

# DONEGAL SCHOOL PAGE

news, features, art, poetry composed  
by and for the students of Donegal schools.

## SCHOOL NEWSPAPER STAFF

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## Vera Gingrich retires after 33 teaching years



Mrs. Vera Gingrich photo by Jim Beck

On Friday afternoon, January 23, Mrs. Vera Gingrich, Donegal High School English teacher, closed the door to her classroom for the last time. After thirty-three years of teaching, twenty-nine of which were spent in the Donegal School District, Mrs. Gingrich retired.

After graduation from Millersville State College, she taught for four years at Upper Leacock High School in Leola. An English and Social Studies major, she taught history for grades seven through twelve at Upper Leacock. There she also served as cheer-leading coach, girl's basketball coach, and play directress.

In 1947 she began teaching at East Donegal High School. She served as librarian, directed plays, and advised both the newspaper staff and the Y-Teens in addition to teaching English and history.

She began teaching English at Donegal High School in the fall of 1954, immediately after the new school

building had opened. In past years at Donegal Mrs. Gingrich has coached cheerleading, advised Varsity Club and the school newspaper staff, and directed plays. She has also served as Senior Class Advisor, assisting in senior fund raising and Baccalaureate and Commencement Exercises.

Throughout her years of teaching, Mrs. Gingrich has taken many classes on various field trips. Her most memorable excursion is a boat trip she took with the Senior Class of 1954. The students boarded a ship in Baltimore and sailed to Norfolk. From there busses took them through Jamestown, Williamsburg, Richmond and Washington, D.C. The three-day trip was paid for entirely by student dues collected by a merchandise club.

Mrs. Gingrich has traveled to eight European countries—England, France, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Italy. She has also traveled

to Bermuda (which she likes very much), Canada, and Mexico. In the US she has been to forty of the fifty states.

She has shared her love for travel with others by working in the Lancaster County tour business for the past eight years. She has guided tours throughout the county, the Poconos, Williamsburg, and Florida. In the upcoming year she plans to take a group to Montreal and many groups to Philadelphia for Bicentennial celebrations.

Speaking of Bicentennial, one should note that Mrs. Gingrich and her husband are co-chairmen of the Mount Joy Bicentennial Commission. In this office, their job is to oversee all civic activities related to the Bicentennial. As a director of the Lancaster County Bicentennial Commission, Mrs. Gingrich is personally responsible for coordinating Mount Joy and Lancaster activities. In the community Mrs. Gingrich also serves as secretary of the Mount Joy Historical Society.

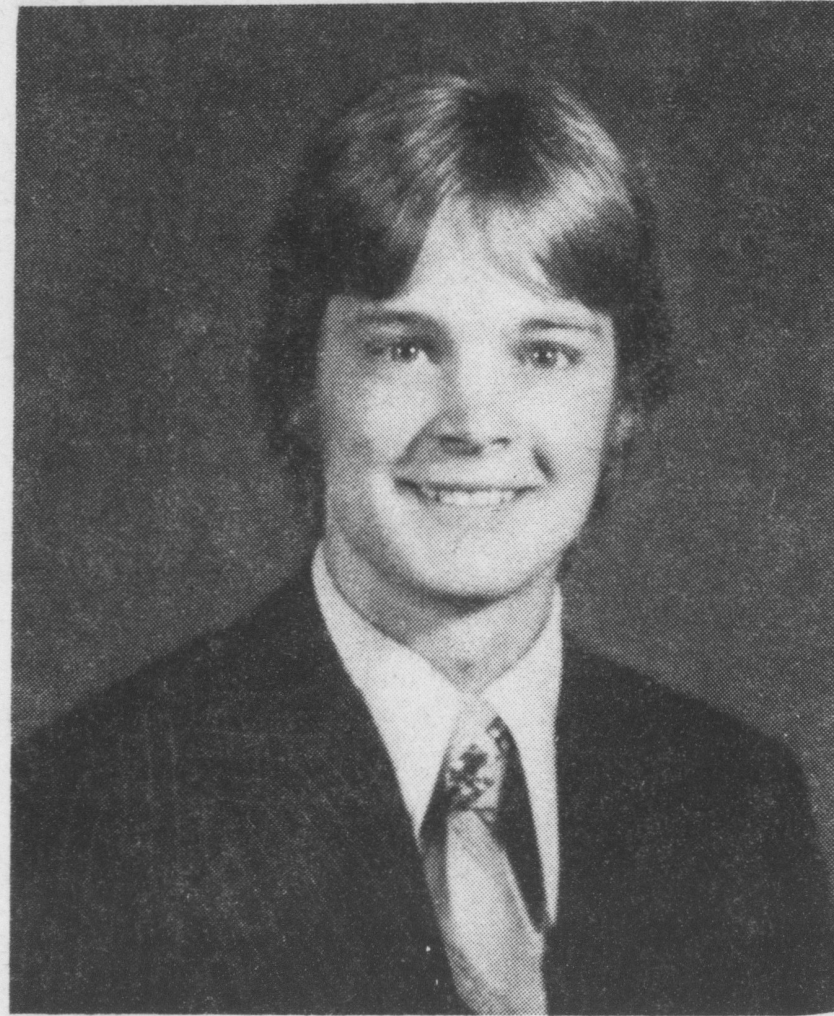
How does Mrs. Gingrich feel, after all her years of teaching, knowing that she has closed the door to her life's profession?

"I will miss the associations with students and fellow workers," she admits. "But I feel my teaching has been very rewarding...you learn so much through experience." She hopes to keep in contact with her former students as much as possible.

What are her plans for the future? On February 8, she and her husband will leave for Florida to spend two weeks at their house in Daytona Beach. They will then go to New Hampshire for a week's vacation. After that she simply has tentative travel plans.

There is work to be done at home, too—she and her husband are restoring an old house on East Donegal street and she plans to do most of the interior decorating.

"I'm looking forward to living each day as it comes," she says with a smile.



John Monchak

## John Monchak is president of Donegal Student Council

by Jeanne Freed

All DHS students know our student council president, John Monchak. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Monchak, Sr. of R.D.#1, Columbia.

John has been a member of the soccer and tennis teams. He acted in the Junior class play. Also, he likes to participate in outdoor activities such as hiking, skiing, camping, and hunting.

## Donegal Band Parents collect labels for funds

The following message has been received from Frances M. Brightbill.

The Donegal Band Parent's Club need your help! We are collecting COLGATE product labels to be redeemed for cash to help us buy a new sousaphone for the band. The cost of one horn is almost \$1,200. To date we have a grand cash value of \$18.81. Won't you please help us by saving the following labels for us!

AJAX ALL PURPOSE CLEANER-front label

AJAX cleanser-oz. contents.

AJAX for DISHES-front label.

As president of the student council, he has many responsibilities, but this vivacious young man has taken more under his wings. Beginning on January 21, John will start classes in pottery and psychology at Millersville from one to four.

Following graduation, his ambitions are to be a fine artist and to work in his father's woodworking shop.

HANDI-WIPES-cellophane overwrap.  
PALMOLIVE CRYSTAL CLEAR-top.  
IRISH SPRING-front panel oz. size.

DYNAMO-front label.  
All sizes of BAGGIES-star flap.

CURAD Bandages-metal container.

COLD POWER-top.  
AXION-top.

WASH 'N DRI-pricing circle panel.

Please give your labels to any Jr. or Sr. High student and they will turn them in at their respective collection boxes. Thank you.

## Junior High wrestle team has 3-2 record

by Tim Keller

The Junior High wrestling team is on a warpath, with a record of 3 to 2.

The first match against Pequea Valley was won by Donegal, 46 to 20. Randy Velez, Arlan Mummau and Jim Landis won by falls.

DJHS won its second match with Lampeter-Strasburg, 32 to 22. Steve Mezaros and Cliff Sweigart won by falls.

The third match was won by Warwick, 18 to 43.

DJHS beat Columbia, their fourth opponent, 36 to 29. Scott Jones, Arlan Mummau and Jim Landis won by falls. This was DJHS's first win over Columbia in four years.

The fifth match was won by Elizabethtown by a close 36 to 33. Jim Landis won by a fall.

Two home matches are scheduled: Lancaster Catholic on January 30 and Annville-Cleona on February 3. Matches start at 4 p.m.

## Donegal H.S. band news

by Jeanne Freed

DHS band members are representing our school tremendously at county and district band. County band will be held at Solanco High School on March 27 at 8:00 p.m. Districts will be presented at Elizabethtown on January 29, 30 and 31.

County band wind ensemble members are Steve Hassinger, Deb Hay, Holly Baker, and Melody Mummau. Symphonic members include Cindy Emenheiser, Vickie Lilly, Suzanne Frey, Donna Ebersole, Natalie Zuch, Ann Studholm, Sue Williams, Becky Zimmerman, Kathy Jones, Randy McCoy, Scott Brightbill, Chris Spickler, Joe Mezaros, Brenda Longenecker, Kevin Milligan, Tammy Newcomer, Bruce Eyer, and Wendy Newcomer.

Representing Donegal at districts will be Melody Mummau, second flute; and Holly Baker, baritone sax.