

## Leadership profile

### Mary Siegel's involved in her community

Henrik Ibsen once said, "A community is like a ship: everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm." Would you be ready to "take the helm" of our community? Mary Siegel of Dallas is!

Mary is currently the vice president at Ruckno Construction in Forty Fort. But she also finds the time to take part in numerous community activities.

Mary serves on the board of directors of the Mercy Health System Northeast Region and is their regional board secretary as well as being a member of the board of directors of the United Way of Wyoming Valley, and chairing their strategic planning committee. She also serves on the board of directors of the Catholic Social Services, is an advisory board member for the Luzerne Foundation and acts as a mentor for a participant in the Leadership Wilkes-Barre Class of 1997.

Mary credits Leadership Wilkes-Barre for encouraging her



Mary Siegel credits Leadership Wilkes-Barre with smoothing her return to the community.

POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

to become more involved in her community. "For someone who returned to the Wilkes-Barre area after many years away, Leadership Wilkes-Barre was an excellent opportunity for re-entry into the community," she said. She graduated from the program in 1983.

Leadership Wilkes-Barre, a 10-month adult program, is designed to educate participants about community issues, teach them leadership skills, expand their

network and motivate them to serve and strengthen our community. The program explores topics such as human services, health care, government, work force issues, community and economic development, diversity, media, education, and the justice system during day-long seminars that are held once a month.

Class members also work on a community development project during the course of the program.

Mary states that, "(Leadership Wilkes-Barre) has opened doors for me and provided opportunities for community involvement, service and collaboration that I never would have dreamed possible."

Applications for the Leadership Wilkes-Barre Class of 1997-98 are available by calling the Leadership Wilkes-Barre office at 823-2101. The deadline for applications is April 1, 1997.

## Business office changes will save Lake-Lehman \$25,000

By JENNIFER JUDGE  
Post Correspondent

**LEHMAN** - Lake-Lehman School District will revamp its business office, replacing two positions with one, saving about \$25,000 annually in the process. But not everyone's happy about the changes.

Board members Lois Kopcha and Rose Howard voted against the motions, objecting to salary increases. Business manager Kathleen Williams said the cost of running the business office in previous years was \$232,388; the new cost will be \$207,240.

Issues regarding the district's sewage treatment plant were tabled until firmer cost estimates are available. Board member David Kaufman suggested the board work with district architect Douglas Trumbauer to "tighten the scope" of the project before proceeding. Trumbauer said, "The board will be involved in the decision."

He explained the cost of the project could range from \$30,000 to \$40,000, but specific numbers could not be determined until work is under way.

Motions to prepare drawings for the project, advertise for bids, and submit required paperwork to approving agencies were tabled until a general purpose meeting to be held March 19 at 7:30. Trumbauer urged the board to act quickly so that work could begin as soon as summer recess begins.

Also during the meeting, residents questioned the board about

teacher contract negotiations. In response to the decision by the teacher's union and the school board to negotiate in private, Jackson Township resident, Bob Allardyce said, "What's so secret about it? It's a matter of public information." District solicitor Peter Savage explained that most districts meet for a time in private and make the results public at a later date.

The present teachers' contract, which has been in place for three years, expires August 31, 1997. Negotiations began in January. Board members on the negotiating team are Ed Kern, Gary Miller, David Kaufman, and Samuel Rhodes. According to the administrative staff, current teacher salaries range from \$29,070 to \$56,970, with most salaries falling in the \$40,000 range.

The board voted unanimously to approve first readings of a Sabbatical Leave Policy and a Compensated Professional Leave Policy. The changes will make sabbatical leave strictly for medical reasons and professional leave for education. Previously, sabbatical leave was used for travel, education, or medical reasons.

Also during the meeting, superintendent William Price announced results of the feasibility study for the middle level building are due within the next few weeks. Price hopes to have a formal presentation from the architect at the April school board meeting.

## High school bands keep busy, plan concerts

### Dobranski, Yakus qualify for State Band

By MICHAEL TWICHELL  
Post Correspondent

**BACK MOUNTAIN** - As springtime begins, the Dallas and Lake-Lehman High School music programs are in full swing. Nearly a dozen students from both high school bands took part in the recent Region IV band festival, held March 5-8 at Athens High School.

Dallas trombone player Mike Dobranski and Lehman clarinetist Melanie Yakus both qualified for the upcoming state band festival, to be held later this year in Pittsburgh. This is Dobranski's second trip to states, and Yakus's first.

"Mike did an outstanding job, and worked hard to make this happen," said Dallas band director Todd L. Hunter.

Lehman director Edward A. Richards said, "I'm very happy for Melanie. It's very tough to get to this point."

Dallas students Kristan Faerber, Todd Kern and Tim Mansfield, as well as Lehman's John Dawe recently performed in the Regional chorus festival, held in late February at Milton High School. Kim Gaylord also qualified but was unable to attend due to illness. "The festival was excellent, and the kids did well," said Dallas choral director Melissa Reese. "The concert was great, and John did a very good job," said Lehman's Jonathan Pineno.

Both schools are also participating in the Luzerne County music programs. Dallas and Lehman band members joined players from several area schools for a

concert held March 13 at Wilkes University. Chorus members will hold a similar concert April 30 at Wilkes.

Lehman also held a special "Cabaret Night" Saturday, March 15. Band and chorus students performed in small instrumental and vocal groups for family and friends. "It was a chance to try something a little different," said Richards.

The Dallas jazz band had its first competition March 16 at Meyers High School, and received a rating of Very Good. "We did well for our first time out, and hope to do better as the season goes on," said Hunter.

Both schools have various trips scheduled, with the Dallas band going to Ocean City, Maryland, May 8-11. The Lehman band has a trip to Walt Disney World sched-

uled to begin April 2, and the Lehman Chorus will be traveling to Annapolis Maryland for an adjudication April 18-20.

The Dallas band will hold its annual spring concert Thursday, April 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the high school. A donation of \$3 for adults and \$2 for children and senior citizens will be requested. The Dallas chorus will have its turn on Thursday May 1 at 7:30 p.m. at the high school. Admission is free. For further information, contact Todd Hunter or Melissa Reese at 675-5201, ext. 260.

The Lake-Lehman band will hold its spring concert Friday April 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the high school. The Lehman chorus will present its program Thursday May 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the high school. For further information contact Edward Richards or Jonathan Pineno at 675-7458.



### Kiwanis presents \$1,000 check to library

Members of the Dallas Kiwanis Club recently presented \$1,000 check to the Dallas Memorial Library. From left, Jim Snyder, Secretary; Tex Wilson, Past President; Martha Wheeler, Library Director; Marilyn Rudolph, Children's Librarian; Peter George, Past President; and Charles Kishbaugh, Past Lt. Governor.

### College choir will sing at Dallas UMC

The 50 member Houghton College Choir, under the direction of Jean Reagal, will give a performance at Dallas United Methodist Church Monday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m.

### Voter applications available at the Post

Mail-in voter registration applications are available at the office of The Dallas Post. Registrations must be received at the Luzerne County Election Bureau by April 21 in order to vote in the May 20 primary. Voters must:

- Be a citizen of the U.S. for at least one month.
- Be a resident of the election district for at least 30 days prior to the election.
- Be 18 years of age on the day of the election.
- Not have been imprisoned on a felony charge in the previous five years.

The office is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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