The deadline to receive the early-bird registration discount for the Association’s 2006 Bench-Bar Conference is Tuesday, Aug. 14. Online registration is available at philadelphiabar.org.

The 2006 Bench-Bar Conference, to be held at the Tropicana Casino and Resort in Atlantic City, N.J., on Sept. 29 and 30, will feature 19 different programs with up to 7.5 hours of CLE credit and all-star panels. One-day Bench-Bar Conference packages also are available, as are individual tickets to the Friday, Sept. 29 Grand Reception. The Bench-Bar Conference brings together the

October Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon
Former Irish President Robinson to Address Association Oct. 30

by Beth Huffman

Mary Robinson, the first woman to serve as president of Ireland and the former United Nations high commissioner for human rights, will deliver the keynote address at the Philadelphia Bar Association’s October Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon on Monday, Oct. 30 at the Park Hyatt Philadelphia at the Bellevue.

“It’s fitting that on the day we celebrate the achievements of women in our profession, we are honored to have Mary Robinson as our keynote speaker at our October Quarterly Luncheon. As the first woman president of Ireland and the United Nations high commissioner for human rights, as well as an accomplished barrister, Ms. Robinson has been a world leader in the struggle to promote the fundamental rights of all people,” Chancellor Alan M. Feldman said. “We look forward to hearing from this global opinion leader, who has made a difference for so many throughout the world.”

The Association also will present its annual Sandra Day O’Connor Award and Justice William J. Brennan Distinguished Juris Award at the event. Tickets are $50 and can be purchased online at philadelphiabar.org.

A longtime champion of human rights, Robinson has been outspoken during her career as an advocate for the rights of women, the availability of contraceptives, and the rights of gays and lesbians.

After becoming the youngest Reid Professor of Constitutional Law at Trinity College in 1969, Robinson was elected to the Irish Senate, where she served for 20 years. She campaigned for the right of women to sit on juries and fought against the requirement that all women upon marriage resign from civil service.

She became the first Labour Party woman to be elected to the Irish Senate.

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Aiding Homeless
Milestone Donation
Dover Judge Speaks Out
Attorney Authors
O’Connor Award
Bylaw Amendments

Bench-Bar Discount Available till Aug. 14

by Jeff Lyons

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FROM THE $200’S TO OVER $1 MILLION
“English-Only” Sends Wrong Message

by Alan M. Feldman

This is America. Only those who know English should read this article. Silly? Of course. It’s at least as silly as the non-famous sign at Geno’s. Steam in South Philadelphia, which instructed customers to order only in English (although chances are that if they couldn’t speak English, they probably couldn’t read the sign either). And while the story of Geno’s proprietor Jerry Vento and his English only sign has been discussed by local, national and international media and bloggers to near-saturation levels, I suggest that the larger issues raised by the sign, and the emotional (and divisive) reaction it engendered, warrant further consideration.

As we all know, America is different from virtually every other country on Earth. It’s not just a sound bite to say that we are a nation of immigrants; we really are Americans because we, or our ancestors, made the decision to come here (although it must be acknowledged that for some, the decision was made against their will by others). Our rich diversity is underscored for every Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, who by tradition offers remarks at naturalization ceremonies that periodically occur at the federal courthouse on ceilings and Market Streets, just last month, with U.S. District Court Judge Eduardo Robreno presiding, I had the opportunity to address 118 new citizens from 44 different countries. Even though their knowledge of English was imperfect, I could say to these new Americans that our Constitution does not limit citizenship by background or birth or English language proficiency. Instead, we are bound together not by such cosmetics but by our shared values, including our love for freedom, our commitment to democracy and our appreciation for the human dignity of every person.

As the cradle of liberty of our nation, Philadelphia has a special opportunity to welcome immigrants and others for whom English is not a first language. Last year, then-Chancellor Andy Cheer placed the Philadelphia Bar Association squarely at the forefront of that movement, by offering Association programs and services in multiple languages, and by setting out the legal community’s welcome mat for the thousands of non-English speaking folks who are part of the fabric of this wonderful, diverse City.

And that’s the way it should be. In an urban area that considers itself to be a true international city, it is up to each and every one of us to practice tolerance and accommodation, particularly for those who have not yet mastered the English language or other American cultural practices. Can anyone really believe that demanding that newcomers to our shores talk like us (and look like us, and act like us) is appropriate, or even desirable? Is not the story of our country a million different stories which, woven together over time, have created this extraordinary amalgam we call America?

It may well be that the polarized political environment we are living in, and the battle lines being drawn over the issue of undocumented immigrants, is responsible for these provincial attitudes. Perhaps we should not be surprising in an era where some of our leaders declare “if you’re not with, you’re against.” That said, I respect the First Amendment right of Mr. Vento to put up a sign that seeks to have patrons order only in English. But the fact that we have a right to say things that are irresponsible and impolite does not mean that we should exercise that right. As Philadelphia lawyers, I hope that we can take the lead in our region in promoting tolerance, sensitivity, and respect for non-English speakers. Our greeting should be welcoming, not threatening; our invitation should be warm and friendly, not intimidating. It’s all in the message, and how it’s delivered. After all, would you like it if on a vacation to Rally or France, the restaurant or hotel you were visiting insisted that you speak only in the indigenous language?

For these reasons, we send the wrong message when we enact a statute proclaiming English to be the...
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Members of the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Bike-a-Thon team gather outside the National Constitution Center before the July 9 event. Nearly 150 people joined the Bar Association team for the 62.5-mile ride to Mays Landing, N.J.

Bar Team Raises $85,000 in ACS Bike-a-Thon

More than 140 riders donned the jersey of the Philadelphia Bar Association on July 9 and rode more than 60 miles to raise money for the American Cancer Society’s 34th Annual Bike-a-Thon.

Members of the Bar Association team were among the 4,600 riders who started at the foot of the Ben Franklin Bridge and rode to Lake Lenape Park in Mays Landing, N.J. The Bar Association team raised $85,000, helping the American Cancer Society in its goal to raise $1.6 million to fight cancer.

Riders must send in their donations by Aug. 15 for the donations to count toward the 2006 Bike-a-Thon campaign. Checks must be postmarked by Aug. 15 to count toward incentives, individual and team standings. Please mail check donations to: American Cancer Society, ATTN: Bike-a-Thon, 1626 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19103. Please write the rider’s name in the memo portion of the check.

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In 2005, nearly 100 Philadelphia residents were involuntarily committed to a mental health facility four or more times. Each resident was committed, adjudged to be a danger to herself or another person, treated as an inpatient with medication and therapy, and discharged – only to decompensate and end up in front of a mental health court judge three more times within the same year.

The Problems of the Homeless Committee was approached about this dilemma from Philadelphia’s Chief Mental Health Court Hearing Officer. Troubled that so many “frequent fliers” were appearing in her courtroom – and recognizing that many were in a perpetually state of homelessness – the chief hearing officer asked the committee to help find a solution to the problem. Led by Philadelphia lawyer Michael LiPuma, the committee lobbied the city to increase the number of supportive housing units currently available to the mentally ill homeless. By providing extensive, wraparound case management services, supportive housing programs enable the mentally ill homeless to live more stable lives with continued on page 16
Raising the Bar Campaign Tops 100 Firms

by Robert D. Lane Jr.

Just as the August edition of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter was going to press, we reached a major milestone in our Raising the Bar campaign: more than 100 firms have agreed to join us in this effort to increase funding for legal services here in Philadelphia. Each participating firm pledges a donation to the Bar Foundation and the local legal services organizations it funds in an amount equal to at least $300 for each attorney in the firm’s Philadelphia office.

A list of the organizations receiving funds through this Campaign is listed below. You will see this campaign will provide funding to a wide variety of organizations that are supplying critical legal services to Philadelphia.

Think about it – 100 firms! These 100 represent every kind of firm, from sole practitioners to multinational firms that have hundreds of attorneys just in their Philadelphia office. Corporate firms. Plaintiffs firms. Defense firms.

These firms represent more than 4,400 attorneys.

Some of these firms have traditions going back for centuries here in Philadelphia. Some firms have just recently opened a Philadelphia office with only a handful of attorneys. Other cities have tried similar fund-raising efforts for legal services. For instance, I know the New York Legal Aid Society recruited 61 firms for their "Sustaining Law Firm" campaign. Thanks to the outstanding efforts of our Chancellor Alan Feldman, and our committee co-chairs, Wendy Beetlestone and Kathleen Wilkinson, in less than six months, we’ve already recruited more firms in Philadelphia. Throughout my entire legal career, I’ve been involved with local organizations such as the Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, the Central Philadelphia Development Corporation, the Greene Towne School, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and many of our grantees. I know how difficult it is to create a fund-raising plan and then to assemble the team to put that plan into action and get re-continued on page 15
by Michael B. Hayes

A few months ago, the Executive Committee of the Young Lawyers Division unanimously passed an internal resolution creating a “Program for the Annual Voluntary Certification of Pro Bono Legal Services for Young Lawyers.” The YLD Voluntary Certification Program has dual, interrelated purposes. First, we hope that the Certification Program will encourage more YLD members to provide pro bono legal services to our community. Second, we wish to publicly recognize the often-unheralded volunteer efforts of our YLD members who work behind the scenes, using their legal acumen to represent those who cannot afford legal services, educate the public about the law and our profession, and provide assistance to charitable organizations.

The American Bar Association has issued a call for every attorney in the private practice of law to perform, at a minimum, 50 hours of pro bono legal service annually. Similarly, Rule 6.1 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Professional Conduct provides that lawyers “should render public interest legal service,” in the form of pro bono representations persons who cannot afford legal representation and/or “public service or charitable groups or organizations, by service in activities for improving the law, the legal system or the legal profession,” and by financial support to public interest legal organizations.

Heeding the ABA’s call to action, and in keeping with our ethical responsibilities as lawyers under Rule 6.1, the YLD Voluntary Certification Program provides that, commencing in January 2007, the YLD Executive Committee “shall make an annual, formal invitation to its members to submit online forms certifying their provision of at least 50 hours of pro bono legal services during the previous calendar year.”

For purposes of the YLD Voluntary Certification Program, “pro bono legal services” includes not only the provision of traditional legal services to those who are unable to pay, but also the provision of any other volunteer services to the community requiring the use of one’s legal acumen. This definition is purposely intended to include the provision of volunteer services (as counsel or board member) to charitable organizations, as well as the education of the public regarding the law and our profession. Not coincidentally, young lawyer volunteer efforts in furtherance of almost all of our public service YLD activities, including the high school mock trial competition (coaches, judges and jurors), lawyer in the classroom sessions, People’s Law School seminars, Legalline programs and Law Week events fall within the definition of “pro bono legal services” for purposes of the YLD Voluntary Certification Program.

As noted, in January 2007 the YLD will issue an invitation to all of our members to visit philadelphiabar.org and fill out a very brief form certifying their provision of at least 50 hours of pro bono legal services during calendar year 2006. We will then compile all of the online certifications and provide public recognition, in the Bar Reporter and elsewhere, to each of our YLD members who heeds the call to give.
Law Students, Section Working Together

by Jeff Lyons

The Business Law Section, along with faculty from the Temple University Beasley School of Law and the Young Lawyers Division, has begun an initiative to involve interested law students in the work of the section’s committees. Under the plan, students assist the committees with legal research, editing, drafting and web page development, among other things. Temple students will be the first to work with the committees, but section chair Albert S. Dandridge III hopes to expand the program to involve students from other law schools in the area. There are approximately 40 students involved with the program. “This is a pilot project right now. If it works well, maybe we’ll take it on the road,” Dandridge said.

“If Americans persist in not understanding the basics of how government works, there is virtually no shot that they will understand our legal system and how judges work.”

In my case, as it involved the Dover opinion, most of the reviews were good, and that of course was gratifying. Some of them were not so good. You haven’t lived until you’ve had Bill O’Reilly call you a fascist on national television or you’ve had Pat Robertson describe you as arrogant. Or if you have Phyllis Schlafly complain that you’ve stuck a knife in those who brought you to the dance,” Judge Jones said.

“The Dover case placed me, while it was on my docket, at what I liked to call ‘ground zero’ in a legal-cultural clash that attracted international attention. After I rendered my opinion, which I knew would be somewhat controversial, no matter how it was cast, I was able to sit back and observe how it was digested by the public and perhaps, most pointedly, how it was described by the punditry,” Judge Jones told the nearly 200 people in attendance.

“Without rule based on a fear of criticism. We call them as we see them. But as human beings, we are certainly cognizant of the reactions to our work. The judge, an appointee of President Bush, has been criticized by some Republicans for not ruling in favor of intelligent design, which they perceive to be a slip in the face to their conservative agenda.

“As judges and lawyers and interested parties, you know that what these other critics omitted in their analysis is the role of precedent and the rule of law as it relates to what we do. There is today amongst the public, I believe, a singular lack of understanding of the concept of judicial independence. Simply stated, it is now quite obvious to me that the great majority of folks out there do not know how judges go about doing their work,” he said.

About a month ago, Judge Jones said he appeared on a PBS television show in Harrisburg with U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Marjorie O. Rendell.

“Among many things that we agreed upon on that show was that judges perform their duties in a workmanlike fashion. You understand that at times we perform the laborious task of finding the facts and employing the law, including legal precedents as established by the higher courts. That’s what we do,” he said.

“Most people, I’m afraid and sorry to say, think that judges simply render ad hoc decisions. This, of course, is an absurd notion to all of you, but I will suggest that it is quite real, and that we had better start paying attention to fixing it,” said Judge Jones.

“If Americans persist in not understanding the basics of how government works, there is virtually no shot that they will understand our legal system and how judges work. That same lack of understanding of our fundamental rights makes it so much easier for them to be taken away. It is no wonder that our daily work and functioning as judges and lawyers is so grossly misunderstood by people.”

Today’s world of all-news networks, tabloids and sensationalism and provocative sound bytes features commentators and pundits urging Americans to get totally exercised about things at the drop of a hat, Judge Jones said. “Reactionary thoughts are too often the rule and not the exception.”

continued on page 8
ABA to Honor Shapiro, Shestack at Aug Meeting

U.S. District Court Senior Judge Norma L. Shapiro and retired Wolf Block partner Jerome J. Shestack will be honored by the American Bar Association at its 2006 Annual Meeting in Hawaii this month.

Judge Shapiro will receive the 2006 John Marshall Award in recognition of her exemplary lifelong commitment to dedication to the improvement of the administration of justice in the categories of judicial independence, justice system reform, and public awareness regarding the justice system.


Judge Shapiro was appointed to the United States District Court by President Jimmy Carter on Aug. 11, 1978 as the first woman judge to sit in the Third Circuit. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she was in private practice with Dechert LLP.

DOVER JUDGE

some would comment that this is simply individuals asserting their first amendment rights to speak out. But when the receiving public has a scant grasp or no grasp at all of how democracy, he said. “We as judges did not check all our first amendment rights at the door of our chambers when we became jurists. Our founding fathers envisioned an enlightened, educated public that could engage in a spirited debate. And I think this is a threat to the very fabric of our community through the provision of pro bono legal services.

Many of our members, I know, have already made the provision of pro bono legal services an integral part of their professional lives. We want to leverage your efforts, and we hope that you will take a few minutes in January to certify your pro bono legal service. If, for whatever reason, you haven’t yet made a personal commitment to make pro bono legal service a consistent part of your practice, I strongly urge you to take just five minutes, call a friend or colleague who is involved with pro bono legal service, and ask them about their experience.

There’s certainly no shortage of public service legal and other charitable organizations that could use your help and there’s always another YLD community service activity on the horizon that you can take part in.

Make a pledge, a personal pledge, to heed the call and provide at least 50 hours of pro bono legal service to others this year and every year.

We hope to see your name on our first annual YLD Pro Bono Legal Service Honor Roll in January 2007. If you have any questions about the YLD Voluntary Certification Program, please don’t hesitate to call me at (215) 772-7221.

YLD UPDATE

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In Their Own Words

Don’t Neglect Your Finances

by Pedro J. Rivera

Do you find it disheartening that attorneys do not take enough time to consider their financial goals? Attorneys, like most professionals, spend many hours taking care of their clients and, as a result, sometimes neglect to take care of themselves and their families.

The demands of our profession leave little or no time to execute a financial plan that reflects your personal goals, ambitions and aspirations. As a financial planner, I have witnessed situations where attorneys failed to be vigilant with regard to their financial plans and left their spouses and children in financial distress.

In one particular situation, a very successful attorney died unexpectedly with no financial plan in place for his family and, as a result, left his spouse and children without sufficient liquid assets to pay for taxes and other necessary expenses. The surviving spouse had to sell their home to pay for taxes and other expenses leaving her with insufficient funds for her to take care of herself and her children.

A well-qualified financial planner can assist you in sorting out your thoughts and provide you with alternative strategies that will work with your financial goals. Perhaps you are charity inclined and want to leave a legacy to a nonprofit organization such as the Philadelphia Bar Foundation. Since 1964, the Philadelphia Bar Foundation has awarded millions of dollars in grants to law-related programs in the Philadelphia area that assist the indigent, elderly and disabled, as well as abused women and children.

This year the Bar Foundation is working to double its endowment from its current $4.5 million. The larger endowment will generate enough interest income to provide a substantial, predictable source of income for future grant-making activities. To build the endowment, in 2005 a small group of friends of the Foundation agreed to form a special category of giving, the “Advocates of Justice.” Advocates promise to give $25,000 to the Foundation, over a period of no more than three years. The Foundation is looking to grow this special category of giving. For more information, contact the chair of the Bar Foundation Committee, Alec Kerr, at (215) 479-5360.

Be advised that a well-qualified financial planner can provide you with the perspective you need to get on track and strategize a solid financial plan for you and your family.
Bench-Bar Studios Presents
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Register online at philadelphiabar.org or use the form on Page 14.
Committee Spotlight: Government and Public Service Lawyers

Committee Focuses on Needs of Public Sector Attorneys

by Jeff Lyons

Sometimes, government and public service lawyers can feel out of the loop. They don’t have their own practices, so many lawyers in the city don’t know what the government lawyers are going through.

That’s where the Government and Public Service Lawyers Committee comes in. Committee Chair Matthew Perks said the committee encourages these lawyers to participate in the Association and gives them a forum to discuss their specific concerns.

Perks, a former chair of the Criminal Justice Section, works for the District Attorney’s Office. He said the committee holds programs with well-known guest speakers who have, at one time or another, worked as government or public service attorneys. This past year’s speakers included David L. Cohen, who served as chief of staff to former Mayor Edward G. Rendell and now works as Comcast’s executive vice president; former city solicitor Kenneth Trujillo and Charles “Joy” Grant, former chief of the District Attorney’s Homicide Unit. Former City Councilman Michael Nutter, now a candidate for mayor, spoke about ethics.

“The speakers we’ve had have accomplished a lot in both the private and public sector. They talked about their lives from both perspectives,” he said.

He said the Bar Association is particularly responsive to people in private practice for networking and philanthropic activities. “Our committee offers networking among lawyers working for different government agencies,” Perks said.

He said the committee also works as an advocate to reduce Association fees for government lawyers who don’t make as much as their colleagues in private practice. “We also work to recognize the outstanding service of government attorneys.”

There are nearly 100 active members of the committee, who primarily work for the District Attorney, city solicitor and state attorney general’s offices.

Nominating Committee Formed

The Nominating Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association has been formed.


The committee has scheduled its next meetings for Thursday, Sept. 7 at 12 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 11 at 3:30 p.m. and Thursday, Oct. 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Officers for which candidates are being solicited are vice chancellor, secretary, assistant secretary, treasurer, assistant treasurer, and five seats on the Board of Governors, three of which are to be nominated by the Nominating Committee. Each Board seat carries a three-year term. Individuals who wish to be considered for any of the above offices should submit a resume of their background and indicate the position for which they wish to run.

Materials should be submitted to the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Andrew A. Chirls, c/o Susan Knight, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market Street, 11th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2911, no later than 5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 6 and Thursday, Oct. 12 at 7:30 p.m.

FRONTLINE

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“official language” of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as our General Assembly just did a few weeks ago. What important purpose is served by declaring the Commonwealth’s intention to “preserve, protect and strengthen the unifying role of English as the official language of this Commonwealth”? And even if there were some articulable (albeit still fuzzy) policy reasons for such a law, are they not overcome by the jingoistic, anti-immigrant sentiment that will be perceived to motivate such an unnecessary and unfriendly statutory provision? As I write this article, our state Senate has not yet considered the language bill, but I hope that our senators, and our governor, should it reach his desk, will not let pseudo-patriotic fervor impair their good judgment and commitment to the genuine American value of welcoming immigrants and visitors from all nations.

“English-only” laws are for the birds, not for Americans. Placards directing visitors to speak English or leave are contrary to our values, and similarly un-American. Let the Philadelphia legal community not remain silent, but stand up and speak out in support of neighbors and visitors with limited English proficiency, who contribute so much to our diversity by introducing us to other cultures and other languages.

School District CEO Vallas Addresses Newest Citizens

Commentary

For the Practice of Law, the Rewards are Many

Editor’s Note: Reprinted with permission. Copyright 2006, ABA Journal.

by Michael B. Hayes

As a practicing litigator for the past six years and a former law clerk, I never really sat down and reflected on the impact that the practice of law has had on my life until today. Having done so, I can honestly say that the law has done this lawyer good. My personal experiences in the practice have had a real, positive impact on my life.

First, the practice of law has enabled my family to live stable, comfortable lives without significant want or need. The practice allows me to provide for my family and rest confident in the fact that my legal education and experience will keep food on our table and a roof over our heads in the years to come. In my book, however, the financial reward that comes with our profession is too often not seen for the blessing that it is—instead, it is relentlessly pursued as an ultimate goal in and of itself.

The law clearly has changed my outlook on things—I think for the better. My practice, including in particular the pro bono component of my practice, has made me more empathetic and has greatly enriched my perspective regarding the plight of the indigent and the unwanted. Cliché as it may seem, I believe that the greatest rewards that the practice of law has to offer are to be found in the representation of those who cannot afford a lawyer. Never is the importance of a fair and equitable system of justice so clear in my mind as when I am up to my elbows in a pro bono representation for someone in desperate need.

As for empathy, nearly every day in my practice I am on the telephone or sitting down in a conference room with a client, prospective client, witness and/or opposing counsel, talking about problems: their problems, their client’s problems, a witness’s problems—someone’s problems. Over time (and by necessity), I have had to learn how to better listen to others and understand where they are coming from. My practice depends on that perhaps more than any other skill. I am happy to say that this job requirement has made me, in general, more attentive to the needs and less judgmental of the faults of others.

Finally, I consider my bar association involvement (I am the chair of the Young Lawyers Division for the Philadelphia Bar Association) to be not only an integral part of my practice, but also a very important part of my life. Bar association involvement has afforded me tremendous opportunities to get out in the community and interact in a positive way with the public we serve. Bringing the law to the people has only enhanced my respect for our legal system. At the same time, talking with folks about the profession has given me an appreciation for the serious deficits in our legal system and the resulting need for us to work tirelessly to ensure accessibility to justice for all. Bar association involvement also has given me a chance to develop new friendships with lawyers from various areas of the practice. These friendships, it goes without saying, have enriched my life in a host of ways.

I am proud to be a lawyer, and my experience with the profession thus far has been a decidedly positive one. There are, obviously, difficulties occasioned by the practice and many sacrifices to be made on behalf of clients and others, but in this young lawyer’s view, they are greatly outweighed by the benefits of a fulfilling practice, complete with pro bono service and bar association involvement.

Michael B. Hayes, an associate with Montgomery, McCracken, Walker & Rhoads, LLP, is chair of the Young Lawyers Division.
Minorities in the Profession Committee

Attorney–Authors Committed to Law Careers

by Brian K. Sims

Three local attorneys whose careers in law have complimented, if not inspired, literary careers as well, talked about their path to publication at the June 29 meeting of the Minorities in the Profession Committee.

The panelists included author/attorneys Tunya M. Evans-Walls, Gregory P. Miller and Sheilah D. Vance. Evans-Walls, a poet and the managing attorney at TME Law, has authored various works of non-fiction and fiction, including her acclaimed collection of poetry titled Shini! A graduate of Howard University and former professional tennis player, Evans-Walls reminded those in attendance that there are many paths one can take to publication.

“Over time, there’s really no one direct path that you have to take,” she said. “You have many opportunities and don’t have to do everything at one time!” Evans-Walls described the various positions she held as a young lawyer and discussed how she looked for time and discussed how she looked for time to devote to her writing.

“I very much like practicing law, but writing was calling as well. After years of writing and public performance, Evans-Walls formed her own publishing company in 1999 which focuses on legal reference guides for writers, as well as her own works. A speaker, poet, attorney, publisher and performer, Evans-Walls says that it’s not just enough to have a great book if you have 5,000 of them in your garage. “You have to market them and get them moving.”

Miller spoke next, explaining that although he was largely self-taught as an author, his focus remains on the practice of law. “I am first and foremost a trial lawyer,” said Miller, “and that’s what I’ve been for 30 years.” A graduate of Case Western Reserve University and a 10-year veteran of the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General Corps, Miller is a founding shareholder of Miller, Alforno & Raspanti, P.C., as well as a former federal prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Philadelphia. His recent work, Rumimg His Father’s Son: A Novel, was inspired by work on a collection of stories from acclaimed local trial attorneys. “If you’re an effective trial lawyer,” he said, “you’re a great storyteller,” noting that most trial lawyers can’t wait to share war stories. Miller discussed the significance of pulling inspiration from his own life experiences, as well as the difference between legal writing and writing for a novel.

“Overall, the authors said individuals looking to publish their work need to be versed in the publication process and maintain contact with individuals involved in the industry.”

Brian K. Sims, an associate with Mark F. Seltzer, P.C., is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.
Friends of Farmworkers Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Friends of Farmworkers celebrated its 30th Anniversary on June 28, honoring Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Frederica A. Massiah-Jackson, former Bar Association Chancellor Andrew A. Chirls and Efren Diego at the Hilton Garden Inn.

Friends of Farmworkers has provided legal assistance and education on legal rights to thousands of farm workers in Pennsylvania and helped improve working and living conditions for many more through its advocacy. Judge Massiah-Jackson was honored for her work on language access and the courts; Chirls for his work last year as Chancellor in making the legal community more accessible to people from immigrant communities; Diego, the President of the Kaolin Workers Union, for his advocacy on behalf of other mushroom workers.

The event was attended by more than 100 members of the Philadelphia legal community, including many leaders of the Philadelphia Bar Association. Karen Detamore, executive director of Friends of Farmworkers, presented the award to Judge Massiah-Jackson, citing the Report of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Committee on Racial and Gender Bias in the Judicial System’s Introduction to the Litigants with Limited English Proficiency Chapter as to the importance of language access to due process and basic fairness in the Pennsylvania court system.

Detamore also presented the award to Chirls, praising his success in involving the legal community in work with immigrant and non-English speaking communities, referring to reports of the Philadelphia Bar Association in foreign language media, including Spanish, Greek and Polish language publications. Staff Attorney Teresa Rodriguez made a moving bilingual presentation to Diego, praising his dedication and hard work on behalf of mushroom workers. Diego works as president of a Friends of Farmworkers client organization.

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Membership promo – $40 for the rest of 2006!
The 2006 Annual Bench-Bar Conference, “The Greatest Show On Earth,” affords attorneys and judges the opportunity to join together to foster a strong working relationship while also addressing issues of importance to the Philadelphia legal community.

For your donation of $500, a Philadelphia Bar Association member who is an attorney for a governmental or public service agency will have the opportunity to attend the conference free of charge. Your donation will pay for one night’s stay at The Tropicana, conference fees and CLE credit costs. The goal is to offer 50 scholarships to these groups with allocation through a lottery. Benefactors will be recognized in conference materials and in Bar Association publications. To donate a scholarship, please contact Conference Co-Chair Laura Feldman at 215-546-2004.

Bench-Bar Scholarships Available

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BAR FOUNDATION  
continued from page 5

The Sandra Day O'Connor Award has been presented to the late Juanita Kohl Stoud, former justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; Deborah R. Kidd Stout, former justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; Judge Norma L. Shapiro. The award has since been presented to the late Juanita Kohl Stoud, former justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; Deborah R. Kidd Stout, former justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; Judge Norma L. Shapiro. The award has furthered the advancement of women in both the profession and the community. The award presentation will be made during the Association’s Quarterly Meeting in October.

The committee established the award in 1995 to recognize the important contributions that women attorneys in Philadelphia have made to the legal profession. That year, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor presented the first award to U.S. District Court Senior Judge Norma L. Shapiro. The award has since been presented to the late Juanita Kohl Stoud, former justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; Deborah R. Willig, first woman Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association; Professor Marina Angel, of the Temple University Beasley School of Law; Third Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Dolores K. Sloviter (former Chief Judge); U.S. District Court Judge Anita B. Brody; Leslie Anne Miller, first woman president of the Philadelphia Bar Association; lipa G. Roome of Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP; the late Judge Judith J. Jamison; Ellen J. Greenburg, chief defender of the Defender Association of Philadelphia; former Chancellor Audrey C. Talley; U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Marjorie O. Rendell; and former Pennsylvania Supreme Court Judge Phyllis W. Beck.

To nominate someone for the 2006 Sandra Day O’Connor Award, use the nomination form on this page.

O’Connor Award Nominees Sought

The Women in the Profession Committee is seeking nominations for the 2006 Sandra Day O’Connor Award.

Deadline for nominations is Aug. 11.

The award is conferred annually on a woman attorney who has demonstrated superior legal talent, achieved significant legal accomplishments and has furthered the advancement of women in both the profession and the community. The award presentation will be made during the Association’s Quarterly Meeting in October.

The committee established the award in 1995 to recognize the important contributions that women attorneys in Philadelphia have made to the legal profession.

That year, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor presented the first award to U.S. District Court Senior Judge Norma L. Shapiro. The award has since been presented to the late Juanita Kohl Stoud, former justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; Deborah R. Willig, first woman Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association; Professor Marina Angel, of the Temple University Beasley School of Law; Third Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Dolores K. Sloviter (former Chief Judge); U.S. District Court Judge Anita B. Brody; Leslie Anne Miller, first woman president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association; lipa G. Roome of Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP; the late Judge Judith J. Jamison; Ellen J. Greenburg, chief defender of the Defender Association of Philadelphia; former Chancellor Audrey C. Talley; U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Marjorie O. Rendell; and former Pennsylvania Supreme Court Judge Phyllis W. Beck.

To nominate someone for the 2006 Sandra Day O’Connor Award, use the nomination form on this page.

2006 SANDRA DAY O’CONNOR AWARD NOMINATION FORM

The Sandra Day O’Connor Award was named in honor of the first woman Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court and is given annually to an outstanding woman attorney in the Philadelphia area. The recipient is expected to exemplify the qualities that Judge O’Connor has demonstrated in her life and work. Therefore, the Award Committee gives preference to those nominees who have achieved prominence and the highest degree of professional excellence in their field over a sustained period and who have openly and visibly used their position and stature in the community to mentor, promote and advance other women lawyers. Specific criteria follow:

Award Criteria:

• Female attorney with law practice or other professional activities in Philadelphia.
• A career path that demonstrates superior legal talent and ability characterized by unique contributions to and significant achievements within the local community.
• Advocacy for the advancement and equal treatment of women in the profession, as well as the community.
• A reputation for mentoring other women in the profession.

Return the completed form with all additional materials by Friday, Aug. 11, 2006 to: O’Connor Award, Women in the Profession Committee, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th fl., Philadelphia, Pa. 19107-2011.

Nominee’s Name: ____________________________ Title: ____________________________

Firm/Organization: ____________________________ Phone: ____________________________

Business Address: ________________________________________________________________

Nominator’s Name: ____________________________ Title: ____________________________

Firm/Organization: ________________________________________________________________ Phone: ____________________________

Business Address: ________________________________________________________________

Please use 8½-x-11” sheets to answer the following questions.

1. How long have you known the nominee?
2. What has been your association with the nominee?
3. Describe the nominee’s professional accomplishments.
4. What is the nominee’s most significant accomplishment?
5. Describe how the nominee has been an advocate and used her position and stature in the community to advance, and provide additional opportunities for, women lawyers generally.
6. Describe what the nominee has done to mentor, promote and advance other women lawyers.
7. Describe other activities in which the nominee has engaged that have advanced women inside and outside the legal community.

Nominators must provide answers to questions 1-7. Nominators are encouraged to include additional material on the nominee, such as curriculum vitae, press clippings, résumé; however, no more than three letters in support of the nominee will be accepted. Nomination forms may refer to and incorporate information submitted within the past three years for the nominee. The nominator is also responsible for ensuring submission of current information for the nominee as well.

Robert D. Love Jr., a partner at Gloria Infrastructure Investment Partners LLC, is president of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation.

B E R R O T E R / A U G U S T 2 0 0 6 15
fewer involuntary commitments.

Recognizing that the cost of ex-
paniding the city’s supportive housing
program paled in comparison to the
cost of multiple commitments and hos-
pitalsizations, the city agreed to dedicate
more supportive housing units to the
frequent-flyer population. It’s a win for
the community, yes, but more impor-
tantly a win for the city’s mentally ill
homeless.

The committee continues to monitor
and address similar issues relating to
hospital discharge planning and its
impact on the homeless population. In
addition, the committee is now work-
ing on another issue that stifes the
homeless identification. Every day,
homeless men, women, and children
are denied access to services, benefits,
and housing because they do not pos-
sees the documentation necessary to
verify their identity. To make matters
worse, they cannot obtain this docu-
mentation because they do not have
the identification documents needed to
obtain them. Confused? So are we.

The new Deficit Reduction Act,
which went into effect on July 1, is one
example of an ID quandary faced by
the homeless. Under the DRA, individ-
uals applying or being recertified for
Medicaid – the health care program
for the poor – are required to provide
proof of identity and citizenship. Of
course, most of us either have or can
readily obtain our birth certificate
without any trouble. In Pennsylvania,
we simply provide the Division of Vital
Records with a $10 check, a applica-
tion form, and a copy of our driver’s
license. But what if someone has never
had a driver’s license? What if it was
stolen or lost? What if she simply does
not have the money?

The committee is now trying to help
answer these questions and exploring
whether Vital Records can waive birth
certificate fees, as it does for veterans.
Maybe PennDot can coordinate with
Vital Records so an ID applicant can
get state-issued identification without
actually having to produce a birth cer-
tificate.

By lobbying for these solutions, the
committee seeks to make it easier for
homeless men, women, and children
to obtain medical insurance and other
services. Like everything else that the
targeted people, our goal is to put an
end to chronic homelessness and pro-
vide those currently homeless with a
life of respect and dignity.

HAP, PECO Aid
Homeless With
Documents

The Homeless Advocacy Project and
PECO’s legal department held a recent
birth certificate clinic that helped about
250 adults and children apply for their
birth certificates free of charge.

The clinic fulfilled an unmet need for those without birth certificates
because living without proper docu-
mentation makes it almost impossible
for a homeless person to receive med-
ic al assistance, apply for housing or
take advantage of public programs.

“PECO’s clinic was the single biggest
call of intake we ever had, and it was
the largest legal clinic we’ve
ever attempted,” PECO’s volunteers
were all incredibly supportive, and we can’t
thank them enough for making such a
difference in so many people’s lives,”
said Marsha Cohen, HAP’s executive
director.

Each year, PECO’s legal department
offers hundreds of hours in pro bono
legal services, and this year they ac-
tected the Corporate Pro Bono Chal-
lenge, which is a national initiative for
corporate legal departments to provide
free community services each year.

While law firms generally have empha-
sized community service, chief legal
officers in corporations across the
country developed the Corporate Pro
Bono Challenge with the slogan “Good
Intentions, Great Results” to enable in-
house lawyers to identify and demon-
strate their commitment to pro bono
service to co-workers and colleagues in
the legal profession. Ethical rules gov-
erning the conduct of attorneys have
traditionally identified pro bono service
to those unable to obtain access to jus-
tice as a key element of the profession-
al identity and unique role of lawyers.
Notice to Philadelphia Bar Association Members

Pursuant to Section 1100 of the Philadelphia Bar Association bylaws, notice is hereby given to all members of the Philadelphia Bar Association that the following amendments to the bylaws of the Philadelphia Bar Association were considered at the June 29, 2006 Board of Governors meeting and were approved for submission to the members at the October Quarterly meeting to take place on Monday, Oct. 30, 2006 at Noon at the Park Hyatt Philadelphia at the Bellevue. Article VIII shall be amended and restated as follows:

### ARTICLE VIII – DIVISIONS

#### Section 800. Divisions; Additional Divisions.

(A) The Divisions of the Association shall be as set forth in this Article. (B) Additional Divisions may be established by amendment of these bylaws as provided in Section 1100. The establishing bylaw shall identify the membership or subject matter of the Division, which shall not be a recognized area of substantive or procedural law or the practice thereof.

#### Section 801. Combination, Change of Name or Discontinuance of Divisions.

The Board may change the name of, combine or discontinue any Division or Divisions.

#### Section 802. Membership of Divisions.

(A) All members of Divisions shall be Members except as set forth in Section 802(B) hereof, and any Member may be a member of any one or more Divisions. (B) Any Division may permit one or more non-lawyers to serve as members of the Division or any committee thereof, and unless otherwise approved by the Board, no non-lawyer may be an officer of any Division.

#### Section 803. Division Organization and Procedures; Reports.

(A) Each Division shall adopt such bylaws and other regulations for its organization, governance and conduct of its business as it deems appropriate, not inconsistent with the Charter, Bylaws and resolutions of the Board. (B) The officers of each Division shall be the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and such other officers as are provided in its bylaws. In lieu of a Chair, a Division may have two or more Co-Chairs, in which case any reference to the “Chair” of a Division in these Bylaws shall refer to any Co-Chair, as determined by the Division. (C) No Division may assess dues on its members unless first authorized by the Board. (D) There shall be no expenditure by the Division of funds not obtained through the Bar Association’s budget process unless first authorized by the Board. (E) At such time or times as the Chancellor or Board shall determine, the Chair of each Division shall transmit a report of its activities to the Chancellor and/or the Board.

#### Section 804. Division Meetings.

All Divisions shall meet from time to time at the call of the Chair thereof, and it shall be the duty of the Chair thereof to call a meeting upon the written request of the Chancellor or of any 25 members of the Division.

#### Section 805. The Young Lawyers Division

(A) The Young Lawyers Division shall consist of all Regular Members (1) who are under 37 years of age, or (2) regardless of age, whose third anniversary of their first admission to the Bar of any state has not yet occurred. (B) Membership of a Regular Member in the Division shall terminate automatically at the end of the calendar year during which a Member no longer fulfills either of the requirements set forth in Section 805(A) above, or at such earlier time as the Member ceases to be a Regular Member.

#### Section 806. The Law Practice Management Division.

The Law Practice Management Division shall be devoted to supporting members in their activities relating to the business of practicing law by offering assistance with marketing, management, technology, and finance. All Regular Members shall be members of the Law Practice Management Division.

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**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 chair.

**Tuesday, Aug. 1**

*Philadelphia Bar Foundation Board of Trustees* – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. *Compulsory Arbitration Committee* – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $7.50.

**Wednesday, Aug. 2**

*Committee on the Legal Rights of Persons with Disabilities* – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room.

**Thursday, Aug. 3**

*Civil Rights Committee* – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. *Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee* – meeting, 12:15 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50.

**Friday, Aug. 4**

*Law School Outreach Committee* – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. *Philadelphia Lawyer magazine Editorial Board* – meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. *Philadelphia Bar Foundation Golf Classic* – 12:30 p.m., Philadelphia Cricket Club, Flourtown, Pa.

**Monday, Aug. 7**

*Family Law Section* – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50.

**Tuesday, Aug. 8**

*Criminal Justice Section Executive Committee* – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. *Appellate Courts Committee* – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50.

**Thursday, Aug. 10**

*Legislative Liaison Committee* – meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $7.50.

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Unless otherwise specified, all dates for luncheons and programs should be made payable to the Philadelphia Bar Association and mailed to Bar Headquarters, 1101 Market St., 17th Fl., Philadelphia, Pa. 19107. Send Bar Association-related items 30 days in advance to Managing Editor, Philadelphia Bar Reporter, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19107-2911. Fax: (215) 238-1267. E-mail: reporter@philabar.org.

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**Monday, Aug. 14**

*Business Law Section Executive Committee* – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

**Tuesday, Aug. 15**

*Section Chairs* – meeting, 8:30 a.m., 10th floor Board Room.

**Wednesday, Aug. 16**

*Federal Courts Committee* – meeting, 12:30 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50. *Medical-Legal Committee* – meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $7.50. *LegaliLine* – 5 p.m., 11th floor LRIS offices.

**Thursday, Aug. 17**

*Family Law Section Executive Committee* – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. *Environmental Law Committee* – meeting, 12:30 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50.

**Monday, Aug. 21**

*Public Interest Section Executive Committee Executive Committee* – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. *Young Lawyers Division Cabinet* – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Cabinet Room.

**Tuesday, Aug. 22**

*Women in the Profession Committee* – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50. *Cabinet* – meeting, 12 p.m, 10th floor Board Room.

**Thursday, Aug. 24**

*Committee on the Legal Rights of Lesbians and Gay Men* – meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room.

**Friday, Aug. 25**

*Women’s Rights Committee* – meeting, 12:15 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50.

**Monday, Aug. 28**

*Young Lawyers Division Executive Committee* – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

**Tuesday, Aug. 29**

*Criminal Justice Section* – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50.

**Thursday, Aug. 31**

*Elder Law Committee* – meeting, 1 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50. *Board of Governors* – meeting, 4 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

continued on page 18
Section is established.

Committee that will continue after the
or the practice thereof, and which shall
be a recognized
Section. The petition shall state the
contemplated jurisdiction of the
board.

Section 208. The Board.

(A) The Board shall consist of 15
Members, consisting of five Members each, who shall serve
for a term of three years, one class
being elected each year;

(b) two persons appointed by the
Members as provided in Section
300(A)(16), consisting of three classes
of five Members each, who shall serve
for terms of one year (pro-
vided that no such representative shall
serve for more than three consecutive
(one-year terms); the Chair of each
Section shall notify the Chair of the
Board on or before December 31 of
each year of the identity of the person
designated by the Section to serve as
a member of the Board during the fol-
lowing calendar year as a representa-
tive of the Section;

(5) 15 persons elected by the
Members as provided in Section
300(A)(16), consisting of three classes
of five Members each, who shall serve
for a term of three years, one class
being elected each year;

(c) a person serving as a member of the highest
judicial body of the District of Columbia;

(d) a person serving as a member of the highest
judicial body of the Commonwealth of Puerto
Rico; and

(e) a person serving as a member of the highest
judicial body of the United States or of
any commonwealth, territory, or possession of
the United States, or of any other country,
who is not a member of the Board of Judges of
this State.

Nominations are being accepted for the
Association’s Justice William F. Brennan
Distinguished Jurist Award.

The Brennan Award recognizes a jurist
who adheres to the highest ideals of judi-

cial service. Any member of the state or
defederal bench, whether active or retired,
who has made a significant, positive im-

Nominations should include the full name, address and
telephone number of both the nominee
and the person submitting the nomina-
tion, a summary of the nominee’s accom-
plishments, and any pertinent supporting
material the committee should consider.
All nominations must be received no later
than 3 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 8, 2006.
Gore’s “Truth” Takes Aim at Polluters

by Marc W. Reuben

The latest attempt by Al Gore to appeal to the vast unwashed is a film called “An Inconvenient Truth.” The film is an effort by the former vice president to inform large segments of the frightened public that there are great dangers facing the nation that do not issue from people who want to see us dead. A nation fixated on every Muslim everywhere, the additional fear generated by this film must be overwhelming. Modern Americans can only deal with obvious scapegoats, and it is not fair to make them think about stuff that requires, well— you know—we’re thinking.

Gore’s film is about the effect of pollution on the environment, and how the Earth cannot stand unending filth being poured into its waters and air without some form of reaction that humans might not like. Dirty water, rising seas, global warming, melting ice caps, extinction of food sources on land and sea, a rise in disease caused by uncleanliness in nature—all of this is explained by Gore (with pictures) as the result of pollution made by man. Actually the pollution alone may not be always be the sole cause of catastrophe, but it certainly helps it along. It is the implication and water, Americans believe their traditions, their sentiments. This is one of the things that is explained by Gore (with pictures) as the result of pollution made by man. Actually the pollution alone may not always be the sole cause of catastrophe, but it certainly helps it along. It is the implication of Gore’s film that the issue of pollution control will be embraced as a result of the film’s message: Gore, as you can tell, is a liberal.

Liberals are those folks who exhibit an unnatural faith in the essential value of human conduct. As H.L. Mencken said, “a liberal is a person who, upon noting that a rose smells better than a cabbage assumes it will make a better soup.” This movie, for all the useful information it presents, is aimed at people who cannot imagine themselves at fault for environmental disaster because they believe that dominion over the Earth is a religious approval for turning the planet into a garbage dump. The profit motive among Americans trumps all warnings. In their fervor to exercise the God-given right to do whatever they please to the land and water, Americans believe their traditional racist beliefs that the Indians were the savages. It is the implication of Gore’s film that Americans have ruined their land with filth in the name of capital. The film strikes at the traditional American belief that the path to wealth should not be marred by concern for other goals. Certainly not the goal of helping the less fortunate and most certainly not in helping the Earth find its environmental balance. When there is no profit involved, it does not seem Americans are interested.

The chief apologist for predatory industry has already stated that he will not see this film. This is typical of the curious intellect of the boob class. Those who will not see or hear divergent opinions from their own seem to be running the nation of late. Whenever an inconvenient truth is told to them they shout the name of their savior or wave a flag to silence opposition. Democracy is wasted on them.

People who are given a choice of views to act upon are essential to a healthy democracy. Those who ignore other voices are the type of citizens the nation could do without. This movie, and the film “Who Killed the Electric Car?” which concerns the labors of people who profit from gasoline engines to remove a gas-saving invention from society—so that they can continue to force an unconcerned public to buy their products, are destined for oblivion. Like the documentary concerning how automakers and tire companies bought up much of the rolling stock of the Philadelphia Transportation Company after World War II, to keep people riding and buying autos and related products, films that name predatory profiters as villains are perceived as mildly subversive by the average American. It is the making of profit that must be estolled by the American public in this age of compassionate rule by organized money. To the average Joe, keeping the moneymakers happy is the goal of American policy. This is reflected in their government, which they alone voted to represent them. Gore, inadvertently, shows this state of affairs to the world. Others are guilty alongside America. But wise patriots provided freedoms for people like Gore to tell the truth to the public. It is the average American who refuses to listen. This is the current state of American sentiment. This is one of the things that are the matter with the United States of America.

“An Inconvenient Truth” is aimed at people who will not see or hear this film. This is typical of the curious intellect of the boob class. Not like.

Gore’s film is about the effect of pollution on the environment, and how the Earth cannot stand unending filth being poured into its waters and air without some form of reaction that humans might not like.

What’s Your Favorite Memory from Law School?

“My contracts professor brought his banjo and harmonica and serenaded us to a ‘Trout Fishing in America’ tune using the various rules and case names. He was also an amateur juggler, so the specifics of Section 2-207 of the UCC were recited while he juggled bowling pins, balls and scarves.”

- Emily Ruger

“My favorite law school memory would be the day after finishing exams of my first semester and realizing that I didn’t have any work for school for the first time in months, I had some time to myself at that point.”

- Ryan D. Smith

“What’s Your Favorite Memory from Law School?”

“Getting a question right after being called on in class made me feel like I really deserved to be there.”

- Nikki Johnson-Huston

Send Us Your News, Views and Photos for Publication

The Philadelphia Bar Reporter welcomes law-related submissions for publication. Articles relating to a specific practice area, commentary, book reviews and letters to the editors are welcome. Letters must be signed to verify authorship, but names will be withheld upon request. Editors reserve the right to condense for clarity, style and space considerations. Articles and/or requests for publication may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed and should be directed to: Jeff Lyskov, Managing Editor, Philadelphia Bar Reporter; Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2911. Phone: (215) 256-6345. Fax: (215) 256-1267. E-mail: reporter@philabar.org.

Marc W. Reuben, a sole practitioner and advisory editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter, has been writing about the arts and media since 1973.
Now that the celebrations of the 300th anniversary of Benjamin Franklin’s birthday are drawing to a close, it is fitting that the legal community pays tribute and thanks to Benjamin Franklin because he met Dr. Filippo Mazzei in London and had many meetings with him. Franklin convinced Mazzei to come to the United States in 1766, 10 years before the Declaration of Independence was signed.

Their first meeting in London took place because Mazzei had been requested to purchase two Franklin stoves on behalf of the Grand Duke Leopold. At that time, Franklin was in London as an agent of the Pennsylvania colony. This led to many meetings and conversations regarding the political climate in Pennsylvania and Great Britain.

As their association grew, it was Franklin who discussed conditions in America leading Mazzei to a decision to come to America together with other Italian immigrants.

Mazzei settled himself as the next-door neighbor of Thomas Jefferson, who spoke and wrote Italian. One of Mazzei’s writings in the Virginia Gazette, where he wrote “by nature all men are created equal,” found itself in the Declaration of Independence that had been adapted by Jefferson. Mazzei became a citizen of Virginia. All of this would not have happened if Franklin had not met Mazzei in London in 1766.

His accomplishments were recognized by the U.S. Postal Service when it issued a stamp in his honor. The inscriptions by the U.S. Postal Service on the first day of issue read as follows: “Laid the foundation of American freedom,” “an unsung patriot of the American Revolution,” recognized as the one who “proclaimed all men are free and equal” and “with Ben Franklin who led the young Italian to America’s cause” Mazzei has been called Jefferson’s zealous Whig. A framed first-day of issue envelope of the stamp is to be displayed in the Italian-American Museum in New York City.

One of the Mazzei’s least known accomplishments is that he was the first foreign-born author to write a history of Colonial America. There are 3,000 documents about him in the Library of Congress.

Benjamin Franklin has an entire science museum dedicated to him on a parkway that also bears his name. There is a statue of Franklin at the top of the grand staircase of the Franklin Institute. This is a constant reminder of the genius of Franklin who was a patriot, philosopher, printer, ambassador, signor of five of the most important documents of his time, inventor, first postmaster, creator of the first free library, the first philosophical society, the first fire department and the man who represented and helped to negotiate a settlement of the Revolutionary War with France and Great Britain.

Michael C. Rainone, a sole practitioner, is the founding chairman of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania Historical Commission.
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please contact us at legaldirectory@mediatwo.com.
Robert J. Coleman, chairman emeritus of Marshall, Dem推荐er, Warner, Coleman & Goggins, was recently re-elected to the Board of Directors of Republic First Bancorp, Inc., the holding company for Republic First Bank, a full-service, state-chartered commercial bank. This will be his second three-year term of service.


Kenneth Warren, a partner with WolfBlock, has been appointed to the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Environmental Law.

Louis Coffey, counsel at WolfBlock, recently was appointed as a Judge Pro Tempore in the Commerce Program of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas.


Ann Thornton Field and Alison Strong of Cozen O'Connor were named recently as "Women on the Verge" by The Legal Intelligencer/Pennsylvania Law Weekly.

Bennett G. Pickens, a partner at Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP, and former Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, was recently elected to the American Arbitration Association's Executive Committee of the Board of Directors at its annual meeting in New York.

Stephen A. Cozen, founder and chairman of Cozen O'Connor, was recently honored by the Law Alumni Society at the University of Pennsylvania School, receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award, The Goat. The award is presented to a member of the Penn Law community who has distinguished himself by outstanding service to the law school.

Susan Katz Hoffman, a partner with Pepper Hamilton LLP, served as a faculty member at the 50th Annual Week-Long American Law Institute-American Bar Association Summer Course of Study: Current Pension and Employee Benefits Law and Practice from July 3 to 7 in Boston.

Mary Kohlhepp Wagner, a shareholder with Marshall, Demercuri, Warner, Coleman & Goggins, presented "Understanding Workers' Compensation Benefits" in Valley Forge, Pa. on June 27 as part of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business & Industry's Worker's Compensation and HR Records Retention Conference.

Gino J. Benedetti, a shareholder with Miller, Alfano & Raspani, P.C., spoke at a Pennsylvania Bar Institute seminar discussing the practice and procedure of litigation in the federal civil court on June 9.

Gregory P. Miller, a founding shareholder of Miller, Alfano & Raspani, P.C., has been appointed to the Lawyers Advisory Committee for a term of three years. The Lawyers Advisory Committee serves as a liaison between the Third Circuit Court of Appeals and the legal community by commenting on judicial Council matters and on proposed rules for the Court of Appeals. Miller also spoke at the American Bar Association's National Conference for the Minority Lawyer on June 22. Miller sat on the panel "Cross-Ex. The Crossroads of Your Case!" which explored successful cross examination strategies for trial attorneys.

Jonathan F. Bloom, a partner with Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP, has been elected to the board of Meritas, an international alliance of nearly 200 commercial law firms in 63 countries.

Deborah J. Zatecky, a partner at Lundy Zatecky, LLP, was a panelist at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute's fourth annual Nonprofit Institute: Her topic was "Personal Liability Issues for Nonprofit Directors, Officers, and Volunteers -- Risks and Risk Management."

Jeffrey A. Lutsky, managing partner of Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP, was elected recently a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates and its Eastern Pennsylvania chapter by the organization's National Board of Directors.


Jeffrey L. Abrams, principal of Abrams And Associates, has been elected co-president of Woodstock, a nonprofit organization that works with students in the Philadelphia area to promote cultural diversity and understanding.

Marc S. Raspani, a founding shareholder of Miller, Alfano & Raspani P.C., discussed "The Growing Whistleblower Threat... and What to Do About It" at the Florida Healthcare Corporate Compliance Association's Third Annual Education Retreat, "Stranded on Compliance Island... Did Gilligan Really Have It So Bad!" on June 14-16.

A. Richard Feldman, a shareholder with Baerzon Lesk & Feldman, P.C., was elected recently president of CADE -- Helping Children Make Smart Decisions. A Philadelphia-based nonprofit organization, CADE provides full-time, trained specialists to more than 50 schools in the Philadelphia area, including elementary and middle schools.

Arlene Jolles Lotman, a sole practitioner, met July 24 with Liu Ping, an attorney with the Women's Federation for Guanxi Zhaoyang Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China, as part of the International Visitors Council of Philadelphia's Department of State program.

Jennifer A. Brandt, a member of Cozen O'Connor, recently appeared twice on CNN's "Your Morning" Brandt discussed the Paul McCartney divorce and prenuptial agreements on May 22, and on May 24, she addressed surrogacy agreements and the need for the United States to legislate these arrangements.

M. Kelly Tillery, a partner with Pepper Hamilton LLP, was honored by the Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts at its Volunteer Recognition Reception on June 14. Tillery was recognized as one of PVLA's Arts Law Guest Lectures in the Drexel University Arts and Administration Graduate Program.

Suzanne S. Mayes, a partner with Saul Eising LLP, was chosen to receive a PBA Special Achievement Award for her hard work and dedication as Co-Chair of the Membership Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession.

Richard J. Petr, a partner with Fineman Krikstein & Harris, P.C., has been elected chair of the Burlington County (N.J.) Democratic Committee.

Peter A. Muhie, a member of Cozen O'Connor, recently was elected to serve on the board of directors of the SensoLW Center.


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Names Are News
"People" highlights news of members' awards, honors or appointments of a civic or community nature. Information may be sent to Jeff Lyons, Managing Editor, Philadelphia Bar Reporter, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th floor, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107-2911. Fax: (215) 238-1267. E-mail: reporter@philabar.org.

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