

The COUNTYLINE



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October 2009

Special PBA House of Delegates meeting on Constitutional Revision Commission nears

The PBA Board of Governors has called a special meeting of the PBA House of Delegates for Oct. 19, 2009, at the Radisson Penn Harris Hotel & Convention Center in Camp Hill.

The purpose of the special meeting, which will begin at 10 a.m., is to consider the resolution of the Project Constitution Task Force. The resolution calls upon the governor and the state Legislature to create a Constitutional Revision Commission to examine the question of whether a limited Constitutional Convention should be convened to review and analyze potential revisions to Articles II through IV and Articles VI through XI of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

The initial meetings of the task force included a careful consideration of the PBA's pivotal role in the events leading up to the Constitutional Convention of 1967-68 and an analysis of whether a future Constitutional Convention could, in fact, be limited.

The task force concluded that there should be an effective forum to deliberate issues of potential constitutional change. In its white paper, the task force observed "Important to the current call for study of potential constitutional revision was the fact that the PBA recommended over 40 years ago that constitutional revision should be examined and considered every 15 years. Given the significant changes occurring to local governments across the country during the past 25 years and the substantial and rapid change in technology, the general consensus was that achieving goals of increasing efficiency and reducing costs in government should be periodically assessed and evaluated."

The task force also considered the fact that three bills were introduced in the 2005-06 legislative session providing for a limited

constitution, and in the present legislative session there are six bills providing for a limited convention.

The Project Constitution Task Force is co-chaired by former PBA President Andrew F. Susko and state Rep. Kathy Manderino.

The purpose of the special meeting is to consider the resolution of the Project Constitution Task Force.

Task Force members include PBA President Clifford E. Haines; PBA House of Delegates Chair Dana Baiocco; former PBA At-large Governor and Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Cynthia A. Baldwin; PBA Past President Timothy J. Carson; former PBA At-large Governor Samuel T. Cooper III; Widener School of Law Professor and Dean John L. Gedid; Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts Associate Director Shira J. Goodman; Duquesne University School of Law Interim Dean Kenneth G. Gormley; Centre County Judge Thomas King Kistler; Temple University Beasley School of Law Professor Michael Libonati; PBI Executive Director Emeritus Roger Meilton; PBA Unit County Governor Forest N. Myers; Pennsylvania Association for Justice Past President Clifford A. Rieders; Pennsylvania Bar Foundation Past President Steven E. "Tim" Riley Jr.; Past PBA Zone Governor Lewis G. Steinberg; and PBA YLD Chair-elect Lisa M.B. Woodburn.

The task force's resolution and supporting white paper can be found on the PBA's Web site at www.pabar.org. ■

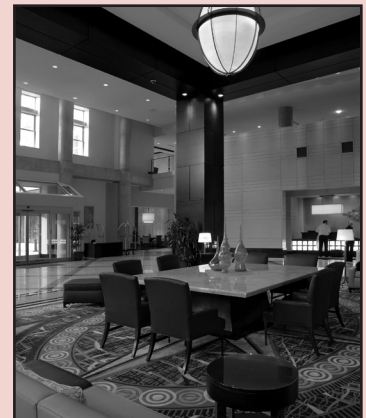


SAVE THE DATES: February 25-27, 2010

Reserve your spot for CCBL

You don't want to miss the 44th annual Conference of County Bar Leaders, taking place at the new Lancaster Marriott Hotel and Convention Center. Look for registration information in the mail and on the CCBL Web site at www.pabar.org/public/localbar/ccblhome.asp. Learn more about the hotel at www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/lnsmc-lancaster-marriott-at-penn-square/

Lancaster Marriott photos by John Herr



Interested in bringing ‘Wills for Heroes’ to your county?

Since the “Wills for Heroes Pennsylvania” program launched in January, attorneys across the state have prepared more than 500 wills and numerous other estate planning documents for local police, fire and emergency medical personnel – all at no cost to the first responders.

The program, a project of the PBA Young Lawyers Division and co-sponsored by the Philadelphia firm of Ballard Spahr L.L.P., was founded by Anthony Hayes, a South Carolina lawyer who wanted to do something meaningful to help the country after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. He met with South Carolina firefighters and noted a glaring need for estate planning services for first responders. Dan McKenna, a Ballard associate, brought the program to Pennsylvania in January and coordinates it for the PBA YLD.

“Wills for Heroes” events are held in Pennsylvania communities upon request of county bar associations and of leaders from local police, fire and emergency medical personnel organizations. On the scheduled day, a team of lawyers, paralegals, notaries and law students bring computer laptops to a firehouse or meeting hall and spend at least an hour with each participant who pre-registers to attend the event.

A participant sits with a lawyer to review a questionnaire that the participant has filled out in advance. Answers are entered into a

“Wills for Heroes” events are held in Pennsylvania communities upon request of county bar associations and local police, fire and emergency medical personnel organizations.

computer-based program. The lawyer reviews the resulting document with the participant to ensure its accuracy. After any necessary corrections are made, the will is printed, signed and notarized.

Upon request, lawyer volunteers also will work with each participant to prepare an advance medical directive, often called a “living will,” which specifies what actions should be taken for the participant’s health in the event that he or she can no longer make decisions due to illness or incapacity. In addition, lawyers will prepare a durable power of attorney, a document that gives another person legal authority to act on behalf of the participant if the participant becomes incapacitated.



William J. Donohue (left), associate general counsel, environment, health and safety of Exelon Business Services Company L.L.C., and Drexel Law School third-year student John P. Skrabak work with a state trooper and his wife at a “Wills for Heroes” program on Sept. 19 at the Avondale state troopers’ barracks in Chester County.

These documents are all offered at no cost to participants.

Despite the inherently dangerous nature of their jobs, an overwhelmingly large number of police officers, firefighters and emergency medical personnel – estimates range from 80 to 90 percent – do not have wills, according to figures provided by national and state first responder organizations. The need is especially great in Pennsylvania, which has more volunteer first responders than any other state.

To accommodate the need, the PBA has implemented a county coordinator program. After training and certification, and with the support of the PBA and the PBA Wills for Heroes director, coordinators are responsible for planning and running all events in their area.

County bar associations interested in bringing “Wills for Heroes” to their region should visit www.pabar.org/public/yld/Projects/willsforheroesyld.asp for more information. ■

‘Get Help Now, Pa.’ and ‘Wills for Heroes’ earn praise

Gov. Edward G. Rendell has praised lawyer volunteers for their time and commitment to providing community service through “Get Help Now, Pennsylvania.”

During the “Get Help Now, Pennsylvania” program, legal and financial volunteers at 19 locations throughout the state provided free assistance and referrals to Pennsylvanians who have been affected by the financial downturn. During the 10-week program, more than 800 state residents received help from more than 1,000 legal and financial professionals who gave a combined 5,000 hours of voluntary service.

“We are grateful to the Pennsylvania Bar Association, local bar associations and the financial community for answering the call to service in such a powerful way through Get Help Now, Pennsylvania,” Rendell said during a National Day of Service and Remembrance ceremony on Sept. 11 at the City/County Building in Pittsburgh.

Rendell said he applauds “the many volunteers who, without fanfare or recognition, faithfully work on a regular basis to better the lives of others and strengthen their communities.”

Get Help Now, Pennsylvania was created

in response to President and Mrs. Obama’s call for Americans to pursue public service to honor the thousands of Americans who died in the 2001 terrorist attacks. Rendell and First Lady Judge Marjorie Rendell called upon the legal and financial professionals to focus Pennsylvania’s efforts on the needs of those who are suffering during these difficult economic times.

“Many of the people who came to the Get Help Now sites were without hope,” said Clifford E. Haines, PBA president. “They had tried to find a way to get out of the bad

(Continued on Page 7)

PBA Avoidance of Legal Malpractice seminars scheduled

There is still time to register for this fall's malpractice avoidance seminars scheduled by the PBA County Bar Services Department, the PBA Professional Liability Committee and USIAffinity, in cooperation with local bar associations.

Seminar attendees may qualify for a 5-percent discount on their liability insurance (underwritten by Westport) and receive 1.5 hours of CLE ethics, professionalism or substance abuse credit. Seminars are presented live and include a CD-ROM of the presentation material. Cost is \$30 per person. Unless otherwise noted below, register online at www.pabar.org/public/localbar/countybarprograms.asp. If you have questions, contact PBA County Bar Services at 800-932-0311, ext. 2297.

The schedule follows:

SOMERSET

Sept. 29 at 9 a.m.
Oakhurst Tea Room,
2409 Glades Pike, Route 31, Somerset

CAMBRIA

Sept. 29 at 3 p.m.
Holiday Inn, 250 Market St, Johnstown

BLAIR

Sept. 30 at 9 a.m.
Hampton Inn,
180 Charlotte Drive, Altoona

BEDFORD

Sept. 30 at 3 p.m.
Omni Bedford Springs Resort, 2138
Business Route 220, Bedford

FULTON

Oct. 1 at 9 a.m.
Graystone Tower Bank,
101 Lincoln Way West, McConnellsburg

HUNTINGDON

Oct. 1 at 3 p.m.
Huntingdon Country Club,
10305 Raystown Road, Huntingdon

CRAWFORD

Oct. 5 at 3 p.m.
Holiday Inn Express,
18240 Conneaut Lake Road, Meadville

WARREN

Oct. 6 at 9 a.m.
Holiday Inn, 210 Ludlow St, Warren

McKEAN

Oct. 6 at 3 p.m.
Mutzabaugh & Sauders L.L.P.,
13 Main St, Bradford

POTTER

Oct. 7 at 9 a.m.
Millstream Inn,
918 E. Second St., Coudersport

BRADFORD

Oct. 7 at 1:30 p.m.
Quarry Glen Club, Towanda
To register, call 570-888-0297.

CAMERON

Oct. 20 at 3 p.m.
Office of Paul Malizia,
25 E. Fourth St., Emporium

CLEARFIELD

Oct. 21 at 9 a.m.
Hampton Inn,
1777 Industrial Park Road, Clearfield

CLINTON

Oct. 21 at 3 p.m.
Dutch Haven Restaurant,
201 E. Bald Eagle St., Lock Haven

CENTRE

Oct. 22 at 9 a.m.
Ramada Conference Center,
1450 S. Atherton St., State College

MIFFLIN/JUNIATA

Oct. 22 at 3 p.m.
Quality Inn, Route 322,
13015 Ferguson Valley Road, Burnham

SCHUYLKILL

Oct. 29 at 2:45 p.m.
Schuylkill Country Club,
Route 443, Orwigsburg.
To register, call 570-628-1235.

WESTMORELAND

Nov. 2 at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
Westmoreland Bar Association,
129 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Greensburg

FAYETTE

Nov. 3 at 9 a.m.
Holiday Inn,
700 W. Main St., Uniontown

GREENE

Nov. 3 at 1 p.m.
County Office Building,
93 E. High St., 2nd Floor, Waynesburg

LAWRENCE

Nov. 4 at 9 a.m.
Penn State Cooperative Extension Office,
Lawrence County Courthouse, New Castle

MERCER

Nov. 4 at 3:00 pm
Radisson Hotel Sharon, Route 18 & I-80,
Exit 4B, West Middlesex

VENANGO

Nov. 5 at 9 a.m.
Quality Inn & Conference Center,
1411 Liberty St., Franklin

CLARION

Nov. 5 at 3 p.m.
Holiday Inn, I-80 at Route 68,
45 Holiday Inn Road, Clarion

ARMSTRONG

Nov. 6 at 9 a.m.
Kittanning Country Club,
218 Belltop Drive, Kittanning

YORK

Nov. 16 at 12:15 p.m.
Yorktowne Hotel, 48 E. Market St., York
To register, call 717-854-8755, ext. 201.

ELK

Nov. 17 at 3 p.m.
Comfort Inn,
195 Comfort Lane, St. Marys

JEFFERSON

Nov. 18 at 9 a.m.
Plyler's Family Restaurant,
234 Allegheny Blvd., Brookville

INDIANA

Nov. 18 at 3 p.m.
Rustic Lodge, 2199 Oakland Ave., Indiana

WASHINGTON

Nov. 23 at 3 p.m.
The George Washington,
660 S. Main St., Washington.
To register, call 724-225-6710.

BEAVER

Nov. 24 at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
Beaver County Bar Association,
788 Turnpike St., Beaver

BUTLER

Nov. 25 at 9 a.m.
Cornerstone Commons,
201 S. Main St., Butler

DAUPHIN

Dec. 4 at 11:30 a.m.
Crowne Plaza Hotel,
23 S. Second St., Harrisburg.
To register, call 717-232-7536.

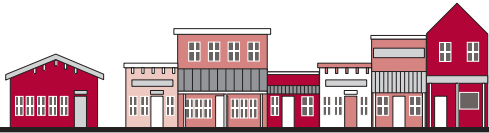
MONTGOMERY

Dec. 8 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Blue Bell Country Club,
1800 Tournament Drive, Blue Bell

ERIE

Dec. 10 at 4 p.m.
Ambassador Conference Center, 7792
Peach St., Erie.
To register, call 814-459-3111.

the county line



On the *Local Scene...*

Allegheny

'Staying out of E-Trouble'

The Young Lawyers Division of the Allegheny County Bar Association is offering a new program for area high school students called "Staying Out of E-Trouble." The 45-minute program, created by the marketing and communications departments of the bar association, will discuss ways that students can avoid getting into trouble while using various modes of communications technology, such as text messages, e-mail, social networking sites and YouTube. The program will also discuss the laws that apply to this technology and possible punishment for violating those laws.

The YLD will present "Staying Out of E-Trouble" as a separate presentation or as a segment of a Stepping Out presentation.

Blair

Constitution Day

The Blair County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division, in a joint venture with Hollidaysburg Area High School, coordinated the county's annual Constitution Day celebration on Sept. 16 at the Blair County Courthouse patio.

The 2007 PBA/YLD Liberty Bell Award recipient, Don Imler, coordinated a visit from Judge Marjorie O. Rendell as the guest speaker. PBA Pro Bono Coordinator David Trevaskis, PBA YLD Chair Timothy S. Burns and YLD Zone 8 Chair Traci Naugle represented the PBA. This is Naugle's third year of successfully coordinating the event.

In addition to Rendell, eight Blair County young lawyers spoke at the event, and a crowd of about 200 students, attorneys and members of the community attended.

Cumberland

'Get Help Now, Pennsylvania'

The Cumberland County Bar Association had 10 attorney volunteers, three bankers and five customers participate in its "Get Help Now, Pennsylvania" programs on July 17, Aug. 18 and Sept. 10. Even though the public turnout was light, the volunteers used their time to get to know each other better.



At Blair County's annual Constitution Day celebration on Sept. 16 are (from left) Don Imler; the 2007 PBA/YLD Liberty Bell Award recipient; Judge Marjorie O. Rendell, Zoe E. Babe, associate at Andrews & Beard in Altoona; PBA YLD Chair Timothy S. Burns; and PBA Pro Bono Coordinator David Trevaskis.

CCBA annual picnic

The CCBA annual picnic was held in July with 95 attorneys, law clerks and students in attendance. The volleyball and horseshoe games were rained out.

Judicial evaluation procedure

The CCBA is in the process of establishing a judicial evaluation procedure. There will be an election in 2011 for two vacancies on the county's Court of Common Pleas with terms that begin January 2012.

Dauphin

Summer intern program

The Capital Area Managing Partners (CAMP) Diversity Initiative, administered by the Dauphin County Bar Association Equal Professional Opportunity Committee, completed its fourth annual 1L Summer Intern Program, hiring 13 first-year minority law students for eight-week internships in Dauphin, Cumberland and Lancaster counties. Each week featured a seminar presentation describing the practical aspects of practicing law in different substantive areas.

Annual picnic at City Island

Almost 250 members of the Dauphin County Bar Association attended the DCBA annual picnic at the Carousel Pavilion on City Island on July 15. Miniature golf, volleyball and a Texas Hold 'Em poker tournament were available, in addition to the traditional clams and summer picnic fare.

'Get Help Now, Pennsylvania'

Seventy-three volunteers, including 49 Dauphin County Bar Association lawyers and 24 local bankers and financial advisers, participated in the statewide "Get Help Now, Pennsylvania" service initiative at our county help desk. The desk was staffed two days a week for 10 weeks from July 7 through September 10.

Erie

Updated videoconferencing services

Erie County Bar Association videoconferencing services, offered since 1999 at the ECBA headquarters, were upgraded in July and now offer anyone using the service, members or non-members, an even greater savings of time and money. The system was updated from

On the *Local Scene*...



ISDN to IP and new 52-inch and 46-inch LCD, HDTV, flat-screen wall monitors were installed.

Charity golf tournament

The annual Charity Golf Tournament, which was held on July 29, raised more than \$7,000 for the Erie County Bar Foundation and its projects, including the Chief Justice Samuel J. Roberts Scholarship Fund.

Courthouse art

The Erie County Bar Foundation commissioned a local watercolor artist to paint portraits of both the Erie County and federal courthouses. Artwork depicting the current courthouses did not exist, since both courthouses had undergone renovations in recent years.

The two original watercolors, each measuring 34 inches by 42 inches and valued at \$2,200, were raffled off as a fundraiser for the Attorneys & Kids Together Program, which supports the educational needs of local students living in homeless situations.

This fundraiser netted more than \$1,300, with more funds anticipated through the upcoming sale of prints.

Franklin

Estate planning seminars

The Franklin County Bar Association, in partnership with the county Agency on Aging, offered a "Planning for Your Future" seminar at senior centers in Chambersburg and Greencastle in June. Two attorneys spoke and answered questions at each location. Discussion topics included general estate planning, wills and powers of attorney, and nursing home admissions.

YLD offers KidCare

The Young Lawyers Division of the Franklin County Bar Association, in cooperation with the PBA YLD, offered Project KidCare at Old Market Day in downtown Chambersburg on July 18.

YLD members handed out 400 KidCare kits, and assisted by a Chambersburg Police Department officer, they also fingerprinted some of the children who visited the booth with their parents. Zone 3 YLD co-chairs Robert Datorre and Lisa Watson also

volunteered at the booth. Information on Operation Safe Surf, the attorney general's program on Internet safety, was available to parents, as well. Old Market Day draws more than 10,000 visitors to Chambersburg each summer.

Lancaster

New In-House Counsel Section

The Lancaster Bar Association Board has established a new In-House Counsel Section. Doug Brossman (Burnham) has been appointed chairman, and Terry Warco (High Industries), vice chair.

Lebanon

LCBA honors Palmyra senior

For the 48th consecutive year, the Lebanon County Bar Association and WLBR-AM Radio have sponsored the "Outstanding Senior of the Year" competition. The award pays tribute to one senior who has excelled in scholastic achievement, leadership qualities and participation in school and community related activities. This year's winner, Mathew Weschler, who ranked No. 1 among seniors at Palmyra High School, received a \$1,000 scholarship and a plaque.

YLD/Lebanon police softball benefit

The Lebanon County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division recently joined forces with the Lebanon City Police Department in a friendly game of softball to have fun and raise some funds for the police department's newest canine officer, Friday. All proceeds raised benefited Operation WOOF (Welcoming Our Officer Friday).

Luzerne

Charity support efforts

The Luzerne County Bar Association Charitable Foundation recently made a donation to St. Vincent De Paul Soup Kitchen as part of its 2009 charity support efforts. The donation was made in addition to volunteer hours donated by area lawyers at the kitchen on a regular basis. The foundation also awarded a \$1,000 grant to the Volunteer Center of Greater Hazleton Inc. to help with the center's programs for teens.

In addition, the foundation recently selected the YMCA of Greater Wilkes-Barre as a recipient of a foundation award. The Wilkes-Barre Family YMCA will use this contribution as part of its annual fund drive to support various programs, including after-school programs, childcare services, family and teen programs. The annual fund donations provide financial assistance to families and children who are economically disadvantaged.

Monroe

YLD donates school supplies

The Young Lawyers Division of the Monroe County Bar Association held two car washes over the summer to raise money to purchase school supplies for Monroe County elementary schools. The YLD raised \$425, which was matched by the Monroe County Bar Foundation. With the \$850, they purchased pencils, crayons, glue sticks and antibacterial hand wipes, and the young lawyers delivered the supplies to four elementary schools and received many sincere thanks from the principals and teachers.

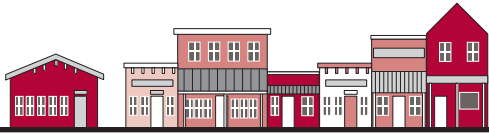
Bench/Bar Conference

The Monroe County Bar Association held its 13th annual Bench/Bar Conference on Sept. 25 at Fernwood Resort and Conference Center in Bushkill. More than 110 members and guests attended, including local attorneys, judges, row officers, county commissioners and state representatives.

The conference program featured several presentations, including professionalism in the courtroom by Montgomery County Common Pleas Judge Stanley Ott; the role of the Superior Court on wire tapping by Superior Court Judge Jack Panella; and oral arguments by Supreme Court Justice J. Michael Eakin. PBA President Clifford E. Haines offered remarks as guest speaker at the luncheon. The afternoon included a panel discussion between the local judiciary and attorneys, and the conference concluded with a cocktail reception and hors d'oeuvres. The conference was a huge success and provided many opportunities for networking and continuing legal education.

(Continued on Page 6)

the county line



On the *Local Scene...*

(Continued from Page 5)

Montgomery

YouTube video contest

On the heels of last year's "Why Vote?" YouTube video contest, the Montgomery Bar Association has launched its second annual YouTube video contest, "There Ought to be a Law."

The contest is open to all Pennsylvania residents, and the deadline to register is Friday, Nov. 6. Cash prizes will again be awarded to winners and runners-up in two main categories: under 18 and 18 and over, including \$1,000 cash prizes for contest winners. Last year's videos played before thousands of unique viewers, including local and regional media, state and local dignitaries, and business and community leaders.

The bar association encourages contestants to be creative, have some fun, and submit entries early for a chance to take home a "People's Choice" award. For contest rules and information on how to enter, visit www.montgomerybar.org or www.youtube.com/group/OughtToBeALaw.

Judicial candidate media project

The Montgomery Bar Association has partnered with the Montgomery County

Community College (MCCC) and the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit for a unique community media partnership – the Judicial Candidate Media Project.

The concept is to help Montgomery County voters put a face and personality to the campaign signs that will likely blanket the county during November's highly-contested judicial election, featuring an unprecedented seven open seats on the county's Court of Common Pleas.

Under the leadership of MBA President Mark A. Kearney, the association secured commitments from all 14 judicial candidates to appear in studio and on camera for two- to three-minute interviews conducted at the MCCC's recently-completed television studio.

All candidates were given equal time to prepare and answer the question, "Why do you want to be a judge?" A volunteer student/teacher production team recorded live candidate interviews, conducted by

Kearney, onto tape to ensure consistency and objectivity. Biographies of each candidate, titles and transitions were added by MCCC students in post-production.

A finished full-length video, compiling interviews of all 14 candidates in alphabetical order, will allow the program to air on student- and community-access channels throughout the county through Election Day. Arrangements for the video to air on 11 of these channels were coordinated through partners at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit.

The 14 individual video clips also can be seen on the MBA's Web site at montgomerybar.org. Comcast cable subscribers can also view the individual video vignettes, free of charge, via their video on-demand services (see: Get Local/ PA Candidates/Judges).

To learn more about the MBA's Judicial Candidate Media Project, visit www.montgomerybar.org or contact Jim Mathias, director of marketing, communications and public affairs for the MBA, at 610-279-9660, ext. 232. ■



Come away with the PBA to the 2010 PBA Midyear Meeting

You won't want to miss the PBA Midyear Meeting, Jan. 20 – 24, at the Atlantis Paradise Island in the sunny Bahamas.

Join other bar executives and county bar leaders at a special session on "What Members Really Need and Want From Their Local Bar Associations."

At the session, come hear what attorneys are saying they need from their bar associations in the way of technology, skill development, networking and

business support to help them in their practice and how bar associations are responding. Topics during this panel and roundtable discussion will include social networking, senior lawyers, time management, business support and member services. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Look for the registration brochure online at www.pabar.org/pdf/2010mymbrochure.pdf.

The deadline to register is Dec. 11.



'Get Help Now, Pa.' and 'Wills for Heroes' earn praise

(Continued from Page 2)

situations they were in, but they did not know where else to turn. Our volunteers were able to listen to the individuals and provide practical information and resources. It was a win-win for both parties – the people who needed help received it, and the people who gave the help felt good about helping.”

Haines thanked local bar associations that opened their buildings to residents taking advantage of the program and that recruited lawyer volunteers to staff the program.

During the Sept. 11 ceremony, Rendell, who was joined by U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, also praised the “Wills for Heroes” program (see related story on page 2).

Wills for Heroes is a major community service initiative of the PBA Young Lawyers Division that helps Pennsylvania police officers, firefighters, paramedics and other first responders prepare wills, living wills and powers of attorney to ensure their families are protected, should the unexpected occur.

Allegheny County YLD Wills for Heroes co-chair Jessica Crown served as the local organizer and coordinator for the Sept. 11 Wills for Heroes program.

Crown, of the Law Offices of Patricia L. McGrail, was able to put the event together with the unwavering assistance of volunteers from various organizations, including the Allegheny County Bar Association, the Pittsburgh Paralegal Association and local law firms. ■

Want to be in the know?

**Then check out the
PBA E-News**



Your Other Partner

2009-2010 CCBL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: Samuel T. Cooper III (Dauphin)

Dilworth Paxson LLP
112 Market St., Suite 800
Harrisburg, Pa. 17101
717-236-4812
Fax: 717-236-7811
scoopert@dilworthlaw.com

VICE PRESIDENT: George A. Verhilay (Beaver)

2242 Darlington Road, Suite 4
Beaver Falls, Pa. 15010-1329
724-843-9250

SECRETARY: Thomas V. Casale (Monroe)

Bushkill Group Inc
P.O. Box 447
Bushkill, Pa. 18324-0447
570-588-6661, ext. 2129
Fax: 570-588-1903

TREASURER: Sharon R. Lopez (Lancaster)

Triquetra Law
The Offices at Marion Court
35 E. Orange St., Suite 301
Lancaster, Pa. 17602-2846
717-299-6300
lopez@triquetralaw.com

IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT: Michele S. Dawson (Washington)

Johnson Dawson & Associates
116 N. Main St.
Washington, Pa. 15301-4334
724-228-5338
Fax: 724-228-5181
mdawson@johnsondawson.com

MEMBER YLD: Diane L. Dagger (Monroe)

Hon. Ronald E. Vicans Chambers
Monroe County Courthouse
7th & Monroe Sts.
Stroudsburg, Pa. 18360
570-517-3927
ddagger@co.monroe.pa.us

MEMBER PABE: Diane Krivoniak (Westmoreland)

Westmoreland Bar Association
129 N. Pennsylvania Ave.
Greensburg, Pa. 15601
724-834-6730
Fax: 724-834-6855
dk.wba@verizon.net

BOARD OF GOVERNORS LIAISON: Alfred Jones Jr. (Centre)

2601 Gateway Drive
P.O. Box 648
State College, Pa. 16804-0648
814-237-6229
Fax: 814-237-2624
ajones@centrecountyfc.org

MEMBERS:

Colleen Marie Neary (Delaware)

Sweeney & Neary
200 N. Jackson St.
Media, Pa. 19063-2807
610-892-7500
cneary@sweeneynearylaw.com

John R. Howland (Montgomery)

Howland Hess Guinan Torpey & Cassidy
2444 Huntingdon Pike
Huntingdon Valley, Pa. 19006-6112
215-947-6240
jhowland@howlandhess.com

COUNTY LINE EDITOR:

Amy J Kenn

P.O. Box 186, Harrisburg, Pa. 17108
1-800-932-0311, ext. 2217
Fax, 717-238-7182
Amy.Kenn@pabar.org

**Send your news for *The County Line* to
Amy.Kenn@pabar.org**

PBA COUNTY BAR SERVICES DIRECTOR:

Michelle M. Shuker, Esq.

P.O. Box 186, Harrisburg, Pa. 17108
1-800-932-0311, ext. 2218
Fax, 717-238-7182
michelle.shuker@pabar.org
**Call Michelle at 800-932-0311, ext.
2218, with your questions.**

**DEC. 7, 2009, IS THE COPY DEADLINE
for the January 2010 issue of *The County Line*.**

CCBL needs your nominations

Awards recognize outstanding projects, contributions and efforts

CCBL Executive Committee

Each year, one member of the Executive Committee of the Conference of County Bar Leaders fulfills his or her term of office and is replaced by selection. Nominations are sought for candidates whose qualifications must include being a president or past president of a county bar association. Letters of nomination, or letters requesting consideration for selection, along with a current resume, should be sent by e-mail attachment to michelle.shuker@pabar.org or to Michelle M. Shuker, Esq., Director of County Bar Services, Pennsylvania Bar Association, P.O. Box 186, Harrisburg, PA 17108-0186.

County Bar Recognition Awards

The PBA County Bar Recognition Awards recognize outstanding projects and activities conducted by county bar associations during the 2009 calendar year. This awards program is designed to recognize projects of all county

bar associations that in some way contributed to the improvement of the legal profession, the justice system or the community.

Gilbert Nurick Award

The Gilbert Nurick Award signifies outstanding contributions to and leadership in bar activities. The award recognizes a PBA member for dedication to and promotion of the organized bar resulting in improved leadership for incoming bar association officers.

The Chief Justice John P. Flaherty Award

The CCBL Executive Committee created the Chief Justice John P. Flaherty Award in recognition of the Chief Justice's efforts to encourage the work of the Pennsylvania Bar Association and its Conference of County Bar Leaders. The award is given to a qualified PBA member to recognize an outstanding effort to promote the objects

and purposes of the CCBL and to improve the legal profession, the justice system or the community. The award need not be given on an annual basis, but rather when the effort should be recognized.

Arthur J. Birdsall Award

Created by the CCBL Executive Committee, this award (*see related story below*) is given periodically "to recognize a bar executive who has been a faithful steward of bar traditions, who is committed to the success of his or her bar association, who has enhanced significantly the stature of his or her bar association, who cooperates with other bar executives and bar leaders to make the CCBL the best it can be, and who puts his- or herself second to the needs of the bar association whenever and whatever they may be."

Nomination forms for the CCBL awards will be available online at www.pabar.org/public/localbar/ccblhome.asp. ■

Franklin, Butler County bar associations receive Birdsall award

In March of 2008, the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation launched the Birdsall Impact Grant program, an initiative created in honor of former PBA County Bar Services Director Arthur J. Birdsall and funded by the proceeds generated by the fundraising campaign conducted in association with Birdsall's retirement party.

The grant program seeks to assist county bar associations in the furtherance of a charitable, educational, or pro bono program or project or the enhancement of an existing charitable, educational or pro bono program or project that succeeds in making an immediate impact on the way a county bar operates in service to its members, its court and its community. The program is open to all bar associations, with consideration given to those with limited needs.

In its second year, the program drew two requests. A committee comprised of Foundation members appointed by Foundation President George Gvozdoch Jr. and Conference of County Bar Leaders President Samuel T. Cooper III reviewed the applications and in some cases interviewed the applicants to gain additional insight into the grant requests. Ultimately, the committee opted to divide the \$1,000 annual award between the two applicants.

The Franklin County Bar Association received \$700 to extend pro bono services to the growing, low-income Latino community through a collaborative partnership involving the Franklin County Bar, Franklin County Legal Services — the bar's designated provider/coordinator of pro bono serves in the county — and the law offices of Women In Need (WIN) Victim Services, the local provider of legal services to victims of domestic violence in Franklin County.

The Butler County Bar Association received \$300 toward the purchase of Adobe Creative Suite software to enhance, support and accelerate the exchange of information between county bar members, its courts and its community via its Web site and the documents it publishes.

The awards were presented at the Foundation's Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors and the members in June in Pittsburgh.

The deadline to register for the 2010 Birdsall Impact Grant program is April 15, 2010. For more information about the

Foundation's Birdsall Impact Grant visit <http://www.pabarfoundation.org/Programs%20and%20Awards/Birdsall.aspx>. ■

The Franklin County bar received \$700 to extend pro bono services to the growing, low-income Latino community, while the Butler County bar received \$300 toward computer software to enhance the exchange of information between members, courts and the community.

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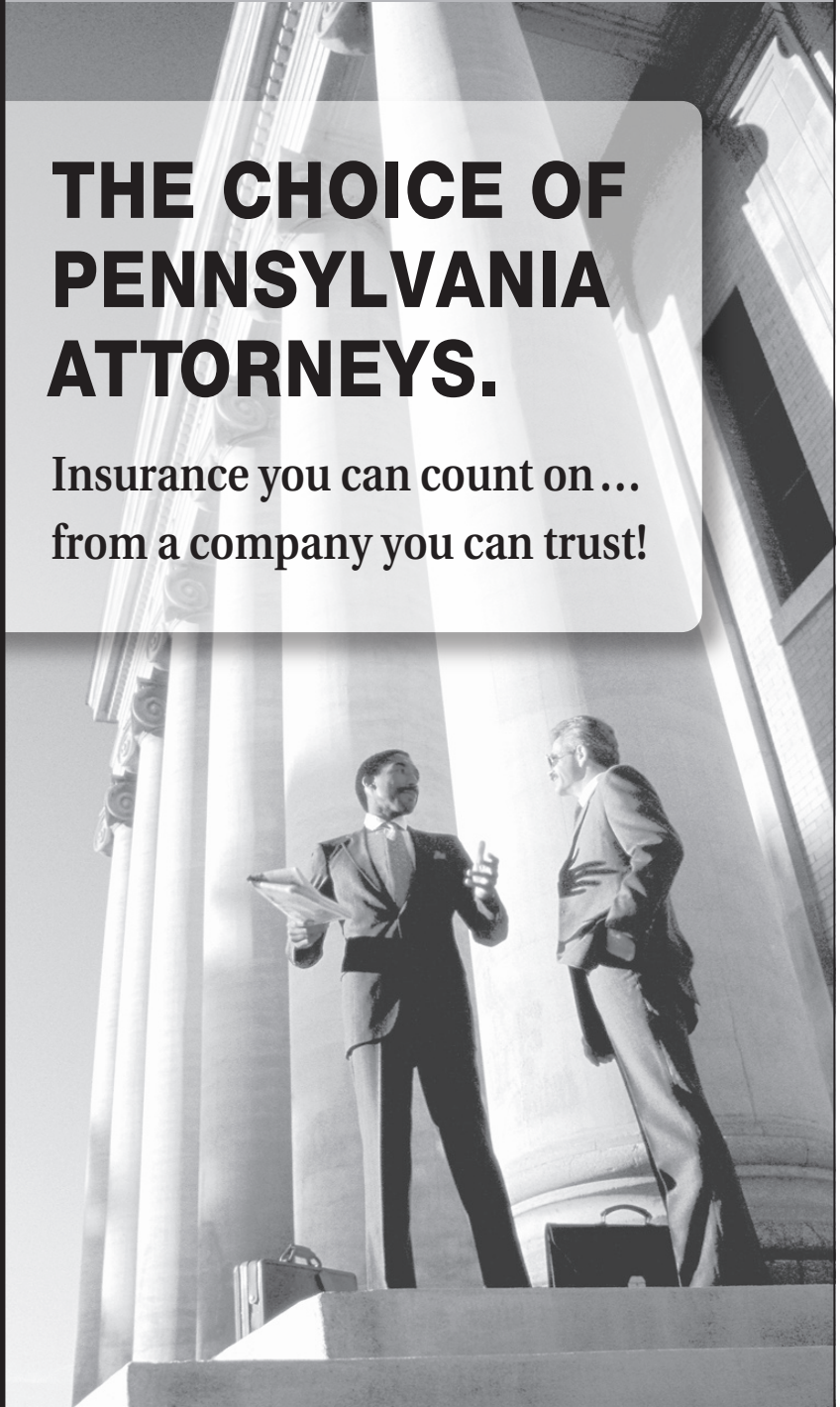
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Judicial Autonomy and Accountability – A Fine Line

Simulcast – Oct. 15: Chambersburg, Doylestown, Easton, Erie, Greensburg, Mansfield, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, Montrose, New Castle, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Villanova, Wilkes-Barre, York

Noon to 2 p.m.; check-in at 11:30 a.m.;
2 CLE credits (substantive)

Accounting & Finance for Lawyers

Simulcast – Oct. 16: Easton, Erie, Greensburg, Mansfield, New Castle, Reading, Uniontown, Warren, Wilkes-Barre, York

8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.;
6 CLE credits (substantive)

A Day on Health Law

Simulcast – Oct. 20: Mechanicsburg, Media, Wilkes-Barre

8:30 a.m. to 3:40 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.;
6 CLE credits (6 substantive)

16th Annual Auto Law Update

Oct. 21: West Conshohocken (Philadelphia Marriott West)

8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics*) *Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit.

Consumer Banking and Payments in the 21st Century

Simulcast – Oct. 21: Easton, Erie, Greensburg, Mansfield, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, Montrose, New Castle, Wilkes-Barre, York

9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (substantive)

Dealing with Condos and Homeowner Associations in a Down Economy

Oct. 21: Malvern (Penn State Great Valley)

12:30 to 4:45 p.m.; check-in at noon; 4

CLE credits (substantive)

Fundamentals of Insurance Law

Simulcast – Oct. 22: Mechanicsburg, Reading, Wilkes-Barre

9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;
4 CLE credits (substantive)

Philadelphia Bar Association 2009 Bench-Bar and Annual Conference Oct. 23 and 24: Atlantic City, N.J. (Harrah's Resort)

Friday: noon to 4:45 p.m.; check-in at 11:30 a.m. Saturday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.

Exceptional Children Conference 2009

Oct. 23: Camp Hill (Radisson Penn Harris Hotel & Convention)

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.;
6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

Accounting for Lawyers

Simulcast – Oct. 23: Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, New Castle, Reading, Wilkes-Barre

8:30 to 11:45 a.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.;
3 CLE credits (2 substantive/1 ethics)

An Attorney's Guide to Life Insurance

Simulcast – Oct. 23: Chambersburg, Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, New Castle, Reading, Wilkes-Barre

1 to 4:15 p.m.; check-in at 12:30 p.m.;
3 CLE credits (substantive)

PBA 4th Annual Diversity Summit

Oct. 29: Lancaster (Lancaster Convention Center)

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in begins at 8 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics*) *Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit.

Seventh Constitutional Law Conclave

Simulcast – Oct. 30: Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, Chester

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;
6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics*) *Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit.

Dealing with Condos and Homeowner

Associations in a Down Economy

Simulcast – Nov. 5: Mechanicsburg, Wilkes-Barre

12:30 to 4:45 p.m.; check-in at noon;
4 CLE credits (substantive)

Great Lakes Antitrust Institute

Nov. 6: Columbus, Ohio (Hyatt Regency)

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.;
6 CLE credits (substantive)

Entertainment Law in the 21st Century

Simulcast – Nov. 6: Mechanicsburg, Media, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York

9 a.m. to 1:15 pm; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;
4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

Persuasion Workshop

Nov. 6: Allentown (Bar Association of Lehigh County)

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;
6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

Elder Law Update

Simulcast – Nov. 10: Chambersburg, Doylestown, Easton, Erie, Greensburg, Lebanon, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Media, Montrose, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Villanova, Warren, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York

9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (substantive)

Food Safety Issues (Part of PBI's Public Policy Series)

Simulcast – Nov. 16: Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, New Castle, Wilkes-Barre, York

Noon to 2 p.m.; check-in at 11:30 a.m.;
2 CLE credits (substantive)

16th Annual Auto Law Update

Nov. 17: Scranton (Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel)

8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics*) *Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit.

Philadelphia County Domestic Relations Practice

the county line

Simulcast – Nov. 17: Doylestown
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;
6 CLE credits (substantive)

13th Annual Family Law Update

Simulcast – Nov. 18: Chambersburg, Doylestown, Easton, Erie, Greensburg, Lebanon, Mansfield, Mechanicsburg, Media, Mill Hall, Montrose, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York

8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.;
4 CLE credits (substantive)

Corporate Ethics and Compliance Toolkit

Simulcast – Nov. 19: Doylestown, Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, New Castle, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York, and Cleveland, Ohio.

9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;
4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics*)

**Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit.*

Impeach Justice Douglas

Simulcast – Nov. 20: Greensburg, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Media, Mill Hall, Montrose, New Castle, Reading, Uniontown, Villanova, Warren, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York

8:30 a.m. to noon; check-in at 8 a.m.;
3 CLE credits (2 substantive/1 ethics*)

**Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit.*

Pennsylvania Election Law and Campaign Finance

Simulcast – Nov. 24: Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, New Castle, Reading, Wilkes-Barre

9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;
4 CLE credits (substantive)

E-Commerce: Legal and Practical Issues

Simulcast – Dec. 1: Erie, Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, and Cleveland, Ohio.

9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;
6 CLE credits (substantive)

Legal Issues Affecting Military Personnel

Simulcast – Dec. 2: Chambersburg, Easton, Greensburg, Lebanon, Mansfield, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall,

Reading, Stroudsburg, Villanova, Wilkes-Barre

12:30 to 4:45 p.m.; check-in at noon;
4 CLE credits (substantive)

Proving Disability through a Functional Capacity Examination

Simulcast – Dec. 3: Erie, Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, New Castle, Reading, Uniontown, Wilkes-Barre, York, and Cleveland, Ohio.

9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;
4 CLE credits (substantive)

TRIALS! Tips, Tactics & Tales

Simulcast – Dec. 4: Easton, Greensburg, Lebanon, Mansfield, New Castle, Norristown, Stroudsburg, Warren, Wilkes-Barre, York

8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.;
6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

Civil Litigation in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania - 2009

Dec. 4: Allentown (Bar Association of Lehigh County)

9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;
4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

E-Discovery

Simulcast – Dec. 8: Easton, Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, New Castle, Uniontown, Wilkes-Barre

9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;
6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

Using the Electronic Processes Needed to Effectively Represent Claimants in SS Disability Claims

Simulcast – Dec. 9: Chambersburg, Easton, Greensburg, Lebanon, Mansfield, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, Montrose, New Castle, Reading, Stroudsburg, Warren, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, and Cleveland, Ohio.

1 to 4:15 p.m.; check-in at 12:30 p.m.;
3 CLE credits (substantive)

Get Organized and Get Things Done – Practical Time Management for Lawyers

Simulcast – Dec. 10: Mechanicsburg, Stroudsburg, Wilkes-Barre

9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;

6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics*)
**Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit.*

Anatomy for Lawyers: Mastering Medical Records

Simulcast – Dec. 11: Easton, Erie, Greensburg, Mansfield, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, Montrose, Reading, Uniontown, Warren, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York

8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.;
6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics*)

**Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit.*

The Family and Medical Leave Act: One Year after the Dept. of Labor Regulations

Simulcast – Dec. 14: Easton, Erie, Greensburg, King of Prussia, Lebanon, Mansfield, Meadville, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, New Castle, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, Wilkes-Barre, and Cleveland, Ohio.

12:30 to 4:45 p.m.; check-in at 12 p.m.;
4 CLE credits (substantive)

Speaking to Win: The Art of Effective Speaking for Lawyers

Simulcast – Dec. 15: Easton, Greensburg, Mansfield, Mechanicsburg, Mill Hall, Montrose, New Castle, Reading, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York

9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.;
6 CLE credits (substantive)

Negotiation Best Practices in a Tough Economy

Simulcast – Dec. 16: Easton, Lebanon, Mechanicsburg, New Castle, Uniontown, Wilkes-Barre, Williamsport, and Cleveland, Ohio.

9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;
6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics*)

**Must attend entire program to receive ethics credit*

Preparation of Annual Disclosure Documents and SEC Update

Simulcast – Dec. 17: Greensburg, Mechanicsburg, Chester, and Cleveland, Ohio.

9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.;
4 CLE credits (substantive)



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Don't miss 'Night Out' with Pa. Bar Foundation

The Pennsylvania Bar Foundation's popular "Night Out" returns to Harrisburg on Dec. 3 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. with an evening at Appalachian Brewing Company (ABC).

The event includes roundtrip transportation from the Holiday Inn East and Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey (sites of the PBA Board of Governors and House of Delegates meetings); brewmaster's five-course dinner paired with specially selected microbrews; and authoritative commentary from ABC's founding brewmaster Art Tafoya. Non-alcoholic beverages, cash bar, tax and gratuity are also included.

Guests will be treated to the ABC beer-cheese-spread sampler, roasted asparagus and pale ale soup, baby arugula salad, bruschetta and fresh mozzarella-stuffed chicken breast with grilled zucchini and eggplant stack and mushroom risotto, and Belgian chocolate "lasagna."

Tickets are \$65, a portion of which qualifies as a charitable deduction. Save the date and register today. Visit the Foundation's Web site at www.pabarfoundation.org, to register online or download a reservation form to mail or fax. Don't wait. Space is limited! For more information, call the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation at 1-888-238-3036.

In this issue of
THE COUNTY LINE

Features

Special PBA House of Delegates meeting on
Constitutional Revision Commission nears 1

Reserve your spot for CCBL 1

Interested in bringing 'Wills for Heroes' to your county?..... 2

'Get Help Now Pa.' and 'Wills for Heroes' earn praise..... 2

PBA Avoidance of Legal Malpractice
seminars scheduled 3

2010 PBA Midyear Meeting..... 6

CCBL needs your nominations..... 8

Franklin, Butler County bar associations
receive Birdsall grant 8

In Every Issue

On the Local Scene 4-5

2009-2010 CCBL Executive Committee 7

Courses offered by the PBI 10-11