Class of 1984

Tina Dunstan Vaughan (General Studies) and her husband Gerald are proud to announce the birth of a son, Coleman Dunstan Vaughn. He joins big brothers Clifton and Colin. Tina is currently employed by the North Carolina Department of Transportation as a computer aided drafting design administrator. She is continuing her education at North Carolina State University pursuing her master's degree in geographic information systems. The Vaughan family resides in Angier, NC.

Lee Golanski, AIA (Architectural Engineering Technology) was recently promoted to assistant vice president for Toll Brothers, a Philadelphia area Fortune 500 company. He also holds a bachelor of architecture degree from Temple University. In addition, he serves on the board of directors of Toll Architecture Inc. a 250-person architectural and engineering subsidiary of Toll Brothers.

## Class of 1989

Michael Cawley (General Studies) was recently inducted into Marquis Who's Who in America 2005, 59th Edition. He received both a bachelor's degree and doctor of pharmacy degree from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. Dr. Cawley is an associate professor of clinical pharmacy at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia and critical care clinical pharmacist at Crozer Chester Medical Center, Upland. He and his wife, Angela, have a daughter and live in Royersford.

Tom Obrzut Jr. (Business Administration) is owner and publisher of "Pulse Weekly" in Allentown. The four year old arts and

entertainment newspaper is distributed weekly to a 75,000 readership and covers music and upcoming events in the Lehigh Valley.

## Class of 1990

Andrew Serniak (Architectural Engineering Technology) was recently promoted to production supervisor for MarChem Northeast, Inc., Hazleton. Prior to his promotion he was specialist in batchmaking for two years and prior to that he worked for Techneglas Inc., Pittston. Andy resides in Plains.

## Class of 1992

Lisa Milo Miller (Office Management Technology) continued her education at King's College earning an accounting degree in 1994. She and her husband, Jeffrey, have two children, Joseph, 3, and Grace, 10 months, and reside in Black River, NY.

Dave Peregrin (Broadcast Communications) is a professional detailer for Kelly Volkswagen and owner of Ricochet's Rapid Detail. He began work at Kelly Volkswagen in 1998 and enjoyed it so much that he opened his own detailing business. Dave was recently featured in the business profile section of The Sunday Times. Dave and his wife, Lucia Maria, live in South Scranton.

## Class of 1993

Cheryl Bell Oster (Nursing) recently earned her master of science in nursing degree from College Misericordia. While studying for her degree she was a Sigma Theta Tau member and Kappa Gamma Pi National Catholic College Graduate Honor Society member. Cheryl is currently employed as the quality improvement coordinator of Diversified Nursing in Kingston. She and her husband, Mark, have a daughter Alexandra and live in Dallas.

Luann (Platt-Tressler) Koller (Dental Hygiene) is a dental hygienist for a cosmetic dental practice in Rancho Santa Margarita, CA. She and her husband, Jeffrey, are the parents of a daughter, Mia and live in Mission Viejo, CA.

Gina Tagnani Schwartz (Journalism) is an assistant professor, speech communication at Luzerne County Community College. Gina earned her bachelors degree at Wilkes University and a master's degree from Bloomsburg University. She and her husband, Brian Schwartz '94 (Architectural Engineering/General Studies), live in Hunlock Creek with their three children, Zachary, Peyton, and Samantha.

Frank M. Sorokach (Education) earned his MBA from Wilkes University in the summer of 2005. He previously earned his bachelors degree in business administration from College Misericordia. Frank is a business analyst for Keystone Automotive Operations, Inc., as well as an adjunct faculty member at LCCC. He and his wife, Jennifer, have three children, Jessica, Allison and Alexander.

## Class of 1995

Ed Hennigan (Business Management) is pursuing his bachelor's degree through College Misericordia's Expressway Program. He is an admissions representative for LCCC. In addition he and his wife, Janine (Blackwell) Hennigan '97 are the owners of "R Kids 2 Yours" consignment shop in Wyoming.

Natalie Learn Staron (Business Administration) and Rick Staron '97 (Social Science) will celebrate their first wedding anniversary on September 17, 2006. Natalie is the financial/contract associate at LCCC and Rick is employed in the marketing department at Pride Mobility in Exeter. Natalie continued her education through the College Misericordia Expressway Program and earned a bachelors degree in business administration. The couple resides in Kingston.

## Class of 1996

Christopher C. Martin (General Studies) married Kara Jones in May 2005. Chris continued his education at King's College earning a bachelors degree in business administration. He is a senior account executive for ITS Mailing Systems in Pittston.

Joanne Opachinski Katarsky (Dental Hygiene) exchanged wedding vows with Robert J. Katarsky in June 2005. She continued her education at Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA, and is a dental hygienist at Berwick Dental Arts. Mr. & Mrs. Katarsky reside in Drums.

Bette Cox Saxton (Business Administration) has been appointed executive director / CEO of Maternal and Family Health Services Inc., Wilkes-Barre. She also earned a bachelors degree in business administration from the State University of New York and a master's degree in health care administration from Seton Hall University, NJ.

**Class of 1999**

Richard A. Singer Jr. (Social Science) is a practicing psychotherapist living in the Cayman Islands. He holds a masters degree in clinical psychology. Richard's daily inspirations have been included as a part of Chicken Soup For The Recovering Soul, and is receiving favorable reviews for his new books Daily Walk With The Great Minds Of The Past And Present. The book is for sale on a number of reputed internet stores including www.amazon.com, www.borders.com, and www.bn.com. He also operates his own website, www.yourdailywalk.org.

Richard E. Swawola (Criminal Justice) recently graduated from the New York State Police Academy, Albany, NY.

**Class of 2000**

Cynthia Lockuff (Dental Assisting) is currently employed as a dental assistant at the Federal Correctional Institute Gilmer in Glenville, WV, treating inmates. She and her husband, Edward, have three children and live in Sand Fork, WV.

Leah Trocki Waichulis (Commercial Art – Painting Illustration), Anthony Waichulis (LCCC Faculty), Helen Crispino '03 (Commercial Art – Painting Illustration), Joel C. Jones '96 (Commercial Art – Painting Illustration), Jay Davenport and Adam Vinson recently had an art exhibit at the John Pence Gallery in San Francisco, CA. The show was entitled Anthony Waichulis and His Paint Partners and ran throughout March 2006. For more information on future shows check out www.thewaichulisstudio.net.

**Class of 2002**

Eric Kempton (Motorsports Technology) recently graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte earning a bachelors degree in mechanical / motorsports engineering. While at UNC Charlotte he was a crew member of the Legend's racing team and was the lead body designer for their Formula SAE team. He also was a winning crew chief for Dragon Motorsports Late Model Racing Team at Hickory Motor Speedway. Eric will be joining Alcon Industries as a NASCAR

customer support engineer where he will customize brakes for all the drivers of Hendrick, Evernham, Yates, and Penske NASCAR racing teams.

Donald G. Pascavage (Criminal Justice) graduated from the Army Basic Non Commissioned Officer Course Phase 2 on August 13, 2005. He currently works for the Department of Public Welfare as a youth development aide helping troubled youth. He and his wife, Mary Kitchen Pascavage '02 live in Catawissa, PA.

Melissa Peranich-Stabinski (Nursing) recently graduated from Penn State University with a bachelor of science in nursing degree. She works for VNA Hospice of Lackawanna County. Melissa and her husband, Matthew, have identical twin boys born in April, 2005.

**Class of 2004**

Leshawn Hammet (General Studies) an outstanding player for the LCCC men's basketball team, the Trailblazers, was voted by CBS Sportsline (the magazine) as Preseason Newcomer of the Year for the Northeast Conference. He is continuing his education at St. Francis of Pennsylvania.

Natalie Hoffner Jones (Commercial Art –Computer Graphics) wed Michael C. Jones in October 2005. Natalie is an illustrator of children's books and an assistant manager at Christopher & Banks. Mr. & Mrs. Jones reside in Wilkes-Barre.

**Class of 2005**

Rebecca Bria (Journalism) was recently appointed as the co-chairperson of Zebra Communications, the student-run public relations agency at Wilkes University. She is a member of Alpha Chi, Lambda Pi Eta and the Communications Honorary Society and is the current Thomas Moran Communications Scholar. Rebecca is a senior at Wilkes and is majoring in journalism and organizational / public relations.

*It's all about... what's*  
**NEW** *with* **YOU**

The Bridge is our way of keeping you up-to-date. This is your way to keep us up-to-date. Let us know about changes in your career, family or place of residence. (attach additional sheet if necessary.) We may publish your news in an upcoming issue. Thank you!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Yr. of graduation/program \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(day) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(evening) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Spouses Name \_\_\_\_\_

Names, birth years of children \_\_\_\_\_

Post LCCC education \_\_\_\_\_

Program & completion date \_\_\_\_\_

Name & address of employer \_\_\_\_\_

Present Position and job responsibilities \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Recent accomplishments/ points of interest \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Return completed form to: Luzerne County Community College Alumni Office,  
1333 S. Prospect St., Nanticoke, Pa 18634. Or email your information to: [alumni@luzerne.edu](mailto:alumni@luzerne.edu)



*WFSX, The Early Years. Listen to WFSX at 89.1 FM or 105.7 FM*



*LCCC will soon be celebrating its 40th Anniversary! Please visit our Alumni Guestbook online at [www.luzerne.edu/alumni/](http://www.luzerne.edu/alumni/) and add your memories of LCCC to our guestbook! Watch for a special anniversary edition Bridge soon!*

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 35  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa

*Office of Alumni Relations  
1333 S. Prospect Street  
Nanticoke, Pa 18634-3899*

*Address Service Requested*

