7hBridge Winter 2012 Alumni & Friends Luzerne County Community College Ani Art Academy 011-2012 Annual Report of Cifits County Community College

#### Benco Dental Names New Clinic

Luzerne County Community College's new dental clinic comes with a new name.

A crowd of honored guests, students, faculty, and staff gathered in LCCC's Health Sciences Center for a ceremony of the clinic's new name: Benco Dental Clinic. The naming is thanks to a \$150,000 donation from the Cohen family, owners of Benco Dental headquartered in Jenkins Township.

Brothers Charles Cohen and Richard Cohen, now the company's managing directors, unveiled a plaque at the ceremony dedicating the Center to their parents, Larry and Sally Cohen.

LCCC President Thomas P. Leary commended the Cohen family for their philanthropy and success. "What better example to our students, than the Cohen family." Leary lauded their wonderful expressions of generosity, story of success, and commitment to giving back to the community.

"The clinic itself is truly the cornerstone of our health sciences building and I don't mind saying it is truly beautiful," said Cathryn Brown, director of the dental health program at LCCC. "We can provide the community with the care they expect from our students and provide our students with the education they deserve and expect from us in return."

"Our relationship with Luzerne County Community College is both deep and broad," Charles Cohen said. "Many of our associates have graduated from Luzerne as well as their children. College instructors have provided job training programs, and LCCC has trained many of the hygienists and assistants we are proud to call customers."

In 1982, the Cohen family decided to sponsor one perpetual award in their grandfather's memory, the Benjamin Cohen Outstanding Graduate Award, given to an outstanding LCCC dental hygienist student.

"Despite Benco Dental's considerable growth," Cohen said, "we have never forgotten our Northeastern Pennsylvania roots."

The Benco Dental Clinic includes 24 chairs, an x-ray room, labs, faculty offices and 19 classrooms. It serves as a learning center for dental students at LCCC and provides dental health services to the public.

Dental care at the clinic costs \$15 for adults, \$10 for senior citizens and \$5 for children. Office hours vary and appointments are needed. For more information, call 740-0446.



Rick Cohen speaks before the crowd at the Benco Dental Clinic naming ceremony. Standing behind him is his brother, Charles. Dr. Dana Charles Clark, provost and vice president for academic affairs, LCCC and Jessica Brennan, LCCC dental hygiene student, listen to Benco Dental's success story.



The Cohen Family: Rebecca, Charles, Larry, Sally, and Rick stand before the plaque dedicated to Larry and Sally Cohen.

#### **LCCC** holds SPCA benefit exhibit

The Luzerne County Community College Schulman Gallery recently held an SPCA benefit exhibit.

The exhibit featured animals in any form of media. All artwork which was sold had a percentage from the sale donated to the SPCA.

Shown at the exhibit's opening reception are, from left, first row -- Danyelle Barrow, volunteer,



SPCA; Diane Grant Czajkowski '76, participating artist; Kelly Nicole Olszyk, curator, Schulman Gallery, LCCC; Allison Maslow, participating artist; and Brittney Wood, volunteer, SPCA.

Second row -- Bernis Emmett, business manager, SPCA; Harry Grozio II, participating artist; Bill Karlotski, assistant professor, commercial art, LCCC; John Clark, participating artist; and Nina Davidowitz, participating artist.



Luzerne County Community College recently worked together with King's College, Wilkes University and Misericordia University on a local Empty Bowl project.

Empty Bowls is an international grassroots effort to fight hunger. Potters and other
craftspeople, educators and volunteers work
with the community to create handcrafted
bowls. Guests are invited for a simple meal of
bread and a bowl of soup. In exchange for
a cash donation, guests are asked to keep
the bowl as a reminder of all the empty bowls

in the world. The money is donated to an organization working to end hunger and food shortages.

The local event, organized by the colleges was held on October 28, 2012. The colleges had 1,000 bowls donated and raised \$10,000 to fund hunger-related causes. LCCC sold the most bowls. Each participating college selected a cause to which a quarter of the donations were allocated. LCCC's portion was donated to the LCCC student Food Bank.

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Cover Photo: Leah F. Waichulis '00 and Anthony J. Waichulis '95, stand in front of their Ani Art Academy - Waichulis in Bear Creek.







(Opposite page and below)
Kathy Coslett, host, and David
Pembleton, LCCC faculty
member speak to the live
studio audience about the dish
they will be preparing for the
Cooking Classic show.

(L) Tom McHugh, department chair of Communications Arts at LCCC, preps the audience just before taping begins.

## lights...Camera...Sizzle!

new venture coming from the Joseph A.

Paglianite Culinary Institute may hit the small screen soon. The LCCC Broadcast

Communications program and Culinary Arts program are working together with the community to produce a televised cooking show at the Culinary Institute.

The new show, titled "Cooking Classic," has been recorded before a live audience in the Kowalski Auditorium and Media Center. So far, 12 episodes were recorded over the summer and fall. Kathy Coslett, Foundation board member and long-time TV personality, hosts the show.

Broadcast dates and times are currently being worked on with various broadcast entities, and web-related video will also be produced.

The Culinary Arts Institute holds a high definition studio and control room. Acting as a classroom with theatre seating, the studio/cooking set allows for cooking instruction as well as the ability to produce cooking programs. Adjunct instructor Kevin Jones designed the new set for Cooking Classic.

Cooking Classic will have a local angle. Chefs from LCCC, alumni, various local restaurants, and venues throughout the region will appear on the show to prepare a variety of dishes. Some shows will feature an ethnic recipe geared toward the viewing area that is richly steeped in its history and various ethnic backgrounds.

Culinary Arts students will be involved in the preproduction planning of the cooking show, and Communication Arts students assist in the post-production as well as the production process itself.

LCCC is hoping Cooking Classic will become a successful locally-produced cooking show with potential for national syndication.

The project will be an excellent hands-on learning opportunity for future Culinary and Communications graduates and outreach opportunity for the College.



## A Creative Career

By Janie Kavlulich LCCC Journalism Student

here's something to be said about following your dreams. Former LCCC professor, alumnus, head instructor of The Ani Art Academy Waichulis and co-founder of the international Ani Art Academies project, Anthony Waichulis '95, can vouch for that.

"I'm a geeky kid from Northeastern Pennsylvania. When I told people I was going to go to school for art, they looked at me like I was going to build a nuclear missile in my backyard," joked sarcastic and quick witted Waichulis of his aspirations. "But, I've become very successful. I remember one of my students asked me early on, 'What if you're never successful?' But I get to wake up every morning and do what I love. That's the real dream come true."

Waichulis rooted himself into the world of art at a young age. His grandmother unknowingly nurtured his talent with the intent of doing damage control at her home.

"My grandmother didn't want me and my siblings messing up her house," Waichulis explained of his earliest memories of drafting. She provided her grandchildren with a stack of paper, pens and pencils to keep them occupied. They would draw for hours each time they visited.

Growing up just two miles from Luzerne County Community College, Waichulis decided to attend LCCC and pursue his love of art. "It took me a while to truly realize that an art career was a viable option," he says. "My parents supported anything that made us happy and taught us that anything was possible."

While studying Commercial Art at LCCC, Waichulis grew more confident in his abilities. His received positive feedback from his instructors and other students. "At LCCC, I learned the impact of diversity from all the choices in the art world, there are so many different approaches to communicating your message visually." He remarks at the faculty who influenced him at the College. "They are fantastic artists that not only were great teachers, but highly successful in the private sector."

After studying at Luzerne County Community
College and Schuler School of Fine Arts, in Maryland,



Leah F. Waichulis '00; Alexandra Svab, General Administrator; and Anthony J. Waichulis '95 at Ani Art Academies Waichulis in Bear Creek, PA

Anthony Waichulis went on to excel remarkably as an artist and art instructor dedicatedly pursuing the theory of realistic representation in art more commonly referred to in the art world as Representationalism. The ability to produce breathtaking paintings remarkably comparable to photographs mixed with a desire to educate led Waichulis to open his own art studio in 1998 that he called The Waichulis Studio.

"I would say it usually takes anywhere from one to three months," Waichulis says of time put into a single painting, "but speed comes with mastery of anything."

Waichulis finds the reason he struggled less with his technique and execution to be because he created for himself his own method of practice.

"I found it common to see that the whole science of art would change from teacher to teacher. It was at times extremely frustrating," explained Waichulis of the development of his own system, "So I started trying to look for common threads that connected the different elements of art education and morph them into ways of my own understanding."



In 1998, he started teaching as an adjunct instructor at LCCC. "I taught a variety of drawing and painting classes at the College," Waichulis recalls. "I miss the waves of new students who would come through the doors each semester."

While teaching, he met then commercial art student, Leah Trocki. A year after Leah graduated from LCCC in Painting/Illustration in 2000, Tony and Leah started dating, later married, and opened their studio in Bear Creek. An accomplished artist, she was a finalist in the Art Kudos International Competition, featured in two North Light Books, and her artwork has been included in national and international publications. She also studied with Anthony to develop her personal artistic style.

Little did Anthony Waichulis know that his own personal method of art education would light his career on fire.

In 2010, one man in particular became highly interested in the teachings of Anthony Waichulis. Tim Reynolds, the co-founder of a thriving Wall Street trading firm with passion for the arts, studied art under a colleague and friend of Anthony Waichulis named Timothy Jahn. In times of artistic difficulty, Jahn turned to Waichulis for creative insight.

After Waichulis passed along his personal process, Reynolds began to see a vast improvement in a short amount of time in Jahn's art work. Jahn then passed along the teachings of Waichulis to Reynolds. In a relatively short amount of time, Reynolds too, began to see drastic improvement in his own artwork. Stunned and curious, Reynolds demanded to meet the man behind the easel. The two arranged to meet for dinner in New York City.

"Initially what was explained to me was that Tim wanted me to create some instructional DVDs for his use. He then went on to explain that his larger goal was to build international art schools that would use my curriculum to provide an arts education to those that may never have such an opportunity. I was shocked," Waichulis revealed of their sit down.

"And almost immediately he (Mr. Reynolds) began

talking about how there may be intellectual property issues," Waichulis continued, "because it's my system and he was probably waiting for me to say that I would want this much money and yadda yadda ya and I think I really shocked him when I said, 'You can have it, you can have my program for free.' We hit it off right there."

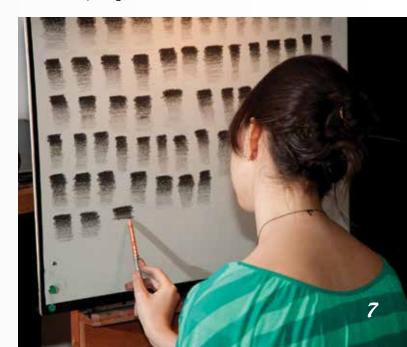
That was the conversation that gave birth to Ani Art Academies Waichulis.

Located in the serene and beautiful mountain regions of Northeastern Pennsylvania, on the sloping hills of Anguilla's few Caribbean farmlands, and on a private peninsula that sits surrounded by the crystal blue waters of The Dominican Republic, the first three of the soonto-be worldwide Ani-Waichulis Art Academies provides students with strict and concise training in the basics of a rich visual language. In addition to the three studios above, locations in Sri Lanka and Thailand are expected to be open and operating in 2013.

"I visit each academy prior to launch," explained Waichulis of his physical involvement in the international locations of The Ani Art Academies. "I hate traveling. I'm not a small man. There's a lot of logistics issues," he joked. "For me, getting onto a plane is comical in itself. I smell my knees a lot."

Waichulis explained the process of what he called a preliminary promotions campaign on behalf of the academies. After taking the time to visit high schools and reach out to those considering some time of postsecondary education plans, an open house is held for each location.

The opportunity of being accepted to the Ani Art Academies Waichulis isn't one to be taken lightly. Accepting only 10 to 25 students per semester depending on location, the devoted artists accepted to the Ani-Waichulis Art Academy are said to have the world at their feet upon graduation.





"It all began in a classroom at Luzerne County Community College," said Waichulis as the principal speaker during LCCC's 44th annual commencement ceremony.

"I would say the vast majority of everyone that's gone through the program has had overwhelming success right out of the gate," Waichulis shared. "Most of our artists are approached by respected galleries quite early, much like being scouted by the NBA or Major League Baseball while you're still in your college years. We get a lot of professionals that look to us for where tomorrow's talent is coming from."

Waichulis explained that a classmate he studied with at Schuler Academy had conducted a study for her final graduation project. She looked into the success rates coming out of art school and found the results to be shocking.

"It was a 92% failure rate and 8% success rate moving forward into a professional academy," shared Waichulis. "Here, we blow the doors off that average."

For serious artists, a seat in the Ani-Waichulis Academy art studios is a coveted thing, but what exactly does it take to land one?

"We get a lot of applications," said Waichulis. "We look to demonstrations of ability, but that is not our primary concern. We have applicants write a short essay to share with us how art has played a part in their life up until the time of their application and most importantly, how they feel that we will be able to contribute to them being able to attain their goals." Waichulis went on to explain and rightfully so, "This is a fantastic resource for people, however the resource is limited. We don't want to designate or award resources to someone that may lose interest in six months."

When asked about his approach to teaching, Waichulis joked, "Oh it's brutal. It's a lot of screaming, yelling, throwing things and tantrums. I've beaten someone with a shoe once. But seriously, it's a very strict program. The evolution of art education for the longest time appeared somewhat stagnant. It long held on to the dynamic that your knowledge was your livelihood and if you shared too many 'secrets' as a professional artist, you were handing your employment away. Often what was shared and passed on from an educational standpoint was very slim. Over the years knowledge would be rediscovered by one person and unfortunately, it would vanish again in a generation or two because not many people were teaching everything that they knew."

Sharing the artistic wealth however, had never been an issue for Waichulis. Sharing is actually what helped him to achieve overwhelming and inarguable success. For being such a successful man, Waichulis stays humble by not only keeping to himself, but by setting an example, sharing his story, and remembering where he came from by staying involved with LCCC, recently making an appearance as principal speaker at graduation.

Anthony Waichulis may be someone who likes to stay out of the limelight, but there is no way his art work ever could. Published in many prestigious art magazines and even contacted by George Lucas's Lucasfilm for a contribution to the Star Wars publication franchise, Waichulis has undeniably climbed to the top despite the eyebrows cocked in his direction.

"Adversity is good, competition is good, challenges are good. It all makes you into the person you need to be in order to do what you want to do. Adversity gives you an advantage over the people who seem to deal with minimal challenges and coast right through," shared Waichulis, "because the first time they encounter a bump in the road they're more apt to throw in the towel and walk away, but someone who had to work through adversity develops an appreciation that someone who didn't couldn't understand and it's that appreciation that catapults you over any bumps in the road."



LCCC Economic Impact Fact: Added income attributable to the accumulation of LCCC skills amounts to \$ 190.7 million each year.



# Paglianite Institute Institute Institute The Joseph Greater W. awards lu The Priorganization organization of the Greater W. The New Building of the Amara Control of the Greater W. The New Building of the Greater W. The New Bui

The Joseph A. Paglianite Culinary Institute received the 2012 Pride of Place Award for New Construction from the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce at their annual awards luncheon on June 26, 2012.

The Pride of Place Awards honor business, industry and organizations that have improved the physical environment of the Greater Wilkes-Barre area.

The New Construction award category is judged on a building or complex recently designed from the ground up.

The College was recognized for the design and construction of the building as well as the partnership with the City of Nanticoke. This initiative will help revitalize the city by

bringing new business to the downtown Nanticoke area and fostering revitalization efforts through several grant opportunities, including the Streetscape Project which will improve parking and access to the downtown.

Joseph and Irma Paglianite joined with President Leary and Trustees Elaine Cook, Paul Halesey and Joe Rymar in accepting the award at the luncheon.

## Curry calls it a career at LCCC

By Shane Conway

Francis Curry retired Oct. 5, 2012 after a 38-year career at LCCC.

Francis Curry radiates enthusiasm.

Meet him, even once, and you'll notice there isn't much more energy you could pack into a human. He'll thank you and shake your hand vigorously. Before you release the grip, he'll thank you again.



Try to ask him a question about his retirement from Luzerne County Community College, and he'll stop you midsentence and say: "It's been a blessing and a joy."

Ask anybody who has ever met him and you'll hear the same words from them: It's been a blessing and a joy.

"He always sees people at their best," said Thomas P. Leary, president of the College. "He is Francis 24/7."

On October 5, Curry, the director of admissions at LCCC, officially retired. His 38-year career has been highlighted with success. Curry is responsible for the (LCCC) Adult Learners Association, Diversity Council, and the only NAACP student chapter in NEPA.

During his career, he has contributed much to the community and the college. He served as a council member in Forty Fort, a board member for the Luzerne County Homeless Coalition, and a member of the Red Cross Blood Drive. He is the recipient of the Red Cross Service Award (2010), LCCC Outstanding Administrator Award(1998), and two-time recipient of the Student Government Appreciation Award(1987-88).

And after all of the awards, lasting impressions, and contributions to the community, Curry said: "What I will miss the most is the students."

During this year's Bloomsburg Fair, Curry, a graduate of Pittston Area high school, sat at his usual (LCCC) recruitment booth. A gentleman approached him, shaking his hand and thanking him. "I didn't recognize the man," said Curry. It turns out that 14 years ago he was unemployed and struggling. He met Curry at that same recruitment booth. He enrolled at the College and went on to graduate, now leading a successful life.

"There are hundreds of stories like this," both Curry and Leary said.

"You can come here to the community college and do whatever you can do," Leary said. It offers opportunity at an intimate level and with people like Curry, inspiration is not lacking in the least bit, Leary continued.

"Wherever Francis goes he stirs it up. Just watch him walk ... when he enters a room you know he's there," said Learv.

When Leary was director of admissions, he and Curry would visit many high schools in search of future LCCC alumni. During the first moments in one high school auditorium, both Curry and Leary noticed countless students searching for their guidance counselor. "I don't think they know who the counselor is," Leary remembers thinking at the time.

He recalls watching Curry, without hesitation, helping students with their questions, not pausing for a moment even when the real counselor showed up.

"We will be friends forever," Leary says. "but I'm losing a thirty-eight year working relationship. We're losing a great man here at LCCC. When you work with somebody for so long, they take a piece of you."

Leary and Curry are more than just colleagues. "President Leary is a personal friend and inspiration," Curry said. "I love him dearly."

When Leary heard what Curry said, he responded: "I too, love him dearly."



#### andy goes to cuba















An LCCC faculty member was one of 17 U.S. college instructors selected to participate in a week-long interdisciplinary seminar at the University of Havana, Cuba, this summer.

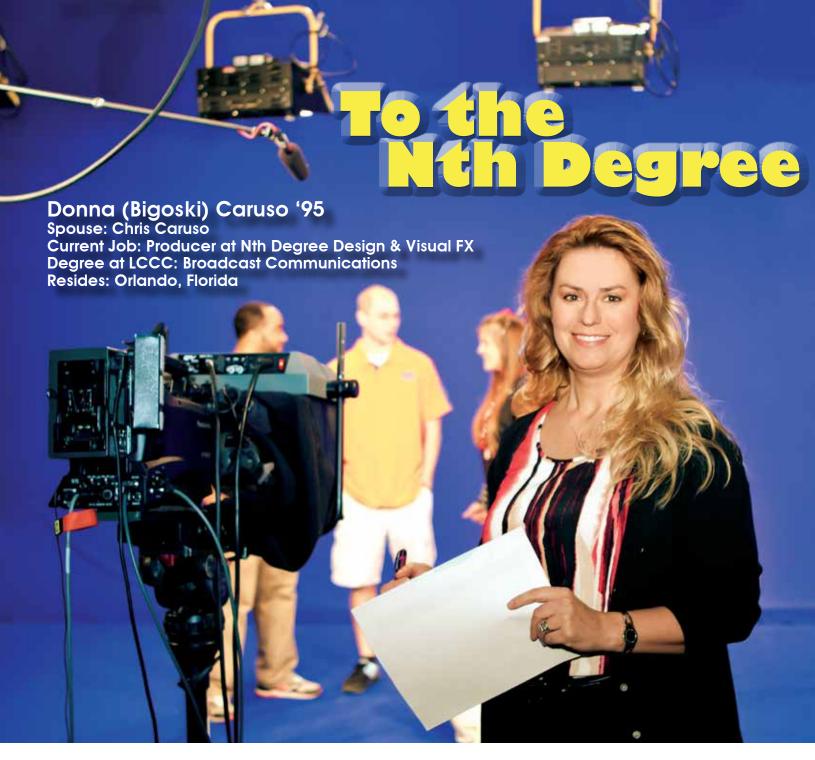
Andrew Petonak, Coordinator of Journalism and Media Writing, joined professors from several American colleges to meet with Cuban counterparts to discuss common academic interests including pedagogy, curriculum development, and collaborative research. Petonak also met with Cuban writers, activists, and media instructors to discuss how they do their work within a socialist economy.

"Our group met a lot of people who are dedicated to teaching and writing," Petonak says, "and who do both in what we Americans would see as very challenging conditions." Sponsored by the University's Center for Hemispheric and U.S. Studies and Arcadia University, the project invited faculty whose participation in a cross-cultural dialogue would enhance their courses, curricula, and teaching methods. Sharing the content of that dialogue with students is part of his academic department's mission, Petonak notes.

"We encourage our Communications majors to look beyond their personal and cultural boundaries which is necessary in this new age of global multi-media," he says.

Cuba is not Petonak's first visit to a socialist state or to Latin America. As a young reporter, he visited Poland two years before the Berlin Wall fell. From 2006 to 2008, he served on interview teams with the Guatemalan Human Rights Commission. Petonak has also offered classroom presentations to students and staff at four college and university sites in Kerala, India





or Donna Bigoski Caruso, Luzerne County Community College had a great effect on her career outlook, now she is making great effects on the tourism and broadcast industries.

Early in 2012, Caruso began a new career as Producer at Nth Degree Design & Visual Fx Inc. A recent winner of Orlando Businesses Journal's 2010 Technology Geek Award in the interactive marketing category, the company houses a team of creative professionals who create special effects for film and television.

Their work has included a Star Wars project, a series for Animal Planet, as well as projects for theme parks, the Discovery Channel, the History Channel, PBS and National Geographic. Other major clients include Disney Parks & Resorts, Sea World, Darden Restaurants and Marriott Vacation Club.

"My main role is project management," Caruso states. "I act as the liaison between the client and the artists in the studio. "We handle a lot of the post production end of things, like special effects and animation." The firm's creative team of artists take digital medium to new levels, such as taking simple sketches to elaborate stereoscopic 3-D scenes.

In her role, Caruso holds creative meetings to find out what the client is looking for, then conveys that vision back to the artists. Caruso explains that the client might just have an idea or something already shot against a green screen and needs effects added to the video.

She points out that Nth Degree works hard to keep ahead of rapid technology advancements, while understanding today's tech-savvy consumer expects a certain amount of interaction with their entertainment. "You have to continuously learn with the industry," Caruso says. "It's a lot of fun and excitement, but you have to be dedicated to this line of work."

As a Kingston, Pennsylvania resident and a graduate from Wyoming Valley West, Caruso originally chose LCCC because of the accessibility and affordability of the College. "I did not want to leave the area at the time," Caruso recalls. "I had a lot of friends going to LCCC. The class size and personalized attention were attractive to me." Caruso also felt LCCC had the academic choices she was looking for that matched her interests.

"I have always loved entertainment and television," she says. As a youth, Caruso would act and produce shows on her tape player. "I did a lot of that as a kid," she recalls. "When I went to college, I was able to reignite that passion."

Caruso remembers spending much of her time at Luzerne County Community College's broadcasting studio creating and producing news broadcasts, talent show contests, Halloween dances, and shows such as the Dating Game.

She attributes much of her skills for broadcasting on those she learned while at LCCC, such as storyboarding, filming, set design, editing and post production work, and public speaking.

While at LCCC, Caruso produced several television shows that aired on WYLN, a local television station located in Hazleton, PA. After graduating from LCCC in 1995 with an A.S. degree in Broadcast Communications, she was hired at the station.

Being a small station, Caruso had the opportunity to work at many levels of a television station. She helped with set design, promotions, video shoots, and even hosted her own show.

Caruso then moved to Florida and continued her education at Florida State University.

While finishing her studies, Caruso landed a broadcasting position at WSFU-TV, a PBS affiliate covering northwestern Florida. The station also broadcast the Florida Legislature providing live, unedited Legislative coverage and live, oral arguments of the Florida Supreme Court. "I had access to the Supreme Court Floor," Caruso says. "Filming and interviewing the judges and legislators was actually really cool."

While at Florida State, Caruso took an internship with the Tonight Show in Los Angeles for five months. "Long days and a lot of hard work, but myself and the other production assistants were able to participate in skits like Jay Leno's famous JayWalking bits," she says.

After college, Caruso went to work with C3 Studios in Orlando producing such shows as Ron Hazleton's Home Improvement episodes.

Caruso's love of horses led her to a job as head of Marketing and Public Relations at Highlife Farms. She acted as facilities manager of the company which breeds and boards world class sport horses for dressage and hunter/jumper competition. Many of the horses are located in British Columbia and Germany.

"I grew up around horses, so it was a wonderful career for me," Caruso states.

In addition to her current production career at Nth Degree, Caruso is also head of D.L. Enterprise, LLC, a small company she founded focused on product promotion. "Our joke book publication, "...the best internet joke I ever read was...' is being offered online at Amazon, Boarders and Barnes and Noble." Her next consumer product, the Perfect Fit Planter, is being offered to local retail outlets in and around Central Florida.

"I have always kept myself very busy," Caruso remarks. "If you have passion for something, you have to make it happen."



LCCC Pastry Arts students surround Buddy Valastro, aka "The Cake Boss" to viewers of his popular TLC reality show. Valastro was in town signing autographs at Barnes and Noble for his book "Cooking Italian with the Cake Boss." He took some time to offer encouragement and career advice to the students.

## Success on the Small and Big Screen



s a high school student at Wyoming Valley West,
Dave Bonawits wasn't sure what his future held
for him. He had two passions, his enjoyment of art
design and music. "I spent every dollar I earned on CDs,"
Bonawits admits. "I played guitar and started writing and
recording my own music in the late 90's." Looking for a career
path, he contemplated the idea of designing album covers.
Bonawits sought out colleges that had a strong commercial
art program.

It came down to two schools. Bonawits chose Luzerne County Community College. "I have two cousins who went through LCCC and really enjoyed it," he recalls. "Financially, it was the most logical choice and it just felt like a good next step for me."

Bonawits enrolled in LCCC's Graphic Design program through the Commercial Art Department. "What really struck me was that the instructors at LCCC were really passionate



about
teaching," he
remembers.
"They paid
attention to
you, explored
your strengths,
and let you
work hands-on
with projects
right off the
bat. The way
the faculty
talked about

art and creativity struck a cord with my artistic beliefs."

His art classes continue to influence his work in his current endeavors. "My color theory class still drives my design projects at Cartoon Network," Bonawits states. "Lessons I learned from my art classes are ingrained in my brain as to what works visually. LCCC is where I learned Photoshop and I still use that program every day."

LCCC held a student art contest to design the cover of the College's commencement program. Bonawits entered and won the contest. He graduated with an Associate's degree in Graphic Design in 2001.

Bonawits transferred to Temple University as an Art History major still determined to land a career in commercial art. A high school friend of his also transferred to Temple to major in film and video. Bonawits helped him work on several film projects and enjoyed the medium so much that he switched his major.

After graduating from Temple, Bonawits moved to Atlanta, Georgia with his girlfriend at the time and picked up work as a production assistant on several reality TV shows. He worked at a grocery store to help with expenses until he could find a full time job in his field. "It was a lot of waiting around," he expressed. Finally in March of 2006, Bonawits caught a break when Cartoon Network hired him as a production assistant. He worked with the company's website and eventually moved over to their Adult Swim department.

"Adult Swim is an interesting place because it's a very small group of people running a hugely successful television network," Bonawits says. He refers to himself as a "digital maid" because of the wide variety of projects he works on. "I mainly work for adultswim.com, so often I make promos for the shows and flash games on the site."



In addition to editing, Bonawits works very closely with the writers to shape promos, shoot video, and sweeten the audio. He codes and edits shows and uploads them to the website. "It's a wonderful place to work. I like it here a lot," he adds.

Bonawits says his busy schedule at Adult Swim definitely instilled his hard work ethic, especially once he became serious into his foray of filmmaking.

He started making short films when just a kid. Bonawits made several shorts while in college as projects for classes and several while in Atlanta. Then came Pleasant People.

"Pleasant People is my first feature," he states. "It started as a short film submitted to the Rapid i Movement film contest in February 2008. I cast my girlfriend, Jiyoung Lee, and two of my best friends, Josh Hall and Becca Cayce, as the stars. I had never seen any of them act before, but I had a hunch they would be good onscreen. And they were! People seemed to really enjoy their performances." Bonawits spent a year and a half collecting ideas and scenarios for the feature version of Pleasant People.

"I very naively decided to act as producer, director, camera operator and editor. We took the next year shooting on weekends, editing as I went along, reshaping the story with each shoot. I actually scrapped the last 15 minutes of the film and reshot the ending. My mom said it has a 'feel good' ending. I wanted to make something that was warm and nice. We finished Pleasant People with a two-man crew for next to nothing."

Bonawits submitted Pleasant People to 10-15 festivals, mostly small regional fests. "Slamdance, was our long-shot," he admits. The Slamdance Film Festival is a yearly film festival reserved for independent films to showcase the discovery of new and emerging talent in the film industry.

A few nights before Thanksgiving Bonawits received a phone call saying his feature movie had made it into

## Pleasant People To Blank Bonawits Pleasant People To Blank Bonawits Peo



Slamdance. Pleasant People was one of ten films accepted into the narrative feature categories in the competition. The festival receives more than 5,000 submissions of features, documentaries and short films each year. "I parked my car and jumped up and down and shouted 'Yahoo!' which I don't think I've ever shouted in my life. But it felt appropriate."

Bonawits, Lee, and several other of his friends and fellow actors made their way to Utah to attend the screening of their feature movie. Other invitations from film festivals in Philadelphia, Atlanta, Chicago, Tuscan, and Guam followed. He is working on eventually releasing the movie to DVD.

Bonawits has been working on several other film projects and music videos, performing with Lee in their band Antbrain (which he describes as noisy pop music), and his full time gig with Adult Swim.

He is currently filming a web series on YouTube titled "Diligent Witches" about a trio of 30-something women who saw The Craft in high school and never gave up the dream of being witches. They perform seances and things, but always mess them up. "It's a heart-filled comedy starring Jiyoung and Becca Cayce from Pleasant People and some other of my friends," Bonawits says. He is planning another feature movie project which he hopes to film in Wilkes-Barre. Bonawits did say he finally was able to achieve his original dream. He used an artwork design from a class project at LCCC to design an album cover for his own CD.

Cooking with the

#### Don Godleski, '83 aka Chef Ozzie

Spouse: Lisa, wife of 22 years Children: Taylor, Maggie, and Mitchell Education: Hotel and Restaurant Management, LCCC, 1983

Attended Johnson and Wales after LCCC and received an AOS in Culinary and BS in Food Service Management

BS IN FOOD Service Management

Current Job: Corporate Executive Chef and Brand

Ambassador for Heartland Sweeteners

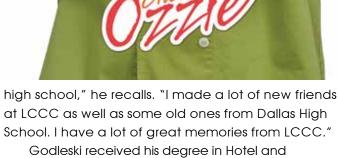
s a student at Dallas High School, Don Godleski enjoyed his studies, friends, and playing football, but as he started reaching the end of his high school years, he wasn't sure what the future held for him. Godleski met with his high school counselor who asked him quite simply, what do you enjoy doing the most? He spent a great deal of time helping prepare meals for his family.

"While I was a youngster, my mother inspired me to try my hand at cooking," Godleski recalls. "I spent many days helping and watching her as she prepared family meals or food for holiday parties. Early on, I was fascinated by the hospitality and food service industries," Godleski says. "My first job, at fifteen, was at Burger King, and I continued to work in food service through high school and college."

Godleski felt strongly that food service was his career path. And although his mother is an excellent instructor, he began to explore culinary schools. His sister, Judy had finished Luzerne County Community College with a degree from the Dental program. Godleski learned LCCC offered a program in Hotel and Restaurant Management. "I made a last minute decision to go to LCCC," he says.

"My Hotel and Restaurant Administration instructor at the time, Eustrace Scannell, thought I had a fantastic instinct for cooking," Godleski says. "He saw something in me. He pushed me and encouraged me to keep going in this program."

Godleski credits many of the management and core culinary courses at LCCC as being helpful in preparing him for through his career. "College academic classes were a challenging transition from



Restaurant Management from Luzerne County
Community College in 1983 and with professor
Scannell's recommendation, went on to pursue his
degree in Culinary Arts and continued on to receive
his BS in Food Service Management from Johnson and
Wales University.

"After college, I went to work for a Connecticut restaurant as a chef, doing the purchasing at Hunts Point produce and meat markets and the Fulton Fish Market in New York City," Godleski says. "I then moved into the contract food service industry, spending ten years with Marriott Corporation, followed by work in the Philly Steak manufacturing business and with several other companies, leading me to where I am today."

In 2008, Godleski landed his current position at Heartland Sweeteners as their Corporate Executive Chef and Brand Ambassador. His job



Guy Fieri , Food Network, and Godleski at Lifetime's Balancing Act at the 2010 Atlantic City Food and Wine Festival.

entails developing new recipes utilizing the company's products and traveling around the country to promote Ideal Sweetener. He tests recipes and is the culinary expert for the company.

"As the company chef, I have the vision of taking this product and using it in all my everyday recipes, as well as developing new products and applications," Godleski says. He uses his stage name of "Chef Ozzie" when promoting in public.

Chef Ozzie was also one of nearly 700 chefs who gathered at the White House as part of the First Lady's initiative to combat childhood hunger and obesity and to become the healthy food educator. Godleski is an advocate of heath and wellbeing and has worked with school districts to develop healthy food choices.

He travels across the country to attend trade shows and food events touting the Ideal brand. He has appeared on shows such as QVC and was a regular guest on Lifetime Television's morning show "The Balancing Act."

In addition to his duties as a chef, food scientist, and spokesperson, Chef Ozzie is also an author. His recent book, "Sweet Revolution. Cooking Without Sugar," won the 2011 Indie Excellence Award in the category of Food–Non-Fiction and includes more than 60 recipes.

Godleski is an active member of the Research Chefs Association. He refers to himself as a culinologist, a chef whose approach to food blends the culinary arts, food science, and food technology. Through the blending of these disciplines, culinology seeks to make food taste better, be more consistent and safer.

Godleski says culinary graduates are missing some great opportunities in this field. "Many manufacturers hire food scientists and chefs," he says. "The industry is huge and the opportunities are endless. Attend food trade shows, look behind the scenes, and get passionate about the science behind food."

Chef Ozzie says it all starts with a solid foundation. "I went to LCCC and look where I am now," Godleski says. "When you pick a career path, do something you are passionate about. If you love what you do, you never really work a day in your life."

So where did Godleski develop his alter ego Chef Ozzie? "In the summer of 1981, myself and three buddies lived and worked at the beach in Wildwood, New Jersey. We gave each other nicknames based on famous rock stars. I had a ponytail so I was the obvious choice for Ozzy Osborne and the name 'just stuck with me'."



The next five pages are devoted to businesses that employ a number of LCCC Alumni. If your business includes LCCC graduates, we would love to come to your company and take a photo! Please contact Bonnie Lauer, Alumni Director, at 1-800-377-5222, ext. 7734 or blauer@luzerne.edu



#### Cross Valley Federal Credit Union

Shown are, from left, diagonally -- Daniel J. Chipego '74, chief financial officer; Heather Vanderhoff '98, msr; Kristina Meixner, BSA officer; Joanne Herron, msr supervisor; Len Shimko '69, board member; Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; and Erica Elgonitis '00, accounting assistant. Second row -- Tina Cerase '10,



teller; Liz T. Mack, head teller, Forty Fort Office; Joanne Bonning, vice president, human resources; Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC; and Peter Lello, major gifts/planned giving specialist, LCCC. Third row -- Edward Kaushas, Esq., C.P.A., president/CEO; John Makowski, maintenance; Chris Pastuszak '08, teller; and Chris George '93, loan processor.

#### **Bemis Company Inc.**

Shown are, from left, first row -- Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC: Marvann Eisenhower, CS representative; Lori Marshall, invoicing coordinator; Ann Brozyna '88, production clerk; Brent Tompkins, process engineer; Karleen Ward, human resources manager; Bob Caccese, engineering services manager and interim plant manager; Barbara Borra, training and education manager; and Peter Lello, major gifts/ planned giving specialist, LCCC. Second row -- Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Patrick E. Flynn II, extrusion department manager; Steve DeWitt, converting department manager; David Eisenhower '92, press department; and Andrew Lynn, machine operator, converting department.



#### **Travelocity**

Shown are, from left, first row -- Tom Lopez '11, sales-travel agent; Joann Conley '95, supervisor; Kevin Halchak '02, analyst; and Maria Pernisco '84, product management.

Second row -- Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Ryan Bonning '07, agent assistant; Sara Ercolani, manager; Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC; and Gary Weber '95, account manager.

Third row -- Roxann Durham '01, sales-travel agent; Patrick Harris '06, support team; Bruce Parnell '98, regional manager; and Peter Lello, major gifts/planned giving specialist, LCCC.





#### **FOX 56 WOLF-TV**

Shown are, first row, from left -- Cheryl Willis '96, promotion assistant; Matt Howey '00, IT engineer; and Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC.

Second row -- Craig Bisbing, master control operator; Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Joseph Kolesar '07, production manager; John Guziewicz '95, production editor; Tom McHugh '72, associate professor and chair, broadcast communications, LCCC; and Peter Lello, major gifts/planned giving specialist, LCCC.

#### Rural Health Corporation of NEPA Monroe Noxen

#### **Health Center**

Shown are, from left, first row -- Marina Yarasavage '87; Elizabeth David '91; Kristen Parelli Jannuzzi '02, RDH; Michele Brunges Yagloski '90, R.N.; Hemali Javia, DDS; and Johanna Jones '82, R.N. Second row -- Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Martin McMahon, DMD, dental director; Elizabeth Manzoni, CDA, EFDA, BS, adjunct faculty, LCCC; Patricia Brooks, EFDA; Cheryl Reeves '83, medical receptionist; Pamela Cavany '79, medical secretary; Linda Dorrance, Human Resources Co.; Gwen Galasso,



M.D., medical director; Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC; and Peter Lello, major gifts/planned giving specialist, LCCC.

#### **Carpenter Dental**

Shown are, from left, seated -- Bernae Evans, intern; and Caitlin Shusta '10, dental assistant.

Standing -- Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC; Peter Lello, major gifts/planned giving specialist, LCCC Foundation, Inc.; Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Sandy Roach '88, dental hygienist; Alyssa Matlowski '06 and '08, dental hygienist and dental assistant; Chas M. Carpenter, DMD; and Charles M. Carpenter, DMD.





#### Dr. Loren J. Grossman Cosmetic Dentistry

Shown are, from left, first row -- Peter Lello, major gifts/planned giving specialist, LCCC; Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC; Alina Doma '11, dental assistant; Dale Iverson, dental assistant; and Sue Shubilla '06, RDH, dental hygienist.

Second row -- Loren Grossman, DMD, FAGD; Tina Graziano '97, RDH, dental hygienist; Lori Moran '99, RDH; Jean Chapin '03, CDA, EFDA, dental assistant; and Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC.

#### **Affiliated Pediatric Dentistry of NEPA Scranton**

Shown are, from left, first row -- Katherine Poepperling, DMD, pediatric dentist; Lisa Cerra '91, RDH; Olivia Lombardo '08, RDH; and Maria LoRusso '09, RDH.

Second row -- Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC; Nadia Kopcha '08, RDH; Angel Dippre '10, RDH; and Alan H. Firestone, DMD, pediatric dentist. Third row -- Ross Wezmar, DDS, pediatric dentist; Tammy Smicherko '92, RDH; Chelsey Bendrick '10, RDH; and Peter Lello, major gifts/planned giving specialist, LCCC.



#### **Clements Dentistry**

Shown are, from left, first row -- Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC; Michelle Gallagher '09, EFDA, dental assistant; Laura Arnold '91, RDH, dental hygienist; Jessica Zurawski '99, RDH, dental hygienist; and Sherri Williams '93, EFDA, dental assistant. Second row -- Peter Lello, major gifts/planned giving specialist, LCCC; Kim Scarcella '88, RDA, dental hygienist; Ivanna Bogarowski '03, RDH, dental hygienist; Raeann Marsland '05, RDH, dental hygienist; and Joan Baur '89, RDH, dental hygienist.



#### **Affiliated Pediatric Dentistry of NEPA Wilkes-Barre**

Clark '88, RDH, Nicole Evans '05, RDH; and Lori Bozek '04, RDH. Standing -- Peter Lello, major gifts/ planned giving specialist, LCCC;

Shown are, from left, seated -- Carol

planned giving specialist, LCCC; Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Chris Kohut '83, EFDA; Ross Wezmar, DDS; Liz Morgan '93, RDH/EFDA; and Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC.





## Drs. Watkins and Medura

Shown are, from left, seated -- Heather Ricko '02, dental hygienist; Holly Ratowski '92, EFDA; Donna Martin '79, CDA, EFDA; and Kathy Capitan '76 and '94, DA and RDH, dental hygienist and EFDA. Second row -- Kayla Sokola, dental assisting student, LCCC; Mary Majewski '80, EFDA; Jennifer Clarke '91, dental hygienist; Tracey Wolfe '87, EFDA; and Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC. Third row -- Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Leonard Medura Sr., DDS; Scott Watkins, DMD; William Watkins, DDS; and Peter Lello, major gifts/planned giving specialist, LCCC Foundation, Inc.

#### **Frantz Dental**

Shown are, from left, first row -- Sarah Johnson '04, expanded function dental assistant; Jeanine Mahle '00, dental hygienist and dental assistant; April McGroarty '06, expanded function dental assistant; Michelle Sgarlat '96, expanded function dental assistant; and Dr. Bernard E. Frantz, DMD. Standing -- Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Karen Gallamo '99, receptionist; Kate Daniels '06, expanded function dental assistant; Peter Lello, major gifts/planned giving specialist, LCCC Foundation, Inc; Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC; Chris Corgan '83, dental hygienist; Karen Tomulaitis '82, dental assistant; and Charlene Miller '84, dental hygienist.



#### **Times-Shamrock Communications**



Shown are, from left, first row -- Keri A. Gera '07, advertising account executive, Standard Speaker; Scott F. Wenrich '72, maintenance, The Citizens' Voice; Judi Shaver '72, marketing coordinator, The Citizens' Voice; Renee Shrader '04, ad operation coordinator, The Times-Tribune; and Mark Hoover '99, promotions director, Rock 107.

Second row -- Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC; Mark Altavilla '80, advertising director, The Citizens' Voice; Don Farley, regional general manager, Times-Shamrock Communications; Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Mark Moran '89, chief photographer, The Citizens' Voice; and Peter Lello, major gifts/planned giving officer, LCCC.

#### **Riverview Ambulatory Surgical Center**



Shown are, from left, first row -- Stephanie Teberio '04, RN; Lisa Cooper, CST; Patti Kirby '91, RN; Kelli Klinges '88, CST Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC; and Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC.

Second row -- Alaina M. Keown '09, billing representative; Jacquie N. George '87, RN; Dan Monk '02,, CST; Maggie Galletti, CST; and Peter Lello, major gifts/planned giving specialist, LCCC.



LCCC Alumni Association members, volunteers, and students staff the phones for the annual Phonathon

## 2012 Alumní Events



Melissa Williams Taney '03, president, LCCC Alumni Association stands with Richelle Smith, '12 recipient of the Alumni Association's Outstanding Graduate Award for 2012



Carlos Alcantara poses with Bonnie Brennan Lauer'87, director, alumni relations, LCCC. Alcantara is the recipient of the Alumni Association's Outstanding 2012 Adult Learner Graduate Award



College's summa cum laude graduates in attendance at LCCC's Commencement ceremony



Members of the LCCC Alumni Association hold their basket raffle during the Annual Flea Market and Collectibles Show



LCCC's annual Dental Health Alumni Day

#### Alumni Class Notes

#### 1971

Commander Sergeant Major Dale E. Hill (Business Administration) retired from the US Army Reserves in 2007 while serving in Iraq as the banking and economics advisor to the Anbar Province, Iraq embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team. In 2009 he retired from the US Army War College in Carlisle. Sergeant Major Hill had a very active career in the military and remains active in his retirement in a variety of civic activities. He presently serves as ombudsman for the employer support of the Guard and reserve. Mr. Hill resides in Northern Cambria and is the father of three, Dale Jr., Lauren and Reis. He is also the proud grandfather of six.

#### 1974

Catherine Sheridan-Piotroski (Social Science) retired in 2010 as a US Postmaster. Following her LCCC graduation, she continued her education earning her MBA from Wilkes University in 1984. Catherine and her husband Martin reside in Wilkes-Barre and are the parents of three children Marty, Scott, and Erin.

#### 1976

Anne Grega (Medical Office Assistant) attained her licensed master social worker (LMSW) degree from New York University - Silver School of Social Work in May 2012. Anne resides in Manhattan and is studying for her licensing exam to pursue positions within the Veterans Administration system in the New York City area.



#### 1982

Andrew McAndrew (Criminal Justice) was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel by the Maryland State Police. He is currently the chief of the Field Operations Bureau. Andrew also earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Maryland and a master's degree in management from the Johns Hopkins University. In addition, he served for four years in the United States Marine Corps Reserves. He and his wife, Melinda, reside in the Baltimore suburbs and have a son, Sean, a resident of Raleigh, SC.

#### 1987

Gerald Seman (Business Administration) was recently named president / mortgage services for Jersey Shore State Bank, Williamsport. In his position, he is responsible for the expansion and management of the bank's residential mortgage function. Jerry is also a graduate of the Central Atlantic Advanced School of Bank and serves on several professional boards in the banking industry.

#### 1989

*Marlene Lukacinsky* (General Studies) is a licensed practical nurse and health coach for Intermountain Medical Group. She resides in Swoyersville.

#### 1991

Sharon Beecham Danielewicz (Nursing) is the director of surgical services for Cedar Park Regional Medical Center, Cedar Park, TX. She earned her BSN in 2006 and her MSN and MHA in 2008 all from the University of Phoenix. She has been successful in leading the surgical services department at her organization through multiple Joint Commission Surveys. She served as interim director of cardiopulmonary services for four months and is currently training for a chief nurse officer role within her organization. Sharon has two children, William and Amanda Beecham. She and her husband, Mark, live in New Braunfels, TX.

#### 1998

Cindi Heness (Nursing) has accepted the position of registered nurse assessment coordinator at the Partridge-Tippett Nursing Facility located on the United Methodists Homes Wesley Village campus. Cindy also earned an associates degree from LCCC in business administration in 1988 and her licensed practical nursing degree from Wilkes-Barre Vocational School's LPN program.

#### 1999

Ken Foster DMD (General Studies) earned his B.S. in education from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania in 2001. He then went on to graduate from the Temple University School of Dentistry in 2006. He resides in White Haven and recently celebrated the first anniversary of opening his own dental practice in Mountain Top.

#### 2000

Katherine Semanek (Science) and her family recently established the "Stephen G. Semanek Memorial Scholarship" in memory of her brother who passed away in 2010 while a student at LCCC. This scholarship is intended to assist students in the health sciences curriculum, be active in their community and have financial need. Kate and her family have conducted several fundraisers since his death to fund this scholarship. Memorial contributions can be sent to the LCCC alumni office in support of this scholarship.

#### 2002

Michele Garrison (Legal Assisting – Paralegal) is working at Wilkes University as the administrative assistant to the vice president and the coordinator of summer programs in the office of strategic initiatives. She furthered her education at Wilkes earning her bachelor of arts degree with a double major in Criminology and Sociology in 2009 as well as her master of science degree in education with a concentration in School Business Leadership in May 2012.

#### 2003

Melissa Williams

Taney (Journalism) and her husband Jason recently welcomed a new addition to their family, Jamison Howard Taney. Jamison was born on April 23, 2012 and joins big sister, Mallory. Melissa is the marketing secretary at



LCCC and is also the president of the Alumni Association. The Taney family resides in Nanticoke.

#### 2005

Miranda Hildebrand

Costa (Health/Physical Education) and her husband John recently welcomed a baby girl to their family. Brielle Catherine Costa was born on April 9, 2012. Miranda works in the health and physical education department and is also the cross country coach for the College. In December 2012 she was awarded a master of



science degree from California University of Pennsylvania in Exercise Science and Health Promotion The Costa family resides in Drums.

#### <u> 2008</u>

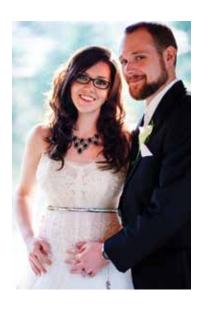
Tara Marie Reichert (Nursing) and Nicholas Benjamin were united in marriage in September 2012. Tara is a traveling registered nurse with Medical Staffing Network. The newlyweds celebrated with a honeymoon in Riveiera Maya, Mexico and reside in Berwick.

**JoAnne Yuhas** (General Studies) has earned her bachelors of arts in business administration from Misericordia University. She is the institutional advancement assistant at LCCC. She and her husband, Steve, reside in Wilkes-Barre.

#### 2009

*Courtney Davis Muendlein* (Nursing) is an OB nurse at Hazleton General Hospital. She and her husband, Donald, live in Mountain Top.

Alison Schmidt (Commercial Art - Painting/ Illustration) and Michael Carson (Commercial Art - Painting/Illustration) were united in marriage in the Spring of 2012. The couple met in 2007 while they were both pursuing their degrees in painting and illustration. Both Alison and Michael continued their education and earned respective BFAs with honors in 2011 from Marvwood University in Painting. Alison was also voted



"Best Visual Artist" in the 2011 Weekender Reader's Choice Awards and Electric City's Best of 2011. She is the sole proprietor of Alison Schmidt, Fine Art which can be found online at www.alisonschmidtart.com. Michael Carson is a freelance illustrator, fine artist, and sole proprietor of Michael P. Carson, Fine Art. The couple also provides private art instruction from their local studio. Both intend on earning their MFAs at the New York Academy of Fine Art in the coming years.

#### 2010

Andrea Tirpak (Accounting Technology) is an audit

specialist for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bureau of Financial Operations. In this position, she is responsible for advanced professional work in the managerial auditing of Department of Public Welfare organizations, programs and activities. In addition she recently completed a ten-week tax preparer course through Liberty Tax Service. Andrea resides in Wilkes-Barre.



#### 2011

Kristie Troy (Dental Hygiene) is a hygienist at HnR Dental Temp Agency in Philadelphia, PA. Kristie is married to Alexander Troy '07 a graduate of LCCC's Journalism program. The couple resides in Boyerstown.



#### <u>2012</u>

Cody L Bowers (Electrical Construction Technology) has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX. This was an intensive eight-week program that included train in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfare principles and skills. Congratulations Cody!

#### 2012-2013 Events Calendar

March 11, 2013 Alumni Association Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Campus Center, second floor, Alumni room (#214)

March 18 – 27, 2013 Alumni Association Phonathon, Educational Conference Center

**April 6, 2013** – College Open House, 10am-12 pm, Campus Center

April 15, 2013 Nomination deadline for the Outstanding Graduate Awards. For more information, visit: luzerne.edu/graduation2.jsp#GraduationAwards
April 15, 2013 Application deadline for LCCC Foundation & Alumni Association Scholarships. Visit

luzerne.edu/foundation/scholarships.jsp for a complete listing of offerings.

May 4, 2013 14th Annual Alumni Flea Market & Collectible Show, Educational Conference Center, 8 am - 2 pm May 10, 2013 Dental Health Alumni Day, Educational Conference Center, speaker: Patti DiGangi

May 13, 2013 Alumni Association Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Campus Center, second floor, Alumni room (#214)
May 16, 2013 Computer Information Systems / Court Reporting / Health Information Management and related programs Alumni Mixer, Bar Louie - Mohegan Sun May 21, 2013 Graduate Reception, Educational

Conference Center, 6:00-8:00 pm

May 23, 2013 Commencement Ceremony, Mohe-

**June 2, 2013** Antique Automobile Club of America Car Show, Main Campus

October 19, 2013 24th Annual Craft Festival

gan Sun Arena, 6:00 pm

For more information on these events, contact the LCCC Alumni Office at alumni@luzerne.edu or call 570-740-0734.

#### **Retirees/Career Moves**

The following members of the faculty, administration, and staff have retired from the College since the last issue of "The Bridge" was published. We wish them well in their future endeavors.

Jean Barney, Social Science/History Faculty Susan Bevan, Associate Librarian Sam Brosso, Technology Faculty Ellen Buydos '96, Automotive Technology Secretary Dorothy Craig, Nursing Faculty Gayle Delano Slezak, Speech Faculty Monica Delucca, Nursing Faculty Marie Gill, Faculty Secretary
Debbie Ginocchietti '98, Physical Plant Secretary
Jim Johnson, Associate Professor/Director, Paramedic Program
Mary Jones, Assistant to Director of Student Support Services
Cynthia Mahalick, Respiratory Therapy Faculty
Anna Mary McHugh, Learning Support Assistant
Craig Waldner, Motorsports Technology Faculty

#### **In Memoriam**

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

#### **LCCC Graduates**

Alyson Antonicelli '88 (Dental Hygiene)

Marie Blizzard '81 (Journalism)

John Dudeck '93 (Business Adm.)

Royce Engler '05 (Criminal Justice)

Marylou Evan '80 (Nursing)

Herbert Fice '97 (Automotive Technology)

Joseph Fisher '78 (Hotel/Restaurant Mgt.)

John Golida '86 (Electronics Eng.)

Michael Gulick '78 (Business Adm.)

Francis Hall '90 (General Studies)

Dale Holodick '81 (General Studies)

William James '71 (Architectural Eng.)

Gregory Kaminski '94 (Nursing)

Edward Kania '92 (Nursing)

Sandra Kochanski '83 (Nursing)

Brenda Kocher '81 (Social Science)

Linda Maira '98 (Legal Assisting/paralegal)

Raymond Morgan '81 (Hotel/Restaurant Mgt.)

Kevin Munley '77 (Hotel/Restaurant Mgt.)

Vincent Nanorta '74 (General Studies)

Karyn Newell '93 (Food Production Mgt.)

Paula Oscielowski '87 (Office Mgt. Technology)

Robert Rupchis '73 (Hotel/Restaurant Mgt.)

Richard Sabulski '81 (Science)

Stephen Safka '97 (Business Mgt.)

Roger Schoch '96 (CA Photography)

Ryan Schuler '99 (General Studies)

Jason Slavish '96 (Business Adm.)

Melanie Smith '88 (Business Adm.)

Joseph Sobeski '72 (Hotel/Restaurant Mgt.)

Gregory Suda '78 (Architectural Eng.)

Bonnie Sutton '80 (Education)

## 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.

Give a gift to the LCCC Foundation online at https://www.luzerne.edu/foundationgiving/

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. 7734 or at 740-0734.

### Alumni benefit offers discount on auto and 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 add-on multi-policy discount. 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.

#### In Memoriam (CONTINUED)

George Swan '77 (Business Adm.)
Stanley Wall '69 (Computer Aided Draffing/Design)
Robert Weale '83 (Fire Science)
Judith Whitmire '00 (Nursing)
Marie Whitt '97 (Entrepreneurial Mgt.)
Agnes Wiktorek '05 (General Studies)
Patricia Williams '91 (Nursing)
David Wolfe '89 (Broadcast Comm.)
Carl Yachim '80 (CA Graphic Design)
Nancy Zapach '91 (Nursing)
Tracey Zero '97 (Nursing)

#### LCCC Faculty/Staff

Joanne Capece
Emma Conklin
Eleanor Grotkowski
Elaine Lyons '76
Nancy Macarty
Dennis Mason
Teresa McDade
Howard Sprague
Jack Yackshaw
Russel Yurchak



Hey, LCCC is on Facebook, MySpace Flickr, YouTube, LinkedIn, Pinterest & Twitter!

Keep up to date with all the happenings at LCCC and keep connected with friends. LCCC is on multiple social media channels to provide communication in whatever way you choose. Explore videos, student work, upcoming events, new classes, and faculty news through the power of social media. Go to LCCC's homepage: www.luzerne.edu and click on the social media icons to join in. You can also find LCCC Alumni groups on Facebook and LinkedIn by searching for Luzerne County Community College Alumni. See you online!

## ALUMNI AND FOUNDATION HONOR ROLL

July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012

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#### **Melissa Jabore Futch Honored**

Shown are, from left -- Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC; Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Melissa Jabore Futch, vice president of investments, Stifel Nicolaus, donor; and Francis Curry, director, admissions, LCCC.



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#### Barbara Struckus Memorial Scholarship

recipeint, Alexandria Bielsa, joined donors and family at LCCC's annual Scholarship Donor Dinner. The scholarship was established in 2010 by friends and family of the late Barbara Struckus. Barbara was an LCCC graduate and dedicated her career to LCCC until her retirement. This award is offered to a full-time student who has financial need. Sarah Struckus'01; Alexandria Bielsa, award receipient; Jill Struckus'00, and John Struckus.



Robert Conner '84
Rosemarie Corsaletti '01
Dr. Douglas & Kathleen Coslett
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The Luzerne County Community College Alumni Office recently received a donation from **Lisa Rowley '89** in support of the "Filling the Need" campaign.

George Lacey '85

The intent of the "Filling the Need" campaign is to raise funds to support equipment purchases for the Benco Dental Clinic at the LCCC Health Sciences Center. For more information, call the LCCC Alumni Office at 740-0734 or (800) 377-LCCC, extension 7734.

Rowley is the program director for the School of Dental Health Science at Pacific University in Oregon. She previously served as director of the LCCC dental health program.

Shown are, from left – Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC; Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Lisa Rowley '89, Portland, OR, donor; and Francis Curry '71, director, admissions, LCCC.



Frances Obosla Beth O'Boyle '73 Renee O'Connor '90 James O'Donnell '96 Leslie Olerta-Leibman '96 Alex O'Malia '76 James Opet '83 Connie Pace '12 Romaine Pace William Palmer '93 Louis Palmeri William '75 & Joyce '81 Panaway Dale '82 & Ellen '93 Parmenteri Kimberly Parsons Christopher Patrick '83 John Pawloski Jennifer Pawlowski '88 Gina Pechulis '00 Laraine Peck Linda Philbin '76 Adele Piasta '01 Carmel Piedmont '82 Joseph Pluskey '76 Marie Poplawski '00 Bridget Potorski

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Jacqueline Pramick '72 George Price '88 James Price '83 Michael Prunty Joseph Prushinski '79 Laura Prushinski '02 Richard Pshar '88 Frank Pugliese '79 Danita Puhl '84 Ashlee Puzio '07 Debbie Puzio '78 David Pvskotv '06 Joseph Quather '74 Ryan Quinn '98 Stephen Rakos '91 Dorothy Rankin Rosemarie Rava '97 Gloria Rawls '86 Blaine Readler '74 Lewis Reich '72 Margaret Reilley '89 Dawn Richie '93 Molly Rinker '91 Frank Rinkevich '80 Raymond Ripka '08 Carol Risch '89 Joseph Ritz '71

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#### The Northeastern PA Regional Chapter of the Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA)

recently made a donation to the Luzerne County Community College Alumni Association Scholarship Fund. The regional chapter of the AACA held its 51st annual car show at the College campus and donated a portion of the proceeds to the College's Alumni Association. The donation benefited the Nancy Boback Memorial Scholarship at LCCC which is awarded to qualifying automotive technology students.



Shown with a 1923 Ford Model T Depothack which was on display during the show are, from left -- Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, director, alumni relations, LCCC; Ann Marie Schraeder '79, treasurer, alumni association and assistant to the executive director, resource development, LCCC; Susan Gilroy-King '10, member, alumni association and adjunct faculty, LCCC; Melissa Taney '03, president, alumni association and secretary, marketing, LCCC; Thomas P. Leary, president, LCCC; Bob Stavish, treasurer, AACA; Cathy Berkey, car owner; Bob Berkey, car owner; and Sandra Nicholas, executive director, LCCC Foundation, Inc.

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Members of the Luzerne County Community College Alumni Association and scholarship recipients recently attended the annual Dinner for students and donors sponsored by the LCCC Foundation Inc. The Alumni Association awarded over \$10,000 in scholarship assistance for the 2012-13 academic year. Shown at the dinner are seated: Nabila Bashir, scholarship recipient; Deborah Kowalczyk, scholarship recipient; Jacyln Gaugler scholarship recipient; and Lisa Owens '97, Alumni Association Vice President. Standing: Brenda Sickler '97, Board Member, Susan Gilroy-King '10, Board Member; Bonnie Brennan Lauer '87, Director Alumni Relations; Frank Owens '06, Lorianne Zaleski, scholarship recipient. Standing row 2: Holly Evanoski '05, Board Member, Russell Keeler '91, Board Member, Patricia Besermin '08, Board Member.

The college recently recognized **Gary Druby '76 (Hotel / Restaurant Management)** for his continued support of the LCCC Alumni Association and its annual phonathon. Gary is the proprietor of Abe's Hot Dog's, South Main Street, Wilkes-Barre.



#### **Matching Gifts**

Many community-minded organizations match the gifts their employees give to non-profit and community organizations. Financial support was received during the past fiscal year (11/12) by the following organizations:

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#### **In-Kind Gifts**

The College receives "In-kind" support (contributions of equipment, services, supplies, or other non-cash gifts) from philanthropic-minded companies to support our student programs. In-kind support was received during the past fiscal year (11/12) from the following individuals and organizations:

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Carol Dean '89
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Kimberly Neary '09
Sandy Nicholas
Lisa Owens '97
Ronald Pajor '69
Alice & Jennifer '88 Pawlowski
William Rinaldi /
Mark Construction Services
Brenda Sickler '97

The Foundation and Alumni Office have made every effort to make the information contained within this publication accurate. We regret if we omitted any of our friends. If we received your gift before or after our 2011-2012 fiscal year, your name might not be included in this issue's list. Should you observe any discrepancy or error, we ask that you contact us at (570) 740-0735.

### The Convergence of Communications

Commercial Art and Broadcast Communications departments have been neighbors in the same building for many years now, but both led separate lives.

Until now.

With new technology and changing job environments, the skill sets needed in both communications fields have become very similar. Students in these careers now have to be a "jack of all trades" requiring a broader education.

In the journalism and broadcast fields, reporters not only have to be able to write, but also take photos, shoot video, and have strong idea of print, web, and social media design. Designers in commercial art careers need to be better writers and design for electronic media also.

Students need to be able to work with writing and designing to communicate to publics in a variety of media – television, canvas, print, web, or mobile.

"We needed to take the core of what we do best in these two programs and merge them together," says Tom McHugh, department chairperson for the two programs. McHugh refers to the merge as "convergence." He says students need to receive all the assets both programs have to offer. "The flow of media content has many different channels," he says. "The education we provide hasn't really changed, but the means of communications has changed. We need to redefine communications very broadly."



The new communications arts curriculum will consist of a core foundation that both programs can utilize in their fields of study. McHugh says students and faculty are excited about the new curriculum and the benefit in doing this. "It makes our students more marketable," McHugh adds.

"We are the first college to mesh commercial arts with communications," McHugh boasts. "LCCC is working with four-year colleges and universities so the program transfers well so students can continue their education should they choose to do so."

#### **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS**

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#### What's



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. You may include a recent photo of yourself too. Thank you!

Name			
City		State	Zip
Year. of graduation/	program		
	Phone (evening)		
Spouse's Name			
Names, birth years	of children		
Post LCCC education	on		
Program & complet	ion date		
	employer		
	l job responsibilities		
Recent accomplishr	nents/points of interest		
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

1/13



Office of Alumni Relations Vanticoke, Pa 18634-3899 333 S. Prospect Street

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Artwork by members of the Drawing on our Faith January 11-February 22 En Plein Air Society

Tunkhannock and Northwest areas Winning artwork by high school students in the Back Mountain, Annual Rossetti Exhibit March 3-March 27

photography by Michael Molnar and Sam Cramer A Collection of Two Masters A collection of paintings and April 5-May 2

photography, computer graphics and An exhibit of graphics, paintings, portfolios by students of the Annual Student Show LCCC Art Department May 10-June 6

Studio Views June 14-July 11

Paintings and drawings by the students of Georgiana Cray Bart

A Vision of Three July 19-August 8

Featuring the work of Rob Hay, Ryan Ward and Mark Webber

A juried group exhibit featuring photography captured only by Phone-tography August 16-September 5 cell phone cameras

Artwork done by the children September 13-October 17 of the Litewska Hospital Crayons & Care II Warsaw, Poland

Artwork by students exhibiting the techniques of the Old Masters October 25-November 28 Old Masters

Annual Faculty/Alumni Exhibit An exhibit by faculty and invited December 6-January 2 alumni artists

Gallery Hours: Monday-Friday 9-5 pm • Evenings and Weekends by appointment 2nd floor of the Campus . Center Luzerne County Community College 570-740-0727 • 1-800-377-5222 • schulmangallery@luzerne.edu 1333 South Prospect Street Nanticoke, PA

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