

New jobs

(continued from page 1)

Orloski, vice president of marketing for the family-owned firm. Of those, nine to 10 are full time and the rest part time.

The weak early response to a help wanted sign posted in the window of the store during construction had Orloski worried. "It was really interesting," he said. "I got a little anxious at first." But as the building neared completion and help wanted ads appeared in the paper, Orloski was "swamped" with applicants.

One surprise was the number of job hopefuls who had come to the Back Mountain from other parts of the nation. Still, newcomers or long-time residents, Orloski said about 9 of 10 applicants lived in the area now.

Nearly all the new hires have worked out well, only one person has left so far. "That's excellent," Orloski said.

While most of the jobs pay in the \$5.00 per hour range, slightly higher than similar stores, there are now two managers — one each for the store and car wash — and there soon may be two assistant managers in the car wash. Those full-time positions carry more responsibility and higher pay.

The store is "doing quite well," Orloski said. "It's moving along at the rate we'd like. Customers tell us they like the location."

The Commonwealth bank office in the complex may be the first bank situated in a convenience store in the nation. Bob Richardson is regional manager for Meridian Bank, Commonwealth's parent, and has lived in Dallas all his life. He said the new branch employs a total of eight persons, with a mix of full and part time. Part timers are especially important because the office has extended hours and is open six days a week.

There were five new hires when the branch opened last month, while two employees transferred from other offices. The manager, Peter Restaino, lives in Jackson Township.

"We had quite a number of applicants," Richardson said, attributing that in part to consolidations and layoffs at other banks. He said Commonwealth looked for people with bookkeeping or accounting backgrounds, or experience handling cash. He couldn't say where most applicants lived.

Twenty-five years ago, Richardson opened the First Eastern Bank branch, now PNC, just up the street. He left First Eastern several years ago to head up what was then the First Bank of Greater Pittston.

"I think the Back Mountain is looking for personal services," he

said, and feels his bank offers a close relationship with customers. With four teller stations and four drive-up windows, if the branch is highly successful there could be room for a few more jobs, but expansion space is limited beyond that.

On the horizon, a new Wendy's Restaurant will open around the end of the year, and expects to create as many as 50 jobs. Two of four full-time managers have already been hired, and there will be four shift managers working 30 to 40 hours a week, plus 35 to 40 crew positions, said franchise operator Steve Kecip.

"In my experience, the quality of the applicants has been outstanding."

Steve Kecip
Wendy's franchisee

Crew workers will earn from \$4.75 to \$5.25 per hour, working 15 to 35 hours per week. Shift managers will be paid \$6.50 to \$8 per hour, and salaried managers will earn \$350 to \$425 weekly, working an average of 45 hours. The latter two categories will be eligible for company-paid health insurance.

Candidates for management jobs should have customer service experience, Kecip said, as well as personal qualities of openness and the ability to nurture and train others. Former teachers and coaches often do well in the job, and in this case he hired a former employee of the closed Acme store in Dallas.

An initial set of help wanted ads drew more than 30 resumes despite a snowstorm that knocked out power to Kecip's fax machine. He's happy with the quality of the responses. "In my experience, the quality of the applicants has been outstanding. They're not afraid of work, and they have personality, too."

Kecip, who grew up in Dalton, has plenty to compare with. He worked for Wendy's for 15 years, last as franchise consultant in parts of three states. This will be his first store, but he hopes only one of four within a few years. Dallas will be the "home base," and, Kecip hopes it will become a "certified training" site.

Training is important, Kecip said, and managers will spend five weeks preparing for their jobs, a week at Wendy's training school and four weeks at another store. The training store for Dallas employees will be in Bloomsburg. Travel there, and the odd hours in the restaurant business, have

scares off a few applicants. The restaurant will be open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

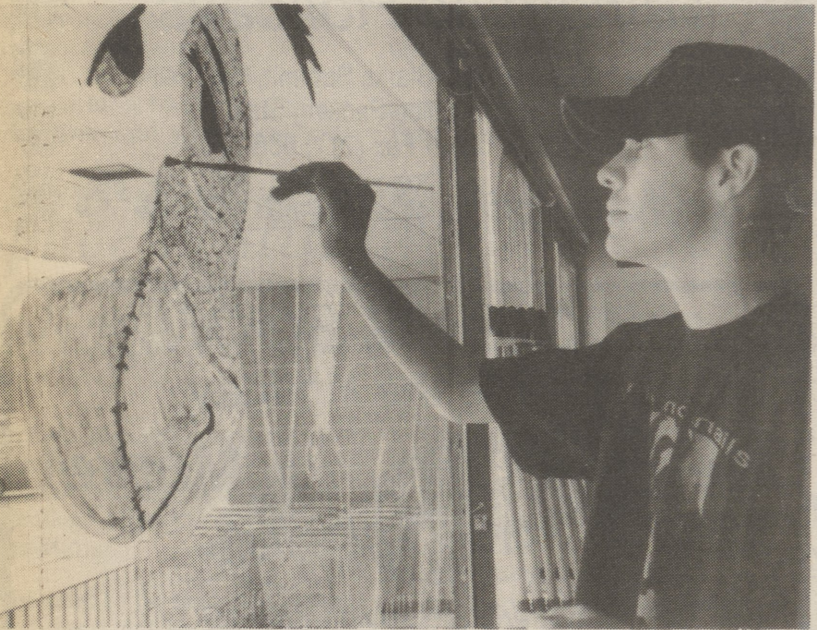
If the Dallas restaurant earns a training designation, Kecip will be able to train new hires for this and other stores right here.

The jobs being created closely match projections for northeastern Pennsylvania made by analysts at the state department of labor and industry. They predict growth in service jobs and a decline in goods-producing jobs through the year 2000. Among the fastest-growing occupations are waiters and waitresses, cash-

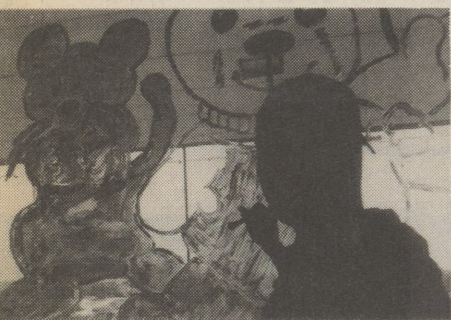
iers and nurses.

Manpower Inc., a temporary employment service, conducts periodic surveys of employers, and in its latest release found that 29 percent of employers in the Wilkes-Barre area plan to add people this winter, while 10 percent expected to employ fewer workers. The other 61 percent see no change in employment at their firms.

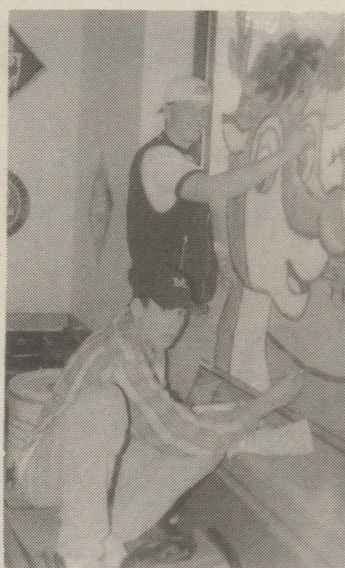
The new jobs here fall short of replacing the 100+ positions lost when Native Textiles moved its Dallas operations to Glens Falls, New York earlier this year. Those jobs averaged about \$9 per hour, and many of the people who filled them had worked at the plant for years.



Michael Kernag dabbed the finishing touches on Eeyore.



Walter Davis, above, was silhouetted against his masterpiece.



Kevin Burkhardt, left, and Ryan Dauksis teamed up on Rudolph.

PAINTING THE TOWN

PHOTOS BY CHARLOTTE BARTZEK



Antoinette Karis took a break from her labor.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

The following property deeds were recorded at the Luzerne County Courthouse for the week of Nov. 17-23.

Clayton M. Keaboe, et ux, to Karen Ann Niskey, 1.43 ac. Dallas Twp., \$120,000.

Lee Sorbers, et ux, to Daniel Joseph Hodle, 29, 31, C Glenview Terrace, Dallas Twp., \$8,500.

Gary M. Whitney, Per sheriff to Fed. Home Loan Mtg. Corp., 698 Hill St., Maplewood Av., Dallas Twp., \$6469.

Richard Boice, et al, to Warren Barlow et ux, Harveys Lake Bor. \$9,000.

Thomas P. Garrity, to James J. Elliot, Harveys Lake Bor., \$100.

Stanley J. Ray, et ux, to Hazle Enterprises of WB, 3 parcels, Harveys Lake Bor., \$130,000.

Paul L. Detwiler III, et ux, to Michael R. Sherin, et ux, Spruce St., Harveys Lake, \$105,000.

Corrine P. Anderson, executor si, to Stern Smith, Newhart Rd., Jackson Twp., \$20,000.

Leonard Walp Jr., et ux, to John Young, et ux, 7.217 ac., Jackson Twp., \$115,000.

Joseph R. Leary to Allied Contractors & Engineers, 65C Trucksville Gardens, Kingston Twp., \$8,500.

Mary R. Mathers, to McHale Development Corp., Maple St., Kingston Twp., \$25,000.

Joan Rosengrant, et vir, to Harkins Assoc. Inc., 74 Mt. Airy Terrace, Kingston Twp., \$2,500.

Gregory Paul Williams to Connie E. Evans, Lehigh St., Kingston Twp., \$87,000.

Elizabeth A. Kosakowski, to George Kachapuridze, 3.8 acres, Ross Twp., \$90,000.

4 City Cable Inc. to Jeffrey D. Lawson, et ux, 4.82 ac Grassy Pond, Ross Twp., \$19,900.

Robert A. Warner, to Paul Warner, Ross Twp., \$12,000.

The Finest in clothing and Shoes for Women and Men

Now Appearing . . .

For Men . . .

Robby Jones

BOSS

HUGO BOSS

COOGI

TOMMY

HILFIGER

nautica

GREG. NORMAN

JOSEPH

ABBOUD

ANDREW MARC

Route 6
Dickson City

Open: 9-9 Daily,
11-5 Sunday

SUBURBAN
CASUALS

For Women . . .

JONES NEW YORK

JH Collectibles

Kenneth Cole

NEW YORK

ANNE KLEIN II

DANABUCHMAN

SANYO

CAROL COLIEN

CK

KENAR

501 S. State St.
Clarks Summit
Open 9-6 Daily,
9-8 Thursday,
11-5 Sunday

Holiday Sale

Diamond...
to wear on a whim,
anytime...

1/2 ct to
2 1/2 ct.

Ochman
COINS & JEWELRY
18 Church Street
Dallas, Pennsylvania
Next to CVS (formerly Rea & Derrick)

675-5872
Holiday Hours
Mon.-Fri.
10 a.m. - 8:30 pm.
Sat. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sun. 12-5

THE SAME GRACIOUS SERVICES AVAILABLE SIX DAYS A WEEK ARE NOW AVAILABLE SEVEN.

Now Open Sundays Noon 'Til 5:00
Monday Thru Friday 10:00 'Til 8:00
Saturday 10:00 'Til 5:00

The Country Club
MEN'S SHOP

United Penn Plaza • Kingston • 288-6501
138 Penn Avenue • Scranton • 343-1888

Christmas Memories

Panasonic
FAMILY DEALER
SELECTION • SERVICE • SATISFACTION

Dare TO COMPARE

RQ-SW20 ShockWave Personal Stereo Radio Cassette Player
Water-Resistant Design with Rugged Durable Construction • YMSS Virtual Motion Sound System Headphones • Digital Synthesizer Tuner
\$99.95

PV-IQ505 Palmcorder IQ Compact-VHS Camcorder
Color Viewfinder • Digital EIS • x14 Variable Speed Power Zoom • Digital Zoom
\$849.00

Aumick's Audio Visual
16 E. Main Street • Plymouth, PA 18651
(717) 779-4950 • Fax: 779-4980
Hours: M 9-5, T & W 9-5, Th 9-8, F 9-5, S 9-1
Visa • MasterCard • Discover • American Express • Layaways Welcome

Dallas Auto Parts

668 Memorial Hwy., Dallas
675-2143

CLIP-ON HALOGEN WORK LAMP
(200-watt 12V)

AS ADVERTISED ON TV!

9.99 NAPA 19" PLASTIC TOOL BOXES
Choose steel, green, orange or yellow #1190A, G.O.T.

15.99

MAKE IT
NAPA BRAND NEW