The days of corruption, poor service from city employees and high levels of violent crime are coming to an end, Mayor Michael Nutter told Bar members at the Association’s March 17 Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon.

“I talked about trying to change the mindset of our city government. There are some core values we should adopt both as a government and as a citizenry. And it’s what I try to push every day throughout all the elements and sectors of our city government and with our state and federal partners. Philadelphians have a right to expect a high-performance government that produces high-quality services at the lowest possible cost to all of you. That is our goal, that is our mission and that is our commitment. Not just some days, but each and every day. We work for you. We are public servants. And that’s my expectation of every one of our public employees,” Nutter said.

“We are a business. We’re a $4 billion corporation with 23,000 employees. The people of Philadelphia have a right to expect a good return on their investment, which are the services we provide. With courtesy, with compassion, with decency and respect each and every day. That’s what we should be doing and that’s what we have to provide,” he said.

Nutter said the city needs to expand and grow its base. “We’ve put forward some ambitious goals to accomplish, like increasing the population of the city by 75,000 over the next five to 10 years. The more people are here, the more business activity flourishes in Philadelphia. The more companies here means the more work for you who are practicing in Philadelphia. Invariably, you will need legal services for something. If you create a better business environment, there’s more work and more opportunity. And certainly, the law profession is one of the beneficiaries of that kind of activity,” the mayor explained.

“We’ve also promised that we’re going to turn this government around from an ethics standpoint. We’re not only going to operate with openness and transparency, but we’re going to set an example for everybody. We’re going to be the best in the world at what we’re doing, and that’s my expectation of every one of our public employees,” Nutter said.
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Frontline

Lawyers Need to Take the Lead to Advance City’s Economic Vitality

By A. Michael Pratt

“For some time now I have been talking about what Philadelphia can be. But the time for just talking has ended. Now we need to turn our good intentions into positive outcomes.”

Those were the inspirational words of Mayor Michael Nutter in his inaugural address on Jan. 7. With a bold and detailed vision for our city, our new mayor has challenged the Philadelphia business community to help carry out his agenda by doing its part to turn the city’s “great potential into astounding reality.”

I recently had the opportunity to meet with Mayor Nutter, together with our Association’s future Chancellors and our executive director, to further our discussions about how the Philadelphia legal community can lend its support – and capability for problem solving – to help the mayor achieve his goals for our city.

Mayor Nutter, who spoke so eloquently to our membership at last month’s Quarterly Meeting, strongly supports our legal community and values its tremendous contributions to Philadelphia’s economic and cultural vitality.

We have a unique opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to our new mayor by offering the time, talent and energy of this great legal community to help make a tangible difference in our city’s future. This can be done in many ways. In keeping with Mayor Nutter’s plan for renewal and growth, I would like to address three specific areas in which the new mayor needs our help.

The mayor’s new Office of Leadership Investment is dedicated to involving young people in city government and the business community. The mayor has pledged that the city, through private funding, will hire 100 youths in a new summer job program, with the goal of having 2,000 summer internships and work opportunities across Philadelphia.

Already, the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce said it would strive to meet the mayor’s challenge. And Independence Blue Cross said it will hire 50 interns this summer and pay for 62 nonprofit internships.

The Philadelphia legal community can help lead this charge. I am asking our law firms and attorneys to help this new office fulfill its mission by extending summer employment opportunities to area high school and college students.

These internships will keep young people off the street and learn what it’s like to go to work everyday. Helping them make important connections and showing them how to become a part of the region’s workforce are two of the real-life lessons the students will learn through these internships. Students exposed to work are more likely to graduate high school and to go on to college than those who are not so exposed.

André Howard, 17, a senior at George Washington Carver High School for Engineering and Science, worked in the mail room at Stanley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP last summer. He wants to run his own computer engineering firm one day. Andé said his job gave him confidence and taught him how the corporate world worked, according to the Philadelphia Daily News.

“Who knew you could learn so much simply by starting in the mail room?” Andé said at a news conference last month about his experience with the Purcell Young Internship Program, which the new mayor is funding with the goal of hiring 100 youths.

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By Manny D. Pokotilow

Ready, Set, Go! Bar 5K is May 18

More than 700 runners and walkers will make their way along Martin Luther King Drive on Sunday, May 18, at 8:30 a.m. for the Association’s 29th Annual 5K Run/Walk.

The event will include both a 5-kilometer (3.1 miles) run and a 5-kilometer walk, both of which can be entered by individuals. Legal and company teams can enter the team competition in the run. For Association members who sign up as members of the Bar, your finishing time will be recorded in both the open competition and the Bar competition. This will allow you the chance to win a medal in your age group in both competitions.

The event will benefit the Support Center for Child Advocates.

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The Association is being joined by First Trust; Wawa; Iron Mountain; Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC; The Legal Intel
gence; USI Colburn Insurance Service; Vertext L.L.C.; Special Counsel; and Document Technologies, Inc. as sponsors.

Legal sponsors include the law firms of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, L.L.P.; Anapol, Schwartz, Weiss, Cohan, Feldman continued on page 22

Tell Us What You Think!

The Philadelphia Bar Reporter welcomes letters to the editors for publication. Letters should be typed. There is no word limit, but editors reserve the right to condense for clarity, style and space considerations. Letters must be signed to verify authorship, but names will be withheld upon request. Letters may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed to: Jeff Lyons, Senior Managing Editor, Philadelphia Bar Reporter, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th floor, Philadelphia, PA, 19107-2955. Phone: (215) 238-6345. Fax: (215) 238-1159. E-mail: reporter@philabar.org.
By Kathryn C. Harr

This coming fall, the Philadelphia Bar Association will launch the Advancing Civics Education (ACE) program, linking teams of lawyers and judges with high school students to teach principles of citizenship, democracy and dispute resolution.

Partnering with the School District of Philadelphia, the program will bring teams of three or more lawyers and judges into ninth-grade classrooms once a month over the course of the school year. The initial phase will send groups to 30 to 35 high schools out of the 67 total in the district. “We would like to expand significantly,” said Chancellor A. Michael Pratt, who initially formulated the idea for the ACE program, noted that the program will serve to not only expose students to lawyers, but also to “expose more of our members to our school district and the unique issues this district faces,” including its issues of funding.

By dividing each class into sections, each lawyer or judge from the panel can individually connect with students and form relationships through these “mini-mentoring sessions,” as Potts described. “From exposure to the same team each month, the impact of the program is increased as mentorship relationships form,” Almquist noted.

Noting the purpose of the program is to “educate and inspire our young students,” Judge Rendell added that one of the goals of the program is to convey “an awareness of the principles of our democracy … these aren’t just remote concepts, these are things that impact our day to day life.”

Potts described the “seamless process” of integrating the program with the curriculum, noting that the program will dovetail with ninth graders’ study of world history and the evolution of law. Pratt noted that Sandra Dungee Glenn, chair of the School Reform Commission, “loved the idea” and endorsed the program, along with Dr. Cassandra Jones, Interim Chief Academic Officer for the school district, who is responsible for the curriculum, testing and all other academic-related matters.

“I think this has a good chance of success because it’s ambitious in one sense,” Judge Rendell explained, but that the combination of monthly visits with the curriculum “will have an impact.” When asked whether she will be in the classroom, Judge Rendell responded, “absolutely.”

Kathryn C. Harr, an associate with Trujillo Rodriguez & Richards, LLC, is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.

Legal Presentation Skills Seminar

Mark J. LeWinter (right) and Robert J. Mongeluzzi present “Legal Presentation Skills,” the third installment of the Associate Training Program on March 18. The program was sponsored by the Law Practice Management Division and the Philadelphia Chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators. The seminar guided attorneys on how to structure language for persuasion and clarity; use physical and vocal skills that can mean the difference between a good presentation and a great one; and establish credibility in communications with clients, judges, witnesses and staff.

Civil Gideon Plenary Program April 10

The Public Interest Section will hold a plenary meeting on “Civil Gideon: The Right to Counsel in Civil Cases” on Thursday, April 10. The program will address recent developments in a growing national movement to create a right to court appointed counsel in civil proceedings, including both litigation and legislation that have been successfully undertaken in other states and locales. The program also will address a variety of legal approaches and strategies for Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Bar Association is jointly sponsoring this forum with the Public Interest Section.

Chancellor A. Michael Pratt and Pennsylvania Bar Association President Andrew F. Susko will provide opening remarks. Panelists include Pennsylvania State Rep. Kathy M. Manderino; Debra Gardner, legal director of the Public Justice Center in Baltimore; and Laurza Abel, deputy director of the Justice Program at the Brennan Center for Justice, New York University School of Law. Marsha Levick will moderate.

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The program will be held from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the 11th Floor Conference Center of Bar Association headquarters, 1101 Market St. A wine and cheese reception will follow at 5:30 p.m. There is no charge for this program, however, space is limited. Pre-registration is required by April 4. Register online at philadelphiabar.org.
The Bench-Bar and Annual Conference returns to Bally's on Sept. 19-21.

Conference Registration Now Open at Bar Web Site

By Jeff Lyons

Registration is now open for the Association's 2008 Bench-Bar and Annual Conference on Sept. 19-21 at Bally's Atlantic City.

This year’s conference is expected to bring together more than 500 lawyers and judges from the Philadelphia area for three days of CLE programming that lets practitioners and the judiciary share ideas and best practices. The theme of this year’s conference is “The Sound of Philadelphia.”

“Our Annual Bench-Bar Conference has become a signature event for this Association,” said Chancellor A. Michael Pratt.

“Because of its success, this year we’ve expanded the conference to include even more cutting-edge programming, entertainment and networking opportunities. To mark the occasion, this year the Conference has been renamed the Bench-Bar and Annual Conference,” he said.

“Our conference planning committee, under the direction of Co-Chairs Molly Peckman, Al Dandridge and Rosemary Pinto, is working hard on a powerhouse event that you won’t want to miss. Take advantage of the early registration discount, and sign up today,” Pratt said.

Registration for the full three days of the conference is $549 for those members who register by Aug. 15. That rate includes all meals and CLE. For those who register after Aug. 15, the registration fee is $629. For public interest attorneys, government attorneys and members of the Young Lawyers Division, the full registration package is $479. The rate is $399 for those attorneys registering by Aug. 15. Other one-day and two-day registration packages are available.

Bally’s Atlantic City offers a world-class spa, salon, fitness center and 18 restaurants to meet every craving. Experience the Old West at Bally’s Wild Wild West Casino with nearly 74,000 feet of gaming accessible via a short walkway connected to Bally’s.

Bally’s is now accepting hotel reservations for attendees. Book early for the best rates: rooms on Thursday, Sept. 18 are $99; rooms Friday, Sept. 19 are $144, and Saturday, Sept. 20 rooms are $189. Call 1-800-345-7253 for reservations and mention you are attending the Philadelphia Bar Association Bench-Bar Conference to get these special room rates.

The days of just saying no to technology are quickly disappearing,” explained Deputy Court Administrator Charles A. Mapp Sr., introducing the presentation “Electronic Filing in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas” at the March 20 meeting of the Practice Technology Committee.

“With more than 100 million cases filed each year between the federal courts and the state courts, electronic filing is emerging as a proven alternative to conventional case filings. Technology is rapidly changing and our court is responding to those changes,” he said.

Mapp also discussed the court’s approach to the e-filing system, which went into development in 2005. “(E-filing) is not just new technology, it is a revolutionary approach to conducting court business that will change the way courts, law firms and legal offices will work in the future. Lawyers are the court’s most important customers.”

Following Mapp’s introduction of the e-filing system, which will be accessible through the court’s Web site (courts.phila.gov), Harold Palmer, the Court of Common Pleas’ programmer manager and chair of the E-filing Planning Committee, explained the nuts and bolts of the system. Palmer showed how an attorney will obtain a login and password, and noted the required pdf format for all filings. Palmer, who was assisted by Deputy Prothonotary Deborah Dailey, showed the various filing modules, and explained how case information will be entered, how pleadings will be reviewed, accepted or rejected by the prothonotary, and acknowledged. Palmer also demonstrated how the site will accept credit card payments, and the most recently developed aspects of the system such as second filings and motions.

continued on page 16

PRACTICE TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

E-Filing Changing Way Court Does Business

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continued on page 16
By Michael E. Scullin

Fernando Trevino-Martinez of Temple University Beasley School of Law and Fanny Moinel of the University of Pennsylvania Law School were presented with the inaugural International Law Committee Award at a March 4 reception.

The new award, for outstanding achievement in international law or human rights, was created to recognize the importance of the rule of law and the protection of human rights to a fair and prosperous world, as well as the crucial role of lawyers in contributing to that effort. The awards were presented at the Committee’s annual reception in honor of the international LL.M students from the University of Pennsylvania and Temple University. The event was hosted by Duane Morris LLP with the support of HSBC Bank US, N.A.

Before the start of her academic program at the University of Pennsylvania in the fall of 2007, Moinel volunteered with the Nationalities Service Center, working on Francophone asylum cases involving women who were persecuted for their ethnic identity. She then joined Penn Law’s Transnational Legal Clinic, where she and her clinic partner represented two victims of female genital mutilation before the Philadelphia Immigration Court. The effort resulted in the grant of asylum for one of their clients, and an appeal before the Board of Immigration Appeals, providing much-needed breathing room, for their other client. Moinel continues to be involved with the Transnational Legal Clinic and the Nationalities Service Center.

Prior to coming to Philadelphia, Moinel had extensive experience in protecting and defending human rights. At the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, she was responsible for African projects assisting torture victims. At Human Rights Watch in Brussels, Dakar and New York, she investigated the human rights violations committed under Hissène Habré, the exiled former President of Chad accused of war crimes, and helped coordinate his prosecution in Senegal. At Doctors of the World she served as a legal advisor to members of the Roma community and helped fight trafficking in women, in addition to serving as a correspondent at the first World Forum on Human Rights organized by UNESCO.

Trevino-Martinez worked for the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs while attending law school. He served as a staff attorney at Mexican consulates in Texas and New Orleans, handling criminal and immigration law matters, investigating human rights violations by immigration officials and later assisting federal inmates and monitoring deportation procedures.

In August 2002, Trevino-Martinez moved to Philadelphia to take charge of the consulate’s criminal division, supervising death penalty and other high profiles cases, organizing seminars to assist public defenders and private attorneys in the representation of Mexican nationals, and assuring the consular access to local and federal prisons mandated by the Vienna Convention. He also helped develop the novel program “Legal Assistance on Tuesdays,” which provided free legal assistance to Philadelphia’s Mexican community featuring legal advice from renowned volunteer local attorneys.

In 2007, recognizing a clamoring need in the community, he joined with several local lawyers to form a new law firm, Oficina de Abogados, dedicated to providing legal assistance to the Spanish-speaking population in the tri-state area. Throughout his career, Trevino-Martinez has demonstrated a firm commitment to bilingual legal services for foreign nationals facing complex criminal charges and human rights violations.

Each year, Philadelphia law schools host about 150 distinguished foreign lawyers and leaders in their international LL.M programs. This year the following countries are represented: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Korea, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, People’s Republic of China, Peru, Poland, Philippines, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey and Ukraine.

Michael E. Scullin, counsel to McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP and Honorary Consul of France in Philadelphia, is co-chair of the International Law Committee.
By Troy H. Wilson

The Criminal Justice Section is duty-bound to provide the best, most informative and exciting services to our members and to prospective members. We have several exciting and important initiatives that will be launched in the upcoming year. The Criminal Justice Section has recently launched a blog, planned CLE lunch-hour classes, met with the deputy mayor of public safety, planned a meeting with new Administrative Judge Pamela Dembe and discussed potential classes at the Bench-Bar Conference, e-filing, an increase in court-appointed fees and the PARS report issues, to name a few.

Last month our section launched a new and exciting criminal legal blog that, for the time being, is open to all members to peruse. Essentially, the blog is a quick and easy way for attorneys to review new state and federal criminal cases that are both vital and relevant to the criminal law practitioner. Additionally, the blog will also include a legislative update that will discuss pending bills as well as recently passed criminal laws. We will also add a section to the blog that will allow members to obtain criminal law forms that are relevant to the practice of criminal law in Philadelphia County. Thus, the blog will allow attorneys to stay current with the law and will, hopefully, make the busy practice of a criminal law attorney that much less hectic.

At our March 26 meeting, Deputy Mayor for Public Safety Everett Gillison (a former member of the Philadelphia Defenders Association) discussed his role in the new administration and the ways that the Bar Association can help fulfill the mayor’s criminal justice agenda. As a newly appointed Administrative Judge of the Criminal Division of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, Judge Dembe will discuss the new developments and updates that the court has in store for members who will be practicing before the court. That meeting is set for May 27.

The Criminal Justice Section is now planning more exciting and informative one-hour lunchtime CLEs allowing both members and non-members to obtain CLE credit at a reduced cost. Our section is also working on helping the court establish and devise a formal procedure to begin the process of e-filing for criminal court cases at the state level. We are still working with the court in an attempt to resolve the deletion of the PARS report from all criminal quarter sessions files.

One of the biggest issues that the Criminal Justice Section will continue to grapple with is the never-ending fight for increased attorneys fees for all court-appointed criminal counsel. Many of our members are court-appointed attorneys who are diligently representing indigent clients and have been for many years. Despite the increased amount of court-appointed cases currently littering the docket here in Philadelphia County, criminal court-appointed attorneys lag far behind in monetary compensation compared to other jurisdictions. Our section is continuing to do its level best to fight for an increase in fees that is long overdue.

The above endeavors are just a short list of the exciting and innovative ideas we have planned for any and all section members as well as non-members who will consider joining our section. Troy H. Wilson, a principal in Wilson & Wilson, LLP, is chair of the Criminal Justice Section.

Visit criminaljusticesection.wordpress.com to see check out the Criminal Justice Section blog.
Office for Diversity

Separating the Facts From the Assumptions

By Sean Kathleen Lincoln

I write this column having completed only two and one-half weeks as the new Director of the Office for Diversity for the Philadelphia Bar Association. A. Michael Pratt has made diversity a hallmark of his administration during his year as Chancellor. Sayde J. Ladov, Chancellor-Elect and Scott F. Cooper, Vice Chancellor, have also given their wholehearted support of diversity and inclusion. This is an exciting opportunity for the Bar Association, as well as for me, in launching a much-needed service for its constituents. The Philadelphia Bar Association is in one of the best positions possible of having the opportunity to learn from published best practices guidelines, such as those delineated by the National Association for Law Placement, and other documents, such as the Report & Recommendations from the Diversity Pipeline Task Force from The State Bar of California. We have the opportunity to craft diversity, inclusion and work/life initiatives that will truly meet the needs of all of you - the members of the Association.

Many of the larger law firms have already established effective diversity and inclusion initiatives and one of my goals is to continue to reach out to representatives of these programs to learn from their accomplishments and further enhance the Association’s efforts. Additionally, I have reached out to other bar associations’ diversity representatives to enhance my understanding of how to best meet your needs.

I will also reach out to more members of the Philadelphia legal community to understand your specific and varied needs. In the future, the Philadelphia Bar Association will be initiating diversity and inclusion program components such as an assessment of constituents’ needs; mentoring programs designed for minority new hires and for lateral hires; trainings designed to enhance all levels of diversity understanding (e.g., awareness building or skill building); and employment positions (e.g., partner or associate), just to name a few. In working with all of you, we hope to assist you in utilizing and leveraging your diversity to enhance your recruitment, retention and employee satisfaction levels thereby resulting in a positive business impact.

Additionally, through this column, I hope to address some questions such as, “What exactly is diversity?” “What good does diversity really do?” “Is there really a business case for diversity and what is it?” and “How can I contribute to the diversity efforts at my organization?” I also would hope that the information in this column can begin the necessary conversations that may be able to impact organizational climates and contribute toward increased organizational effectiveness.

As most of you know, the facts can be illuminating:

“Fewer than 4.4 percent of partners in the nation’s largest 250 firms are people of color.” (DiversityInc, The Legal Profession and Diversity, Part I, 2006)

“…slightly less than half of law-school graduates are women of all races/ethnicities, the total number of women of color make up less than 2 percent of partners at major law firms nationwide, reports NALP. In contrast, the percentage of all females in partner positions at major firms was 17.9 percent in 2006, up from 12 percent in 1993. At these rates, women overall should make up about half of law-firm partners by 2115.” (DiversityInc, The Legal Profession & Diversity, Part II, 2007)

“Among African American Harvard Law School alumni who graduated in the 1980s and remain in private practice, the average salary among men is $324,190, while the average income for women is $184,683.14. For black women, this...” (continued on page 24)
Superior Court’s Allen Took Long Route to Bench

By Laura A. Feldman

Cheryl Allen, the only person of color to win a statewide judicial election in 2007, attributes her success to the choices she has made with the help of friends and mentors.

The Superior Court judge met with members of the Public Interest Section and Appellate Courts Committee on Feb. 27 in the first of a series of programs to introduce the Philadelphia legal community to newly elected appellate court judges.

Judge Allen said her background and circumstances did not create a natural path to the judiciary. She was the oldest of five children and the first member of her family to go to college. Being the daughter of a steel worker and a domestic, neither of whom completed high school, Judge Allen credits her mother for stressing the importance of education to all of her children and for being determined that all of her children would go to college.

During the late 1960s after completing high school, Judge Allen continued her education at Penn State. Although an aptitude test identified abilities that would have pushed her toward the law, she did not see herself as an attorney. In fact, Judge Allen did not know any lawyers and was unaware of any women lawyers or any lawyers of color. As was the course of many women in the 1960s, she directed her efforts to teaching. She did her student teaching in North Philadelphia at the William Dicks School.

During her third year teaching in the Pittsburgh public schools, Judge Allen began to re-evaluate her career choice. At the same time she made several acquaintances who had started law school and encouraged her to apply. Thanks to affirmative action, Judge Allen was offered a full scholarship to University of Pittsburgh Law School. With few women students and fewer persons of color enrolled, law school was a challenge both socially and academically, but through hard work and a streak of stubbornness, she successfully completed her studies.

But her bigger challenges really began when she completed law school. In the early 1970s there were still very few women in private practice and even fewer women of color. Her first job was in Neighborhood Legal Services as a public interest attorney. After several years she was employed by the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission and later the Allegheny County Law Department.

In the late 1980s Judge Allen began to set her sights to a seat on the bench. Even though there was not racial or gender diversity on the bench in Pittsburgh, and an African-American woman had never been elected to this position, Judge Allen was not deterred. She ran and lost twice before being appointed to the bench in 1990 to complete Justice Cappy’s term when he moved up to the Supreme Court.

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Simple Stories Make Best News, Panel Advises

By Brian K. Sims

Lawyers need to cut down the legalese and the news releases and remember that short and simple stories make the best news, a panel of well-known media members told attendees of a panel discussion presented by the Bar-News Media Committee.

Panelists for “Getting to Know Philadelphia’s African-American Media,” included Harold Jackson, editorial page editor at The Philadelphia Inquirer; Lehronda Upshur, news anchor and public affairs director, Power 99, Q102 and My 106.1 FM; Sheinelle Jones, news anchor at Fox29 Good Day Philadelphia; Karin Phillips, community affairs reporter for KYW Newsradio 1060; Bobbi Booker, journalist, radio personality and blogger based in Philadelphia; Michael Days, editor of the Philadelphia Daily News; and Rhonda Hill Wilson, co-host of “The Morning Team” on WURD 900 AM.

Promoted jointly by the Philadelphia Public Relations Association, Philadelphia Black Public Relations Society, the Delaware Valley Law Firm Marketing Group, and the Legal Marketing Association’s Metropolitan Philadelphia Chapter, the purpose of the panel was not only to let attorneys meet many of the region’s most prominent African-American journalists and news personalities, but to find out what they look for in legal stories and experts.

“When I’m pitched a legal story, I want to know who’s winning and who’s losing,” said Days. “Who are the actors and will my readers really care?” Jackson had a similar take as the editor of an editorial page. “I’m looking for what people want to know, and what people should know,” he said.

“There’s a legal angle to almost every news story, so...”

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The key to success in the civil program is the “intense management of cases,” Judge D. Webster Keogh, administrative judge for the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, told members of the State Civil Litigation Section Quarterly Meeting on March 12.

In terms of case management, the program has been effective in scheduling significant court events, enforcing deadlines and bringing civil cases to prompt and precise disposition, Judge Keogh said. Including arbitration matters, “the civil section of the trial division received a total of 32,846 new filings during calendar year of 2007. The total disposition for that same year was 34,382 which you can see is a reduction in inventory,” he said. Judge Keogh explained that the compulsory arbitration program is one of the most successful programs of its kind in the nation. There were 18,959 new filings in the compulsory arbitration program in 2007 and 17,594 cases were resolved.

Another important and vibrant program is the commerce court program, Judge Keogh said. He said that the commerce court, which manages business and commercial matters, has an inventory of 650 cases that represents about two percent of the inventory. He admitted that the commerce court cases are not the easiest to deal with, however, “the commerce case management program does continue to be successful,” he said. “The success of that program I believe can be attributed least in part to early intervention, mediation and the close monitoring of cases by both the commerce program judges and the volunteer judges pro tem,” Judge Keogh said. By way of productivity in 2007, the commerce program judges disposed of 754 cases, which is significant for a three-judge program, he said.

The judge described the complex litigation center as one of the court’s major achievements. The judges assigned to the complex litigation center, which manages mass tort, asbestos, major non-jury, class action, and arbitration appeals programs, disposed of 4,287 cases, he said. Another productive program is the office of civil administration and civil motions. This program is responsible for providing processing and maintenance for more than 50,000 motions and petitions that are filed annually. Judge Keogh stated that this program manages a staggering number of pieces of paper that he hopes to eliminate by way of e-filing. E-filing will allow for greater productivity and effectiveness, he said.

Judge Keogh expressed the importance of maintaining an efficient and productive court system. He explained that the civil program is successful because of the goals of the various case management programs, the commitment of the attorneys and strong judicial leadership.

Regina Parker, an associate with Mattioni, Ltd., is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.

Visit philadelphiabar.org to listen to the podcast from this meeting.
The YLD has put together some stellar events and programs to benefit both lawyers and the community. Please help out and do your part by coming to these great events and programs. With your help, the YLD will continue to remain “in the spotlight” and continue to be successful in helping so many in the community.

Law Week 2008 will feature three signature events. First, on Wednesday, April 30, the Young Lawyers Division will host “Legal Advice Live” where volunteer lawyers will provide free legal advice to the public on a confidential and individual basis. The event will be held in Independence Mall, selected public libraries, and over the telephone in the evening. Then on Thursday, May 1, the YLD, along with Judge Annette Rizzo and other members of the bench, will host the “Goldie Locks Trial Program” where kindergarten and first-grade students will come to City Hall and be assigned to various courtrooms where they will serve as jurors in the trial of Commonwealth v. Goldie Locks. In this case, Goldie Locks is charged with breaking and entering into the home of the three bears and stealing their porridge.

Lastly, on Friday, May 2, students from public and parochial high schools in Philadelphia will be a Lawyer for a Day. On this day, students will come down to the Bar Association and be assigned to volunteer lawyers who will take the students to civil and criminal courtrooms. Students will observe real-life court proceedings and have an opportunity to speak with the judge assigned to that case. At noon, students will return to the Bar Association for a special lunch program with a keynote speaker. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact the Bar Association.

The YLD will host its annual Comedy Night at the Academy of Natural Sciences on Saturday, May 10. Lynne Koplitz and Doug Benson of VH1’s “Best Week Ever” are the headliners for the event.

Tickets are $65 and are available at philadelphiabar.org. Admission includes open bar, heavy hors d’oeuvres, a silent auction and a DJ. For sponsorship information, contact Brian Chacker at bchacker@gaychackermittin.net. To donate auction items, contact Abbie DuFrayne at adufrayne@yahoo.com. All proceeds from YLD Comedy Night will benefit the Philadelphia Bar Foundation.

By Scott P. Sigman, chair of the Young Lawyers Division, is an associate at Bochetto & Lentz, P.C. and may be reached by e-mail at ssigman@bochettoandlentz.com or by telephone at (215) 735-3900.

Visit philAWdelphia.wordpress.com to see what the Association’s young lawyers are saying.
By Jeff Lyons

The Association honored Jane Leslie Dalton at the March 17 Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon for making a positive difference in her year as Chancellor.

"Today, I have in my possession an exact replica of the gold snuffbox that the city of New York presented to Andrew Hamilton in 1735 when Hamilton defended printer John Peter Zenger and established the doctrine of freedom of the press," Chancellor A. Michael Pratt told Bar members.

"This gold box represents so much: pro bono commitment, professionalism, dedication to a cause and, above all — the will to make a positive difference in the lives of others. I know that the last point — making a positive difference — is especially important to the recipient of the gold box this year," Pratt said.

"I will cherish the snuffbox although it will remain snuffless, just as I cherish the year as Chancellor," Dalton said.

"As Chancellor of this Association last year, Jane Dalton put a sharp focus on the importance of the legal community to the economic prosperity of our city. In an unprecedented outreach to minority business owners, she offered the guidance and resources of Philadelphia lawyers to help further their growth and success. She established new partnerships with groups such as the African-American, Hispanic, Asian-American, and Global Indian Chambers of Commerce, the Minority Business Enterprise Council and the Urban League of Philadelphia," he said.

"Jane tackled tough issues with sensitivity and resolve. She shined a spotlight on the troubling decline in women attorneys as they progress in their careers, as well as the decline in the number of women promoted to partnership. Under her leadership, our Board of Governors endorsed two major initiatives – the result of 18 months of work by our Women in the Profession Committee, The ‘Best Practices’ and ‘Call to Action’ for Philadelphia law firms for the retention and promotion of women attorneys represents a much-needed response to a critical issue in our profession," he said.

"As Chancellor, Jane made a real difference for the profession, the city and the region. She never hesitated to be a true advocate for justice.”

"You put words into action. Throughout 2007 you led us with vision, determination and insight. You’ve spoken up forcefully for the profession, for equal access to justice and for the rights of all. And you’ve worked to increase public understanding of the law so that others can protect their cherished rights as well. And you’ve done it all with grace, clarity and strength," Pratt said.

"I’m proud that, last year, the Philadelphia Bar continued to be at the forefront of the most vital issues facing our city and our profession," Dalton said. "I know that under the current leadership the Bar Association will continue its role as an advocate for reform.”

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ency and integrity, not just saying it, but our major goal is to accomplish it. The things that have happened in the past are no longer acceptable here in Philadelphia,” Nutter said. “We want to be able to point developers in one direction so they’ll know what it takes to get a project done and have planning and land-use principles be the driving force as opposed to who you are, who you hire and who you’re connected to. Those days are over,” he said. “We take ethics, ethics reform and cleaning up the government very seriously. I think it has an impact on our business climate. We deserve better. You’re going to have better. We’re cleaning this government up each and every day,” the mayor said. Nutter said new police commissioner Charles H. Ramsey has put together a very aggressive, thoughtful workable crime-fighting strategy. “By May 1, we will have 200 more officers on the streets of Philadelphia as a result of graduations and redeployment of officers. By the end of next fiscal year, June 2009, we will have 400 more police officers on the streets of Philadelphia. While the current numbers [on violent crime] are certainly moving in the right direction, we’re not taking a break or having a parade.” “We have much more work to do to make Philadelphia one of the safest cities in the United States. There are a lot of things you want to be “number 1” for, but violent crime isn’t one of them. And that’s our goal, each and every day, to drive the crime rate down and create jobs and opportunity,” Nutter said. He urged members of the legal and business communities to reach out to ex-offenders with job opportunities in an effort to curb recidivism, which stands at an alarming 72 percent. The mayor also urged professionals in the city to mentor young people to instill a sense of hope and future.

Volunteers Needed for Law Week

Volunteers are needed to help with Law Week activities, Monday, April 28 through Friday, May 2, when the Association marks “Law Week 2008” with a host of special events and services reaching out to thousands of citizens.

Volunteer Philadelphia lawyers will offer free legal advice, welcome new American citizens, visit with children in classrooms and invite inner-city students into their offices.

The weeklong law fest is one of the most ambitious public outreach efforts of its type in the nation. The theme for Law Week 2008 is “The Rule of Law: Foundation for Communities of Opportunity and Equity.” All of the Law Week activities are under the direction of Association Chancellor-Elect Sayde J. Ladow, and are coordinated by the Association’s Young Lawyers Division with the help of scores of lawyer-volunteers. The YLD Law Week chair is Abbie DuFrayne.

The following is a schedule of Law Week activities:

**Monday, April 28**

Monday kicks off a weeklong series of visits to Philadelphia school classrooms by volunteer lawyers with the Lawyer in the Classroom program. As part of this program, lawyers will enthusiastically visit different schools throughout the week to address students’ concerns about the law and the legal issues that affect them as they enter adulthood, and answer questions about the legal profession.

**Wednesday, April 30**

Dozens of Philadelphia attorneys will gather to provide free, in-person legal advice at “Legal Advice Live!” from 12 to 2 p.m., at People’s Plaza, 5th and Market Streets, behind the Liberty Bell. Attorneys will provide answers to legal questions on a broad range of topics, including landlord/tenant law, divorce and child custody matters, wills and estate planning, real estate law and employment law. Volunteer attorneys also will go into the community and give free legal advice at select Free Library of Philadelphia branches.

Also on Wednesday, free legal advice will be given to those who call the Legal Line hotline. From 5 to 8 p.m., area residents can call lawyers at (215) 238-6333.

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**Judges Turned Litigants**

Former Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge Robert Graci (left) and former Third Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Timothy K. Lewis discussed the perspective of judge-turned-litigant at the March 19 meeting of the Appellate Courts Committee and the Third Circuit Bar Association.

**E-Filing continued from page 5**

Palmer emphasized that the e-filing system is customized so that users only will be able to enter the information applicable to the pleading or other document being filed. He began with first filings such as complaints and writs, whose filing screens are customized for the applicable court program in which the case is filed. Palmer also demonstrated how the system will automatically generate a filing’s cover sheet, eliminating the need for counsel to do so. He also showed how the e-filing system will know to ask a lawyer filing a medical malpractice complaint whether certificates of merit will be included with a pleading. Similarly, if a case was filed as an arbitration matter, the system would not ask the filing party whether it was requesting a jury trial.

Finally, Palmer highlighted the features that have most recently been added to the e-filing system, as well as additional modules that are under development. He showed the second filing pages, as well as the method in which discovery motions will be scheduled and filed.

Palmer and Mapp also answered numerous questions about the e-filing system, ranging from how filings will be acknowledged by the court, when they will be reviewed by the prothonotary’s office to assure that they comply with all applicable rules, and the ways in which counsel may pay for filings.

**Podcast Spotlight**

Visit philadelphiabar.org to listen to the podcast from this program.

**Growth of IP Practice Gives Rise to Committee**

ONE OF THE ASSOCIATION’S newest committees is already proving to be very popular among its membership.

The Intellectual Property Committee has already held several well-attended meetings, indicating a great interest in this practice area. “Intellectual property continues to be an expanding practice area for our membership that we felt was underrepresented in our committee structure. This new committee will give even more Philadelphia lawyers the opportunity to get involved or become more involved with our Association,” said Chancellor A. Michael Pratt.

In following Chancellor Pratt’s commitment to achieving diversity throughout the legal community, the committee has been actively recruiting members of diverse ethnic backgrounds and diverse professional backgrounds within the IP community, including patent prosecutors, litigators, trademark and copyright counsel, IP attorneys from large general practices, as well as smaller boutiques, solo-practitioners and corporate counsel.

Several law students have also expressed interest in joining the committee and participating in its programs. The committee is in the process of establishing its mission and recognizes the importance of serving all members of the Association. The committee has also recognized the importance of differentiating itself from IP groups outside of the Association.

“The IP Committee is discussing ways to become a significant committee in the Association by submitting several proposals for this year’s Bench-Bar and Annual Conference in September and exploring ways to take an active role in shaping IP policy and legislation that will affect Association members, as well as the regional economy. If you have any ideas for this committee or are interested in joining, please contact co-chairs Michael J. Berkowitz at mjberkowitz@cbcp.com or (215) 567-2010 or Kim R. Jessum at KJessum@stradley.com or (215) 564-8165.

Law Week continued from page 15

and have their legal questions answered free and confidentially. The lawyers will staff a phone bank at the headquarters of the Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th floor, Thursday, May 1

A naturalization ceremony welcoming dozens of new United States citizens will be held at the U.S. Courthouse, 6th and Market Streets in Philadelphia, at 10:30 a.m. The winner of the Edward F. Chacker Essay Contest will also read his or her essay.

Friday, May 2

Volunteer attorneys and judges pair with high school students and “show them the ropes” of their jobs by taking them to their offices and into the courts during the Lawyer for a Day program.

Several city courtrooms will be open to allow the participants to observe the proceedings. The students will meet the lawyers and judges at the Bar Association at 8:30 a.m., and all participants are invited back to the Association’s 11th floor Conference Center at noon for a concluding lunch, during which students will recount their experiences and hear from various speakers.

To volunteer for Lawyer in the Classroom, please contact Kelly Gastley at kgastley@philivip.org or Josh Ryan at joshua.ryan@dlapiper.com.

To volunteer for Legal Advice Live! on Wednesday, April 30 at Independence Mall, please contact Abbie DuFrayne at adufrayne@yahoo.com.

To volunteer for Lawyer For a Day on Friday, May 2, please contact Carey Chopko at (215) 567-8300 or Corey Davis at (215) 731-1447 ext. 12.

Charles A. Mapp Sr. (from left), Deborah Dailey and Harold Palmer explained the workings of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas e-filing system at the Technology Practice Committee’s March 20 meeting.

“Right now, we’re going out and educating members of the bar and the public about the program,” Mapp explained. E-filing will begin in the Civil Division of the Court of Common Pleas with a discretionary program in July. Mapp said he expects e-filing to become mandatory in January 2009. He said e-filing is already being used in Orphans Court.

Questions about the court’s electronic filing system should be e-mailed to cefs@courts.phila.gov.
Sunah in the City

Election Process Has Left Her Captivated

By Sunah Park

I had dinner with my fifth-grade teacher the other night and in the middle of our discussion about her kitchen renovations, Saralee asked me if I was an “Obama girl.” I burst out laughing. All the dinners we have had in the past, we never once discussed politics. But it is an incredible phenomenon that is taking place everywhere. People who normally do not discuss politics are having lively debates. Before their February primary, my parents, who live in New Jersey, wanted to confirm with me which final button they pushed to make sure their votes were registered. My sister, who also lives in New Jersey, was texting me about her candidate of choice for almost a whole week before the primary. When my family recently got together for dinner, I found out that my siblings, siblings-in-law and parents voted for three different candidates. I get to cast my vote on April 22. And while I cannot say with certainty at this point for whom I will vote, at least I know that I will be casting a vote.

I have to admit I am sort of taken aback when I hear people say that they do not intend to vote or do not have time to vote. Maybe it is inconvenient for some (I confess that my polling place is in my condo building so I can never use this excuse) or maybe they do not like any of the candidates. I suppose it is their prerogative not to vote. But when I see how excited my parents get when it is time to vote, it reminds me that some of the rights certain people take for granted, others cherish.

Of course, that does not mean that I appreciate being inured to public service and candidates spouting their positions and courting my vote. Additionally, it is a bit disturbing to see in the news how family members and friends actually get into fistfights when they do not share the same love for a candidate. Watching that bit of news, I was really grateful that my father did not reach over the dinner table to throttle my brother after he found out which candidate my brother voted for.

No matter what the end result is in November, I know that I will have witnessed and participated in a unique experience and phenomenon in the history of our country. And it gives me hope that I may look forward to a day in the future when my nephew can make a run for president of this country since he is the first in our family to be born in the United States. And with a name like “John Patrick Kennedy,” I can already think of the commercials I can write for him.

Sunah Park, a partner at Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP, is editor-in-chief of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.

Frontline

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announcing the summer job campaign.

Firms that are not in a position to hire interns can make donations that will go toward funding internships at nonprofit organizations. For more information on how your law firm can hire an intern, visit WorkReady Philadelphia’s Web site at workreadyphila.com. To learn about how you can fund an internship, visit the Philadelphia Youth Network’s Web site at pyninc.org.

Another opportunity for law firms and attorneys to assist the new mayor in advancing employment goals is by helping to underwrite the Destination Fellowship, a 12-month government employment opportunity for recent post-graduate students, which Mayor Nutter has now extended to post-undergraduate students.

Destination Fellowship, a part of the new Office of Leadership Investment, is a great opportunity for those interested in public service to gain experience working in the fifth-largest municipal government in the country. The program considers individuals who are completing or have recently completed undergraduate or graduate school for a year-long fellowship to work in Philadelphia city government.

The fellows are assigned to work on a long-term project or a series of assignments within a single department and report to senior city managers. The fellows’ supervisors, because of their roles within their own departments, ensure the fellows are exposed to a range of internal and interdepartmental meetings, City Council sessions, and other work activities throughout the year. This type of placement builds the fellows’ skills in project management and promotes intimate knowledge of the host department as well as city government in general.

Mayor Nutter is encouraging contributions from the legal community and other areas of the private sector to help underwrite these fellowships. The salary offered to fellows is $22,500 for post-undergraduate students and $40,000 for post-graduate students.

A third initiative in which Philadelphia law firms can have a meaningful impact is providing work opportunities to ex-offenders in the criminal justice system who have undergone successful rehabilitation.

I have witnessed the excellent work of one such program, under the leadership of U.S. Magistrate Judge Timothy R. Rice. The Federal Reentry Court Program, which began in September, is a pilot program and partnership among the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the U.S. Attorney’s Office, U.S. Probation Services and the Federal Defender Office.

Judge Rice meets with ex-offenders every other Wednesday at the U.S. Courthouse to oversee their progress and help avoid non-compliance issues with supervision, while rewarding positive behavior with potential reductions in the term of supervised release. The Eastern District is the first major federal court in the country to start a “re-entry court.”

For more information on internships, visit workreadyphila.com and pyninc.org.

For more information about internships, visit workreadyphila.com and pyninc.org.

Classifieds

Continued from page 1

Philadelphia and throughout the region.

“We think this is an excellent service for Philadelphia’s legal community,” said Bar Association Executive Director Kenneth Shear. “And we’re launching this new service with a special introductory offer: Free ads for a limited time.”

Bar Classifieds will be available beginning in early April. Stay tuned to the Bar’s Web site and Bar Reporter Online for the official launch announcement.

Placing an ad on Bar Classifieds can be done in three easy steps: create the ad; preview the ad; and submit the ad. The ad will appear on the Web site instantly – no waiting for printing schedules or newspaper deadlines.

“We’re excited about this opportunity to provide a first-rate Web site for the legal community,” said Shear.
In-House Counsel Reveal Ups, Downs of Jobs

By Heather J. Holloway

There are pros and cons to in-house employment and they vary, depending on the size of the corporation. Grace Manno and Lauren Brown, both employed by Comcast Cable and Laurie White of CSS Industries shared their views during a recent meeting of the Women in the Profession Committee.

According to Manno, in-house counsel compensation may be lower. Compensation is generally tied to the company’s success. In-house counsel generally receive better benefits, however, including medical premium subsidies and stocks. Her perks include free cable TV and Internet service. Brown said firm and in-house counsel are distinguishable, as the former is a moneymaking asset of her firm and the latter is overhead for her company.

In-house counsel do not have billable hour requirements. White’s clients are not concerned about billable hours but are concerned that projects are completed quickly with minimal use of costly resources, such as electronic databases. While in-house counsel have clients (i.e., the companies for which they work), the clients’ expectations are different. Firm clients pay a significant amount of money to have their counsel available nearly 24 hours per day. The same expectation does not exist, according to Brown, for in-house counsel, who are better able to predict their schedules and are not expected to work late-night and weekend hours. In-house counsel are under greater pressure to be available during core business hours, Brown said.

Firm clients expect that their attorneys are experts who will advise them on how best to legally achieve the result that they are seeking, whatever that result. In-house counsel are under a greater pressure to know the business side, as well as the substantive law. Their clients often view them as an impediment to achieving their goals. Addressing the question of obtaining and retaining a corporate client’s business, the panelists advised attendees to put themselves in the shoes of the clients. Outside counsel should remember that in-house counsel are measured on their ability to keep their costs, including outside counsel costs, low. Outside counsel should be careful to follow the client’s billing and reporting policies.

Attorneys seeking in-house employment should position themselves in a practice that will transfer easily to an in-house position. Manno said most in-house legal departments are small and smaller in-house legal departments tend to provide their attorneys with more of a general practice and less of an opportunity to specialize. In-house counsel generally operate with very little oversight compared to their in-firm counterparts, whose work is often subject to review. Attorneys looking to transition to an in-house position should also consider their intended career path. In-house counsel strive to become general counsel, of which there is only one. Their firm colleagues who strive to become partners have more opportunities to do so. Manno cautioned that it is easier to find an in-house employment opportunity than it is to return to a firm after working in-house.

Women in the Profession Committee Co-Chair Danielle Banks (from left) is joined by panelists Grace Manno, Lauren Brown and Lori White and Committee Co-Chair Maria Feeley at the Committee’s Feb. 25 meeting.

HAP Annual Benefit April 24

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, along with Dechert LLP, PECO and Saul Ewing LLP, will present the Homeless Advocacy Project’s annual April Benefit on Thursday, April 24 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. in the Conservatory at the Park Hyatt Philadelphia at the Bellevue, Broad and Walnut streets.

All proceeds from the April Benefit go to support HAP, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides free legal services to homeless individuals and families.

More than 300 attorneys, paralegals and law students currently volunteer with HAP. Since HAP’s first legal clinic in December 1990, legal advocates have assisted more than 17,200 clients and have donated more than $20 million worth of legal services.

The April Benefit will feature complimentary cocktails and appetizers and an exclusive silent auction. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (215) 523-9995 or visit homelessadvocacyproject.org.
Laura A. Feldman, a partner at Feldman, Supreme Court in the future. and she may be planning a run for the Superior Court is her final stop interest service. She has left open whether she brings a rich background of public needed diversity to the Superior Court, her race.

What she lacked in resources, she made little money to support her campaign. running of the Republican Party and with run for Superior Court without the back-up from Democrat to Republican. In 2006, in her changing her party affiliation successful run for the Supreme Court was of a statewide election. Her 2003 unsuc-

Judge Allen continued from page 10

Court. She won her seat on the bench during the next election, becoming the second African American elected to the Pittsburgh Court of Common Pleas, the first being Justice Cynthia Baldwin. After 10 years on the bench, the majority of which were served in Juvenile Court, Judge Allen sought the challenge of a statewide election. Her 2003 unsuccessful run for the Supreme Court was an eye opening experience which resulted in her changing her party affiliation from Democrat to Republican. In 2006, with openings on both the Supreme and Superior Courts she made the decision to run for Superior Court without the back ing of the Republican Party and with little money to support her campaign. What she lacked in resources, she made up for in a natural ability to campaign and relate to the voters. This was an unstoppable combination as she won 42 of 62 counties in the commonwealth and received the highest number of votes in her race.

Not only does Judge Allen bring much needed diversity to the Superior Court, she brings a rich background of public interest service. She has left open whether the Superior Court is her final stop and she may be planning a run for the Supreme Court in the future.

Laura A. Feldman, a partner at Feldman and Pitts, is chair of the Public Interest Section.

Bar-News Media continued from page 11

what we’re determining is what the public already knows, where we can provide them more information, and then go beyond and actually offer an opinion,” Jackson said.

Phillips added that as a local reporter, she needs to know how a story is going to affect her, personally. “If something is going to affect each and every American, tell me how it’s going to affect me,” she said.

“Bring it down to the man-on-the-street level. Forget about the law,” she added, “and just tell me what does it mean to me?”

The advice to tone down the law was a common theme from all the panelists. “Words like ‘tort’ mean nothing to me,” said Jones. “You need to present information at a 4th- or 5th-grade level so that an audience can get it in the short time they have.”

Panelists were also asked about utilizing attorneys as resources for story ideas and for expert opinions. “I need people who can talk,” said Phillips. “You might be an expert, but if you’re dull or boring I can’t use you.”

Upshur added that radio personalities need to be concise. “Can you break down what you just told me in 15-30 seconds for my listeners,” she asked, “and can you do it in laymen’s terms?”

“Both Jackson and Jones stressed the importance of reaching out to the media to offer resources and not always to push a news item. “We go to the lawyers who come to us,” said Jones, “and the time to get to know reporters is when things are slow. Call us and tell us what you’re an expert in.” “Be a resource,” Jackson added. “And give us a better understanding of something not just for notoriety or attribution.” All of the panelists agreed that attorneys who let them know they can be called on for advice and information have the strongest relationship with the media.
Eidel Receives VIP’s March Honors

This month Philadelphia VIP recognizes Michael Eidel, a partner with DLA Piper, for his outstanding volunteer assistance to his VIP clients.

Eidel has been a volunteer with Philadelphia VIP since 2007, representing clients in civil forfeiture cases. In a recent case, Eidel was concerned with a response from his client in time for a deadline and sent a personal message to try to locate the client. After repeated attempts and an offer to visit the client at her home personally, Eidel successfully communicated with the client about the case. The case was eventually settled and dismissed, securing the home for the VIP client.

Eidel recently took another forfeiture case that required very quick action with an emergency deadline. As a partner at a large firm with a demanding schedule, he makes time to personally communicate with his VIP clients while representing them. He is exceptionally patient and flexible in assisting VIP clients that often are also dealing with many other legal and personal issues concurrently.

For his tremendous dedication, VIP gives its heartfelt thanks to Michael Eidel and recognizes him as March’s Volunteer of the Month.

Philadelphia VIP understands the demands and time constraints that our volunteer attorneys face. VIP values all volunteers and recognize with this honor those who handle multiple VIP cases, dedicate numerous hours to complex matters and take on cases outside of their general practice area. Philadelphia VIP volunteers serve clients with compassion and offer them assistance. Philadelphia VIP is proud to recognize volunteers who are helping achieve access to justice for all.

Bar Foundation

Supporting Those Who Support City’s Artists

To paraphrase the National Endowment for the Arts and Humanities, “A great city deserves great art.” One of the ways to support the people who create that art – the dancers, actors, artists, writers and musicians – is to ensure that the arts and cultural organizations and the artists who populate them have access to justice.

Serving on “the front lines” in this support effort is the Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, one of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation’s grant recipients. This non-profit agency realizes its mission – to provide pro bono legal assistance, educational programs and business counseling to artists and cultural organizations – through a range of services: LegalLine phone consultations, ArtFax document reviews, full-service legal representation and legal clinics. Educational programs are offered on different legal issues for artists, arts administrators and attorneys.

One such event was the recent continuing legal education program, Cultural Heritage, Museum Ethics, and the Law: Philadelphia Reflects the Global Debate, presented in conjunction with the Cultural Heritage Center and the Penn Museum.

PVLA recruits attorneys from many law firms across Philadelphia to provide a variety of legal services. As Director Kathleen Carignan puts it, “A lot of lawyers are interested in entertainment law, and we offer an opportunity for them to gain some experience in this area.” Sometimes the work is exciting and “sexy,” but sometimes it just involves nuts and bolts legal issues. Resolving these issues, though, is crucial to the artistic endeavor.

For example, one of the more than 600 attorneys who volunteer for PVLA might work with an independent filmmaker who needs help with a tax issue or a first-time author who would not be able to complete his book without legal assistance to obtain releases from the subjects who inspired the book.

Understanding the economic impact of arts and culture on a city, PVLA attorneys have helped incorporate both non-profit and for-profit entities. One recent case involved a musician who wanted to start a production company so he could locally produce music and commercials. PVLA helped him set up an LLC so he could not only stay in Philadelphia but potentially bring business to the city.

“One of the nice things about working with the Bar Foundation is that they know what we do,” said Carignan. Often, with other funders, PVLA is competing against arts organizations for support, and foundations don’t understand how offering legal services to artists adds “secondary value” to the arts and culture community.

“The staff and board of the Bar Foundation understand the work of public interest legal organizations,” Carignan explained. “I don’t have to describe why what we do is important.”

Although PVLA receives contributions from law firms and has gotten earmarks from the Raising the Bar campaign, it doesn’t get the kind of funding some of the other public interest legal agencies in Philadelphia get. “We’re small compared to some of the other organizations.”

This makes the Bar Foundation funds all the more important. And, because the funding received from the Foundation is unrestricted, it has helped not only with direct legal services but also with underwriting free education programs that have helped thousands of lawyers learn about the cutting edge legal issues facing the arts and cultural community.

In March, the Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia integrated the operations and programs of the Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts into its banner of services to the regional arts, business and legal communities. This new relationship will allow PVLA to expand and enhance the valuable legal support it has been providing for the past 30 years.

With PVLA, the Arts & Business Council will be able to provide a seamless suite of business and legal services and resources that will support the growth potential of individual artists and arts and cultural organizations, as well as deepen participation by the business and legal sectors.

“We are pleased and excited to welcome our colleagues and the volunteers of PVLA as we join forces. The practice of law is an integral part of the Philadelphia business community, and the integration of PVLA services maximizes the capabilities of the Arts & Business Council, reinforcing its unique position within Greater Philadelphia,” said Stephen S. Aichele, chair of the Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia Board of Directors.

As John F. Kennedy said, “If art is to nourish the roots of our culture, society must set the artist free to follow his vision wherever it takes him.” The freedom of expression exercised by artists is a critical measure of the health and vitality of a society. The Philadelphia Bar Foundation is proud to support the legal services that give the artists of our community the freedom and security in which to create their art.

Elaine Rinaldi, a partner at Cozen O’Connor, is president of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation.

For information about the Bar Foundation or to make a contribution, please visit philadelphiabar.org.

WebCheck

By Elaine Rinaldi

Eidel Receives VIP’s March Honors

Michael Eidel

By Elaine Rinaldi

For information about the Bar Foundation or to make a contribution, please visit philadelphiabar.org.

Golf Classic July 15; Hamilton Gala Nov. 1

The Philadelphia Bar Foundation’s 20th Annual Golf Classic will be held at The ACE Club in Lafayette Hill on Tuesday, July 15.

The Bar Foundation’s 30th Annual Andrew Hamilton Gala will be held Saturday, Nov. 1 at the 23rd Street Armory, 22 S. 23rd St.

Both events will raise money to support the Foundation’s mission of making available legal services for those who need, but cannot afford representation.

For information on sponsorships and reservations, contact Lynne Brown at lbrown@philabar.org or call 215-238-6347.

Eidel Receives VIP’s March Honors

Michael Eidel

Volunteer of the Month.

Philadelphia VIP understands the demands and time constraints that our volunteer attorneys face. VIP values all volunteers and recognize with this honor those who handle multiple VIP cases, dedicate numerous hours to complex matters and take on cases outside of their general practice area. Philadelphia VIP volunteers serve clients with compassion and offer them assistance. Philadelphia VIP is proud to recognize volunteers who are helping achieve access to justice for all.
Philadelphia VIP Honors Top Volunteers

Philadelphia VIP honored its outstanding volunteers for 2006 and 2007 at a Feb. 21 ceremony at City Hall.

These awards honor the law firms, individual lawyers, pro bono legal services and programs, businesses, corporate legal departments, and government organizations making significant contributions of time and services critical to the success of Philadelphia VIP.

The Justice William C. Brennan Award recipients represent a broad cross section of Philadelphia’s legal community -- from the very small to the very large firm. The firm, corporate, and individual Chancellor’s Award recipients also include almost every conceivable law firm specialty from Philadelphia’s legal community.

VIP provides free civil legal services to low income clients by recruiting and training volunteer lawyers to handle pro bono cases without charge to those clients. VIP also assists non-profit organizations and small businesses that serve the needs of low-income people through their LawWorks project. This year marks VIP’s 27th year of service.

VIP presented the Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. Award to Dechert LLP; Feldman, Shepherd, Woiglerner, Tanner & Weinstock; Gay Chacker & Mitten; Pepper Hamilton LLP; Dean E. Weisgold; Weinstock; Gay Chacker & Mitten; Pepperman, Shepherd, Wohlgelernter, Tanner & Brennan, Jr. Award to Dechert LLP; Feldman’s firm received a Justice William J. Brennan Award at the program.

The Corporate (in-house counsel) recipient of the Chancellor’s Award was GlassSmithKline, while individuals honored included David C. Berman; Edward Blumstein; David R. Dearden; Stewart Harvey & Gilboy LLP; Weinberg & Sklar; Kaplan, Schaer & Todd; and Zarwin, Baum, Devito, Segal & Lewis LLP; Smith & Horowitz; Reed Smith LLP; Schnader Harrison P.C.; Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, LLP; Weisgold; and Julia R. Solomon.

The Chancellor’s Award was presented to the following law firms: Abrahams, Leventstein & Busch, P.C.; Astor Weiss Kaplan & Mandel, LLP; Berner & Klaw; Blank Rome LLP; Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC; Eisenberg, Rothweiler, Winkler, Eisenberg & Jeck, P.C.; Feldman & Pinto; Law Offices of Michael E. Fingerman; Haines & Associates; Kovler & Rush, P.C.; McCann & Geschke, P.C.; McCarter & English, LLP; McEldrew & Fullam, P.C.; Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, LLP; Reed Smith LLP; Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP; Smith & Horowitz; Teeters Harvey & Gilboy LLP; Weinstein Schleifer & Kupersmith P.C.; Zajac & Arias; and Zarwin, Baum, Devito, Kaplan, Schaer & Todd, P.C.

The Corporate (in-house counsel) recipient of the Chancellor’s Award was GlassSmithKline, while individuals honored included David C. Berman; Edward Blumstein; David R. Dearden; Kimberly E. Dolan; Leslie Love Engle; Shanae L. Johnson; Jennifer Field Kelley; Elinore Kolodner; John A. MacEwan; Jay Meyers; Riki R. Redente; Howard M. Solomon; Larrick Stapleton; Deborah Stewart; Samuel E. Streton; and Heath C. Winett.

VIP’s Pro Bono Program Award went to Villanova Lawyering Together Program; Villanova Civil Justice Clinic; Penn Legal Assistance Office; Family Law Section Mentoring Program; Temple University Beasley School of Law - Office of Public Interest Programs; and Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association.

The Business Recognition Award was presented to Accurac Search and Abstract Services, Inc.; Cartographic Modeling University of Pennsylvania; Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation; The Legal Intelligencer; Pitney Bowes Management Services; Reliable; Royal Court Reporting; and Warren Levisoff, P.L.

VIP’s Legal Services Recognition Award went to Community Legal Services’ Energy Unit and Philadelphia Legal Assistance’s Intake Unit.

VIP’s Peoples’ Choice Awards were presented to Claire Favette; Heather A. Ritch; Carole A. Sheffield; Thomas E. Zernaitis; Craig R. Gottlieb; and Suzanne E. Root.

The Government Recognition Award was presented to Office of Housing and Community Development; Charles A. Mapp Sr; and the Department of Records.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Note: While the following listings have been verified prior to press time, any scheduled event may be subject to change by the committee or section chairs.

**Tuesday, April 1**
Law Practice Management Division: meeting, 8 a.m., 11th floor Conference Center.
Professional Responsibility Committee: meeting, 8:30 a.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Compulsory Arbitration Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $7.50.
Committee on the Legal Rights of Persons with Disabilities: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room.
Philadelphia Bar Foundation Board of Trustees: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

**Wednesday, April 2**
Delivery of Legal Services Committee: meeting, 8:30 a.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Rules and Procedure Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50.
Intellectual Property Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $7.50.

**Thursday, April 3**
Health Care Law Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $8.50.
Civil Rights Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50.

**Friday, April 4**
Workers’ Compensation Section Executive Committee: meeting, 10:30 a.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.
Workers’ Compensation Section: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center.

**Monday, April 7**
Family Law Section: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50.
Law Practice Management Division Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.

**Tuesday, April 8**
Criminal Justice Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Solo and Small Firm Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50.

**Wednesday, April 9**
Appellate Courts Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50.

**Thursday, April 10**
Legislative Liaison Committee: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th floor Conference Room South. Lunch: $7.50.
Public Interest Section: Civil Gideon plenary session, 4 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center.

**Friday, April 11**
The Philadelphia Lawyer magazine Editorial Board: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

**Monday, April 14**
Business Law Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Young Lawyers Division Cabinet: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Cabinet Room.

**Tuesday, April 15**
Cabinet: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

**Wednesday, April 16**
Federal Courts Committee: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50.
Committee to Promote Fairness in the Legal System: meeting, 4 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.
LegalLine: 5 p.m., 11th floor LRIS offices.

**Thursday, April 17**
Probate and Trust Section Executive Committee: meeting, 9 a.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Law Practice Management Division Technology Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50.
Family Law Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.

**Friday, April 18**
Social Security Disability Benefits Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50.

**Monday, April 21**
Public Interest Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

**Tuesday, April 22**
Bar-News Media Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center.
Register online for most events at philadelphiabar.org. Unless otherwise specified, all checks for luncheons and programs should be made payable to the Philadelphia Bar Association and mailed to Bar Headquarters, 1101 Market St., 11th fl., Philadelphia, Pa. 19107-2955. Send Bar Association-related calendar items 30 days in advance to Managing Editor, Philadelphia Bar Reporter, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19107-2955. Fax: (215) 238-1159. E-mail: reporter@philabar.org.

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5K Run/Walk

continued from page 3

& Smalley, P.C.; Caesar, Rivise, Bernstein, Cohen & Pokotilow, Ltd.; Cozen O’Connor; DL Piper; Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP; Fox Rothschild LLP; Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Goggin; Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP; Nea A. Morris Associates, P.C.; Pepper Hamilton LLP; PaternFestra; Raynes McCarty; Sands & Associates, P.C.; Schander Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP; Semanoff Ornshy Greenberg & Torchio, LLC; WeinBlck; Woodcock, Washburn LLP and Zarwin, Baum, Devito, Kaplan, Scher & Todd, P.C. In addition to the legal sponsors, the law firms of Bennett, Bricklin & Saulsbury; FlasterGreenberg P.C.; and Bradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP have contributed to the Run as legal supporters.

Everyone who participates will receive a t-shirt. After the run there will be a variety of refreshments, giveaways and other activities that are fun for the entire family.

Anyone interested in running or walking may obtain a race application for team registration is May 9, 2008. To register for the 2008 5K Run/Walk, visit active.com and search for Philadelphia Bar Association.

Law firms and companies may enter teams in the 5K run by calling Michael Berkowitz at (215) 567-2010, extension 132 or e-mailing mbberkowitz@crbpc. com for team applications. The deadline for team registration is May 9, 2008.
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In Their Own Words

Enjoy Pleasantries of Life Away From the Law

By Judge Jacqueline Allen

As a board member of the Barnes Foundation, I am aware that that the real work and vision of the Foundation, as conceived by its founder, Dr. Albert C. Barnes, is too often obscured by the ongoing legal issues and rampant misconceptions about the Foundation and Barnes himself. First and foremost, the Foundation’s mission is “to promote the advancement of education and the appreciation of fine arts.” The Foundation is a resource for exploration of aesthetics and ideas, of diversity and democracy. These are pursuits worthy of exploration by all, especially we lawyers.

I recently became aware of a small but interesting part of the Foundation’s archives consisting of the correspondence between Dr. Barnes and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Owen J. Roberts, which represents the historical evidence of a friendship spanning 30 years. Interestingly, Dr. Barnes employed the future Supreme Court justice to write his will.

I learned a lot about these men from the surprisingly candid letters. Both men had wide and varied interests, and their discussions ranged from the arrangement of art and metalwork in the Barnes Foundation galleries to current legal news. The two men also discussed their respective farms, both in Chester County. In a letter dated Feb. 28, 1943, Barnes even requested Roberts’ advice regarding the growing of crops for the war effort at Barnes’ farm, which he called Ker-Feal: “To Ker-Feal’s 140 acres, we added Philip’s 45 acres, got a good farmer… and will grow soy beans, tomatoes, peas and alfalfa. I expect this summer to do your stunt part of the time – straw hat, dirty pants, sunshine.”

Of particular interest to me, the correspondence indicates both men expended considerable effort and energy on the issue of the education of African Americans. We know from Barnes’ childhood recollections, his experiments in education in his company’s factory during the first two decades of the 20th century, his involvement with the Harlem Renaissance in the 1920s, and his relationship with Lincoln University (my alma mater) at the end of the 1940s until his death in 1951, that his was a life-long commitment to assisting and speaking out for African Americans in every area of need. The Barnes-Roberts correspondence suggests that Roberts shared this commitment.

In a 1947 letter to Barnes, Roberts discusses his involvement with an effort to raise money for the United Negro College Fund. Along with the likes of Thomas A. Morgan, John D. Rockefeller Jr. and Walter Annenberg, he attempted to enlist Barnes’ support. The letter reveals Roberts’ concern about “certain problems which we all face in connection with race relations.”

The last letter we have between the two men is from Barnes dated Feb. 27, 1950. The letter contains a verse from an 1845 hymn by William Wallford, a blind minister from England.

“Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer
That calls me from a world of care
And bids me at my Father’s throne
Make all my wants and wishes known.
In seasons of distress and grief
My soul has often found relief
And oft escaped the tempter’s snare
By thy return sweet hour of prayer.”

It ends with a simple statement from Barnes: “I have missed the pleasant times we used to have together. Sincerely, ACB.”

I hope that we lawyers remember to take time to enjoy the pleasantries of life through exploration of aesthetics and ideas other than law. Like Barnes, such “pleasant times” will aid us in improving our world now and long after our souls find relief.

Jacqueline F. Allen is a judge on the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, having been elected to the bench in 1993 and retained in 2004. She presently sits in the Civil Division as a team leader. She was appointed to the Barnes Foundation Board of Trustees in 2002.

Naturalization Speakers

John E. Savoth (left) and Chancellor A. Michael Pratt join U.S. District Court Judge Cynthia M. Rufe at a Feb. 21 naturalization ceremony. Judge Rufe presided over the ceremony and both Pratt and Savoth addressed the 96 new American citizens, who came from 41 different countries. The event was sponsored by the Bar Association.

Diversity

translated to about 60 cents for every dollar earned by their similarly educated black male colleagues in private practice. Given that black male attorneys earn only 70 cents for every dollar earned by white male attorneys of the same education and work experience, one can easily project that black women attorneys receive only 47 cents for every dollar paid to their white male attorney counterparts.” (Minority Corporate Counseling Corporation, The Myth of Meritocracy: A Report on the Bridges and Barriers to Success in Large Law Firms, 2003)

The bottom line is that diversity is a strategic initiative that enhances any business’ bottom line. Diversity, when implemented from a strategic and purposeful perspective, allows firms, businesses and companies to utilize the best of all employees to increase business and enhance client relations.

William Cavanaugh, former CEO of Carolina Power & Light (Progress Energy), has said “From where we are today, we can see many opportunities before us. And we have the benefit of evaluating them through the prism of diversity. We have more innovative ideas to draw from. We benefit from shades of interpretation that less diverse organizations might not see. We have different points of view that result in different ideas. We identify alternate ways to reach the same conclusion. We place trust in our decisions because we know they are grounded in the strength of our diversity.”

Sean Kathleen Lincoln, Ph.D., is director of the Office for Diversity of the Philadelphia Bar Association.
I’ve arrived at Spanish restaurants in Washington, D.C., New York, and San Francisco, and would have likened them to the Spanish Armada. The entrées come at you heftily, favoring foods whose quality seems like ballast. The meals sink to the bottom of your stomach in a storm of smoking failure. But the Armada occurred 420 years ago, when King Philip of Spain tried to conquer Queen Elizabeth of England, thinking he had the advantage II to I. Notwithstanding, the lighter, quicker and more versatile English ships (especially in the stormy weather) outmaneuvered Spain’s fatty flotilla in a victorious “Fire Sail.” The inscription at St. Paul’s cathedral in Britain remains, “God blew and they were scattered.”

The Spanish “Amada” is quite another story. Chef José Garces has determined that lighter, quicker and more versatile tapas’ tastes are the future. From ballast to bliss, Latin-American Garces has become an Old City icon, with this restaurant distinguished by authentic Andalusian-inspired repasts.

One enters through a small foyer’s velvet curtain, into a bustling, lantern-lit space. The lightning throws clear rays and quietly explaining seating arrangements and menu items or choices. To one’s immediate left is a humungous bronze pig, whose happily squiggling tail belies the fact that his sort may be roasted and suckling in short order. To one’s right at the window are two six-seater mahogany tables, whose legs and accompanying chairs are nestled upon rocks. Pounce there if you can, and reserve them if possible. Because almost all other seating areas require that at least a few in each party must place her or his tusky onto an overly cushy banquette. The table becomes neck-high. In order to be seen or heard, you have to raise your hands with castanets blazing. Propping a pillow seems and feels improper. There are some lovely back rooms, past the open kitchen, with more chairs available, or the bar area for perusal;

“La Mesa De José” is a must at $45 per person for the table. Allow this fine chef to select a special tapas menu at his discretion. Disappointment is impossible.

and artichokes, to culminate the variety of culinary cacophony.

Plates and platters are cleared promptly and courteously, but only after each set of servings have been devoured. Fresh new silverware is brought at every turn. Tiny harpoon-like spears are made individually available when seafood pieces or meat slices are to be shared. Service is as harmonious and lively as an aria from Carmen.

Feasts to Famine

Amada’s Spanish Accent Pleases Your Palate

By Skinny D’Bockel

Amada Restaurant
217-219 Chestnut St.
(215) 625-2450
amadarestaurant.com

ACCORDING TO...

How Do You Pass the Time While Commuting to Work Every Day?

“I read recreationally on the way to work. Right now I’m reading something by Jackie Collins. I like to get my brain working before I get into the office every day.”

– Nikki Johnson-Huston

“I have about 25 minutes to kill on the R3 in each direction, so I read the Philadelphia Daily News. In the morning, I read the sports section. On the way home, I do the sudoku and the crossword.”

– Allen R. Bunker

“I read the Metro, and do the Metro sudoku and crossword while listening to music on my MP3 (now it’s Steve Forbert and David Byrne), and drink hot, strong coffee. Same as it ever was!”

– Joyce Horikawa

 philadelphiabar.org April 2008 Philadelphia Bar Reporter 25

Skinny D’Bockel, a sole practitioner, is a contributing editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter. Find his reviews online at bockol.com.
Lawrence J. Beaser, a partner with Blank Rome LLP and former Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, has been named chair-elect of The Philadelphia Bar Foundation.

Jacqueline Canter and Lary I. Zucker, shareholders with Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Goggin, have agreed to serve on the Charter Board of the National Retail and Restaurant Defense Association.

Brenda Husty Gotanda, a partner at Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP, has been elected chair of the Radnor Township Environmental Advisory Committee. Gotanda has served on the EAC since 2005.

Robert W. Bucknam Jr., a partner with Archer & Greiner, P.C., law firm, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity Atlantic County, N.J.

Maryellen Feehery Hank, a partner with Reed Smith LLP, was a panelist at the Feb. 12 seminar “Intellectual Property – Taking Your Idea into a Business” sponsored by the Entrepreneurs Forum of Greater Philadelphia.

Robert Szwajkos of Curtin & Heffner LLP headed a group of American lawyers who traveled to Poland recently on a cultural exchange visit sponsored by the Jagiellonian Law Society of Pennsylvania and New Jersey.


Gary Bressler, a member of Eckert Seaman Cherin & Mellott, LLC, recently participated in a panel discussion at the Annual Forum for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania Bankruptcy Conference.

Richard Negrin, vice president, associate general counsel and a member of the executive leadership council of ARAMARK, has been named to the Philadelphia Foundation Board of Managers.

Alfredo M. Sergio, an associate with Sermanoff Ormsby Greenberg & Torchia, LLC, has been elected to a one-year term on the Board of Directors of the Greater Hatboro Chamber of Commerce.

Paul Czech, principal partner in the Law Offices of Paul A. Czech, PC, was an invited speaker at MIDEM, the largest music business conference in the world in Cannes, France on Jan. 28.

Michael C. Gross, a partner with Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP, addressed attorneys, business owners, project managers, engineers, architects, developers, planners, and real estate professionals on environmental due diligence and permitting issues at “Zoning and Land Use in Pennsylvania,” presented by Lorman Education Services on March 5 in Allentown, Pa.

Michael A. Schwartz, a partner with Pepper Hamilton LLP, has been appointed by Philadelphia Mayor Michael A. Nutter as chair of a newly formed assessment team that is evaluating the status of Philadelphia Safe and Sound, a city-funded nonprofit organization responsible for contracting out protective services for children that has come under public scrutiny in recent weeks.

Claudia Z. Springer, an associate with Cozen O’Connor, recently was honored by the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for her volunteer work for the organization.

Andrew B. Cohn and Joshua C. Quinter of Kaplin Stewart Meloff Reiter & Stein, P.C., recently presented a program to the members of the Subcontractors Association of the Delaware Valley on the new 2007 AIA Construction Documents, the newly issued Consensus Contract Documents and the impact of these documents on the construction industry.

David L. Hyman, managing partner of Kleinbard Bell & Brecker LLP, received the 2008 Judge Learned Hand Award from the American Jewish Committee of Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey on March 12.

Robert Jacobs-Meadoway, a member of Eckert Seaman Cherin and Mellott, LLC, served as co-chair of the American Law Institute-American Bar Association seminar “Litigating Trademark, Internet and Unfair Competition Cases,” on Feb. 28 and 29 in New Orleans.


Robert L. Freedman, a partner with Dechert LLP, has obtained sufficient signatures to be a petition candidate for election to Harvard University’s Board of Overseers.

**NAMES ARE NEWS**

“People” highlights news of members’ awards, honors or appointments of a community or civic nature. Information may be sent to Jeff Upp, Senior Managing Editor, Philadelphia Bar Reporter, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th fl., Philadelphia, Pa. 19107-2955. Fax: (215) 238-1159. E-mail: reporter@philbar.org. Color photos are also welcome.
PRESTIGE AND PERFORMANCE. Each inspired by its own “winged B” symbol, Breitling and Bentley share the same concern for perfection. The same extreme standards of reliability, precision and authenticity. The same unique blend of prestige and performance. Whether in the Breitling workshops or in the Bentley factory in Crewe, cutting-edge technology is placed in the service of noble traditions. Symbolising this communion of ideals, Breitling participated in styling the instrumentation of the Bentley Continental models, the most powerful ever built by Bentley.

EXCLUSIVITY AND TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE. For devotees of fine mechanisms, Breitling has created a line of exceptional chronographs named “Breitling for Bentley”. Representing the culmination of sophisticated aesthetic research, these wrist instruments mirror the signature features of the famous British car manufacturer. Dedicated to the automobile world, they incorporate several exclusive technical characteristics, including a variable tachometer, and are propelled by high-performance “motors” patiently assembled by watchmakers at the peak of their art. Time is the ultimate luxury.
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