

Summer 2010

The Bridge

Luzerne County Community College

Alumni & Friends



**LCCC
receives its
largest gift**



Walk of Honor project underway

For most of us, a typical workday doesn't include running into a burning building, assisting a person who has just been in a car accident or being the first to arrive at the scene of a shooting. But, for firefighters, emergency medical technicians and police officers, these types of occurrences are just another day at the office. In Northeastern Pennsylvania, many of our first responders are volunteers. These brave men and women often risk their lives to save ours and give selflessly when people are in need, never stopping to think of themselves.

Phyllis Carlo knows of this kind of selfless dedication. On September 11, 2001, her son Michael, a firefighter with FDNY, lost his life as he tried to save those trapped inside the World Trade Center. With his sacrifice in mind, Mrs. Carlo created the Firefighter Michael Carlo Memorial Fund through State Representative John Yudichak's Lighthouse Foundation. Her intense interest in first responder training was a driving force behind the creation of Public Safety Training Institute at LCCC. She also wanted to make sure that these first responders were recognized for their commitment to public service.

In order to honor those first responders, the Alumni Association, Public Safety Training Institute, and the LCCC Foundation have come together to create the Walk of Honor. This project will bring recognition and serve as a lasting tribute to those brave men and women. The site of the Walk of Honor will be a gathering place to honor graduates and will also serve as the site for outdoor ceremonies and tributes, such as the College's annual 9/11 memorial event.

The Walk of Honor is also a fine way to pay tribute to anyone who has been a positive force in your life. Since the Alumni Association has launched the Buy-A-Brick Fundraiser, we have received many requests to honor the memory of a loved one, to recognize a graduate or to thank favorite faculty members. Area businesses and industries, fire departments, ambulance companies, police departments and their families and friends, and LCCC Alumni can use this opportunity as a way to honor those who have meant so much to them. Bricks start at \$100 and come in three sizes. For more information, visit the Alumni Association website at www.luzerne.edu/alumni and click on the walk of honor link on the right or contact:

Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, Director, Alumni Relations
(800) 377-5222 ext. 734 or blauer@luzerne.edu

Table of Contents

1. Walk of Honor Project
2. All-PA Academic Team
2. New tech Lab for Shamokin Center
3. LCCC's Largest Gift
5. Gertrude Hawk names Chocolate Room
6. Alumni Profile - Chris White
7. Faculty Pens Book on Dan Flood
9. Alumni Profile - Anita Masaitis
11. Class Notes
13. Alumni News
15. Alumni visits
17. Commencement 2010

Credits

Contributing writers & editors

Robert Bogdon
Bonnie Lauer '87
Lisa Nelson
Melissa Taney '03
Sandra A. Nicholas
Kathy Goeringer
Luciana Herman '00
William Ronayne '11

Photography

Mark James '96
LCCC Archives

Layout and Design

Robert Bogdon

Cover Photo:

Joseph A. Paglianite and Armand Mascioli from Grotto Pizza stand in front of the construction of the Joseph A. Paglianite Culinary Institute. Paglianite provided LCCC its largest gift in the College's history.



LCCC students make 2010 All-PA Academic Team

Kaitlin Luczak, of Scranton, and Marc Incitti, of Nanticoke, Luzerne County Community College students, have been named to the 2010 All-PA



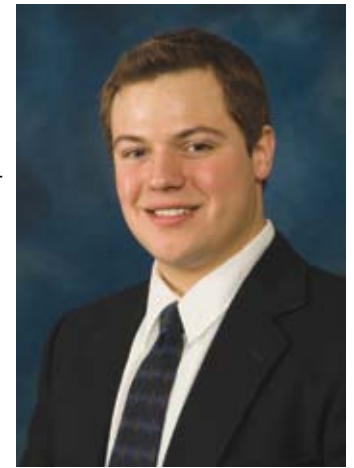
Academic Team. The All Pennsylvania Academic Team awards program recognizes an exceptional group of community college students across Pennsylvania who achieve high academic standing and demonstrate a commitment to their colleges and communities.

Luczak is a General Studies major who carries a 3.6 grade point average. At LCCC, she serves as president of the Psi Beta National Honor Society for Psychology students and as Student Government representative for Psi Beta. She also is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the LCCC Fencing Club, and the College's Honors Program.

In the community, Luczak served as a volunteer for the Scranton chapter of the Obama-Biden campaign and has participated in several local blood drives.

Upon her graduation from LCCC, Luczak plans to continue her education and earn a doctorate's degree in physical therapy.

Incitti is a Nursing major who carries a 3.7 grade point average. At LCCC, Incitti serves as president of Beta Iota Rho, the College's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and is the recipient of the LCCC Student Support Services Award for 2009. He also participates as a tutor for the LCCC Student Support Services Department and helped to organize the Student Government Association's Green Week activities.



Incitti previously served as the Computer Information Systems Club representative for the LCCC Student Government Association.

In the community, he serves as a volunteer for the Luzerne County Head Start program.

Upon his graduation from LCCC, Incitti plans to continue his education and become a physician.

Luczak and Incitti were recognized recently in Harrisburg where they received their awards. All-PA Academic Team members are eligible for a full tuition scholarship at any of the 14 state system universities in Pennsylvania.

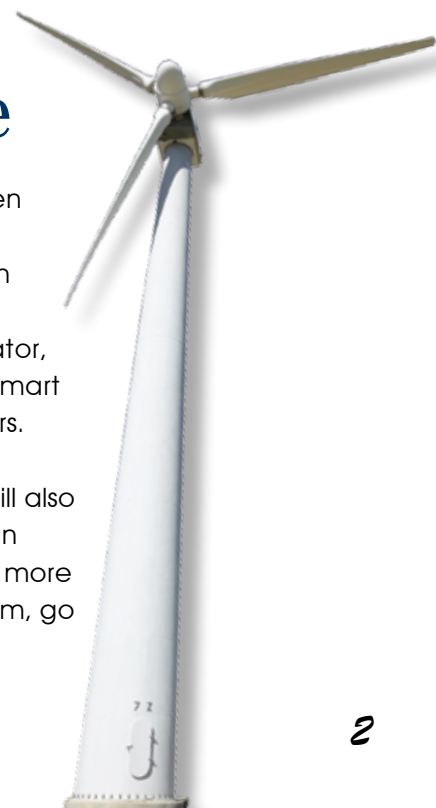
Green Energy lab at Shamokin site

The LCCC Northumberland Regional Center (NRC) facility is now equipped with a state-of-the-art Physics/Electronic/PLC lab thanks to a \$30,000 NEPA STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) Initiative Grant. The grant was used to purchase equipment for the technology lab which will allow students to complete all required courses for the College's new Sustainable Energy Technology (SET) Certificate Program. The new program was first offered during the Fall semester in 2009 at the Shamokin site. The new lab also enables the College to offer courses towards the Electronics Engineering Technology major.

SET is a 32-credit program designed to prepare students for a career in alternative energy sources

commonly known as "Green Jobs." These courses use technical knowledge such as photovoltaic installer, alternative energy integrator, wind energy technician, smart grid technician, and others.

Starting in this Fall, the SET Certificate program will also be offered at LCCC's main campus in Nanticoke. For more information on this program, go to www.luzerne.edu.



Local entrepreneur presents largest gift in the College's history

"I wanted to get involved with Luzerne County Community College because there is a lot of energy here; a lot of life," says Joseph A. Paglianite. "The new culinary center will be a part of this energy and will bring more of that energy and life to the downtown Nanticoke area."

Paglianite, co-owner of the successful Grotto Pizza restaurants in Pennsylvania and Delaware, recently donated a \$1 million naming gift to the LCCC Foundation for the College's new Culinary Arts facility.

The new 22,000-square-foot, two-story facility, currently under construction, will open August 2010 under the name Joseph A. Paglianite Culinary Institute.

The LCCC Board of Trustees formally accepted Paglianite's generous donation at a special board meeting on January 26. During the meeting, the College unveiled an artist's rendition of the new facility and presented the framed picture to Paglianite and his wife, Irma. "That's beautiful," he said. "Almost as beautiful as my wife."

The College also gave Paglianite a monogrammed chef's coat and presented a virtual tour of the upcoming facility. The jacket and picture are both displayed at the Grotto's Pizza restaurant located at Harvey's Lake.

"Although the original impetus for this project was to accommodate the growing enrollments we have experienced in our culinary programs, what we are really excited about is how the new Joseph A. Paglianite Culinary Institute will help us to elevate the quality of our programs," says Dr. Gary Mrozinski, LCCC dean of business and technologies. "Our goal is to offer our students education equal to the best culinary schools in the country at a community college price."

Paglianite, the son of immigrant

parents, has become one of Northeast Pennsylvania's most successful restaurateurs. It began with "Joe's Pizza," founded in 1953 at Harvey's Lake, and with Joe's brother-in-law and Wilkes-Barre native Dominick Pulieri, grew into the expanded family of 21 Grotto Pizza restaurants across Delaware and Pennsylvania.

While it is Mr. Paglianite's original recipe that became the "legendary taste" of Grotto Pizza, it was hard work, commitment and uncompromising vision that turned an idea into a landmark business.

The new culinary institute is designed to give tomorrow's restaurateurs and service professionals the tools needed so that their visions might come to life as successfully as those of Paglianite and his Grotto Pizza family.

Paglianite and Grotto Pizza also recently made a donation to the LCCC Foundation, Inc. to establish a scholarship at the College. The Joseph A. Paglianite/Grotto Pizza Culinary Arts Endowed Scholarship will be awarded to a first-year LCCC culinary student who shows interest in culinary arts



Paglianite and wife Irma stand next to an artist's rendition of the new LCCC culinary facility which will bear his name.

through prior work or life experience and who originates from the greater Wyoming Valley area.

"The most important things someone entering this field needs are a good attitude and a strong skill level," says Armand Mascioli, Grotto Pizza CEO. "Having a good cooking and restaurant management education is a great asset to the field. Our business has grown and changed dramatically over the years."

Mascioli note that in the past says managers and cooks tended to be temporary or part-time. "Now many of our employees are full-time and receiving medical benefits," he points out. "Plus, many have been with us for over 10 years."

Paglianite agrees. "There are more and more opportunities in the hospitality field now. You have to eat everyday." He says more people are venturing outside of their homes to eat. "Instead of seeing customers out just for a celebration, we see them regularly."

"It's all about serving the people," Paglianite says. "You must like being around people and their families every day. You deal with suppliers, employees, and customers so you have to have a great personality."

Paglianite says when he drives down streets he visualizes places to open a new restaurant. "When I say this to my wife she replies, 'Have you talked to God lately to give you more time?'"



(Left) Pagliante shows off his craft with LCCC President Thomas Leary.

(Right) Pagliante and his nephew Armand Mascioli (Grotto Pizza CEO) inspect construction of the new culinary facility. The facility will contain two kitchen labs with more than 30 individual work stations, a pastry arts lab, an elevated auditorium with a television studio, a computer lab, and a dining room where students can learn service techniques.



(Left) Pagliante receives his monogrammed chef's coat given to him by the College in appreciation for his generosity. Shown behind him is Mascioli.

Gertrude Hawk supports Culinary Institute

David Hawk, owner, chairman and head of research for the Dunmore chocolate maker that bears his grandmother's name, has given Luzerne County Community College a naming gift for LCCC's new chocolate room.

The Gertrude Hawk Chocolate Room will be located in the Joseph A. Paglianite Culinary Institute building currently under construction in downtown Nanticoke. Gertrude Hawk is the first named room inside the facility.

"We've been very fortunate in our business and want to give back to the community," Hawk says. "One of the things we pride ourselves on is education; my parents insisted I attend college before going into the business. I benefitted greatly by my education. College was just the pathway I needed to prepare for my career and LCCC is a perfect example of that pathway."

Gertrude Hawk has been giving to the community for years, raising money to help support organizations including the Make A Wish Foundation, Red Cross, local Boys and Girls Clubs and Women's Resource Center. The Hawk family also offers scholarships at other colleges and universities in Lackawanna County.

The Gertrude Hawk Chocolate Room will include tempering machines, sugar stations, granite countertops to control cooling, induction cookers, and high end climate controls; all designed to prepare chocolate confections by LCCC's Pastry Arts students.

Gertrude Hawk Chocolates is a \$90 million annual business that employs more than 1,000 people. The company boasts 75 stores in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Of the 36 stores in Pennsylvania, several are located in Luzerne County in Dallas, Hazleton, Kingston, Pittston and Wilkes-Barre.

In addition to retail, Hawk says "we are proud to say we are experts in the ingredients inclusions arena which currently accounts for 30% of our company's business." Inclusions are small bite-sized chocolate pieces found in ice cream and baking products. Gertrude Hawk Chocolates also operates other important areas such as fundraising, Macy's Frango



Peter Lello, Major Gifts/Planned Giving Specialist; Ann Hawk; David Hawk, chairman of the board and director of research and development; Thomas Leary, LCCC president; Sandra Nicholas, Executive Director of Resource Development

Mints and contract manufacturing.

In 1936, at the height of the Great Depression, Gertrude Hawk used her art of chocolate to make a little extra money for her family. And so Gertrude Hawk Chocolates began that year in the kitchen of her small home in the Bunker Hill section of Scranton, Pennsylvania.

The company has grown substantially over the years. Gertrude's grandson, David Hawk, wanted to get into the business since he was six. He partnered with his father to run the business for 21 years until David took over the reins in 1992. "I was always around the factory and stores when I was younger and even worked as a short-order cook at our restaurant when I was 14," Hawk recalls. He has transformed the business by creating a chain of Gertrude Hawk retail outlets. "Every day we try to come up with new products and partnerships with other industry," Hawk says.

The new culinary facility, with the new Gertrude Hawk Chocolate Room, is scheduled to open for the 2010 Fall semester.





Not so "Starving Artist"

In his heart Chris White '77 knew he wanted to create art.

White developed his interest in art from his father, an avid sketcher. After graduating from the former Bishop Hoban High School in 1975, White chose art over the other fields of study he considered. To hone his skill, he looked at Luzerne County Community College and found everything he was looking for: a strong commercial art program, close to home, and the value of attending the community college.

"I was able to pay for LCCC on my own and not have any debt when I graduated," said White.

During his time at LCCC, White appreciated the quality of the instructors and enjoyed the camaraderie and friendly competitiveness in the art classes. Some of his favorite classes were illustration classes and a speech class. He smiles as he recalls a speech entitled, "What is Comedy?" which at the end he received a pie in his face from a friend and fellow art classmate.

White speaks fondly of favorite art department teachers like George Schelling and Bob Kray who "directly influenced my forays into wildlife and marine art." The chairperson at the art department during White's time at the College was Howard Purcell. White describes him as "a genuine, animated, likable guy." It turns out that Purcell was the illustrator of comic books that both White and his father had. White also gives credit to recently retired faculty and department chair, Sue Henry Sponenberg. "She was the strictest teacher in the art department and she didn't put up with my crap," says White, "but I learned solid design and color theory from her." White graduated cum laude in 1977 with an associate arts degree in Commercial Art.

As a civilian, White is employed by the United States Army. He is currently working on a memorial for two men who lost their lives in the line of duty. He is also directing a cover for a nationally distributed scientific magazine, designing eight conceptual illustrations of an Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV) testing Center, and creating visuals illustrating Base Re-Alignment and Closure (BRAC) options for Aberdeen Proving Ground.

On the freelance side, White is working on two separate projects for clients which include two wildlife illustrations and a 3-D cover concept. He has also created paintings for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, a cover for "MAD" magazine, and a commissioned piece for the American Fisheries Society.

In his career, he creates 3-D animation and conceptual illustrations, along with video, publication design and exhibit design. "It's all pretty interesting and satisfying," adds White.

The artist, who now lives in Port Deposit, Maryland, recently dropped off his "Three Stooges" illustration and two of his other favorite works to include in a faculty and alumni art exhibit at LCCC's Schulman Gallery.

While at LCCC, he reconnected with some of his mentors and spoke with LCCC students. White has the following advice to those who want to enter into an art career. "Ask yourself honestly do you have what it takes and if so, are you willing to do what it takes to fill the areas where you are lacking. Hard work, determination and practice can do wonders!"

He also says, "Don't let the stereotype of 'starving artist' undermine you. There are many ways a creative person can find fulfillment and be gainfully employed, whether self-employed or for someone else."



Dapper
DAN FLOOD

LCCC Assistant Professor pens
book on former congressman

William C. Kashatus is an assistant professor of history at Luzerne County Community College, author, historian, actor, history correspondent for the Citizens' Voice, and contributor to Pennsylvania Heritage magazine. He lives in Chester County with his wife Jacqueline and their three sons, Tim, Peter, and Ben.

Kashatus incorporates much of his living history concepts into his classes, presentations, and programs he offers at the College and in the community. He's the author of seventeen books including his newest book, "Dapper Dan Flood: The Controversial Life of a Congressional Power Broker."

At age 12, William C. Kashatus met Congressman Dan Flood for the first time. "I was in awe of him," Kashatus recalls. "He walked into my great uncle's bar like it was a big show, dressed in a cream Edwardian suit, black shirt and white tie, with his handlebar moustache waxed to its mouse-tailed ends. He introduced himself to me: 'The name's Dan Flood, what's yours?' he asked. When I said 'Billy Kashatus' he replied 'Oh...the doctor's boy! Your father is a great man. Please tell him that I asked for him.'" And thus began Kashatus' life-long interest in the life of



William C. Kashatus

this remarkable and controversial politician, resulting in Kashatus' new book that took nearly twenty years to write.

His work is the product of more than 30 interviews with Flood's colleagues and family members. He also researched thousands of documents, including recently declassified FBI case files from their investigation of Flood's bribery and corruption

charges. Many of these documents are located in the library at King's College. Kashatus also interned in Flood's House office many years ago after Flood's resignation.

Kashatus is disheartened that most of the young students he teaches to in history classes at LCCC weren't even aware of Flood or his accomplishments in Northeastern PA.

"This book is very different than any other book I ever did," he says. "I really had to track down sources and documents that weren't readily available."

Kashatus's father was a physician of Flood's, treating him for esophageal cancer. Kashatus spent many of his summers with his great uncle John "Dada" Kashatus who was a one-time Democratic Party boss and a close friend of Flood. Kashatus describes the two as "extremely colorful individuals with quick tempers and a penchant for the dramatic."

"I was fascinated by my uncle's relationship with Flood," Kashatus says. "When Flood walked into a room, his presence was simply amazing. Flood used his formal training as an actor in Broadway shows in New York City not just to command an audience wherever he went, but also as a tool in floor debates."

Kashatus describes Flood as very flamboyant, caring, and compassionate. "Most people didn't know what a warm person he was, because he had



a nasty temper with those who worked for him." Kashatus says.

"What makes Flood's story especially endearing is the fact that he was also well known as one or the most responsive and caring members to ever grace the House," Kashatus said. Flood worked from dawn till dusk and met with any and all of his

constituents.

"Congressman Flood had three responsibilities," Kashatus says, "take care of individual constituents, ensure jobs and economic welfare of his district, and act in the nation's best interests. A congressman who can weld those three things together can keep getting reelected. And Flood was a true genius at this."

Flood was instrumental in a great deal of accomplishments around Northeastern Pennsylvania. He used his considerable influence in Congress to transition the economy of his district, like when the anthracite coal-mining industry took a severe downturn. While in Congress, Flood was credited with sponsoring the 1961 Area Redevelopment Act and the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. He ensured that the new Interstate 81 was routed near Wilkes-Barre and secured funds to build a Veteran's Hospital in the area.

But Flood is best known for his efforts in rebuilding his district in the aftermath of Hurricane Agnes.

Continued on page 17



Certain things catch your eye,
But pursue only those
that capture your heart.
old native american saying

ALUM HEEDS HER CALLING

Located 50 miles south of the Canadian border, on the edge of the Bearpaw and Little Rocky Mountains, Anita Masaitis, RDH, DMD., '82, takes a deep breath, grips her dark hair into a ponytail, and steps into the waiting room. Once again, the room is filled with patients, all Native Americans; many of whom will wait for hours to have the only dentist for miles examine them. They look up at her from their seats.

"It's like a MASH unit in here," Masaitis says. "We

have to triage the patients to determine who needs care the most for the day and send the others home." Oftentimes, it is the patients themselves who help make the call.

Masaitis runs the Eagle Child Health Clinic, a satellite clinic in one of the most rural Native American reservations in the country. She is stationed at the Fort Belknap Service Unit in northern Montana, which covers patients throughout the 1,200 square miles of reservation in Blaine and Phillips counties. In addition, there are 30,000 acres of tribal land outside the reservation boundaries. The reservation is home to the Gros Ventre (Ah Ah Nee Nin) and Assiniboine (Nakoda) Nations.

"Most dentists have approximately 1,500 people in their service area," Masaitis states. "I have over 6,000."

Masaitis describes the area as very poverty stricken. "It's like a forgotten, third-world country here. These people are very underserved and in need of major health care."

So how did this Nanticoke, Pennsylvania resident find herself living on an Indian reservation in a small rural town in northern Montana? According to Masaitis, it was a long journey. "I grew up in the Hanover section of Nanticoke," says Masaitis, then



known as Anita Hromchak. "My family owned Kasians Grocery Store where I worked since I was a child." When her father passed away, Masaitis and her mother were forced to accept welfare. "It was a very difficult time for me."

After high school she chose Luzerne County Community College. She started her education studying to become a nurse, but then changed to a dental hygiene major. "The program was new and exciting and I felt the career would be flexible enough to find a job anywhere," she says.

"LCCC gave me the opportunity to change my life," Masaitis says. "I felt proud to get off welfare and the College started me on my career path."

She met her significant other around the same time she started at LCCC. "We met at a funeral home in Wilkes-Barre at a kid's birthday party – we had a mutual friend whose family were morticians," says Masaitis. "David was dressed as Big Bird and I got a flat tire. He changed my flat and we soon fell in love."

After graduating as an RDH in 1982, she and David decided to leave her small town of Nanticoke and travel the country. She hit the big cities and traveled the four corners of the United States taking jobs as a dental hygienist in each town they stayed. After years of traveling, Masaitis felt something was still missing from her life.

In 2003, while in the Colorado, Masaitis decided to enroll in the University of Las Vegas School of Dental Medicine.

"I loved dental hygiene, but I wanted to work in public health and knew I needed to do more," Masaitis says. "I graduated cum laude with a Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) at age 46."

Armed with her degree in RDH and now a DMD, she went in search of an ideal location she could serve people who needed her help the most. She soon found her calling at the Fort Belknap Service Unit employed by the United States Indian Health Services.

"This is where I wanted to be," Masaitis says. "This reservation hadn't had a dentist for two years. The residents were pulling their own teeth out and many were in severe pain. These people really need my help."

Masaitis spends three-quarters of her day on dental surgeries. A patient recently came in for an appointment. Masaitis took his blood pressure first before administering anesthesia. "This is

a technique I learned at LCCC." The patient's blood pressure registered way above normal. "This guy was ready to have a stroke," she says. Masaitis immediately sent him to the emergency unit.

Masaitis has become close to the Native American people that she serves. "My entire staff is Native American. They are a very caring and strong people. There are a lot of health problems across the reservation and the teeth decay and infection rate here is double that found in more urban areas. They are proud people and are rich in many ways that no money can buy," Masaitis notes.

The couple, along with their dog, Buster, and cat, Libby, have been living in the rural reservation for two years now. She says she's happy living in a small town again. "I had to give up my cell phone because service doesn't reach this area very well. And although it takes three hours to get to the nearest Wal-Mart (round trip), this is my home. After living in big cities, I can't believe I came back to what I ran away from at age 18."

"This is one of the most rewarding professions anyone can have," Masaitis says. "You gain respect from the community as a professional and you gain personal gratification for your work inside your heart. I feel like a million bucks at the end of the day."



Alumni Class Notes

1969

Mauro S. Notaro (Business Administration) recently wrote to the alumni office reflecting on his time at Luzerne. He reminisced that "I could not believe I was starting college at LCCC within two weeks of being discharged from the U.S. Navy. I was so happy and thankful for Luzerne County Community College." Mauro retired in 2007 after a career working for the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue as a Revenue Auditor Supervisor. He and his wife have three children and reside in McAdoo.

1970

James Devers (Electronics Engineering Technology) has been appointed assistant vice president for facilities operations at the University of Scranton. He has been working for the University since 1985 serving as a staff architect and has later as the director of physical plant. Prior to working for the U of S James was a draftsman and project architect for Bohlin Cywinski Jackson. He is a magna cum laude graduate from the University of Scranton. James and his wife, Gail, have two daughters and reside in West Pittston.

1973

James J. Dooner (Social Science) retired after 28 years of service with the Metro-Dade County Sheriff / Police Department on December 31, 2009. He resides in Pembroke Pines, FL and returns to NEPA frequently to visit friends and family in Avoca and the Wyoming Valley. He plans to enjoy some fishing during retirement and welcomes visitors! He invites his former classmates and friends to get in touch with him; his email address is: fishmagic9@aol.com.

1982

Michael Klopotoski (General Studies), a 25-year veteran of the Department of Corrections, was recently appointed regional deputy secretary. In this new position, he oversees operation of 15 state prisons. Michael earned a bachelor's degree in government from Kings College.

Michael Sawka (Business Management) and Susan Boyle were united in marriage in August, 2009. He is employed by Pepsi Co., Mountain Top. Mr. & Mrs. Sawka honeymooned in Las Vegas and are living in Mountain Top.

1985

Kathy Dolman (Journalism) recently had her first book published in April, 2010. The book is entitled "The Light at Hope's End," and was published through 5 Fold Media LLC. It is a Christian Fiction inspirational book about a man who finds his faith again and then uses his ordinary life to inspire and touch the lives of individuals in the town of Hope's End. It is currently available online through Barnes and Noble, Amazon.com, Hastings and Books-a-Million, or through the publisher.



1989

LeAnne Brogan (Medical Office Assistant) published her second book in October, 2008 entitled "After the Bell Rings". She resides in Freeland with her husband and two sons and works in an elementary school library. This book is a collection of short stories about the students that she assists daily and is a gathering of the one-liners, anecdotes and excuses from students and parents for missing school and homework assignments. LeAnne's first publication "Inside Amy: Adults and Eating Disorders" is a personal story of her disease, anorexia nervosa.



Keith Sterowski (Electronics Engineering Technology) was married in September, 2009 to Elizabeth Barnes. He is employed by Johnson Controls as a district manager and he is also the owner of Sterowski's Carwash LLC in Berwick. Keith and Elizabeth honeymooned on the island of St. Lucia and reside in Mountain Top.

1990

Kim Cavalari Hogan (Office Management Technology) is working at LCCC as the Human Resources Generalist. She started this new position in May 2009 after working for Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania for 10 years. Kim earned her bachelor's degree from Misericordia University and is currently working on her MBA from Misericordia University. She and her husband, Dana, live in Kingston with their two children, Amanda and Ashlee and granddaughter Madison.

1998

Bette Cox Saxton (Business Administration) was recognized by the Northeast Pennsylvania Business Journal as one of the "Top 25 Women in Business for 2010". She

is the president and CEO of Pennsylvania Maternal and Family Health Services (MFHS). Bette holds a master's in health care administration from Seton Hall University and a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York. She has two children, Jessica and David and one grandson.

2000

Luciana Musto Herman (Social Science) recently earned her master's of arts degree in creative writing from Wilkes University. She is the prospect researcher / grant associate for Luzerne County Community College. Lucy and her husband, Lee, reside in Pittston.



2001

Congratulations to **Adele Perez Piasta** (General Studies) and Joe Piasta (Journalism)

on the birth of their son, Owen Christopher Piasta on May 28, 2010. The happy family resides in Columbia, MD and includes big sister, Audrey, 3. Proud grandmother is Mary Ellen Piasta '79 and maternal great grandparents are Lisa '96 and Frank Owens '06.

2002

Marisa Chirkot (General Studies) and Stephen Lewis Jr. were married in September, 2009. The bride continued her education earning both her bachelor's degree in fashion merchandising and her master's of business administration degree from Philadelphia University. Marisa is employed as a systems and logistics analyst by Macy's Inc., New York, NY. Mr. & Mrs. Lewis reside in Philadelphia.

Cathy Faatz (General Studies) was recently recognized as one of The Times Leader's "40 under Forty" for 2010. She is the director of community involvement for the United Way of Wyoming Valley. Following graduation from LCCC, Cathy transferred to West Chester University of Pennsylvania and earned her bachelor's of arts degree in communication studies. Cathy then worked for two years as an AmeriCorp Volunteer in Seattle, WA, where she coordinated after school programming. After her second year of service, she relocated to the Wyoming Valley to be near to family.

Patrice Rimbey (Nursing) has been named program coordinator of the Penn State Hazleton Practical Nursing Program. Throughout her health care career, Patrice has served in a variety of positions including medical laboratory technician, registered nurse, clinical coordinator and director of surgical services. She has also been an instructor at Lehigh Carbon Community College and has developed educational programs for nurses as part of her duties as a clinical coordinator.

Patrice earned her bachelor's degree in Nursing from Wilkes and is currently pursuing her master's degree at the University.

2004

Stephanie J. Shultz (Child Development) became the bride of Michael A. Lamon in October, 2009. She is the owner and director of Delightful Days Preschool / Daycare in Berwick. Stephanie and her husband reside in Salem Township.

2005

Kelly Alexander (Pastry Arts Management) is the owner and operator of The Cake Studio, Dupont, which specializes in custom-made cakes. To view some of her creations, check out the website at: www.youneed-cake.com. She is married to Bret Alexander, a record producer and the principal songwriter in the band The Badlees. Together, they have two daughters, Harlow and Scarlet.

Samantha Bevans (Surgical Technology) and Joseph Osifat were married in Runaway Bay, Jamaica, earlier this year. She is also a 2008 graduate of LCCC's nursing program and an RN at Hazleton General Hospital. The couple lives in Beech Mountain Lakes, Drums.

2006

Frank Owens (General Studies) has published his first book entitled "My Writings, My Memories: Short Stories, True Stories, Thoughts and Poems". At the age of 59 Frank was diagnosed with the onset of Alzheimer's. He enrolled at LCCC to keep his mind active and despite his struggles he graduated Summa Cum Laude. The book is a collection of inspirational stories and poems written by him. The publication is available by contacting the author directly at lowens@epix.net or 570-256-7574.

2007

Linette Chludzinski (Nursing) and Christopher Jordan were united in marriage in January, 2010. She previously earned a surgical technology degree from LCCC in 2001. Linette is a registered nurse with Northeastern Eye Ambulatory Surgical Center and Community Medical Center. The Jordan's honeymooned in Hawaii and now reside in Clarks Summit.

2008

Jennifer Marie Vosburg (Dental Hygiene) and Scott Klings were married on May 9, 2009. She is employed by Hazzouri Dental, Scranton. Mr. & Mrs. Klings reside in Pittston.

2010-2011 Events Calendar

September 13, 2010*: Alumni Association Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Campus Center, 2nd floor, Alumni Room (#214)

October 16, 2010: 21st Annual Alumni Craft Festival, main campus, 10:00am -4:00 pm / Droptoberfest car show

November 9, 2010: Alumni Association Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Campus Center, second floor, Alumni Room (#214)

November 18, 2011: LCCC Foundation Scholarship Dinner, Woodlands Inn

January 25, 2011: Alumni vs. student basketball game, 5:30 pm, gymnasium

January 25, 2011: Alumni Association Meeting, Campus Center following game

March 14, 2011: Alumni Association Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Campus Center, second floor, Alumni Room (#214)

April 4-13, 2011: Alumni Association Phonathon, Educational Conference Center

April 15, 2011: Application deadline for LCCC Foundation and Alumni Scholarships

Please note: the Alumni meetings are now on the second Monday of every other month during the academic year.

Announcements

Alumni Association looking for new members

The Luzerne County Community College Alumni Association Board is looking to expand its membership for the 2010-2013 term. The purpose of the Alumni Association is to support Luzerne County Community College in a variety of ways including student scholarships, new equipment and building projects. The LCCC Craft Festival, Flea Market & Collectible Show, Alumni Phonathon are just a few of the events held each year to benefit the College and its students. The Alumni Board meets the second Monday of every other month during the academic year to plan its events which are held throughout the year.

Job Shadowing Program – volunteers needed

We are currently expanding our job shadowing programs so that more students can participate in this valuable learning experience. Some of the fields that we are currently able to accommodate students in are computer information systems, medical office / transcriptionist and health sciences. We have had requests to looking to expand into culinary & hospitality, business (all aspects), photography, dental, nursing and more.

If you would like to become an active member of the Alumni Association or wish to participate in the job shadowing program, please contact Bonnie Lauer, director, alumni relations, at (570)740-0734 or blauer@luzerne.edu.

In Memoriam

Sincere condolences are extended to the family and friends of the following alumni and members of the College family who have passed away since the last publication of "The Bridge."

LCCC Graduates

Karen Lavan Bokelman '90 (Commercial Art - Graphic Design)
Robert Brozowski '78 (Criminal Justice)
Rose Caladie '86 (Computer Information Systems)
Susan Carey '84 (Computer Information Systems)
Dr. Laura F. Cohee '86 (Science)
Franck Darte '81 (Electrical Construction)
Michael Dobbs '71 (Business Administration)
Theresa Garrah '96 (Tourism/Travel Management)
Charles E. "Chuckie" Gebhardt '95 (Nursing)
Albert Gorka '78 (General Studies)
William Kile Jr. '83 (Hotel/Restaurant Management)
Cameron Kishbaugh '02 & '03 (General Studies & Education)
Christopher Kuniega '94 (General Studies)
Diane Macekura Lech '80 (Nursing)
Peter Luhrs '84 (Computer Information Systems)
Charles Lynch '80 (General Studies)
Celeste Mancinelli '91 (Tourism/Travel Management)

Joseph Morris '69 (General Studies)
Susan Mowrey '95 (Business Administration)
Richard Murphy '71 (General Studies)
Peter W. Namowicz '76 & '83 (Plumbing/Heating Technology & General Studies)
Robert Daniel Parks '74 (Social Science)
George Petrishin '85 (Real Estate Management)
Richard Poslock '74 (General Studies)
Dr. Lorne Anthony Querci '86 (Nursing)

Former LCCC Faculty & Staff

Wesley E. Franklin, Director,
Advanced Technology Center
Joseph E. Snarski Jr. '94 & '97
(Business Management & Computer Information Systems), Inventory Control Manager
Barbara Struckus '72 (Office Management Tech.),
Human Resources Associate

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 and future 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. For more information, or to make a gift, contact the Alumni Office at (800) 377-LCCC ext. 734 or at 740-0734.

Alumni benefit offers discount on auto & home insurance



The LCCC Alumni Association has partnered with Liberty Mutual, the nation's fifth-largest auto and home insurer. Through Liberty Mutual's Group Savings Plus® program, LCCC graduates may save up to 20 percent on their auto insurance and 10 percent on their home, condo or renters insurance*. That can be hundreds of dollars back in your pocket.

Plus Liberty Mutual offers their customers who have both auto and home policies an attractive added multi-policy discount.

In addition to discounts, Group Savings Plus® offers LCCC Alumni:

- The freedom to purchase insurance the way you want: through a personal sales representative at more than 400 offices countrywide, a toll-free telesales center, or online.
- Convenient payment by automatic checking account deduction or direct billing to your home.
- 24-hour toll-free claims service, emergency roadside assistance, and homeowner emergency repair service.
- Outstanding customer service from a local office, or from Liberty Mutual's J.D. Powers and Associates-certified call centers.

To find out how much you can save, call 1-800-310-6764 or visit www.libertymutual.com/LCCC for an immediate, no-obligation quote.

*Discounts are available where state law and regulations allow, and may vary by state.



Hey, LCCC is on Facebook, MySpace and Twitter!

If you have a Facebook account, why not become a fan of LCCC. Just search for Luzerne County Community College and click the "Like" button. Also, please join our Luzerne County Community College Alumni group. And if you like to "tweet" look for us on Twitter as LuzerneCC. On MySpace, you can friend us at www.myspace.com/lccc1. Keep up to date with all the happenings at LCCC and keep connected with friends.



WBRE Alumni

President Thomas Leary has been busy meeting with LCCC graduates employed by local businesses.



Hazleton General Hospital Alumni



Prudential Financial Graduates



Allied Services -
John Heinz Institute
Alumni

If your organization has a number of LCCC Alumni working there, let us know and we can arrange a visit. Contact Bonnie Lauer, director, alumni relations, at (570)740-0734 or blauer@luzerne.edu.

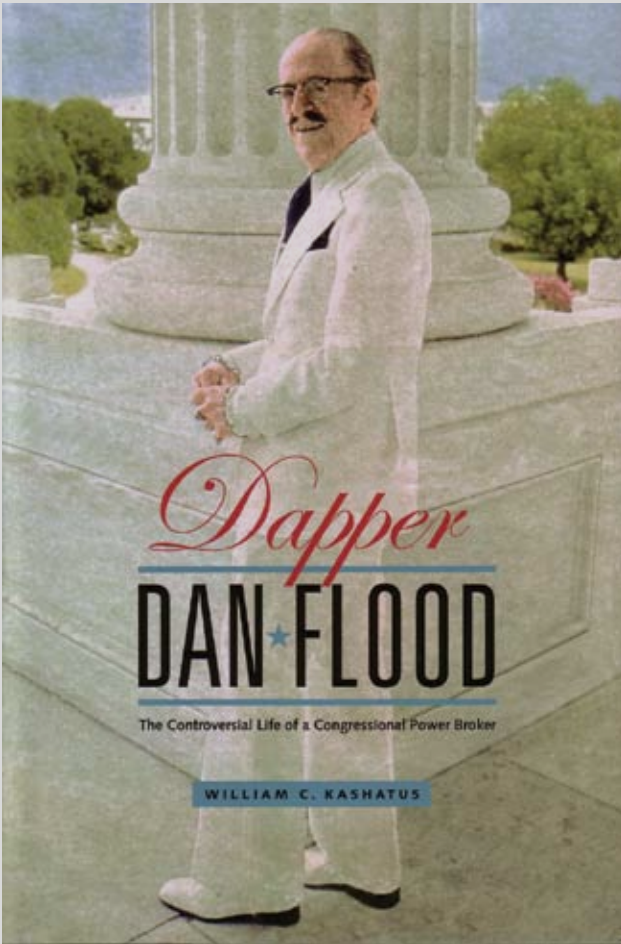
Grotto Scholarship check presentation with employees, LCCC staff, and graduates



Pride
Mobility Products Corp.



Pride Mobility
Alumni



Continued from page 8

When the tropical storm overwhelmed the Susquehanna River watershed in 1972, one of the hardest-hit locations was Wilkes-Barre's business and residential areas. Flood, subcommittee chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, was credited with cutting through federal red tape and bringing helicopters and the National Guard in to help with rescue efforts. "Stand by – This is going to be one Flood against another!" he proclaimed.

A powerful man with a lot of clout and a reputation for gathering large Congressional earmarks, Flood faced federal charges of conspiracy, bribery and accepting kickbacks from contractors looking for federal funding. While this was happening, Flood was suffering from esophageal cancer which caused him a great deal of pain. He also struggled with alcohol and pain killer addiction, but what kept Flood alive was his work as a congressman.

After these tremulous events, he could no longer financially and physically challenge his allegations. He tendered his resignation on the House floor on January 31, 1980. A month later, he pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to violate federal election law.

"Dan Flood was a product of his time," Kashatus writes in his book. "He acted on what he genuinely believed to be the best interests of both his congressional district and the nation. Sometimes Congress and the voters don't fully appreciate what they have until it's gone. In Dan Flood, they both had something pretty special."

Congratulations to our newest alumni!

Luzerne County Community College held its 42nd annual Commencement ceremony on May 27 at Mohegan Sun Arena. 820 Students received their diplomas this year.

Guest speaker, Trisha Meili, known to the world as "The Central Park Jogger," told her amazing story of survival and recovery after being violently attacked in Central Park in 1989.

Erin Roman '10 gave the graduate address. William Kirk Browne '10 received the Alumni Association Outstanding Graduate Award. The Outstanding Adult Learner Graduate Award was presented to Rachele Brennan '10.

Welcome new alumni!



2007 – 2010 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

Russell Keeler '91, President
 Gloria Migatulski '88, Vice President
 Elaine Flanagan '98, Treasurer
 Melissa Taney '03, Secretary
 JoAnn Chukinas '02
 Carol Dean '90
 Edward Hennigan III '95
 Melissa Szafran Jones '94
 Robert Lange '80
 Lisa Owens '97
 Jennifer Pawlowski '88

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Joseph Rymar, Chair
 Elaine Cook, R.N., J.D., Vice Chair
 Lynn Marie Distasio, Secretary
 Elaine Curry
 Mahmoud H. Fahmy, Ph.D.
 Paul A. Halesey '84
 George Hayden
 Mary Dana Hinton, Ph.D.
 John Kashatus
 Joseph M. Lombardo, M.D.
 Agapito López, M.D.
 Thomas F. O'Donnell, Ed.D.
 August J. Piazza '69
 Thomas P. Pizano
 Michael Tigue, III
 Barry H. Williams, J.D., C.P.A.

FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jerry Champi, President
 Susan Unvarsky '86,
 First Vice President
 James Burke,
 Second Vice President
 Robert Tamburro, Treasurer
 John Augustine, III,
 Executive Secretary
 Thomas A. Scappaticci,
 Immediate Past President

Judith Aita
 Patrick Aregood, Esq.
 Michael S. Bean
 Mark Bufalino, Esq.
 Cornelio R. Catena
 Anna Cervenak
 Dr. Dana Clark
 Kathy McLaughlin Coslett
 Dr. John DeFinnis
 Laura Dennis, Esq.
 Rodrigo Gerada
 Michael Jones
 Frank Kowalski

Michael Lombardo
 Ken Marquis
 Deb Martin '85
 Barbara Toczko Maculloch '87
 Thomas Medico
 Lisa Owens '97
 August Piazza '69
 Thomas E. Pugh
 Mary Jo Rushin
 David Sawicki
 Conrad Schintz
 Roxanne Schulman
 Leonard V. Shimko '69
 Robert Stanley

Thomas P. Leary
 President
 Sandra A. Nicholas
 Executive Director

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) _____ E-mail _____
 Spouse's 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 _____



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

Address Service Requested



Many LCCC alumni have found employment back at their alma mater. Here, a majority of the present alumni sit for a photo.