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# The COUNTY LINE



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## Register now for this year's Conference of County Bar Leaders

By Sharon R. López, CCBL President

**Y**ou're the one that I want at CCBL 2014! The theme of this year's Conference of County Bar Leaders, to be held Feb. 27 - March 1, 2014, in State College, is "Homecoming." Come hear humorist and featured speaker Lew Losoncy deliver the opening remarks and stay for the kick-off luncheon with keynote speaker Duquesne University School of Law Dean Ken Gormley. The CCBL Executive Committee packed in continuing legal education (CLE) programming that is timely and relevant. Most importantly, there will be plenty of fun and useful networking opportunities. Whether you are a county bar president, future president, other officer, board member, young lawyer leader, section chair or executive director, this CCBL is for you!



*The Nittany Lion Inn is shown at night in this photo courtesy of the inn.*

You may wish to arrive early on Thursday evening to attend the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network (PLAN) Inc. reception, which will be held at Penn State Law prior to the start of CCBL. The PLAN recep-

tion is a great way to connect with other bar leaders who support PLAN's mission and work. Then, gather with friends, new

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## Longtime Phila. Bar executive director retires

By Kathleen D. Wilkinson, Immediate Past Chancellor, Philadelphia Bar Association

**P**hiladelphia Bar Association Executive Director Kenneth Shear retired Dec. 31, after serving in the position for more than 37 years. In honor of his retirement, a dinner celebration was held on Oct. 24 in Philadelphia and attended by hundreds of lawyers, bar association executive directors, friends and family.

In my role as 2013 Philadelphia Bar Association chancellor, I delivered opening remarks and spoke about the honor of serving with Shear in

*Kenneth Shear, shown with (from left) his wife, Susie, Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald Castille and his wife, Susan Myers, receives a proclamation.*



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*Photo by Jeff Lyons, Philadelphia Bar Association*

# 2014 CCBL Schedule of Events

## **THURSDAY, FEB. 27**

8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
**Early Bird Registration**

9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.  
**Welcome Social**

## **FRIDAY, FEB. 28**

8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
**Registration**

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
**PBA Supermarket and Vendor Fair**

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
**Continental Breakfast**

8:15 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.  
**CCBL Introduction and You're the One That I Want (in Leadership)!**

*CLE Credit: 1.0 Substantive*

Learn how to be a motivating leader who promotes membership and diversity in your bar association. Get inspired and energized by motivational psychologist Lew Losoncy, who will help "kick up" your commitment strategies! Take these strategies back to the office to apply to your practice and day-to-day client relationships.

9:25 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.  
**Most Likely To Succeed (Your Bar Foundation)**

*CLE Credit: 1.0 Substantive*

Make your foundation be voted the one "most likely to succeed!" Good governance, inclusion of non-lawyers on your board and committees, and engaging in joint planning between your bar and foundation will get you there. This program will also include ideas for fundraising outside the legal community.

9:25 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.  
**YLD Business Meeting**

9:25 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.  
**Avoiding Legal Malpractice (Staying Out of Detention)**

*CLE Credit: 1.0 Ethics*

Join members of the PBA Professional Liability Committee as they discuss issues related to avoiding legal malpractice. Those who attend this session will receive a discount on their PBA-endorsed malpractice insurance.

10:35 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.  
**Recruiting Cheerleaders for Civic Education**

*CLE Credit: 1.0 Substantive*

Civic education is an excellent opportunity to engage members and reach out to local judges and non-members interested in youth and education to bring them into your bar association. Information will be presented to demonstrate why civic education is needed and how it relates to and impacts the legal profession and the functioning of a healthy, efficient and productive government/judicial system. We will review best practices in civic education and provide an opportunity to exchange ideas and lesson plans.

10:35 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.  
**History of Your Bar Association: Putting Together Your Yearbook**

Learn about the unique ways that various bar associations are preserving, protecting and presenting their histories for their current and future members.

11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
**Kick-Off Luncheon**

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
**Break**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
**Growing Your County Bar Diversity Garden (Pipeline Programs for Diverse Law Students)**

Building diversity in your bar association requires some connection to law students and a way to attract them to your local legal community. Learn how different parts of the commonwealth cultivate diversity by working with law students to promote and encourage a diverse legal profession.

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
**LCL: Hope and Help for the Distressed Attorney**

*CLE Credit: 1.0 Ethics*

An attorney in distress as a result of drugs, alcohol or depression may fall into the trap of professional misconduct, malpractice, loss of relationships, harm to his or her health and sometimes a premature death. Join LCL for a discussion on how to spot and help an attorney in your bar who may be in distress – before it is too late.

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.  
**Your Year(s) in Bar Leadership/on the Homecoming Court**

*CLE Credit: 1.0 Substantive*

As you anticipate your year(s) in leadership in your local bar, you may have some anxiety over what can happen and how to prepare. Gain insight on matters such as: time management in your law practice with the ad-

ditional obligations to the bar; board member responsibilities and how a good working relationship between board and staff leads to effective results; and how to respond to unexpected challenges.

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.  
**"Will You Be My Friend?"**

**The Do's and Don'ts of Social Media**

*CLE Credit: 1.0 Substantive*

Is social media the new means of communication in your bar? Explore the different types of social media and how to use it most effectively. Become aware of the risks and potential liabilities when posting online.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
**Hot Topics, Cold Drinks**

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
**Dinner**

8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.  
**Homecoming Dance and Game Night**

## **SATURDAY, MARCH 1**

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.  
**Hot Breakfast Buffet**

8:30 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.  
**CCBL Business Meeting**

8:50 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.  
**Protect Your Board and Yourself: Fraud and Embezzlement Avoidance**

*CLE Credit: 1.0 Substantive*

This session will enlighten attendees on the prevalence of employee theft, how vulnerable employers are and how to prevent it. With a mixture of lecture and story-telling, John Sheridan shares real-life experience on how he has uncovered fraud. Attendees will leave with concrete ideas on how to prevent fraud in law offices and on nonprofit boards.

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
**Are You Covered?**

**Nonprofit Insurance Options**

*CLE Credit: 1.0 Substantive*

An overview of insurance policies to protect your bar association and its assets. Explore what risks are covered by your association's policy and how to best assess your association's insurance needs. This program will cover what every board member and executive director should know about nonprofit insurance needs and obligations.

# Conference of County Bar Leaders seeks Birdsall, Flaherty, Nurick award nominations

The PBA Conference of County Bar Leaders (CCBL) is seeking nominations for the Arthur J. Birdsall, Chief Justice John P. Flaherty and Gilbert Nurick awards. The awards will be presented during the 48th annual meeting of the CCBL, Feb. 27-March 1, in State College.

The Birdsall award recognizes 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 CCBL the best it can be and who puts him- or herself second to the needs of the bar association. The award is named in honor of Arthur J. Birdsall, a past PBA

county bar services director who retired in 2006 after nearly 40 years of support to local bar associations.

The Flaherty award is presented in recognition of the former chief justice's efforts to encourage the work of the PBA and the CCBL. The award is given to a qualified PBA member to recognize an outstanding effort to promote the objectives and purposes of the CCBL and to improve the legal profession, the justice system or the community.

The Nurick award, which is named for the late Harrisburg lawyer who served as PBA president in 1967, is presented to any member of the PBA whose dedication and service to leadership and promotion of the organized bar and its activities have

resulted in the enhancement of leadership for incoming bar association officers. The award is not given solely because the recipient has held and discharged with fidelity a high office or a variety of offices in the association.

A candidate may be nominated for more than one award. Those making nominations are reminded to review the award descriptions carefully to determine whether their candidate(s) meet the criteria. Nominations for the awards are due Jan. 24.

For more information and for online nomination forms, visit the County Bar Services area of the PBA website at [www.pabar.org/public/localbar/ccblhome.asp](http://www.pabar.org/public/localbar/ccblhome.asp) or contact Nicole Antos at 800-932-0311, ext. 2218.

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## Register now for this year's CCBL

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and old, back at the Nittany Lion Inn for a welcome social. Check out the schedule of events on page 2 of this newsletter. And don't forget to wear your school colors to Friday night's Homecoming Dance! On Saturday morning, you will be able to network over a hot breakfast, as well as earn two additional CLE credits before heading home. It's all about belonging and reconnecting with your county bar leader classmates. Join us! To view the event brochure, click [here](#).

Your registration fee includes all meals and Friday night's entertainment, as well as up to seven CLE credits. Don't forget that PBA unit counties are entitled to three \$50 discounts on registration. Make your reservations today! The registration deadline is Feb. 7. Be sure to book your room at the Nittany Lion Inn before Jan. 24, as the inn will sell out! If you have any questions or need additional information, contact Nicole Antos at the PBA at 800-932-0311, ext. 2218.

I look forward to seeing you in State College!

## Centre County Bar Association names new executive director

The Centre County Bar Association's Board of Governors voted to appoint Hollyce L. Winters as its new executive director at its September meeting. Winters succeeds Bruce D. Fleischer, who served as executive director for 13 years and retired on Oct. 1. Outgoing CCBA President Ronald McGlaughlin said, "We are sorry to see Bruce go and appreciate his years of dedication and service to the members of our county bar association, and we are confident that Ms. Winters will do an excellent job moving forward."

Winters, 40, is a Centre County native, graduating from State College Area High School and completing her undergraduate studies at Penn State University. She holds a bachelor of arts in communications and a teaching certificate. After working for several years, Winters completed law school at Duquesne University School of Law in Pittsburgh before returning to the State

College area in 2008.

Winters believes that her experience in private practice, as well as communications, education and mediation, will be helpful in meeting the needs of the approximately 200 members of the Centre County Bar Association. She further plans to take advantage of opportunities for the CCBA and its members to connect with the community through community legal education. Finally, she looks forward to promot-



*Hollyce L. Winters*

ing all of the great ways that the CCBA organization and its members contribute to the community where they live and serve.

As the executive director position is part time, Winters will continue to practice law on a part-time basis as solicitor for the Centre County Office of Aging.

She lives in Halfmoon Township with her husband, Brad, and three children, Jack, 8; Neva, 6; and Paige, 5.

# Longtime Phila. Bar exec. director retires

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his final year as executive director. Many former Philadelphia bar chancellors spoke, sharing warm memories of working with Shear, including 2012 Chancellor John E. Savoth, who chaired the retirement party planning committee. Former Chancellors Abraham C. Reich and Francis P. Devine III were masters of ceremonies for the evening.

Special recognitions included the presentation of a proclamation from the Pennsylvania Supreme Court by Chief Justice Ronald D. Castille. In addition, Pennsylvania Bar Association President Forest N. Myers gave remarks and presented a proclamation from his organization. Philadelphia City Council's proclamation was among many other special recognitions that Shear received. Remarks were also made by Shear's wife and son. A highlight of the evening was the playing of a video that featured remarks from the living Philadelphia chancellors whom Shear worked with over the last 37 years. He served as the association's executive director since December 1976.

Shear was presented with a gold snuff box by the chancellors in tribute to his service to the bar; such a box is given to the immediate past chancellor every year for his or her service to the association. Shear is the first non-lawyer to receive the gold box, which is a replica of the gold box given to Andrew Hamilton in recognition of his pro bono representation of John Peter Zenger.

At the association's final Board of Governors meeting on Dec. 19, Philadelphia Bar Foundation President Debbie Gross and I announced that the Philadelphia Bar Association, in partnership with the foundation, has established the Kenneth Shear Civil Gideon Legal Justice Essay Competition and Scholarship Fund to honor Shear's contributions to the Philadelphia legal community. In the landmark United States Supreme Court case of *Gideon v. Wainwright*, 372 U.S. 335 (1963), the Supreme Court decided that indigent defendants have a constitutional right to be represented by an attorney, at no charge, in state criminal cases. The term "civil



*Ken Shear (center) is shown with Philadelphia Bar Association chancellors at his retirement celebration. Author Kathleen D. Wilkinson appears at Shear's immediate left.*

Gideon" refers to a growing national movement (including creation of access to justice coalitions and commissions) that has developed to explore strategies to provide legal counsel, as a matter of right and at public expense, to low-income persons in civil legal proceedings where basic human needs are at stake, such as those involving shelter and child custody.

To create an endowment to support the essay competition and scholarship fund, Gross and I donated seed money in order to award at least one scholarship of \$1,500 in 2014. Scholarships of \$1,500 will be awarded annually to a second- or third-year law student from a Philadelphia-area law school who writes the best short essay on the subject of civil Gideon and is willing to serve as an intern for 40 hours, pro bono. The intern would be assigned to assist the bar association and bar foundation with specific endeavors that Shear supported during his tenure. These endeavors include working on the Philadelphia Bar Association Civil Gideon Task Force, the statewide Access to Civil Justice Coalition and/or future statewide Access to Civil Justice Commission and/or another pro bono project of the bar association and bar foundation dedicated toward equal justice for all and fulfills the purposes of advancing Civil Gideon, public education in the School District of Philadelphia and/or service to the poor.

All contributions to the fund should be in the name of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation with an indication in the memo

field that the donation is for the Kenneth Shear Civil Gideon Legal Justice Essay Competition and Scholarship Fund. Contributions can be sent to Jessica Hilburn-Holmes, Philadelphia Bar Foundation, 1101 Market St., 11th Floor, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107.

We explained to the Board of Governors that this essay competition and scholarship fund were developed because of Shear's service to the Philadelphia Bar Association (holding the distinction of being the longest-serving executive director in the 211-year history of the organization), his service to the Philadelphia Bar Foundation as its first executive director, his years of service as a trustee to the foundation and his tireless work with bar leadership to build the Philadelphia Bar Association into one of the most highly-respected metropolitan bar associations in the United States. It is appropriate to recognize him with a scholarship in his name that is consistent with his goals and achievements over the years, we told the board.

The Board of Governors also approved a resolution honoring Shear for his 37 years of service to the association and presented him with a framed portrait, similar to those of former chancellors on display in the bar association's board room. The portrait will be displayed in the bar offices.

*Kathleen D. Wilkinson, immediate past chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, is a partner at Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLC.*

## SAVE THE DATE

### 2014 PA CLE Providers Conference Friday, June 6, 2014 Radisson Hotel - Harrisburg

The annual conference for Pennsylvania CLE course providers will be held **Friday, June 6, 2014**, at the Radisson Hotel, Harrisburg, PA. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m., and the conference will start at 9:00 a.m. There will be a networking luncheon following the meeting.

The PA CLE Provider Conference continues to serve as a forum for people who share the mutual goal of providing high-quality training and education to Pennsylvania's lawyers.

A limited number of rooms have been reserved at the Radisson Hotel and are available at a discounted rate of \$116 until May 6, 2014. Please call 717- 763-7117 and mention the reservation code of **CLE** for the group rate.

Registration and additional information will be posted at [www.asapnexus.org](http://www.asapnexus.org).



SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA  
CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION BOARD

## Applications sought for Birdsall County Bar Impact Grants

The Birdsall Impact Grant program seeks to assist county bar associations in the furtherance of charitable, educational or pro bono programs or projects that are consistent with the mission of the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation and succeed in making an immediate impact on the way a county bar operates in service to its members, its court and its community.

Application materials are available on the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation's website at [www.pabarfoundation.org](http://www.pabarfoundation.org). If your county bar association is interested in applying for grants funds, please submit the application by April 15, 2014.

A five-person grant evaluation committee comprised of foundation members appointed by the foundation president and the Conference of County Bar Leaders Executive Committee will evaluate submissions and select a recipient(s) to share in a grant(s) totaling not more than \$1,000. The successful applicant(s) will be notified in writing on or before May 1, 2014, and the grants will be awarded during the Annual Meeting of the Foundation Board of Directors and Members on May 15, 2014, in Hershey, in conjunction with the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

The program is open to all bar associations, with consideration given to those with limited means.

For more information, contact Pennsylvania Bar Foundation Executive Director E. Marie Queen at 888-238-3036 or [info@pabarfoundation.org](mailto:info@pabarfoundation.org).

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## Pa. Bar Foundation seeks nominees for 2014 Goffman Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation's Louis J. Goffman Awards.

Named in honor of the late Pennsylvania Bar Association past president from Philadelphia, the Louis J. Goffman Awards have been recognizing Pennsylvania's finest pro bono providers for 25 years. The nomination deadline is April 15, 2014, and the award presentation will take place during the PBA's Annual Meeting on May 14-16, 2014, at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. Don't miss your opportunity to nominate a worthy individual, law firm or organization from your county. Visit [www.pabarfoundation.org](http://www.pabarfoundation.org) for additional information, nomination forms and a list of prior awardees.

## Save the Date!

PBA Annual Meeting  
May 14-16, 2014  
Hershey Lodge, Hershey, Pa.



## **Allegheny** **'18 and the law' website**

The Allegheny County Bar Association recently redesigned its popular "18 and the law" website. Located at [www.18andthelaw.org](http://www.18andthelaw.org), the resource is designed to provide helpful legal information for teenagers and young adults. The redesign was done entirely in-house by the bar's marketing and communications departments and was based in part on feedback from area high schools. The new site features full-page graphics and is easier to navigate. A PowerPoint lesson plan is being developed for high school teachers to use when navigating the site with their students.

## **Beaver** **BCBA Bench/Bar Conference**

The 2013 Beaver County Bar Association Bench Bar Conference was held Sept. 26 at Shakespeare's in Ellwood City. The annual event, which was attended by 104 attorneys and judges, featured an interactive continuing legal education program titled "Seminar on Evidence," which was presented by Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas President Judge Jeffrey A. Manning and Judge Philip A. Ignelzi. The featured lunchtime speaker was Ken Gormley, dean and professor at Duquesne University, who spoke on his award-winning book, *The Death of American Virtue*.

## **Charitable Fundraising & Giving** **Committee holds judicial roast**

The Charitable Fundraising & Giving Committee of the Beaver County Bar Association on Oct. 17 hosted a roast of Beaver County Court of Common Pleas Senior Judge John P. Dohanich, who retired at the end of 2013. The dinner, which was attended by 140 of Dohanich's family, friends and colleagues, raised more than \$9,000, which will be earmarked for charitable projects selected by the committee.

## **BCBA honors members who achieve** **membership milestones**

The Beaver County Bar Association hosted a dinner at Seven Oaks Country

Club on Nov. 14 to honor several individuals who have been members for 50, 60 and 62 years. Beaver County Court of Common Pleas Senior Judges George E. James and Robert E. Kunselman and retired Judge Robert C. Reed were recognized for 50 years of service to the bar association. Attorneys John A. Conte and Paul Courtney were recognized for 60 years of service, and attorney Harold F. Reed Jr. was recognized for 62 years of service.

## **Celebrate the Constitution program**

The Beaver County Bar Association provided materials and presentations to more than 800 Beaver County students from September through December 2013. Members from both the bench and bar traveled to local schools to speak about the Constitution. Pocket Constitutions were distributed, and students signed mock Constitution posters. These posters will be displayed at the Beaver County Courthouse upon completion of the program.

## **Bedford** **Law school scholarships**

Bedford County Bar Association President Bill Higgins Jr. has announced the establishment of a scholarship to support Bedford County students who enroll in an accredited law school. To fund the scholarship, the bar association deposited \$10,000 into an endowment fund managed by the Bedford County Endowments and the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies.

The scholarships will be available on an annual basis to all students who earned their high school diploma while a resident of Bedford County and will be funded for the duration of the student's enrollment in an accredited law school. The awards will be up to \$500 per student, with a maximum of \$2,500 distributed annually. The actual amount awarded will be determined based on the number of applicants.

"I am proud that our bar association has made this commitment to our students and the legal profession. This was one of my primary goals for my year as president, and I am glad that we were able to

get this accomplished. We worked closely with Kay Reynolds, director of the Bedford County Endowments, to get the ball rolling, and I look forward to serving on the scholarship committee going forward. We hope to start making distributions immediately. I encourage any student currently enrolled in law school, or who plans to enroll in the fall, to contact me so we can get them an application," stated Higgins.

Students interested in applying for the scholarship should contact Higgins at 814-623-4855. Anyone interested in donating to the scholarship fund should contact Reynolds at 814-623-0044.

## **Bucks** **2014 Bucks County Bar Association** **president installed**

Hill Wallack LLP partner Barbara M. Kirk was installed as the 2014 president of the Bucks County Bar Association on Dec. 5 at the association's Annual Dinner. The BCBA, located in Doylestown, is one of the oldest and most active bar associations in the United States.

Kirk began her appointment on Jan. 1. She previously served as treasurer to the board of directors of the Bucks



*Barbara M. Kirk*

County Bar Association. As a partner in the firm's Yardley office, Kirk is a member of the family law and municipal law practice groups. She concentrates in domestic relations, custody and adoption.

## **Cumberland** **'Lifelong Impact of a Criminal Record'**

National Pro Bono Week was celebrated Oct. 20-26 throughout Cumberland County. Each year the Cumberland County Bar Association's Pro Bono Program, in partnership with MidPenn Legal Services, provides public service events on topics of interest relevant to today's environment.

This year, in response to rising issues

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with employment and criminal records, they put together a program on "The Life-long Impact of a Criminal Record." Not only has this issue affected opportunities for employment, but students applying for college and the military have seen what problems have arisen from their previous actions. The discussion also included information on expungements and pardons.

The CCBA Pro Bono Program coordinator contacted Cumberland County school districts for an opportunity to speak to 11th- or/and 12th-grade students about this important topic. The program was a great success; they were able to reach more than 800 high school students in Cumberland County. CCBA members volunteered their time to go to the schools and present vital information to youths about the effects of a criminal record on their future.

## Dauphin

### Dauphin County Bar launches veterans' program

The Dauphin County Bar Association launched a new program on Dec. 3 that will assist veterans in pursuing denied disability claims. More than 20 DCBA members were trained in handling these cases and will be certified by the Department of Veterans Affairs to take on cases on a pro bono basis. Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas Judge Bruce Bratton, who presides over the Veterans Court in Dauphin County, made remarks and thanked the members

for taking on this most-worthwhile project. As more veterans re-enter the community from various deployments, they are in need of assistance with these types of claims. The DCBA is pleased to offer this assistance to those who have served our country. This program will fall under the current DCBA Lawyer Referral Program, and the DCBA is pleased at the response and interest from its membership.

## Lebanon

### New officers elected

The Lebanon County Bar Association held its annual meeting and dinner at which new officers were elected: Elizabeth Judd, president; Scott Grenoble, vice president; Kimberly Adams, treasurer; and Ann Kline, secretary. LCBA members also brought more than 30 new, unwrapped toys to donate for the Marines' annual Toy for Tots program. The association also presented monetary donations to several local charities.

### Law Exploring Program

Students participating in the Law Exploring Program observed a criminal jury trial in the Lebanon County Court of Common Pleas. The 10 high school students participating in the program this school year meet monthly with attorneys from the LCBA.

### Pro Bono Celebration

Attorney Thomas N. Cooper was hon-

ored at the annual Pro Bono Celebration in October. This year's event included lunch and two-credit continuing legal education sessions presented by David Trevaskis, PBA pro bono coordinator.

## Wills for Heroes

Several Lebanon County attorneys participated in the annual Wills for Heroes event in November, through which attorneys volunteer their time to write wills and other simple legal documents for first-responders.

## Mercer

Retired attorney and longtime Mercer County Bar Association member Anna Belle Jones, who was the first woman to be admitted to full-time practice of law in Mercer County when she was sworn in on Nov. 12, 1965, died on Oct. 31. She was 89.

Jones was a court stenographer and legal secretary for the Stranahan Law Firm and one of the few persons to pass the Pennsylvania State Bar Examination without attending law school. Trained under the tutelage of James A. Stranahan Jr., Jones was one of the last attorneys to be trained under the old "clerkship" process, which terminated in 1969. Jones respected the law and took great pride and joy in vigorously representing her clients for four decades years in Mercer. She and her niece, Mary Ann McConnell, practiced law together at Jones-McConnell PC from 1979 until 2008, when Jones' health declined.

In recognition, the Mercer County Bar Association board adopted a resolution on Nov. 7 about Jones that reads, in part:

"Clearly, Attorney Jones was committed to her community, her clients and to the practice of law. She was a staunch advocate and a loving family member.

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At the launch of the Dauphin County Bar Association veterans' program are (from left): Sandy Ballard, Brooks Foland, David Trevaskis, Brett Woodburn, Judge Bruce Bratton, Elizabeth Simcox, Jeremiah Underhill and Jonathan Kunkel.



# On the *Local Scene*...

(Continued from Page 7)

Anna Belle enjoyed entertaining people with her dry wit and by writing and delivering monologues and skits at various meetings, fundraisers, and the Mercer County Bar Association meetings.

Attorney Jones was a great role model for younger women in law and other career paths. She truly believed that women could be and, in fact, were professionals.

The undersigned are grateful for the opportunity to have prepared this Resolution and expect that it will be unanimously passed by the Bar.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Mercer County Bar Association expresses its sorrow at the passing of Anna Belle Jones and expresses its sympathy to her family.

BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of the meeting of the Mercer County Bar Association and that a copy be filed with the Office of the Prothonotary of Mercer County.”

## Montgomery Bar association, foundation promote Giving Tuesday

Look at charities or non-profit boards in our community, and what do they have in common? Chances are at least one lawyer is volunteering his or her time and lending a helping hand.

That message rang loud-and-clear at the start of the 2013 holiday season when the Montgomery Bar Association and Bar Foundation partnered with a nationwide campaign to promote Giving Tuesday on Dec. 3, a national day of giving observed on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving.

According to MBA Executive Director Nancy Paul, “On the heels of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, the concept of promoting a day dedicated to charitable giving at the start of the holiday giving season just seemed natural for us. Our members have a

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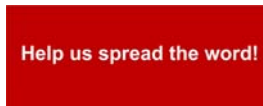
long tradition of giving back to the community. They coach little league teams, volunteer on boards and commit tens of thousands of hours each year to legal aid, child advocacy and countless other causes.”

Paul first learned about a consortium of New York charities and media who launched the first Giving Tuesday in 2012 and was reminded of the initiative several months later. She knew finding time to promote Giving Tuesday would be no small task with limited staff, resources and a jam-packed marketing schedule. Nevertheless, it was important, so she urged staff and leadership to get creative, brainstorm and develop a plan to do something, *anything*, to raise awareness of this campaign locally. The group members opted not to raise funds for a particular project, charity or cause, but, rather, to do their part with-in their means to promote a culture of giving — and promote it they did. Members, community partners, media and the community at-large were urged to support Giving Tuesday in the following ways:

- by helping to spread the word to friends, family and colleagues and/or;
- by making a donation, volunteering time or raising awareness for their favorite charity;
- by taking time to learn about a cause in your community to align with and get behind.

MBA staff created a dedicated Giving Tuesday website, and a media partnership with local news giant Digital First Media soon followed. Members were the first to learn about local efforts to promote Giving Tuesday via internal communications and social media buzz. *The Times Herald* (Norristown) followed suit with a Thanksgiving Day feature article, “Giving Tuesday

has an avid supporter in Montgomery Bar Foundation.” Other stories followed, appearing on dozens of websites and in daily and weekly newspapers throughout Montgomery County. Promotional efforts by the MBA were equally aggressive. Thousands of brightly-colored stickers were printed and distributed to partners, serving as a reminder on outbound mail. With support from partners, full-page newspaper inserts and quarter-page ads urging readers to help spread the word and learn more about Giving Tuesday at [montgomerybarfoundation.org](http://montgomerybarfoundation.org) found their way into area newspapers. Media partners extended the reach of the campaign to the tune of 32,000 targeted emails to online subscribers, and on Tuesday, Dec. 3, prominent Giving Tuesday desktop wallpapers with click-through links to the website blanketed popular Montgomery County news sites such as [TimesHerald.com](http://TimesHerald.com), [TheReporterOnline.com](http://TheReporterOnline.com) and [PottsMerc.com](http://PottsMerc.com).



## Northampton \$60,000 donation to North Penn Legal Services

Northampton County Bar Association members approved a \$60,000 donation for 2014 for North Penn Legal Services. This is the second year that NCBA members thought it was important to donate, and it was a \$10,000 increase over the 2013 donation. This donation will support the employment of a full-time staff attorney.

## Holiday Hope Chest project

For the seventh year, the NCBA’s Young Lawyers Division participated in the Holiday Hope Chest project for the Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley. The young lawyers are the largest provider of “hope chests,” wrapped shoe boxes that are filled with gifts for local children. They donated 500 boxes for the 2013 holiday season! In addition, the YLD donations and all other donations were to be matched by the Hasbro Company, with one toy being donated per box to children across the U.S. That’s more than 4,500 toys donated from this one Lehigh Valley project.

(Continued on Page 9)





(Continued from Page 8)

## Pike

### United Way hails Pike Bar for support

United Way President Patrick Kiesendahl presented the Partner Award to attorney Elizabeth Erickson-Kameen, president of the Pike County Bar Association, at the annual Chefs United Dinner on Oct. 23 at Woodloch Resort in Hawley.

The award was in recognition of the PCBA's longtime commitment, dedication and generous donations to the United Way of Pike County of \$20,000.

"The Pike County Bar Association is a very generous supporter of the United Way of Pike County," Kiesendahl said. "We are very fortunate to have generous donors like the PCBA that allow us to carry on the United Way mission, which is to alleviate homelessness and hunger and to enrich the lives of others. We are proud to partner with an organization that looks out for the health and well-being of others."

United Way of Pike County Executive Director Catherine Capasso said, "Because of the current economic climate, many folks are facing financial hardship and are reaching out for help. Hunger is a growing problem that is not always visible. These funds provide local food pantries with the vital resources they need to help many folks in crisis."

## Westmoreland

### Bar Foundation receives national recognition

In recognition of "extraordinary commitment to equal justice," Legal Services Corporation (LSC), the largest funder of civil legal aid for low-income Americans in the nation, presented a Pro Bono Service Award to the Westmoreland Bar Foundation (WBF). The awards ceremony took place on Oct. 21 at the law offices of K&L Gates in Pittsburgh as part of the LSC board of directors meeting. U.S. Rep. Chaka Fattah, former Pennsylvania Gov. Dick Thornburgh and LSC Board Chairman John G. Levi participated in the ceremony.

LSC recognized the WBF for 22 years of continuous legal assistance to low-in-

come Pennsylvanians, handling more than 500 pro bono cases annually.

### Bar Foundation awards scholarships

The Westmoreland Bar Foundation awarded \$8,500 in scholarship money for fall 2013. The scholarships are:

- Two \$1,000 college scholarships to participants in the mock trial competition
- Three law school scholarships totaling more than \$6,000
- One court reporting scholarship to a community college student.

These awards are annual scholarships given to Westmoreland County residents.

## York



*At the opening of the York County Court Self-Help Center are (from left) York County Bar Association President Suzanne Smith, York County Bar Foundation President Suzanne Griest, Court Self-Help Center Manager Megan Dietz and York County Court of Common Pleas President Judge Stephen P. Linebaugh.*

### York County Court Self-Help Center

The York County Court Self-Help Center opened on Wednesday, Oct. 23, on the first floor of the York County Judicial Center. The York County Court Self-Help Center was established and is operated and funded by the Administrative Office of York County Courts. The York County Bar Foundation provided \$10,000 matching grant funds for the establishment of the Self-Help Center.

The Court Self-Help Center is a resource for individuals who are representing themselves in civil matters. Those individ-

uals can find assistance and information on legal procedure and issues as well as learning how to represent themselves in court for their civil legal matters.

### New member orientation and introduction to the bench

On Dec. 9, the York County Bar Association Young Lawyers Section hosted its annual new-member orientation program. The program included a panel discussion with members of the bar on the benefits, opportunities and services provided by the association and foundation. Elizabeth Kramer, director of member services at the Pennsylvania Bar Association, offered an overview of resources provided by the state bar. Members received a packet of information, a book on the history of lawyers in York County and a welcome gift.

Following the orientation, new-member introductions to the bench took place at the ceremonial courtroom in the administrative center. Among the YCBA's 26 newest members are a former member of the Penn State University Blue Band, an actress, a gymnast, a horror flick aficionado, a lyricist and a tri-lingual mom-to-be! Welcome one and all!

The day concluded with a reception for the new members, their families and their sponsors as well as other members and staff at the bar center.

### Holiday party

The YCBA's annual holiday party enjoyed a record turnout with nearly 275 in attendance, including 96 children, on Dec. 12 at York's historic Valencia Ballroom. After a wonderful oration of "The Night before Christmas" by Attorney Glenn Smith, Santa and Mrs. Claus and their entourage of elves arrived to have their photos taken with the party-goers and to give each child a small gift. Delicious food, balloon artists, crafts and DJ Rick wowed the crowd; a great time was had by all!

# Law Day 2014 theme: 'American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters'

Law Day began in 1958 when President Dwight D. Eisenhower proclaimed Law Day to strengthen our great heritage of liberty, justice and equality under the law. This year the Pennsylvania Bar Association is celebrating its 14th year of Law Day activities. The theme for Pennsylvania's 2014 celebration is the same as the American Bar Association's theme, "American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters."

The Pennsylvania Bar Association and local bar associations across the state will sponsor Law Day activities throughout the month of May. In addition, schools, lawyers and judges are encouraged to work together to arrange for classroom visits and to use the PBA's free law-related lesson plans in all schools.

The PBA and Pennsylvania Bar Foundation are pleased to announce the 2014 Law Day poster, essay and video project contests for students. The theme for this year's entries is "Every Vote Matters." The deadline for entry is March 21, 2014. Click [here](#) to view contest rules and entry forms and other information about Law Day 2014. Law Day is funded by the bar foundation.

## American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters



### Announcing the 2014 Law Day theme

Watch for more information on the websites:  
Pennsylvania Bar Association - [www.pabar.org](http://www.pabar.org)  
American Bar Association - [www.lawday.org](http://www.lawday.org)

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