

*The* COUNTY LINE



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## Members of Conference of County Bar Leaders Take Seats on PBA Board of Governors

Two members of the Executive Committee of the Conference of County Bar Leaders took seats on the PBA Board of Governors at the close of the PBA Annual Meeting, held May 12-14 in Hershey.

CCBL Executive Committee member Samuel T. Cooper was appointed to the Board of Governors by PBA President Michael H. Reed. Francis X. O'Connor, also a CCBL Executive Committee member, and the immediate past president of the CCBL, was elected to the PBA Board of Governors by representatives of Zone Five.

Cooper, a special member in the Harrisburg office of the Pittsburgh-based law firm of Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott L.L.C., will represent Pennsylvania minority lawyers on the board and will serve for a three-year term.

Cooper is a member of the PBA House of Delegates and serves on a number of committees, including the Minority Bar Committee as co-vice chair. Cooper is a past president of the Dauphin County Bar Association and continues to serve on its board of directors. In addition, Cooper is a co-chair of the Harrisburg Black Attorneys Association Membership Committee and is a member of the District of Columbia Bar Association.

Cooper serves on Fulton Bank's

Commercial Lending Advisory Board for the Harrisburg region. He is a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and the Elihu Senior Society.

Cooper is a graduate of Yale University and the Penn State University Dickinson School of Law.

O'Connor is a sole practitioner in Great Bend. One of 12 zone governors who serve on the PBA Board, O'Connor will represent lawyers from Bradford, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming counties. His term will expire in 2007.

O'Connor is a member of the PBA Membership Committee and is the secretary/treasurer of the Susquehanna County Bar Association. He also serves on the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

O'Connor serves as solicitor for and as a life member of the Great Bend Fire Company. He also is an assistant scout master for Troop 89 of the Boy Scouts of America, the chair of the Finance Committee of the St. Lawrence Roman Catholic Church and a fourth degree with the Knights of Columbus.

O'Connor is a graduate of the University of Scranton and the St. Louis University Law School. ■

## Lycoming Law Association's Pro Bono Efforts Recognized With PBF Goffman Award

The Pennsylvania Bar Foundation, the charitable affiliate of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, presented the Lycoming Law Association with its 2004 Louis J. Goffman Award for outstanding pro bono service by an organization on May 13, in Hershey, during the PBA annual meeting.

The extraordinary breadth of pro bono services provided by the Lycoming Law Association and its members, relative to the size of the bar, earned the association the attention and appreciation of the 2004 Goffman Awards Committee.

With slightly over 115 attorneys engaged in active private practice, the opt-out pro bono program established in 1985 with the help of the county's president judge and the local legal services provider has consistently generated a 95 percent or higher participation rate.

Attorneys participating in the mandated program are expected to take a maximum of three pro bono referrals a year. The association offers these attorneys a number of ways to satisfy their pro bono service requirement including participation on a domestic abuse panel that serves

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# PBA Enhances Member Benefits with Legislative Boxscore Upgrade

The PBA, linking with Pennsylvania Legislative Services, has initiated a Legislative Boxscore upgrade to keep members better informed on legislation of importance. This new format provides a hotlink to each bill's history and Printer's Numbers, as well as information about its sponsor. It also provides a short summary of the bill. In a special remarks section, the PBA identifies the legislation's general subject, and the PBA's position on the bill. Pennsylvania Legislative Services updates the bill history section daily regarding actions on the legislation by the General Assembly. The Legislative Boxscore can be found by clicking on the "Legislative News" link on the PBA homepage at [www.pabar.org](http://www.pabar.org).

Keeping members informed of critical issues, as well as the latest status of legislation, is a priority of the PBA's legislative department. The department relays information a number of ways in order to reach members quickly:

- E-mail Legislative Alerts and the *E-News*, PBA's electronic newsletter (Provide the PBA with your e-mail address in order to receive these.)
- Listserv alerts and in-person updates to committees and sections
- Personal visits to county bars
- *The Pennsylvania Lawyer*, *Bar News*, *Legislative Reporter*, and committee and section newsletters.

Questions? Contact Nevin Mindlin, legislative manager at the PBA, at (800) 932-0311, Ext. 2232. ■

## Unit County Dues Drop

**Reminder: The drop date for PBA unit county members is July 31, 2004.** Any attorney who is a PBA member from a unit county and who has not paid his or her 2004 dues by July 31 will be dropped from the PBA's membership roles. If you have any questions regarding membership rosters or dues payments, please contact Cherie Reigel at the PBA at (800) 932-0311, Ext. 2287.

The new dues schedule was implemented in 2003, in the hope that by encouraging early payment of dues to both the local and the state bar, the PBA would help the local bar in obtaining its funds earlier in the fiscal year.

# Lycoming Law Association's Pro Bono Efforts Recognized With PBF Goffman Award

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clients in need of protection from abuse orders; acceptance of referrals directly from North Penn Legal Services, the local legal services entity; or acceptance of clients the local legal services entity is precluded from serving due to conflicts of interest.

In addition to providing the formal infrastructure for pro bono participation, the Lycoming Law Association and its members commit other resources to ensuring that the county's most vulnerable citizens have access to the justice system. Attorneys and volunteer paralegals conduct divorce clinics for abuse victims, preparing and filing forms or offering representation to assist *pro se* clients. Some association members serve as mentors or co-counsel to the local legal services staff and others have remained behind the scenes, researching and authoring briefs in cases handled by the local legal services office.

In 2003, these assorted channels of pro bono participation handled 148

extended representations, three divorce clinics and two mentoring assignments for a total of 153 referrals.

The association has even taken on the role of fundraiser. Ninety attorneys participating in an arbitration fee donation program generate \$5,000 a year for local legal services and the association's affiliated foundation recently attained its goal of creating a \$100,000 endowment to preserve and expand civil legal services programs for the county's indigent.

"The way the Lycoming Law Association has so thoroughly and seamlessly integrated pro bono service into the everyday life of every lawyer is the county is to be

commended," said Pennsylvania Bar Foundation President Tim Riley. "This exemplary program, a successful partnership between bench, bar and the local legal services entity, appears to be within the reach of any organized bar and is certainly one well worth emulating." ■



*(left to right) Pennsylvania Bar Foundation President Tim Riley presents the Goffman award to Lycoming Law Association President John Humphrey.*

# Local Lawyers Don't Shy Away from Pro Bono Work

*More on the Lycoming Law Association and its being awarded the 2004 Louis J. Goffman Award by the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation.*

*By Mike Reuther*

The image of lawyers as money-grubbing shysters in expensive suits may be a fine characterization for a John Grisham novel.

In fact, corporate America's slimmer interests may even thrive with barristers of that ilk pleading their cases.

But don't tell Lycoming County attorneys that they don't care about helping their fellow man.

In fact, members of the Lycoming Law Association better think twice before trying to escape pro bono work.

Most of the county's more than 100 attorneys, as it turns out, do their fair share of representing those who otherwise couldn't afford a lawyer.

The Lycoming Law Association was recently selected as the winner of the [Pennsylvania Bar Foundation's] 2004 Louis J. Goffman Award for organizational pro bono service. Each lawyer in the association fulfills an obligation by taking on three pro bono referrals a year, according to Dana Rich-Collins of North Penn Legal Services, which provides many of the referrals for local attorneys.

"It grew out of discussion for the need for this kind of work," she said. When an attorney is admitted to practice law in the county they are contracted by legal services, told how the referral program works, and given the chance to indicate how they want to participate.

Lawyers can fulfill their pro bono obligation in one of three ways: Many take on protection-from-abuse cases referred by legal services. Other kinds of cases are referred by legal services on an as-needed basis, and still others come when another lawyer cannot take them due to conflicts arising with clients.

Since 1985, the law association, along with the county president judge, has mandated that lawyers take three pro bono cases a year.

"I've never felt any different about my pro bono cases than I have my other cases," said Joy Reynolds McCoy of the city law firm McNerney, Page, Vanderlin and Hall. "I think it's good that you have this. It was just always instilled in me from the beginning."

Jack Humphrey of the city law firm of Rieders, Travis, Humphrey, Harris, Waters and Waffenschmidt, recalled spending 22 days in trial on one pro bono case.

Fewer than 10 attorneys, it was noted, have opted out of the pro bono obligations since the law association required such work.

Michael Collins of McNerney, Page, Vanderlin and Hall said that great pains are taken to ensure that local lawyers fulfill their pro bono work.

"When it's expected, it helps," said McCoy.

William H. Askey, an attorney for more than 60 years, said pro bono work just comes with the territory of being a lawyer.

"It's an obligation," he said. "We must do it."

Local lawyers made it clear that taking on pro bono cases can mean the surrender of lucrative work.

For example, a lawyer's retainer for a protection-from-abuse case typically is \$500, according to McCoy.

Not surprisingly, much pro bono work is tied to domestic cases.

"That's been very helpful," said McCoy. "A lot of people in many cases can't afford it."

Contrary to belief, attorneys just getting established in the law are not eager to steer clear from pro bono work, simply because they need to build up their practices with any type of work they can get.

Thomas Raup, a former president judge now practicing law in the city,

is credited with getting the referral program started.

"He twisted the arms of local attorneys to raise \$100,000 for an endowment fund," said Humphrey. "Law firms pledged \$10,000 apiece."

The endowment, he explained, is used to provide the legal costs of the poor.

"I was off the bench by then," Raup recalled. "A resolution was passed to have each member of the bar pledge so much."

Raup said he was astounded that a lawyers in a city the size of Williamsport were able to raise as much money as they did.

He said while he occasionally had to be "an autocrat and push someone" to get a law firm to give its share, most firms generally live up to their pledges.

Jonathan E. Butterfield of Murphy, Butterfield and Holland said that an attorney simply must take the legal work done for pro bono clients as seriously as that done for others.

The law association and its members provide other services in addition to traditional pro bono work.

Attorneys and volunteer paralegals, for example, conduct divorce clinics for abuse victims. Other members serve as mentors or co-counsel to the legal services staff, while still others conduct "behind-the-scenes work," researching and authoring briefs in cases handled by legal services. ■

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# On the *Local Scene...*

## **Allegheny**

Members of the Allegheny County Bar Association presented a program called "This is a Joke – Making Fun of Others is Not" to teach elementary school students the difference between harmless jokes and hurtful teasing. Part of the program involved a discussion about what makes students special and unique.

## **Blair**

The Blair County Bar Association awarded scholarships to three high school students, recognizing their achievements in academics, leadership and citizenship.

As part of the Blair County Bar Association's Law Day activities, 25 members of the association spoke at 12 Blair County schools.

## **Bucks**

The Bucks County Bar Association held a poster contest as part of their Law Day activities. The theme of the contest was "Encouraging People to Vote."

## **Cambria**

As part of the county's bicentennial celebration, the Carbon County Bar Association honored 14 lawyers who have been members of the association for more than 50 years.

The Cambria County Bar Association presented its first President's Award for Community Service to Common Pleas Court Judge Norman A. Krumenacker III. The award recognizes a member of the association who demonstrates outstanding volunteer efforts.

## **Carbon**

Members of the Carbon County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division conducted Law Day activities for county high school students. The day began with the county court's jury ori-

entation program, which is shown to all prospective jurors when they are summoned to jury duty. The students also heard from members of the bar association about Law Day. The program concluded with a mock trial put on by the YLD. Students served as jury members.

## **Chester**

The Chester County Bar Association has instituted an "Access to Justice Program" to help the working poor of the county receive legal representation. The program raises the financial eligibility standards for those qualifying for representation by members of the bar association. Each member of the association has been asked to take one case as part of the program.

## **Columbia/Montour**

Members of the Columbia/Montour County Bar Association presented the "Stepping Out" program for seniors at Bloomsburg High School. Attorneys Gary Wamser and C. Cleveland Hummel were presenters.

## **Cumberland**

The Cumberland County Bar Association marked Law Day with three evenings of free telephone question-and-answer sessions for the public. One night centered on family law, one on criminal law and one on contract law.

## **Crawford**

Courtroom No. 3 of the Crawford County Courthouse was filled to near capacity for a mock trial presented by the county "Meet Your Legal System" Committee, and sponsored by the Crawford County Bar Association, the League of Women Voters and the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges. The committee holds the mock trials every other year to increase public awareness of the legal system and to help reinforce the function of jury duty.

## **Dauphin**

The Dauphin County Bar Association, in conjunction with 16 Harrisburg-area law firms, Dickinson and Widenor law schools and the Harrisburg Black Attorneys Association, recently launched the Capital Area Managing Partners (CAMP) Diversity Initiative to significantly increase the number of minority lawyers who practice in the region. The CAMP Diversity Initiative will build on an existing minority job recruiting program for law students, with longer range efforts to encourage promising minority students to pursue careers in the law. It will work with the local law schools to entice minority law students to remain in central Pennsylvania when their legal education is completed. It will also improve the retention of minority lawyers through specific mentoring and diversity support programs that foster acceptance and recognition that diversity serves successful legal organizations well.

As part of their Law Day activities, the Dauphin County Bar Association hosted an "Ask A Lawyer" booth to provide the general public with free legal advice and informational pamphlets on legal matters. Information and advice was provided in English and Spanish. Also as part of their Law Day events, the DCBA honored Rosemary Moore with the 2004 Liberty Bell Award.

## **Delaware**

As part of their Law Day ceremonies, the Delaware County Bar Association hosted speaker Jerome Teresinski, an assistant Philadelphia district attorney and a member of the Army National Guard. During his tour in Iraq, Teresinski was instrumental in re-establishing a rule of law in Mosul, for which he received a Bronze Star.



The Delaware County Bar Association, in conjunction with Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania, has established a pro bono project to provide wills free of charge to needy seniors.

### **Erie**

Civil rights leader and attorney Morris Dees was the speaker at the Erie County Bar Association Law Day luncheon. At the event, Jim Richardson received the Pro Bono Award, Judge Roger Fischer was the Chancellor of the Bar recipient and Shirley Williams received the Liberty Bell Award. Sandra Brydon Smith was recognized for having received the Arthur J. Birdsall Award at the recent Conference of County Bar Leaders Seminar.

### **Lackawanna**

The Lackawanna Bar Association partnered with the University of Scranton to host Hans Blix, the former chief United Nations weapons inspector in Iraq, as part of the Hoban Forum. The Hoban Forum seeks to bring speakers who have achieved distinction in the field of law, government and public affairs to Lackawanna County citizens. In 2003, LBA Immediate Past President Michael J. McDonald, together with Co-Chairman Robert W. Munley, set to bring Dr. Blix to Lackawanna County to help the community better understand the plight the United Nations faced with regards to with finding weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.

The Lackawanna Bar Association awarded its 2003 Exemplary Service Award to attorney Charles F. Wilson. The award is given to a member who has demonstrated outstanding and dedicated service to the association and to the legal system in the county. Wilson has served as chair of the Law Library Committee for over 14 years and supervised a major expansion in Law Library services and support. In addition, Two Scranton attorneys,

Michael J. Donohue and Mark C. Walsh, and a local law firm, Powell Law, were named by the LBA and Lackawanna Pro Bono, Inc. as recipients of the 2004 Equal Access to Justice Awards for their service to help the underprivileged in Lackawanna County obtain legal assistance.

### **Lehigh**

The Lehigh County Bar Association awarded its annual Liberty Bell Award to U.S. District Judge Franklin Van Antwerpen. The award goes to someone who has promoted a greater respect for the law and the courts, stimulated a sense of civic responsibility and contributed to good government.

### **Lycoming**

The Lycoming Law Association Foundation awarded a grant to the James V. Brown Library for the purchase of books and other materials addressing legal careers and legal education.

### **Mercer**

Members of the Mercer County Bar Association visited more than 20 schools throughout May as part of "Lawyers and Judges in the Classroom Month."

### **Monroe**

In observation of Law Day, the Monroe County Bar Association sponsored its 15th annual "Fairy Tale Trials." Participating attorneys presented a mock trial based on the fictitious character Harry Potter and focused on product liability and the rights of consumers. Approximately 525 fifth grade students from all five school districts were invited to witness the trials, which were preceded by tours of the courthouse.

In addition, a Law Day ceremony was held to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education*. Monroe County judges presided over the event in

which winners of the Law Day Essay Contest were announced. The winning essay was read aloud by its author. The 2004 Liberty Bell Award was presented to a member of the community in recognition of service and fulfillment of civic duty.

Law Day activities culminated in a luncheon for judges, attorneys and law clerks who contributed to the day's events.

The Monroe County Bar Association held its 22nd annual Law Day Five-Mile Race in May. The race was established to benefit the Pocono Mountain Kidney Foundation in memory of attorney Lester T. Brown. Over sixty participants ran the course, which wound through the streets and hills of Stroud Township.

Also in May, the Monroe County Bar Association sponsored its second annual luncheon to recognize the work of secretaries, paralegals and administrative assistants who work in private firms and in the courthouse. The catered luncheon was held in the Monroe County Bar Center.

### **Montgomery**

A recent "CSI" crew looked a lot more like Lansdale-area boys and girls than television stars. "Crime Scene Investigators" is a six-week class and a very popular part of a Crime Stoppers program sponsored by the Montgomery County Bar Association. Through the class, and its mock crime scenes, children are exposed to the science and technology police use in solving crimes and get to develop their critical-thinking and decision-making skills. The class in March featured a mock crime scene of a bicycle theft.

### **Northampton**

"It's a day to see the Constitution at work," said Law Day Chair Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly as 490 students from

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# Pennsylvania Bar Institute Courses

Here is a listing of courses being offered by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute. Dates, times and locations are subject to change. Contact PBI's Customer Service Department for more information at (800) 932-4637, (800) 247-4724 or (717) 796-0804.

## *Greensburg*

**How to Prepare the Pennsylvania Inheritance Tax Return**, Fri., July 16; 8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; registration at 8:00 am; 4 substantive CLE credits

## *King of Prussia*

**Land Use Development 2004**, Thurs., July 22; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

## *Norristown*

**Obtaining Court Approval to Settle Wrongful Death and Minors Claims**, Mon., Aug. 16; 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; registration at 8:30 a.m.; 3 substantive CLE credits

## *Atlantic City, New Jersey*

**CLE "Down the Shore,"** Thurs., Aug. 19 and Fri., Aug. 20;  
*Thursday Morning:* 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 3 substantive CLE credits  
*Thursday Afternoon:* 1:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; registration at 12:45 p.m.; 3 substantive CLE credits  
*Friday Morning:* 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (2 substantive/1 ethics)  
*Friday Afternoon:* 1:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; registration at 12:45 p.m.; 3 substantive CLE credits

## *Allentown*

**Getting Paid in Pennsylvania: Basic Wage and Hour Law**, Mon., Aug. 23; 8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 4 substantive CLE credits

## *LIVE VIA SATELLITE*

<i>Allentown</i>	<i>Montrose</i>
<i>Doylestown</i>	<i>New Castle</i>
<i>Easton</i>	<i>Reading</i>
<i>Erie</i>	<i>Schuylkill Haven</i>
<i>Greensburg</i>	<i>Scranton</i>
<i>Hollidaysburg</i>	<i>Stroudsburg</i>
<i>Honesdale</i>	<i>Towanda</i>
<i>Indiana</i>	<i>Uniontown</i>
<i>Johnstown</i>	<i>Warren</i>
<i>Kingston</i>	<i>Waynesburg</i>
<i>Lancaster</i>	<i>West Chester</i>
<i>Lewisburg</i>	<i>West Decatur</i>
<i>Mansfield</i>	<i>Williamsport</i>
<i>Media</i>	<i>York</i>
<i>Mill Hall</i>	

**Medical Records**, Tues., Aug. 24; 8:25 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; registration at 7:55 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive 1 ethics)

## *Philadelphia & Pittsburgh*

**Best of CLE Videos**, Mon., Aug. 30; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; registration at 7:30 a.m.; 3 - 6 CLE credits

## *Scranton*

**Family Law: A View from the Bench**, Wed., Sept. 1; 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

## *Hershey*

**PBA Workers' Compensation Fall Section Meeting**, Thurs., Sept. 23 and Fri., Sept. 24  
*Thursday:* 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; registration at 1:00 p.m.; 4 CLE credits (3.5 substantive/.5 ethics)  
*Friday:* 8:00 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.; registration at 7:30 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (2.5 substantive/.5 ethics)

Find the  
PABE Survival Guide at:  
[www.pabar.org/  
pabesurvivalguide.pdf](http://www.pabar.org/pabesurvivalguide.pdf)

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## Bar Association Executive Directors Hired, Honored

The Lycoming Law Association has hired Jessica A. Engel of Williamsport as the association's first executive director.

Engel is a 1982 graduate of Williamsport Area High School and received a bachelor's degree in English from Lycoming College. She has 14 years of experience in the legal profession as a deputy clerk of courts in Cleveland and as a legal secretary and paralegal in various Cleveland and Williamsport-area law offices.

Most recently, Engel was the marketing coordinator for CRS Inc.

Among her duties, Engel will update the association's technological capabilities, manage print and electronic publications, provide expanded services to the membership including continuing legal education, plan events, expand community involvement by members and public relations.

Elizabeth Price, executive director of the Delaware County Bar Association, was recently honored for her 30 years of dedication and service to the association.

*The County Line* joins in the congratulations to both Jessica and Elizabeth! ■

## Correction:

The County Bar Recognition Awards listings for Erie and Franklin counties were inadvertently combined in the last issue.

The items should have read:

### Erie County Bar Association

*Project:* Attorneys & Kids Together (AKT) Mentoring Program

### Franklin County Bar Association

*Project:* Biennial Bench-Bar Conference

*Project:* Family Law Seminars

*Project:* Breakfast with the Judges

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## Send Us Your News

To submit news for *The County Line*, please use the enclosed "News and Views" form or contact PBA County Bar Services Director Arthur Birdsall at (800) 932-0311, ext. 2218; write Arthur Birdsall, PBA, PO Box 186, Harrisburg, PA 17108; or e-mail art.birdsall@pabar.org.

**Sept. 6, 2004 is the deadline for the next (October) issue.**

**County Bar Services Director:** Arthur J. Birdsall

**The County Line Editor:** Patricia M. Graybill

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# On the *Local Scene...*

(Continued from Page 5)

public and parochial schools throughout the county filled the hallways and courtrooms at the Northampton County Government Center for Law Day activities on May 3. Over 30 volunteers from the NCBA, its Young Lawyers Division, and Judge Emil A. Giordano played hosts to the students, offering activities including a staged theft of an attorney's briefcase — leading to a mock trial, a tour of the Juvenile Justice Center, and presentations from prosecutors, defense attorneys and sheriff's deputies.

Close to 100 children and adults met in the Northampton County Government Center for the second annual "Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day." Judges Edward Smith and Emil A. Giordano, a sheriff's deputy, an assistant district attorney and an assistant public defender educated the children on what can transpire during a typical day at work in the legal community. Participating families were also treated to lunch and a guided tour of the courthouse by three Court of Common Pleas law clerks.

Members of the Northampton County Bar Association, including Paige Rosini, Vincent Rovito and Anthony Rosini, presented the "Stepping Out" program to county high schoolers. The attorneys discussed aspects of the legal rights of adults with the hope of fostering an appreciation of the responsibilities that go along with those rights.

## **Northumberland**

As part of their Law Day activities, the Northumberland County Bar Association held a mock trial with roles played by local high school students assisted by legal professionals. Prior to the mock trial, students watched Judge Charles Saylor preside over regular court cases.

## **Schuylkill**

The Schuylkill County Bar Association presented awards during its recent President's Dinner. Edward M. Brennan, immediate past president, received the Special Recognition Award; Ronald J. Ulmer was awarded a 50-year member award; and Lester Krasno, Steven Kachmar and Harry B. Crosswell were awarded 35-year member awards.

## **Somerset**

The Somerset County Bar Association honored eight students for their essays in the 2003-2004 Courthouse Tour and Essay Contest. The students wrote essays based on the theme "My Impressions of the Courthouse Tour." Event coordinator and Somerset attorney Steven Miller remarked that it is possible for people who work in the criminal justice system to become "jaded" over time. He said the students' essays help to remind them of the beauty of the courthouse and the legal system contained therein.

## **Washington**

The Washington County Bar Association marked Law Day with presenta-

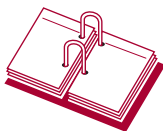
tions to the winners of their "A Constitution for Everyone, Everyday" contests. The contests covered three categories: a photography contest for high school students, an essay contest for middle school students and a poster contest for elementary school students.

## **Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association/Luzerne County Bar**

Members of the Young Lawyers Division of the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association/Luzerne County Bar recently volunteered their services at the Luzerne County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

## **York**

The York County Bar Association awarded its 2004 Liberty Bell Award to Gordon A. Freireich, a community volunteer and columnist for the York *Sunday News*. The honor goes annually to a member of the local community who promotes pride, respect and knowledge of federal and state law, and encourages active participation in the legal system. ■



## **Mark Your Calendars for these Upcoming Events:**

### **Barnstorming Returns — September 2004!**

Look for more details soon!

### **PBA Midyear Meeting January 26-30, 2005**

Atlantis, Paradise Island, The Bahamas

Explore the Atlantis at [www.atlantis.com](http://www.atlantis.com) and watch for more details soon at [www.pabar.org](http://www.pabar.org).

### **2005 Conference of County Bar Leaders**

**March 3-6, 2005**

Nittany Lion Inn, State College

To make your reservation now, call the Reservations Dept. at (800) 233-7505 and reference Reservation Identification #PAB0223.

**PABE Retreat**  
**PABE 2005 Retreat**  
**August 14-16, 2005**  
Erie