

Entrepreneur

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fish." Alves met Frank in a class last fall at Wilkes. "He stuck around after class and started to ask smart questions. You could tell he was there more than as a college student. That caught my attention." Frank, he said, didn't have a systematic way to approach his business.

The garden ponds are the most unique aspect of Frank's business, and these ponds are more than open air aquariums. The pools often have waterfalls and are surrounded with plants. The fish, too, are bigger. His pool at home has two catfish, coy and goldfish six to eight inches long or more.

"Kevin is a curious, hard working young man. He's the kind of kid you'd want next door."

Jeff Alves
Business instructor
Wilkes University

Ponds range in depth, but most are two feet deep with a one foot shelf around them. "Three feet is plenty," Frank said. The pools are lined with a flexible plastic between 32 and 45 millimeters thick.

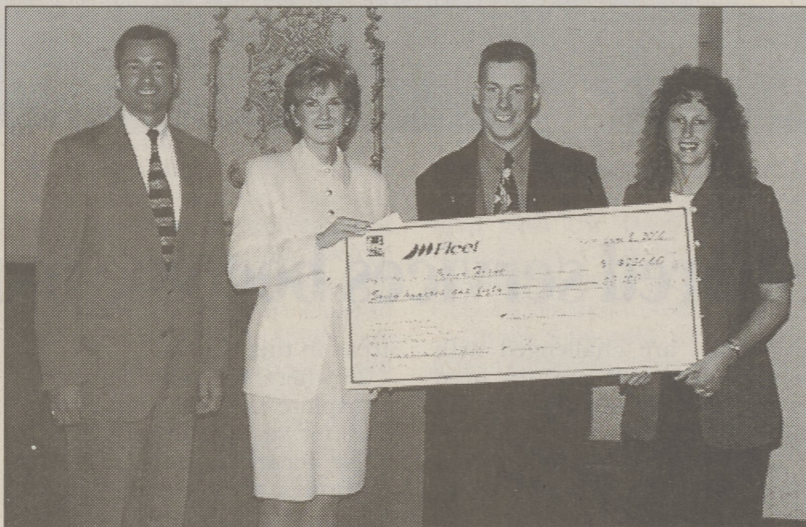
A pond is filtered by several different processes, and requires less work than a tank. "After a pond matures, it'll take care of itself," he said. Ponds may need to be drained and cleaned every three or four years.

The pond is an ecosystem, he said, and the fish, plants and water create a complete environment. Frank wants to add more plants around the outside of his pool. "The more plants the better," he said.

Waterfall construction and leveling a pond are the two biggest challenges of his job. Frank designs and builds his ponds himself, or has friends help him if the job is bigger. The price of his average pool is under \$600, and most of his customers are resi-



Kevin Frank kneels beside the pool in his backyard.



Accepting the award, from left: John M. Levitsky, Chairman, Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce; Cindy Yevich, Fleet Pennsylvania Services, sponsor of the award; Kevin Frank, and Jane Ashton, Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce.

dential. Aquatic Creations is an artistic side of his profession, and building waterfalls does use his engineering skills, he said. "I'm really geared toward the engineer-

ing side of the business," he said. With his degree, he will design water treatment plants, dikes, and other larger structures.

Frank also works for the

Luzerne County Recreation Department. He maintains and landscapes the county park, located just off Wyoming Avenue next to the Wyoming Valley Airport.

Alves feels there could be a future in Aquatic Creations. "It's the kind of business that can be permanent. It could support a family," he said.

Frank isn't worried about building his business too much. "I'd like to get my degree first," he said. He has four jobs lined up for the summer so far.

"Kevin is a curious, hard working young man. He's the kind of kid you'd want next door," said Alves.

"I'd really like to thank the chamber for the award. It's nice to get recognition for the hard work," Frank said. Some of his \$750 award will go toward school, but some of it will go toward the other ponds as well.

Kevin Frank may not make a living from his business, but it will be more than an opportunity that got away.

Meadows taking Candy Striping applications

Applications are now available for the summer Candy Striping program for teens 13 to 18 at the Meadows Nursing Center, Dallas. The session begins with orientation on June 21 and June 22 from 9 a.m. to noon. Teens can choose either date. Uniforms will be provided by the Meadows.

Students can assist the activities and nursing departments with various assignments during the day, evening or weekends.

Please call the Volunteer Department at 675-8600, Ext. 138, to register.

Trout Derby for kids July 1

The Bowman's Creek Watershed Association and the Noxen-Monroe Sportsman's Association will be sponsoring a Trout Derby for children ages 2 to 14. The derby will be held on July 1, starting at 11 a.m. The derby will be at the Noxen-Monroe Sportsman's Hall on Main Street in Noxen. Prizes will be awarded in three groups, ages 2-5, ages 6-9, and ages 10-14. There will be no fee for children to enter. Refreshments will be served. For information call 639-1723.

Murphy

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member to Luzerne County Children & Youth Services Advisory Board. She is a current member of the Pennsylvania Commission for Women, the Pennsylvania Women's Campaign Fund and the Luzerne County Board of Assistance.

Murphy was a member of the second graduating class of Leadership Wilkes-Barre in 1983. She has acted as a mentor since 1985 and was Past Chair of the Leadership Wilkes-Barre Advisory Council. One of her projects is an interactive voter exercise program for groups which is given several times a year. "I try to encourage people to vote by showing them how important each and every vote is and what power there is in a vote," she said.

For the last five years, she has been Special Assistant to State Senator Charles Lemmond, Jr. where through a well-run office, "I make state government accessible to the taxpayers," she said. She tries to relate to the public's needs so that they get better answers to questions and faster service from the Senator. "Women bring a

different view to problems as well as solutions," she says.

Murphy also is a founder and coordinator of the Naylor-Lemmond Community Thanksgiving Dinner, named in part to honor her grandfather, Benjamin Naylor.

Family life is very full as everyone prepares for the June wedding of her youngest daughter, Brennan, to John Tomedi. Katelyn Murphy McCarthy with husband and baby Aiden will be coming from Atlanta, Georgia while Jennifer Murphy Wilconish with husband and daughter Olivia Rainbow will be here from Boulder, Colorado.

Murphy's private life also reflects her leadership strength, as co-founder of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation located in the Montessori Center in Kingston. She has served as lay leader and notes that "It was the first organized religion to permit women in the clergy in the early 1800s." In fact, she has a recurring thought about a possible calling to enter the seminary. As she says so often in appreciation, "I feel blessed."

Car wash aids Legacy soccer team

On Saturday, June 24, the Residents Council of Mountaineer Manor Route 309, Dallas will sponsor a car wash. All proceeds will benefit state champions Back Mountain Legacy U12 traveling soccer team for their trip to regionals in Rhode Island. For information call 675-5108. Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Dallas Baptist Church VBS June 25-30

Dallas Baptist Church, Route 415, Dallas, will hold its Vacation Bible School on June 25-30 from 6-8:30 p.m. "The Fantastic Good News Ocean Odyssey" helps children, ages 4 through completed grade 6, explore the depths of God's faithfulness through Bible study, music, worship and crafts. Each evening concludes with a snack. A closing program for the entire family will be held on Friday night, June 30, at 6 p.m.

For information or to register your children, please call the church office at 639-5099.

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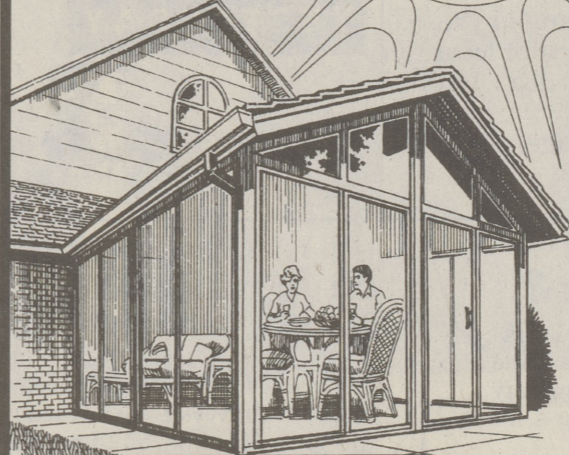
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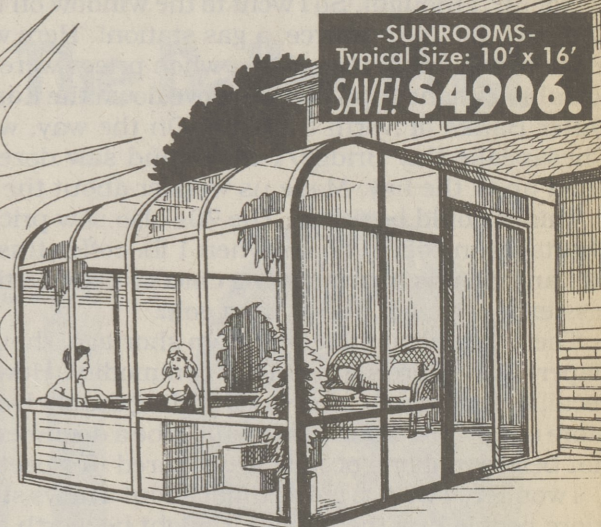


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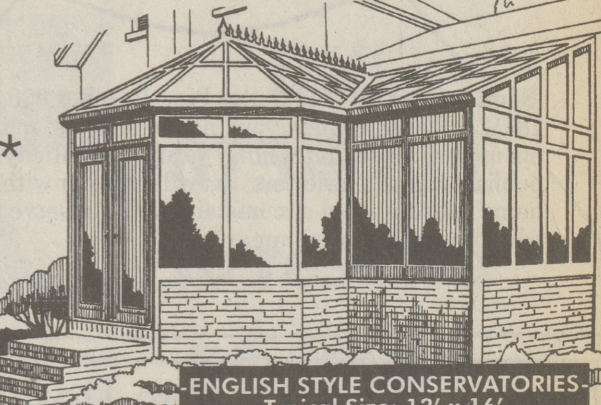
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