## **Teachers**

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one of my first loves." Kerkowski was an '87 graduate of Lake-Lehman and received his undergraduate degree from Lock Haven University. He was nominated for Who's Who by Marissa Beven, who appreciated his help in chemistry and science.

Christine Kopcho, high school biology teacher, has spent 27 years teaching at Lake-Lehman. She is originally from the Plains area and chose Lake-Lehman because she wanted to stay in the area. Kopcho, who has been nominated for the honor several years in a row, says, "It's a really good feeling knowing that you help them to become better people, not just on a science level, but on a personal level. When you get letters or calls thanking you for a job well done, that's a good feeling.

Robert Langan graduated from Wyoming Area and continued his education at Bucknell University. He taught at Wyoming Area for 10 years and has been teaching ninth and 11th grade social studies at Lake-Lehman for the past 11 years. Langan says his own good experiences with teachers encouraged him to join the teaching profession. Langan has also been honored by Who's Who several years in a row. Of the honor, he says, "It feels great to have a student recognize you like this. It makes you feel as if you're doing the job." What Langan enjoys about his job is being "able to have a positive influence on kids."

Jean Lipski coaches field hockey and wrestling cheerleading, and helps with school plays at Lake-Lehman in addition to teaching English, humanities, speech communication, and theater. A graduate of Lake-Lehman, Lipski returned to the school 18 years ago to begin her career. She says, "I've always wanted to teach literature. My parents tried to talk me into nursing, but teaching is always what I've wanted to do." Lipski believes "working with younger people helps to keep us young." Lipski also says, "I would like teaching better if society looked at teachers in a better way. I think our job is exceedingly important and I just wish society would look at it that

Paul Reinert has been teaching for 16 years. Reinert recalls that he had to receive emergency certification during his final year of college to teach for one half year at Western Wayne High School. He has been at Lake-Lehman since. For 12 years he taught seventh and eighth grade life science and he has been serving as school counselor for the past four years. Reinert received his master's degree in school counseling from the University of Scranton and is currently working towards school administrator certification. Although he is not coaching now, he has coached soccer, wrestling, track, and cross-country. Reinert enjoys the constant challenge of "learning about kids and learning how to make kids successful," but is frustrated by "not being able to find a way to have every kid

### Palute, Prothero honored by SCID

Superintendent David Larkins of the State Correctional Institution at Dallas recently awarded Certificates of Longevity to Corrections Officer Frank Palute for 35 years of state service and Corrections Officer Jack Prothero for 25 years of state service.

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'I'm better now than when I started. You have to work at this." **Paul Reinert** Lake-Lehman teacher

successful." Reinert says, "I'm better now than when I started. You have to work at this. To be a teacher requires constant learning." Reinert resides in Sweet Valley with his wife Kim and their three children.

Jane Smith has been at Lake-Lehman for almost 20 years and served as a substitute teacher at Dallas prior to joining the Lehman staff. She taught English for 15 years at the middle school and began teaching American Literature and American Studies at the high school three years ago. Smith says she came to teaching because, "I felt I really had an aptitude for it." She was nominated by Jaci Race who, she says, was a good student. This is the second year Smith has been honored. Of her students, she says, "They're all unique and meeting their needs is a challenge." She also says, "Teaching can be very demanding. If you're very conscientious, you feel the job is never finished."

"I just love being around kids and I love the sciences." Scott Kerkowski

Lake-Lehman teacher Walter Sorber has been teach-

ing at Lake-Lehman for 27 years. Prior to coming to Lake-Lehman, he spent one year teaching at Dallastown in York County. He teaches the social studies electives, which include economics, sociology, criminal justice, Native Americans, and psychology. Sorber also coaches baseball. He graduated from Lake-Lehman in 1966 and continued his education at Mansfield College.

Marietta Toole has taught first grade at Lehman-Jackson Elementary and third grade at Lake-Noxen Elementary. She has been with the school district for 30 years. This is the third time she has been selected for Who's Who.

Toole says, "When I went to school, your options were you teach or you become a nurse. I thought I'd try my hand at teaching and luckily, it worked." She went on to say, "I worked at it. You have to make it good for you and for the kids." Toole says she is "frustrated at opportunity kids don't have." She says, "I can't change their home life. I can only be consistent when they come to school."

Michael Toole started and finished his teaching career at Lake-Lehman. The recently retired teacher taught 11th grade American Cultures and was the Home and School Visitor for 26 years. Toole was 21 when he began teaching and saw teaching as a way "to help other kids." He says, "I liked the idea of trying to figure out where they were coming from. I liked working with the 11th graders. I liked being able to tell the kids about things I had lived through."

Theresa Wilk has taught business education in the high school for the past 30 years. She served as yearbook advisor for 10 years, Future Business Leaders of America advisor for 10 years, staff leader of the business department for 28 years, and chair of the Citizens Advising Committee for Business Education. She received her B.A. from College Misericordia and a masters degree from Marywood College. Wilk was nominated for the honor by Sandy Ramage, who was one of her students. Wilk says that she enjoys "interacting with students of that

Thomas Yoniski began teaching at Lake-Lehman eight years ago. The Lehman alumnus teaches eighth grade social studies and coaches football at Dallas. He has also coached junior high baseball. Yoniski recalls, "I started out as an accounting major and I knew it wasn't for me." He went on to say "having the ability to maybe shape a student's life, to make a difference in their life," is his favorite part of the job. This is Yoniski's fourth year as a Who's Who honoree. Yoniski lives in Trucksville with his wife Sharon and their daughter, Kaitlyn.

Madelyn Koch declined to be interviewed for this article.

## Zoning

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it was the application desired. He asked Lutsey to define "commercial" and in light of the proposed request, to determine the number of additional parking spaces, the need for a 13 ft. side yard variance for a stair tower, and a variance for an 12 square foot lighted sign.

Frank Cassella of Dallas, owner of FPC Corp. was represented by Attorney Shea, who explained the proposed use of the building in very general terms. "FPC wants to create individual executive suites that would share a clerical staff and conference rooms," Shea said. The term "professional office" restricts the use of property to only doctors, lawyers, accountants, architects, and the like he said.

Since FPC does not fit into any of these categories it had to ask for a different zone status. Shea did not have much of the information asked of him. He was asked about the sort of tenants that "I think it will just be too expensive for anyone to buy, tear down, and build a residence there."

> **Ted Wright** Borough council member

would occupy the building, how many would occupy and about the requested lighted sign, to which he had no answers.

The unspecific explanation for the change of status did not ease many neighbors' minds. Some were strongly against the use because of a possible increase in traffic. "It could be opened to a telemarketing or customer service business that might create a lot of traffic," said Alexander (Duncan) Whitehead of Hickory concerned about an increase in traffic and the safety of the children," explained Walter Bronson of Norton Ave. The residents' fears were not unfounded as John Varaly, the Planning Director for Wilkes Barre compared average traffic for a medical/dentist office to a general office. Using a PennDOT

"If it becomes a business, work-

hood at the same time the chil-

ers will be entering the neighbor-

dren are coming to school. I'm

tist office could draw 168 vehicles a day, while the general office could draw as many as 195, a 17% increase. To aid in its decision, the board passed around a petition. Two signatures were for the proposed status change and more than 80 were opposed. Most people in

attendance were pleased with the

regulations formula, Varaly de-

termined that the medical/den-

outcome of the hearing. "I'm very happy with the decision. We'd like to see it go back to residential," said Louise France of Machell Ave. "The decision is great. We have been fighting for that area for 20 years. The minute we discovered they were going to build something other than a house there, we've done nothing but fight," said an elated Robert Dickinson, president of the Ster-

ling Avenue Association.

Some felt the decision could hurt the neighborhood in the long run. "I can definitely understand people's concern. But, playing devil's advocate, I have concerns about the building staying vacant and eventually becoming an eyesore," said Ted Wright, Dallas Borough Council member. "I think it will just be too expensive for anyone to buy, tear down, and build a residence there." Wright fears that the residents might have won the battle, but lost the war.



Eleanor Skrovonsky of Machell Ave. signed the list of Dallas Borough residents opposed to expanding a special exception on the former Dallas Family Practice building.

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## Music Box Players to present musical

The Music Box Players will present a musical version of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, Nov. 22-24, 29, 30, Dec. 1, 5-8, and 12-15. At Thurs.-Sat. performances, the bar opens at 6 p.m., a bullet dinner is served from 6:30 p.m. and curtain is at 8 p.m. At Sun. matinees, the bar opens at 1:30 p.m., dinner is served at 2 p.m. and curtain is at 3:15

Tickets for dinner/show or show-only may be reserved by calling 283-2195 or 1-800-PLAY, Tues.-Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Group sales, Senior Citizen group rates and children's prices are available. VISA and MasterCard are accepted.

The Music Box Dinner Playhouse, is located at 196 Hughes St., Swoversville.

#### Kosloski on duty with Navy in Jacksonville

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Anthony F. Kosloski, son of Nancy J. and Anthony F. Kosloski Jr., of RR 1, Harveys Lake, recently reported for duty at Naval Air Station Cecil Field, Jacksonville, FL.

The 1981 graduate of West Side Vocational Technical High School of Pringle, joined the Navy in April,

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