

Teachers retire wealth of experience

By ELIZABETH ANDERSON
Post Correspondent

The Lake-Lehman teachers gathered on May 24 to honor the retirees of 2001 and 2002. About 70 Lake-Lehman School District teachers filled the banquet room of Appletree Terrace at Newberry Estate at the teachers retirement party, dedicated to the memory of Lynn Evans. Jeris Baranowski, high school Home Economics teacher, hosted the event with the help of other faculty members.

Lynn Evans, a Home Economics teacher, who taught at the high school and middle level education building for more than two decades, was honored at the party. She died after a long terminal illness. Baranowski said Evans' parents were a major focal point in her life, as were her students. "The kids were her family. There were a real vital part of her life," said Baranowski. The teachers took a few moments of silence in Evans' memory. "She will be missed, not only by the professional staff but also by her students."

The retirees in attendance included high school English teacher Carol Oliver, middle level building guidance counselor Barbara Evans, and Lehman-Jackson Elementary School teachers Mary Anne Augustini, Robert Mischak, Maryann Blessner, and Kathy Yost. Those unable to attend were Lehman-Jackson Elementary teacher Joyce Piatt, high school History teacher Walter Sorber and high school Math and Computer Science teacher Frank Jones.

After a dinner feast made for the eyes as well as the stomach, Baranowski toasted and roasted the retirees with the help of other faculty members. Yost, Mischak and Augustini were



POST PHOTO/ELIZABETH ANDERSON

These six Lake-Lehman teachers have more than 200 combined years of teaching experience. They were honored recently at a teachers' retirement banquet at Appletree Terrace. From left, seated: Lehman-Jackson Elementary School teachers Maryann Blessner and Kathy Yost. Blessner tops all with 37 years in the district and Yost follows close behind with 36 years. Standing: Middle level building guidance counselor Barbara Evans, high school English teacher Carol Oliver, Lehman-Jackson Elementary teachers Mary Anne Augustini and Robert Mischak.

"I am in awe of your jobs. No, I am in awe of you. You are absolutely phenomenal."

Jeris Baranowski
Addressing retired teachers

honored first with mention of several faculty children who were, of course, no discipline problem. "I am in awe of your jobs," said Baranowski of the elementary school teachers. "No, I am in awe of you. You are absolutely phenomenal."

Barbara Evans started teaching with the district in 1979, moving to York for a few years before returning to the middle level building as a guidance counselor. "With a few more women just like us we could challenge the Ya Ya Club," quipped Baranowski of her friend.

Jean Lipski and Gail Meeker spoke a few words about "the queen of education," Carol Oliver. Lipski, a former student at

Lake-Lehman and now an English teacher, spoke of her initiation to Oliver. Lipski's brother, eight years older than she, excited by the fact that he had a very good-looking English teacher "who sat on her desk to teach," told his father, "Dad, it will be worth going to open house." Lipski disclosed, to much laughter from her audience, "it was the one and only time my father ever made it to open house and I don't think he was disappointed." Lipski credited her love of her profession to Oliver.

English teacher Gail Meeker, whose mother passed away after a battle with cancer in January 1996, told how "Mother Oliver" had become not only her

teacher but her mother figure, her mentor and then, her friend, "giving (me) her enthusiasm and excitement for the job." Meeker comprised a top 10 list of the things she will miss most about Mrs. Oliver, including Oliver's endless resources, countless new diets, her recipes and "Denim 101" on making denim look good, ending with, "The top thing I'll miss about Mrs. Oliver is, 'I'll ask John and you know what? John will say it's okay.'"

Oliver's husband, John, is the principal of Lake-Lehman High School and retires June 30 after 36 years. The couple met on their first day at Lake-Lehman 36 years ago.

Oliver said after 28 years of teaching she would feel happy on the last day. "I loved my last year as well as I did my first. I love kids and I've enjoyed teaching. I've wanted to be a teacher since third grade." Her thoughts surely echoed those of the other retirees in attendance.

Food vendor passes taste test

By ELIZABETH ANDERSON
Post Correspondent

LEHMAN TWP. — It must have been tasty. Mary Fuller and Nancy Kohl of Nutrition, Inc. presented the Lake-Lehman School Board with a sampling of chicken nuggets and beef patties at the school board meeting Tuesday night.

The board voted to appoint Nutrition, Inc as the district food service vendor again this year, but a few changes have been made in a quest for improved food quality. An advisory committee was formed and has met already to discuss options in improving the food choices.

Fuller presented options for the board to consider from food quality upgrades, to increasing portion sizes, to changes in staffing and purchasing of equipment in an effort to maintain high standards. Prices for the district meals will not be raised. Board and audience members at the meeting sampled the chicken and beef patty entrees, labeled A, B and C — with C, the "commodity product" furnished free from the state, chosen by no one as desirable.

The cost of furnishing the two more popular item upgrades runs \$1,639 for the chicken nuggets and \$910 for the beef patties. Another option, using butter versus margarine, would increase the cost by \$6,884 over the school year.

In other business:

• Peter Savage, board solicitor, said purchase of the Hoyt property has an expected closing date of Thursday, June 27.

• Doug Trumbower, architect on the high school construction/renovation projects, reported the athletic field project had been started, as had the parking lot and new access road. Inside the buildings, some classrooms are being painted. Trumbower said it was too early to say where the project will be in 60 days but "we have a real optimistic group of contractors who

are working very well together all with the same objectives."

Asbestos removal is ongoing in certain portions of the high school with one major section already completed.

"The whole process was scheduled to take 19 days and I think it probably will take about 15 the way it is going," said Trumbower. "Hopefully in 60 days it will look like a new school."

Charles Boytin, board president, said some of the board members had taken a walk-through of the new addition to the high school. "The kids in this district are going to have quite a facility to be in. It's incredible to see what they are doing over there."

Kelly Lyons of Luzerne County Head Start sent a letter to the district commending Andrew and Christopher Coombs for their efforts in this year's National Letter Carriers Food Drive to benefit Head Start. The result of the project was over 13,000 pounds of food delivered to more than 800 families in the project.

"We are still massaging the budget," said business manager Kathleen Williams. She added the amount of the health care premium increase was still unknown. "No one really knows what the percentage will be to each individual district," she said. "We will know that tomorrow but that is pending the approval by the full board the following week."

There will be a special meeting for passing the 2002-2003 budget and for general purposes to be held on Thursday, June 27 at 6 p.m. in the multi-purpose room of the Lehman-Jackson Elementary School.

The next committee-of-the-whole meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 2 at 7 p.m. and the next regular voting meeting will be held Tuesday, July 16 at 7 p.m. Both meetings will be held in the multi-purpose room of the Lehman-Jackson Elementary School.

Bargaining

(continued from page 1)

cern and neither side can put you in the middle, nor will they," Mahon said to the students. "Just have confidence that cooler heads will prevail and we'll do the right thing."

Rumors have been flying in the district and Boytin said "the rhetoric in the newspaper as of late from the other side it is not beneficial to anybody." The attorney for the teachers, John Holland, said last week that Boytin had offered him a deal during the fact-finding process. Boytin denied the charge and said he has not talked to Holland for about three months.

"I'm just trying to keep inflammatory remarks to a minimum," said Boytin. "There's too many rumors, too many people saying

things they should not be saying and it is inflaming the situation instead of people who consider themselves to be professional on both sides sitting down and having meaningful dialogue."

With the fact finding a thing of the past now, all the parties are ready to get back to work and find a resolution to the contract negotiations. Both parties are in agreement about the major sticking points — health benefits and salaries.

"We're just a little bit apart and a lot of that is a result of we don't have firm numbers from the (health care) consortium," Boytin said. "What happens now is we will have the two sides get back together and start negotiating again."

Toilet

(continued from page 1)

ing into the lake to relieve themselves," said Mulcavage. "We're at a point where we need the board's help."

But much of the plea seemingly fell on deaf ears as council president Edward Kelly, vice-president Betty West and solicitor Charles D. McCormick each recounted that the board had granted the use of the temporary facilities to the beach association in each of the last three to four years, and no construction on a permanent facility had begun in that time.

A borough ordinance states that temporary restroom facilities require a permit from the borough, and can only be placed in that area for a limit of three days, unless the area is a construction site.

Attorney McCormick recounted to Mulcavage and Harveys Lake Beach Association president Ed

Bilder that the beach association had told council they were working out an agreement with United Water to allow the company to put a water filtration system on the beach in exchange for funding for permanent restrooms.

"At some point, when does the line get drawn?" asked McCormick.

West said the beach club in which she was a member, the Warden Place Beach Club, was forced by council a few years ago to build a permanent facility, citing the number of people crossing the street to use other restrooms as the reason.

"Please work with us a little longer," asked Mulcavage. "We're almost there."

Council also heard from Dr. Fred Lubnow, who said the installation of stormwater management basins in Hemlock Gardens will finish sometime in late fall or

early winter.

A concrete basin will be installed near the front entrance of the development, along with another one higher up for the homes at the top of the hill, as a way to help lessen the amount of sediment dropping into a stream which runs nearby the entrance.

In other business:

• Council reappointed William Mann to the General Municipal Authority Board. Mann had re-

signed from the board in May, and said he acted in haste.

• The council authorized McCormick to publicize for an abandoned car ordinance in the borough, and voted to open bidding for recycling pick-up in the borough.

Kelly said no recycling will be picked up after Monday's newspaper pickup, until the bid has been awarded.

See, The Grass Is Greener.

3.50%
ANNUAL PERCENTAGE YIELD
15 Month CD

A short term, high interest CD from FNCB is the perfect way to make your money work harder. Ask your FNCB Customer Service Representative for details.

FN FNCB

COMMUNITY IS OUR MIDDLE NAME
1-877-TRY-FNCB / www.fncb.com

* Annual Percentage Yield is accurate as of date of publication and may change without notice. \$1,000 minimum deposit required to open an account and earn listed Annual Percentage Yield. Interest is paid at maturity. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Luzerne County Offices Only. This offer applies to new money not currently on deposit with FNCB. Cannot be combined with any other offer.

Member FDIC


Just Say,
CHARGE IT!



The Post now accepts Visa & Mastercard for all your subscriptions, classified ads, and display ads. For maximum convenience, call our office at 675-5211 with your account and we will set you up immediately.

The Dallas Post
675-5211

Letters, Arts, and Sciences



William C. Reed
Senior Vice President & COO
Blue Cross of Northeastern PA

"Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania applauds Penn State Wilkes-Barre's foresight and leadership through the creation of the bachelor's degree in Letters, Arts, and Sciences (4LAS). We believe a more appropriate balance should be struck between the technological dimensions and the communications aspects of information technology. A multi-disciplinary degree like the 4LAS is a step in the right direction."

- William C. Reed

Do you think outside the box?

Color outside the lines?

Love the idea of combining the strengths of several majors in ONE inter-disciplinary degree?

Or, perhaps you would like to build on an associate degree that you already have...

The NEW Letters, Arts, and Sciences bachelor of arts degree may be perfect for YOU!

Bachelor's Degree
Letters, Arts, and Sciences
Liberal Studies Option -

- ✓ Student designed
- ✓ Theme oriented
- ✓ Multi-disciplined

Call the Admissions Office at 675-9238 or e-mail: wbadmissions@psu.edu

PENN STATE
Wilkes-Barre
www.wb.psu.edu

PENN STATE
Making Life Better