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July 2006

PBA Invests in Young Lawyers with Sponsorship to New Admittee Conference, July 28-30, 2006

The PBA will host the 12th Annual New Admittee Conference July 28-30, 2006, at the Rocky Gap Lodge & Golf Resort, Cumberland, Md. The conference is held in conjunction with the Young Lawyers Division Summer Conference, reflecting the importance the organized bar places on encouraging membership in local and state bar associations and highlighting the ways the bar can assist young attorneys in their practices. The joint conferences are a place where young lawyers can network with their peers and interact with and learn from YLD officers and executive council members, and experienced PBA leadership, judges and bar leaders from across the commonwealth.

The event will offer many opportunities — both structured and informal — for networking. On Friday, secrets of successful networking will be offered as part of a session titled “How to Break the Ice and Work the Room Like a Pro.”

On Saturday morning, attendees will gather for a late breakfast and lots of valuable information on the PBA and its Young Lawyers Division. Then, career coach Cordell Parvin will offer a workshop specifically designed for young lawyers. Parvin will describe how principles learned from athletes can help young lawyers reach “optimal performance.”

A highlight of the conference will be the Young Lawyer Summit. Attendees will come together to discuss issues important to young lawyers and ways

they are being addressed. The program will facilitate discussions on the ongoing issues of work/life balance and education debt, as well as any new issues. This Young Lawyer Summit will be a first of its kind in the United States and will be an opportunity for young lawyers to participate in shaping the future of their chosen profession.

Also on Saturday, a faculty of judges will present an invaluable session on professionalism and civility. Other networking opportunities include a reception with

the judges, and the annual YLD golf tournament.

Please encourage your county’s new admittee to attend this professional learning opportunity. The PBA will sponsor all new admittee county representatives, providing for lodging and meals; the only cost county YLD new admittee representatives will incur will be travel costs to and from Rocky Gap. Contact PBA YLD Coordinator Maria Engles at (800) 932-0311, Ext. 2223, or e-mail yld@pabar.org with any questions. ■

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New Executive Directors On Board at Two Local Bars

Suzanne Robinson, executive director of the Butler County Bar Association, and Lucy Kitner, executive director of the York County Bar Association, have recently taken over the reins at their respective county bar associations.

Robinson is a graduate of Oregon State University with degrees in business and marketing. Before taking time to raise a family, she was a sales representative for the southern U.S. for the Vermont Castings



Suzanne Robinson

Woodstove Company and also served as a customer service representative for True Value Hardware Company.

Robinson said, "I am looking forward to making the Butler County Bar Association a full-service organization. My goals are to increase our visibility in the community by establishing an office close to the courthouse. I will also increase the communication between the courthouse and the attorneys. The attorneys are looking forward to bringing CLEs back to Butler!"

Kitner is a graduate of Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Va., and Hollins College in Roanoke, Va. Most recently, she was the director of administration and governance at the American College of Rheumatology in Atlanta, Ga., and before that, she held business development and marketing positions with the Ohio State Medical Association and the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce.



Lucy Kitner

Relocating from Georgia gave Kitner the opportunity to continue to work in the nonprofit world, but at a local/community level. ■

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PBF Goffman Awards Recognize Pro Bono Efforts of Lancaster Bar Association and Butler County Lawyer

The Pennsylvania Bar Foundation (PBF), the charitable arm of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, presented a Louis J. Goffman Award to the Lancaster Bar Association Foundation for its "We Care about Families" campaign, and to Butler lawyer Marion Laffey-Ferry, during the PBA Annual Meeting held in Hershey on June 8. The Goffman awards, named for a late PBA president, are presented annually to a group or organization and to an individual for outstanding pro bono work.

The Lancaster Bar Association Foundation realized that the mushrooming demand for pro bono custody representation was slowly crippling the county's Volunteer Attorney Program. The shrinking family bar could not keep pace and the inability to assign custody cases created a logjam that precluded the timely assignment of pro bono assistance in other areas. Recognizing the positive impact a dedicated, full-time family law attorney could have on meeting the underserved legal needs of Lancaster's indigent families, the Lancaster County Bar Association Foundation embarked on

the "We Care About Families" fundraising campaign.

The campaign, the first in the Foundation's history, had four objectives: serve more family law clients, improve the Volunteer Attorney Program by eliminating the logjam, take the pressure off the family bar and project a positive image for the Lancaster Bar Association Foundation.

In nine months, the Foundation met its fundraising goal. Foundation members led by example, making significant personal financial contributions to launch the effort and devoting considerable time to solicit matching contributions from their colleagues in the Bar. Those efforts, and a \$20,000 contribution from Citizens Bank, enabled the association to hire an entry-level, in-house custody attorney at the local offices of MidPenn Legal Service.

Commenting on the success of "We Care About Families," PBF President Karen Balaban noted, "The Lancaster Bar Association Foundation dedicated its time, talent and resources to developing a pro bono program that not only satisfied a previously underserved legal need but created

a template for success, a model that can be readily replicated by others and a testament to the Bar's innovative leadership."

Based on the success in Lancaster County, some neighboring bar associations are considering adopting the fund-an-attorney concept.

Goffman awardee Marion Laffey-Ferry, a sole practitioner of family law, has accepted hundreds of pro bono and reduced-fee referrals throughout her career. Since 1996, she has been the Butler County Zone Delegate to the PBA. She has served on the PBF's board of directors since 2004. Laffey-Ferry actively encouraged other attorneys to participate in pro bono programs while serving as president of the Butler County Bar Association from 1999 through 2001. She is currently a member of the county association's executive board and its public service committee. Her commitment to supporting the legal needs of the low-income residents has been previously recognized with two pro bono awards from the PBA and two awards from the Butler County Bar Association. ■

PABE Hosts Reception, Presents Resolution Honoring Retiring County Bar Services Director Art Birdsall

To celebrate the upcoming retirement of PBA County Bar Services Director Art Birdsall, the Pennsylvania Association of Bar Executives held a reception following their business meeting at the PBA Annual Meeting in Hershey on June 8. The reception was well attended with many county bar leaders and executives, Con-

ference of County Bar Leaders members, past and present PBA board members and PBA and Pennsylvania Bar Institute staff stopping in to say goodbye.

At the request of PBA Executive Director Barry Simpson, Birdsall addressed the House of Delegates meeting — the first time in 39 years that he has

ever done so. He received a warm standing ovation from the delegates. Delaware County Bar Association Executive Director Betty Price presented the following resolution from the PABE, which was unanimously adopted, for inclusion in the House record. ■

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF BAR EXECUTIVES RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Arthur J. Birdsall will retire from the Pennsylvania Bar Association on October 1, 2006; and

WHEREAS, he has worked with forty-one (41) Pennsylvania Bar Association Presidents, twenty (20) Conference of County Bar Leaders Presidents, four (4) Pennsylvania Bar Association Executive Directors, one (1) Pennsylvania Bar Association Executive Secretary, many PBA Committees and Section Chairs, thousands of PBA members; and, last but not least, eleven (11) Presidents of the Pennsylvania Association of Bar Executives; and

WHEREAS, he has been “with us,” we the Pennsylvania Association of Bar Executives, since 1979 always there to help – always there for us; and

WHEREAS, in 1998 because of Arthur J. Birdsall’s knowledge and friendship, an award was named for him, this “faithful steward,” an award given annually at the Conference of County Bar Leaders to recognize a bar executive who is “committed to the success of his or her bar association, who enhances significantly the stature of his or her bar association, who cooperates with other bar executives and bar leaders to make the Conference of County Bar Leaders the best it can be and who puts him or her self second to the needs of the bar association wherever they may be;” and

WHEREAS this Renaissance man, this gem in our midst can present a dynamic speech, discuss the rutting season of the elk with a noted PBA President while traveling through Elk County, quote Cervantes’ Don Quixote on master/slave relationships; and travel to Alaska with the Alaskan Bible College to build a home for a missionary to the Alaskan Indians and Eskimos; and

WHEREAS, the spirit and friendship of our man for all seasons will live in our hearts forever;

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved on this 9th day of June, 2006, that the Pennsylvania Association of Bar Executives expresses its affectionate farewell to one of its most beloved members.

**Unanimously adopted by the PBA House of Delegates on June 9, 2006.*



On the *Local Scene*...

Adams

Stepping Out

Adams County Bar Association YLD presented the “Stepping Out” program to students graduating from high schools in Adams County. Attorney Andrea Singley organized the presentations.

Allegheny

A “First” for President’s Seat

In an unprecedented “first,” the Allegheny County Bar Association elected Common Pleas Judge Kim Berkeley Clark as the next president of the ACBA. Judge Clark, an administrative judge in the Family Division, becomes the first black woman and the first judge to assume the presidency of the ACBA.

Berks

Law Day Essay Contest

To mark Law Day, the Berks County Bar Association sponsored an essay contest with the theme “Separate Branches, Balanced Powers.” One Fleetwood Middle School teacher assigned the essay to his English classes and those essays were entered into the contest. Student Mitchell DuCoin took first place with his essay.

Bucks

Katrina Relief Mission

Members of the Bucks County Bar Association organized and joined other county residents to travel to Waveland, Miss., to help victims of Hurricane Katrina. The attorneys were originally scheduled to work on rebuilding the county courthouse, but that project was put on hold and the workers were reassigned. Instead, for a week, they shoveled dirt, painted benches, scraped mud from walls, cleaned toilets and rummaged through endless piles of debris by hand.

Carbon

Law Day Jury and Trial Programs

The Carbon County Bar Association conducted its Law Day program for about 100 students from the county’s five high schools. The program included the showing of the jury orientation program that is played for all prospective jurors, and a mock trial.

Library Donations

The Carbon County Bar Association donated \$15,000 to the county’s five public libraries. This is the third time the bar association has provided money to the community’s libraries.

Chester

Economic Development Partnership

The Chester County Bar Association has become a partner in the Kennett Square Economic Development Services Center. Representatives from the bar association will be at the Center each Friday to provide legal referrals to county businesses in an attempt to encourage and promote smart growth and prosperity in the region.

Crawford

Public Mock Trial

The Crawford County Bar Association, in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges and the League of Women Voters, presented a mock murder trial to demonstrate to the public how the judicial system operates. Following the trial, there was a question and answer session with judges and other members of the legal community.

Cumberland

Florian Project

The Cumberland County Bar Association YLD’s Florian Project, where volunteer attorneys write wills, power of attorneys and medical directives for volunteer firefighters, was presented at seven fire stations throughout Cumberland county, with 65 requests for free services.

ADR Program

In June, the Cumberland County Bar Association launched an Alternative Dispute Resolution program for the county.

Dauphin

Women’s Breakfast Panel Programs

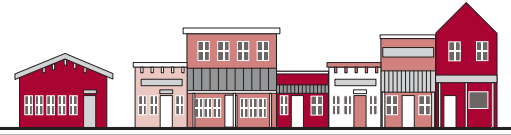
The Dauphin County Bar Association presented three consecutive Friday morning breakfast panel programs by women leaders in the county’s legal community (judges, law firm partners, corporate counsel, government agency counsel and bar association leaders). The programs culminated in an afternoon skills training workshop featuring Joni Daniels, author of “Power Tools for Women.”

Diversity Initiative Intern Program

The Capital Area Managing Partners Diversity Initiative, a collaboration between the Dauphin County Bar Association, many Harrisburg-area law firms, Dickinson and Widener law schools and the Keystone Bar Association, launched its 2006 Summer Intern Program with the selection of eight minority law students (selected from 39 applicants) who will receive fully-funded six-week internships with law firms and corporate legal offices in the county. The students will also receive social and professional development, mentoring and evaluation.

Law Day Activities

As part of Law Day and the annual “Lawyers and Judges Go Back to School” program, 76 lawyers from the Dauphin County Bar Association visited 84 classrooms in 26 schools. The association’s annual Law Day dinner featured Dr. Gerald W. Kohn, superintendent of the Harrisburg School District, and included presentations of the Liberty Bell Award and the Central Pennsylvania Paralegals Association Scholarship. The DCBA also hosted its annual “Ask A Lawyer” booth where individuals with legal questions could speak to volunteer lawyers on a one-to-one basis at no charge.



Delaware

Elder Law Handbook

The third edition of the Delaware County Elder Law Handbook is now available. The handbook provides information for seniors and their families, including information on recent and major changes to Medicaid, as well as the new prescription drug benefit available under Medicare Part D. The handbook is an ongoing project of the Delaware County Bar Association's Elder Law Committee and is funded by COSA, Delaware County Services for the Aging. The handbook can be downloaded at the association's Web site, www.delcobar.org, or copies can be obtained by contacting the DCBA.

The DCBA, in conjunction with Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania, has also established a pro bono program whereby members will prepare wills for qualifying seniors free of charge.

Law Day Celebration

The Delaware County Bar Association celebrated Law Day by honoring several individuals from the county. Karen Tyler, pro bono coordinator for Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania, received the Themis Award, given to a non-attorney for outstanding services that have engendered respect for the law, stimulated the concept of individual responsibility and in recognition of responsibilities as a citizen; Norma Testa-Walsh, executive director of Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, received the Liberty Bell Award, also given to a non-attorney, for "promoting the blessing of liberty" guaranteed by the Constitution; Nancy Harvin, receptionist for the county's judges, received the President's Special Achievement Award for her generosity of spirit and dedication to the legal community; attorney William G. Halligan received the Elizabeth Price Award for "his dedication, integrity and loyalty to the bar association."

Fashion Frenzy Benefit

In recognition of National Administrative Professionals Day, the Delaware County Bar Association, along with the Brandywine Conference and Visitors Center and the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce, sponsored a Spring Fashion Frenzy. Local business and community leaders modeled fashions that were made available for immediate purchase. Proceeds from ticket sales, vendors, etc., supported the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).

Elk

Probation Department Youth Woodworking Program Donation

The Elk County Bar Association has again donated money to the Elk County Probation Department to defray costs associated with the Department's Youth Woodworking Program. In an effort to help curb delinquency, the program provides instructions and materials for local youth to learn various aspects of woodworking.

Law Day 5K Run/Walk

The Erie County Bar Association and the Erie Runners Club held their Third Annual Law Day 5K Run/Walk, benefiting the bar association's "Attorney and Kids Together" program and the Runners Club's scholarship program.

Greene

Law Day Observation

The Greene County Bar Association observed Law Day with a keynote speech from Special Agent David Hedges of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Philadelphia, who provided an overview of the Bureau's efforts to combat the abuse of illegal drugs. The program also included the awarding of prizes to winners of the essay contest on "My Responsibility to Remain Drug Free."

Jefferson

Visits to High Schools

Members of the Jefferson County Bar Association visited Punxsutawney Area High School to inform seniors about laws and legal terms they may encounter upon graduation. The association has done so for about eight years now.

Lackawanna

Law Week Gala

At the Law Week Gala held by the Lackawanna Bar Association, the 2006 Chief Justice Michael J. Eagan Award Recipient, Children's Advocacy Center of Northeastern Pennsylvania, and the 2006 President's Award Recipient, attorney Michael J. McDonald, were honored.

Law Day Celebration



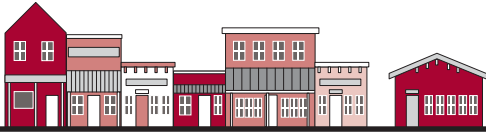
President Abraham Lincoln, aka, attorney Michael J. McDonald of the Lackawanna Bar Association

A Law Day celebration was held on the steps of the Lackawanna County Courthouse. Lackawanna Bar Association President P. Timothy Kelly introduced "President Abraham Lincoln" who recited the Gettysburg Address to help emphasize the Law Week theme, "My Rights." Also honored was Arian Argus, the 2006 "My Rights" Poster Contest Winner, and the District II Mock Trial Champion, Abington Heights High School.

YLD Law Week Benefit

The Lackawanna Bar Association Young Lawyers Division held its 2006 Law Week Benefit Cocktail Party. Members of the YLD sold tickets to the benefit to

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On the *Local Scene...*

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raise money for the Parents Loving Children Through Autism organization.

Civil Rights Attorney Honored

The LBA held a civil rights symposium, "Freedom Rider to Courtroom Fighter," at Lackawanna College. The event saluted the historic contributions of county attorney Morey M. Myers, who served as a legal advisor to civil rights advocacy groups in Florida in 1964 and Mississippi in 1965. He previously served as general counsel to Gov. Robert P. Casey, and is a founding member of the Scranton law firm of Myers, Brier & Kelly, L.L.P. The guest speaker was William G. O'Neill, an attorney and former chair of the United Nations Task Force on Developing Rule of Law Strategies in Peace Operations, who has specialized in international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law.

Support Staff Luncheon

The LBA held its 16th Annual Harold E. Miller Support Staff Luncheon. Miller was appointed tipstaff to the Lackawanna County Courts in 1955, where he worked as bailiff/courtroom deputy until his death in 1987. This luncheon is held annually in his honor and an award in his memory is given to a member of the legal support staff in Lackawanna County. The 2006 Harold E. Miller Award Recipient was Jeffrey J. McLane, chief deputy court administrator, Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas.

Red Mass

Members of the Lackawanna Bar Association and the Diocese of Scranton held their 36th Annual Red Mass. The Red Mass dates to 13th century Europe and England when judges and lawyers attended mass at the opening of each court term to ask for blessings in their efforts to administer justice. The mass receives its name from the red vestments and robes worn by participating priests and jurists.

Lancaster

Awards Bestowed

Members of the Lancaster Bar Association were recognized for their service to the profession, the association and the community at the Annual Bar Dinner. William C. Crosswell received the Louise Gatling Herr Memorial Award, which recognizes "a long-standing member of the LBA who has a commitment to pro bono service or other community or court-related volunteer efforts; exhibits a strong sense of family values; demonstrates an enthusiasm for accepting new challenges with grace and sense of humor; shows a love and respect for the law, its traditions and image; and meets these criteria with integrity, compassion and thoughtfulness for others."

The Outstanding Service Award was presented to Melvin H. Hess, M. Scott Hess, Julie S. Lee and Beverly H. Rampaal for their efforts in designing and implementing the Diversity Hiring Initiative for the LBA. Elvin Kraybill received the Outstanding Achievement Award in recognition of service to the association and the community in an exemplary manner. The recipient is selected based on excellence and professional standards as to become a role model for other attorneys. The President's Award was presented to Robert C. Wee for the work he did in establishing a collaborative relationship between the Lancaster County Historical Society and the Lancaster Bar Association.

Lawrence

Judges Join Law Day Celebrations

The Lawrence County Bar Association celebrated Law Day with the awarding of the 2005 Pro Bono Award to William M. Panella. Winners of the essay contest, on "Drawing the balance between national

security and individual civil liberties in light of surveillance now being conducted by the federal government," were awarded scholarships totaling \$15,000. Superior Court Judge Michael T. Joyce was the guest speaker.

Lehigh

Cancer Awareness Programs

The Community Service Committee of the Bar Association of Lehigh County sponsored programs primarily for members on breast and prostate cancer awareness.

Joint Bar Association Dinner

The bar associations of Northampton and Lehigh counties held their 22nd Annual Joint Dinner Meeting on April 20 with special guest Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice J. Michael Eakin, who provided his version of the "PA Supreme Court's Year in Review" as well as comments on ethical responsibilities.

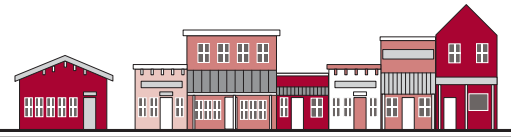
Lycoming

Law Day Celebrations

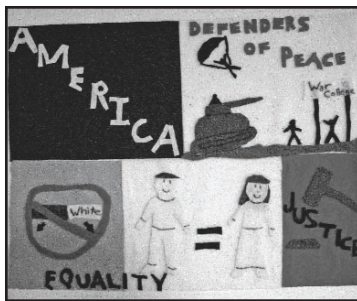
Law Day 2006 was celebrated in Lycoming County in conjunction with a Williamsport session of the Superior Court, and Judges Richard B. Klein, Mary Jane Bowes, and Seamus P. McCaffery assisted with the festivities. County Court of Common Pleas Judge Dudley Anderson provided the welcome and introductions; Law Day Committee Chair Jonathan Butterfield introduced the "Law Day Singers" and their rendition of the national anthem; County Commissioner



Lycoming County Court of Common Pleas Judge Dudley Anderson, second from left, joins Pennsylvania Superior Court Judges Mary Jane Bowes, Richard B. Klein, and Seamus P. McCaffery at a session of the court held in Williamsport.



Rebecca Burke then read the Law Day proclamation, which pointed to the many reasons why the citizens of Lycoming County should appreciate the rule of law. After brief comments by LLA President Craig Harris, student contest winners were called on to display their posters or read their essays. Judges expressed their thoughts on the students' work and the significance of Law Day. A reception followed in the Juror's Lounge.



Student artwork on display at Lycoming County County Bar Association Law Day celebration.

Later that day, a more formal reception and dinner was held for the entire Lycoming County Bar in honor of the Superior Court judges. LLA member and then-PBA President Bill Carlucci spoke on the importance of an independent judiciary. Retiring Law Day Chair Jonathan Butterfield accepted a plaque on behalf of the LLA and the children of Lycoming County for his exceptional contributions over the last 10 years.

The following morning, the Lycoming County YLD, led by Chair Chuck Brace and Zone 4 YLD Chair Julie Steinbacher, along with the help of the PBA, threw a breakfast roundtable. Judges Klein, Bowes, and McCaffery each "held court" at a table filled with young lawyers and other members of the local bar. This event gave the local YLD a memorable opportunity to interact with upper-level judges. Joining the event were Fran O'Rourke and Maria Engles from the PBA, and J.J. Clark, then-PBA YLD chair.

Stepping Out

Seven members of the LLA participated in "Stepping Out," visiting high school senior classes around Lycoming County and enlightening some 400 young adults as to what their futures may hold. Feedback from students, teachers and attorneys was terrific!

Law-Related Grants

On the basis of the recommendation of the LLA's Community Activities and Outreach Committee, the Lycoming Law Association Foundation recently made several law-related grants. The Foundation awarded funds to Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) of Lycoming County, Susquehanna Home Care & Hospice and North Penn Legal Services for law-related projects that will benefit the people of Lycoming County.

The North Penn Legal Services grant was for videography services in connection with the preparation of a customized Lycoming County Child Custody Video. This educational video will help prepare unrepresented indigent clients for custody hearings by acclimating them to the judicial process, and in so doing will benefit the already burdened legal aid community and courts so that they are better able to serve this client population.

Monroe

Law Day Celebrations

The Monroe County Bar Association celebrated Law Day with a mock trial that incorporated attorneys playing characters from the "Harry Potter" book series. Fifth graders from the courtroom audience were chosen to sit on the jury. Bar Association President Joseph P. McDonald Jr. spoke on the need for the public to be properly informed about the legal process and issues, rather than voice uninformed criticisms of court decisions. Winners of the essay contests, on the themes of "Liberty Under the Law: Separate Branches, Balanced Powers" and "National Security vs. The Right to Privacy" were announced. The day concluded with

accountant John J. Riley Sr. receiving the Liberty Bell Award for outstanding civic duty and community service.

Annual Law Day Race/Run/Walk

The 24th Annual Law Day 5-Mile Race and 5K Fun Run/Walk to benefit the Pocono Mountain Kidney Foundation took place April 30. The race is in memory of attorney Lester T. Brown, and proceeds benefit the Pocono Mountain Kidney Foundation. The Young Lawyers Division held a yard sale, bake sale and book sale to sponsor its team in the Relay for Life to benefit the American Cancer Society.

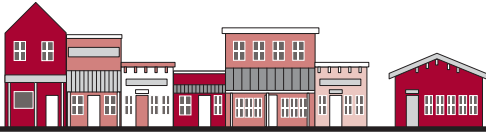
Montgomery

"Extreme Law Office Makeover"

On October 18, the Montgomery Bar Association and the Association of Legal Administrators (Independence Chapter) will present the first "Extreme Law Office Makeover" in conjunction with the Delaware Valley Legal Expo. The "Makeover" will provide a look at products and technologies aimed at helping law offices remain competitive and avoiding the risk of becoming obsolete in today's fast-paced business climate. Vendors and sponsors will demonstrate solutions to help law offices market their practices and manage their information effectively, and evolve to remain competitive. This year's expo will be promoted to users, purchasing agents, and administrators through managing partners.

As one attendee put it at last year's expo, "Small changes around the office can mean big boosts in productivity. What many firms don't realize is that they can uncover hidden costs and save thousands of dollars a year by focusing on the way work flows through their operations. The Legal Expo helps attorneys and administrative staff pull it all together." Interested parties can visit www.montgomerybar.org and follow the link to the 2006 Delaware Valley Legal Expo to learn more.

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On the *Local Scene...*

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Charity Golf Classic

Despite some on-again, off-again weather, and with matching MBA funds, the 10th Annual MBA Golf Classic raised over \$20,000 for Legal Aid of Southeastern PA. The Golf Classic is one of several events held throughout the year that the MBA organizes to raise money for Legal Aid. Last year, members of the Montgomery County legal community and the Montgomery Bar raised over \$93,000 for the cause: they appear well positioned to surpass this amount for 2006.

Northampton

People's Law School

The Service to the Public Committee of the Northampton County Bar Association again presented the People's Law School 2. This session included six new topics, including a variation on the Introduction to the Law from the previous class, Business Law, Civil Rights, Insurance Law and the new Bankruptcy Law.

On the last night of the class, the Law Day Committee presented their Mock Trial program that they were preparing for Law Day. The entire class was divided into three separate juries and delivered three different verdicts!

Updated Law Day Program

The Northampton County Bar Association's new Law Day Committee updated their 2006 Law Day program. The committee decided to focus the program to seventh and eighth grade students and created a curriculum directed specifically towards those grades. A teacher from Easton Area Middle School volunteered to create a classroom curriculum guide. Speakers from the offices of the district attorney, the public defender and the prison warden spoke to the students. Students were also given tours of both the old and the new sections of the courthouse, and sat in on a mock trial. The highlight of the program for the students was the program presented by the warden, including all of the stories

and exhibits he provided. For a few of the schools and classes that were unable to attend the Law Day program, Northampton County judges volunteered to go to the schools and speak to students in their classrooms. The Law Day program was so successful that teachers have already asked to register for next year!

Northumberland

Law Day

The Northumberland County Bar Association marked Law Day — which coincided with the 140th anniversary of the county courthouse — in Sunbury by hosting about 200 students at the courthouse for tours, a county commissioners meeting and a new admittee ceremony. Other events included a video and slide show, tours and displays by historical societies.

Schuylkill

Memorial Services

The Schuylkill County Bar Association held memorial services for members who had died between 1991 and 2006. More than 100 family and friends attended.

Washington

New Address

As of July 1, the new address for the Washington County Bar Association is 119 S. College St., Washington, PA 15301. Phone (724-225-6710), fax (724-225-8345) and e-mail (washbar@washcobar.org) remain the same.

Living Trust Warning

On behalf of the Washington County Bar Association, President Thomas O. Vreeland penned a letter that ran in the *Monessen Valley Independent* cautioning seniors and their families to "Beware of False Promises," and suggesting they request a copy of the attorney general's consumer advisory on estate planning or a copy of the related brochure, "Estate Planning: How to Identify and Avoid Living Trust Scams."

Westmoreland

Living Trust Seminar

The Westmoreland Bar Association co-sponsored a free seminar on living trusts, featuring attorneys from the association, agents from the attorney general's office and bank and trust officers.

Law Day Essay Contest

The Westmoreland Bar Foundation sponsored a Law Day essay contest on the theme of judicial independence.

Outstanding Young Lawyer Award

The Westmoreland Bar Association honored county assistant district attorney Leo Ciaramitaro as the 2006 Outstanding Young Lawyer for his "leadership and distinguished service to the legal profession and the community."

Wilkes-Barre/Luzerne

Service Award

The Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association/Luzerne County Bar honored Carol Lauer in recognition of her 20 years of service to the association.

York

Law Day Celebration

The York County Bar Association celebrated Law Day with a luncheon, presentation of the Liberty Bell Award, announcement of winners of the poster and essay contests and presentation of awards to mock trial finalists. The Liberty Bell Award was presented to Ryan Sattler for his service and efforts as chair of the York County Community Against Racism. The speaker for the luncheon was Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice J. Michael Eakin.

Members of the association have also volunteered to participate in "Judges & Lawyers Go Back to School," where they speak at schools to help children recognize that freedoms are based upon the rights and responsibilities they exercise daily. ■

PBI 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.

Erie - LIVE VIDEOCONFERENCE

Civil Practice in Magisterial District Courts, Wed., July 19; 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

Harrisburg

9th Annual Elder Law Institute, Thurs., July 20 and Fri., July 21; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; registration at 7:45 a.m.; 6 CLE credits

Malvern

Biotechnology in the Courts, Tues., July 25; 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; registration at 8:30 a.m.; 3 substantive CLE credits

LIVE VIA SATELLITE

<i>Allentown</i>	<i>Montrose</i>
<i>Bellefonte</i>	<i>New Castle</i>
<i>Chambersburg</i>	<i>Philadelphia</i>
<i>Doylestown</i>	<i>Pittsburgh</i>
<i>Easton</i>	<i>Scranton</i>
<i>Erie</i>	<i>Stroudsburg</i>
<i>Greensburg</i>	<i>Towanda</i>
<i>Hollidaysburg</i>	<i>Uniontown</i>
<i>Honesdale</i>	<i>Villanova</i>
<i>Indiana</i>	<i>Warren</i>
<i>Lancaster</i>	<i>Waynesburg</i>
<i>Lewisburg</i>	<i>West Chester</i>
<i>Mansfield</i>	<i>West Decatur</i>
<i>Mechanicsburg</i>	<i>Wilkes-Barre</i>
<i>Media</i>	<i>Williamsport</i>
<i>Mill Hall</i>	<i>York</i>

Artistry in Advocacy in the 21st Century, Wed., July 26; 8:30 a.m. to 12:55 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 4 substantive CLE credits

LIVE VIA SATELLITE

<i>Allentown</i>	<i>Indiana</i>
<i>Bellefonte</i>	<i>Johnstown</i>
<i>Chambersburg</i>	<i>Lewisburg</i>
<i>Easton</i>	<i>Mansfield</i>
<i>Erie</i>	<i>Mechanicsburg</i>
<i>Greensburg</i>	<i>Media</i>
<i>Hollidaysburg</i>	<i>Mill Hall</i>

<i>Montrose</i>	<i>Villanova</i>
<i>New Castle</i>	<i>Warren</i>
<i>Philadelphia</i>	<i>Washington</i>
<i>Pittsburgh</i>	<i>Waynesburg</i>
<i>Schuylkill Haven</i>	<i>West Chester</i>
<i>Scranton</i>	<i>West Decatur</i>
<i>Stroudsburg</i>	<i>Wilkes-Barre</i>
<i>Towanda</i>	<i>Williamsport</i>
<i>Uniontown</i>	<i>York</i>

Choosing the Best Business Entity for Your Maximum Results, Thurs., Aug. 31; 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; registration at 8:30 a.m.; 3 substantive CLE credits

Hershey

PBA Workers' Compensation Fall Section Meeting 2006 (22nd Annual), Thurs., Sept. 7; 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; registration at noon, and Fri., Sept. 8; 8:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 7 CLE credits (6 substantive/1 ethics)

Wilkes-Barre - LIVE VIDEOCONFERENCE

11th Annual Bankruptcy Institute, Tues., Sept. 12; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 6.5 CLE credits (5.5 substantive/1 ethics)

Erie - LIVE VIDEOCONFERENCE

Practical Pretrial Practice, Wed., Sept. 20; 10:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.; registration at 9:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

Malvern

Talking With Pictures, Thurs., Sept. 28; 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

Wilkes-Barre - LIVE VIDEOCONFERENCE

Talking With Pictures, Fri., Sept. 29; 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

Camp Hill

Exceptional Children Conference, Fri., Sept. 29, 2006; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; registration at 8:00 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

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PABAR-PAC Support Needed

Politics in Harrisburg are changing. Persons with whom we have established political relationships are leaving the state Capitol, and new contacts need to be made. Lawyers and the rights of their clients are under assault.

Lawyers need a strong advocate to reach legislators. The PBA's political action committee – PABAR-PAC – needs financial support.

Support of the PABAR-PAC not only aids the PBA in fighting assaults on clients and the profession but also aids in advocating for needed legislative improvements.

A well-financed PAC is a critical part of the PBA's overall strategy. PAC money gives PBA's representatives greater opportunities to make the PBA's issues known to legislators. With greater access to legislators and their staffs, the PBA's lobbyists are given more opportunities to advance the positions of the association and its committees and sections.

This session, the PBA has been a leader in advancing legislation to address

important issues such as alternative dispute resolution, child custody, restrictions on capital punishment in the cases of mental retardation, and the indexing of recorded transactions.

During the past year, the PBA has also worked vigorously on the following legislative issues affecting lawyers and their clients:

- Strong efforts were made within the General Assembly to pass a proposal advanced by the Commonwealth Caucus to tax professional legal services. The PBA was at the forefront in defeating this ill-conceived measure.
- As the number of lawyer/legislators diminishes, the prospect of the unauthorized practice of law increases. The PBA continues to remain strong and vigilant in battling ever-present efforts to adopt bills that would permit the unauthorized practice of law.
- The residential construction defects legislation would have placed many homeowners at a disadvantage in dis-

putes with disreputable builders were it not for the vocal opposition of the PBA. Continuing advocacy with the General Assembly, as well as communication with the governor's office, worked to the betterment of many citizens and clients.

Large PACs have greater access to the legislative process. Contributions to the PABAR-PAC will enable it to grow, compete more effectively in the legislative arena and provide a stronger voice for lawyers on Capitol Hill in Harrisburg.

Last week, PBA members received a letter from the PABAR-PAC. The letter provided an overview of the PBA's legislative agenda and asked members to support that agenda through a contribution to the PABAR-PAC.

The PABAR-PAC's success depends on member support. Please encourage contributions to give lawyers a stronger voice in Harrisburg. ■

PBA Creates New Federal Practice Committee to Assist Lawyers with Their Work in Federal Courts

The PBA recently created a Federal Practice Committee and is seeking members who are interested in joining. The proposed mission is as follows:

The Federal Practice Committee shall provide lawyers who practice in Pennsylvania's federal courts the ability to meet and obtain basic information regarding practice in the federal court system, shall promote communication and cooperation between those lawyers who practice in federal courts and members of the federal judiciary and shall provide an opportunity to identify and address the differences between the local district court rules and orders of court that affect practice of law in the Eastern, Middle and Western Districts. These purposes are to enhance lawyers' practice in the federal court and otherwise promote the efficient and effective resolution of legal matters in the federal courts.

The committee shall enhance knowl-

edge and professional capabilities of lawyers who practice law in the U.S. District Courts in Pennsylvania through education programming and meetings, and shall promote the welfare of attorneys and judges employed by the government of the United States. The committee may review, from time to time, and make recommendations concerning federal legislation and proposed changes to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and Federal District Court Rules.

"As litigation in our federal courts continues to grow, I am delighted that the PBA can offer this additional opportunity to our members," said PBA Immediate Past President Bill Carlucci. "Although each one of our countless member benefits is important, the greatest benefit of all is the opportunity to meet with and learn from other lawyers with similar concerns."

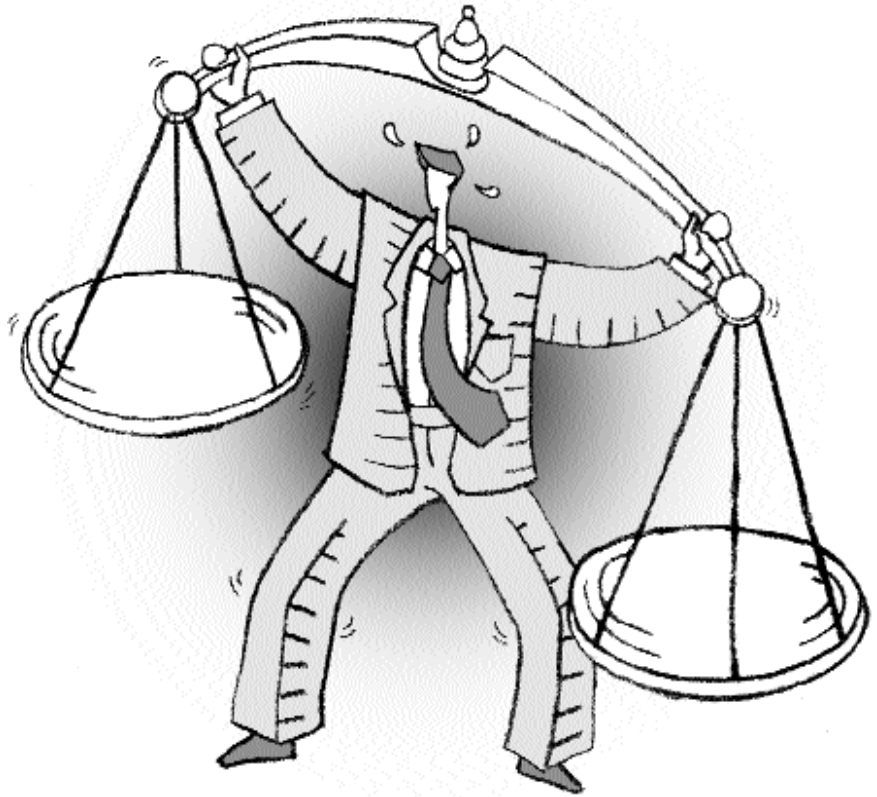
The three chief judges were part of the formation process of the Federal Practice Committee and will continue to be an active part of the committee as it begins its work.

"I am excited that the formation of the Federal Practice Committee has energized so many members who practice in the federal courts," said PBA President Ken Horoho. "There is clearly a need for this type of committee since the federal practice area has become increasingly regionalized with lawyers practicing in more than their local Pennsylvania district. I am also gratified by the federal judges' enthusiasm in embracing a statewide committee that will provide meaningful opportunity to share information about local district practices."

Those who are interested in the committee should contact Lan Ziegler at the PBA at (800) 932-0311, Ext. 2253. ■

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No PBA Dues Increase for 2006-07 Year

At their April 6 meeting, the PBA Board of Governors considered a report and recommendation from the Membership Development Committee on the way PBA dues increases are considered. The report and recommendation was deferred for additional study until the June meeting of the Board. For this and other reasons, it was decided that there would not be a dues increase for the 2007 year. However, a dues increase for the 2008 year is anticipated. ■

PBA Committee Sign-up Reminder

PBA Members are reminded not to forget to sign up for a PBA committee! Sign-up brochures, which detail the more than 30 committees the PBA has available to members, will mail soon. Members can also use the link on the PBA home page at www.pabar.org.

Even if a member is already on a committee, he or she needs to sign-up each year. Failure to do so will result in the member's name being purged from the committee. ■

Art's List of Great Places on the Road

Over the years, PBA County Bar Services Director Art Birdsall has had ample opportunity to investigate the great — and not so great — places to find good food and conversation throughout the commonwealth. Here are three additional stops to add to Art's list of recommendations:

- Lackawanna — Coney Island, Scranton, just across the corner from the Scranton Hilton; hot dogs and cheeseburgers served on a special roll — rival those from you-know-where.
- Lycoming — Bullfrog Brewery & Restaurant, Williamsport; award-winning, hand-crafted micro-brewed beer and creative cuisine in an English pub-like setting.
- Tioga — The Wren's Nest, Mansfield; the layout of the building is almost the same as when it was built in 1854, the hospitality is legendary, the restaurant is both casual and elegant.

(See Art's last full list of "Great Places" at www.pabar.org/pdf/cljan03.pdf.)

Send Us Your News

Friday, September 1, 2006 is the copy deadline for the October 2006 issue of the newsletter.

To submit news for *The County Line*, please use the enclosed "News and Views" form or call 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.

County Bar Services Director: Arthur J. Birdsall

The County Line Editor: Patricia M. Graybill

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Mark Your Calendars:

**PBA Family Law Section
Summer Meeting
July 13-16, 2006**
Four Seasons Hotel, Toronto,
Ontario, Canada

**PBA Young Lawyers
Division Summer
Conference 2006
July 28-30, 2006**
Rocky Gap Lodge
& Golf Resort,
Cumberland, Md.

**PABE Summer Retreat
"NOW and Then ...
on the Road"
August 20-22, 2006**
Plymouth Meeting
...with a few side trips

**2007 Conference of County
Bar Leaders Seminar
February 22-24, 2007**
Nittany Lion Inn,
State College

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