D.A. Wants to Fix ‘Broken’ System

New Philadelphia District Attorney R. Seth Williams told members of the Criminal Justice Section he wants to reorganize his office’s Charging Unit to make sure the only people being charged with crimes are the individuals who are guilty.

Williams, who met with the Section on Feb. 23, his 50th day in office, said his goal is to seek justice and to make sure only the right people are charged with crimes.

“It’s my goal to see to it that we reduce recidivism and make the city safer. And I believe that crime prevention is much more beneficial than crime prosecution only,” Williams said.

“If we can, through the cases that we charge, find ways to get more people the assistance that they need and the certainty of treatment much quicker and much earlier on, that will end up benefiting them, the victims and the bottom line, which is saving money,” he said.

“The system has many problems. It’s important that we discuss these problems and then hopefully to see how collectively we can address them. It’s going to take all of us working di-

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Get Tickets Now to Hear CNN’s John King March 17

He is one of the leading political analysts in television news, and CNN’s chief national correspondent. As a key part of the network’s innovative “America Votes” coverage of the 2008 presidential campaign, John King pioneered the use of CNN’s “magic wall” of maps and pie charts, which allowed him to delve into data and track delegates like never before on election nights.

King will be the keynote speaker at the Bar Association’s Quarterly Meeting on Wednesday, March 17 at 12 p.m. at the Hyatt at The Bellevue, Broad and Walnut streets. Tickets are

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New Bar Academy to Host Union March 29

Major League Soccer is coming to Philadelphia and Association members have the opportunity to get a first-hand look at the city’s newest professional sports franchise on Monday, March 29 as part of the new Philadelphia Bar Association Academy.

Philadelphia Union President Tom Veit will address Bar Association members at The CLE Conference Center on the 10th floor of the Wanamaker Building from 12 to 1:30 p.m. In this exclusive session, members will get a virtual preview of the Union’s new 18,500-seat stadium in Delaware County and learn the basics of soccer. Team players, fresh off their first-ever game March 25, have been invited to appear for a demonstration of soccer basics.

Philadelphia was awarded Major League Soccer’s 16th team on Feb. 28, 2008.

According to the team’s Web site, the team’s navy blue and gold colors represent the Continental Army’s uniforms during

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Our knowledge is the amassed thought and experience of innumerable minds.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

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Frontline

Opposing the Proposed Sales Tax on Legal Services in Pennsylvania

This month, we turn our attention to a very dangerous tax contained in the proposed 2010-11 Pennsylvania General Fund Budget. As most of you know, the current budget proposal includes eliminating the sales tax exemption for legal services and 73 other presently exempt “essential” goods and services.

No issue in recent memory has galvanized such universal opposition by attorneys in all practices across the Commonwealth. Your Bar Association is fighting aggressively for you and our clients on this critical issue. We are using a broad-based approach of media outreach, lobbying in Harrisburg and education initiatives. I took the additional step last month of sending a letter to every member of the Association on this issue.

Despite the fact that the initial reaction by many in Harrisburg was to stop the tax code reform, we cannot be lulled into a sense of false security. The sound bite of a “lawyers’ tax” is already making its way through the Commonwealth.

The problem is, this is not a tax on lawyers; it is a tax on clients. Our law firms will be forced to do what every other business does with a sales tax – pass it through to the customer. The only way for a client to avoid paying the tax is to avoid purchasing the service all together. This is precisely the opposite result clients need by the time they conclude they need legal counsel.

Moreover, a sales tax on legal services would be disastrous for those Pennsylvaniaans most at risk, and it will drive significant jobs out of the Commonwealth.

For while our clients will bear this cost, those who use the courts already pay costs in the form of court fees, and many legal transactions such as real estate closings and estate administrations are already taxed in some other form.

Enacting a sales tax on legal services would be disastrous for those Pennsylvanians most at risk, and it will drive significant jobs out of the Commonwealth. For while our clients will bear this cost directly, we who represent them will bear the cost in many other harmful ways.

This tax will destroy the precise high-education and significant income-tax-paying jobs we desperately need to keep in Pennsylvania. Business purchasers of commercial legal services will divert work out of the Commonwealth to save money. The Internet has already shown that national businesses will aggressively move legal work based upon both quality and price.

Think of it like driving across the border to Delaware to save on the sales tax – but to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars in lost taxable revenue.

If using a Pennsylvania lawyer automatically adds 4 percent or more to the invoices we send our clients, those clients are going to direct the work elsewhere. The problem is even worse for us in Center City. If the Commonwealth lifts the sales tax exemption, Philadelphia’s sales tax would automatically apply to the non-exempt services. Not only will it destroy jobs, but it will sink the sales tax.”

Continued on page 7

By Scott F. Cooper

Legal Directory 2010 Updates Areas of Concentration

You told us, and we listened! The Legal Directory 2010 features revamped areas of concentration (AOC). These three letters at the end of a listing tell you an attorney’s concentration. Organized by category, the new, enhanced list more closely reflects the current legal environment, helping you find the exact attorney and area of expertise you need. Every lawyer listing comes with a free AOC.

“In revamping the areas of concentration, we tried to best reflect the realities of practicing law in today’s market,” said Paul Kazaras, deputy executive director of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

Along with improved options for attorneys to define their specialties, The Legal Directory 2010 is available when you’re on the go, thanks to a new mobile component. Connect to thousands of lawyer and law firm listings with your BlackBerry wherever there’s an Internet connection.

The mobile version of The Legal Directory features a more streamlined interface designed to work with your BlackBerry, and it’s also interactive. Click on a phone number and your device will dial it; tap an e-mail address and your mobile device will generate an e-mail screen.

Best of all, this mobile component is free with purchase of the traditional print version.

When you’re back in the office, you can access the thousands of listings via The Legal Directory Online, where you can also update your listing all year long. The Legal Directory’s impressive print version packs a wealth of information into one volume including:

• Federal, state and county courts and government agencies;
• An index of judges, with phone numbers and addresses;
• Attorneys listed alphabetically and indexed by area of concentration;
• A special section devoted to corporate counsel;
• Alternative dispute resolution resources;
• A business-to-business supplier section tailored to the legal community;
• Bar Association bylaws, contacts and committees;

In this economy, it’s more critical than ever to access up-to-date information. Firms have merged, organizations’ boards have changed and many attorneys have changed firms. You can always rely on The Legal Directory to have the up-to-date information you need, wherever you need it. The Legal Directory is the only official directory of the Philadelphia Bar Association.
Task Force Tackles Energy Use, Recycling

By Judy Stouffer

Do you donate unwanted clothing? Do you take public transportation? Do you receive/pay bills online? Do you use ENERGY STAR bulbs? Going green is not as difficult as you might think.

Some quick facts: Paper is the largest producer of paper waste. One focus will be the use of paper. If you have to print/copy, use recycled paper and recycle your toner cartridges.

Do you donate unwanted clothing? Going green is not as difficult as you might think.

Cooper’s column in the February edition of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter, where he announced his Green Ribbon Task Force. That’s us. While we will be investigating the Bar Association’s overall energy use and recycling practices to set the standard for reducing the negative impact its day-to-day operations may have on the environment (i.e., its carbon footprint), we will be formulating a plan for firms and other businesses to do the same.

One focus will be the use of paper. Without a doubt, our profession is one of the largest producers of paper waste. Some quick facts: Paper is the largest category of municipal waste. Each year, about 78 tons of paper and paperboard are generated (or about 560 pounds per person in the U.S. alone). In 2008, the amount of paper recovered for recycling averaged 113 pounds per person in the U.S.

The paper industry hopes to recover 60 percent of the paper Americans consume by 2012.

Here’s how to help: The recycling of paper isn’t the only answer and reducing its use in the first place needs to be explored. We’re not necessarily advocating a switch to erasable paper (yes, Xerox scientists really have invented reusable paper that self-erases within 16-24 hours), but we are asking you to use common sense.

Tip #1: Do you really need that piece of paper? Let’s face it; we’ve all lost countless hours of time and productivity looking for a missing piece of paper. Printed information can also pose a security risk or become obsolete. If you don’t already scan documents, this is the most effective way of managing paper. Many outside companies offer scanning and online document storage services. Some also offer a “facilities manager” service, which is another name for a person who works for the company, but shows up at your firm just like one of your employees to manage your firm’s paper flow (U.S. mail, faxes, copies, scanning, renaming, etc.), for less than the cost of hiring another employee.

Tip #2: If you have to print/copy, use both sides of the paper.

Tip #3: Purchase recycled paper and recycle your toner cartridges.

Perhaps your office already has a plan in place. If so, we commend you and would like to hear from you about it.

The Chancellor would like to see more of us give back to the communities where we live and work. Serving as greener role models for not only the public, but for our staff and families too, will help to keep our planet from going, going, gone.

The 40th anniversary of Earth Day, known as the beginning of the modern environmental movement, is Thursday, April 22. Stay tuned for more on Going, Going, Going ... Green.

Judy Stouffer (JStouffer@BernerKlaw.com) is a senior paralegal with Berner Klaw & Watson LLP and a member of the Green Ribbon Task Force.

For More Information

For more information about the Bar Association’s Green Ribbon Task Force, contact co-chairs Michael Hayes at mhayes@mmwr.com or Kim Jessum at kjessum@stradley.com.

Inside Luzerne County’s Culture of Corruption

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

WHEN: Friday, March 26th, 2010. 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
WHERE: Temple University, Ft. Washington. 401 Commerce Dr., Ft. Washington, PA 19034
COST: $125* For Live Seminar (6 Substantive, 1 Ethics CLE)
 $105 For Live Webcast (3 Substantive, 1 Ethics CLE)

At this event, our panelists will discuss the events which led to the Luzerne County judicial system corruption scandal, as well as the likely impact of those events on the state juvenile system and state and local laws. Additionally, the panel will analyze the subject matter will apply to governing entities all across the country.

Panelists for this event will include attorney Peter John Moses of Moses & Gelso, LLP in Wilkes Barre, PA, and attorney Marsha Levick, Deputy Director and Chief Counsel for the Juvenile Law Center in Philadelphia, PA. Attorney Luke T. Pepper will assist in moderating the event, and former NBC10 Philadelphia reporter and La Salle University Adjunct Professor, Ellen Kolodziej, will provide a timeline summary of this national news story.

This is a charitable CLE event! Net profits will be donated to the Juvenile Law Center (www.jlc.org) in Philadelphia, PA. The Juvenile Law Center uses legal advocacy, publications, projects, public education, and training to ensure that the child welfare, juvenile justice, and other public systems provide vulnerable children with the protection and services they need to become productive adults.

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.CEWORKSHOPS.COM OR BY CALLING TOM MCDEVITT DIRECTLY AT 215-990-0781.

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* Price includes parking, course materials, coffee, doughnut, lunch, and reporting fees.
The Board of Governors has approved resolutions creating a Bar Association Historical Society and a new Bar Association Academy, designed to give members access to Philadelphia’s cultural, social, educational, and artistic institutions.

According to the resolution approved at the Jan. 28 meeting, the Historical Society is being created for the purpose of collating, organizing, preserving and disseminating the great history of this Association and its members and the role the Association and its members have played in the history of Philadelphia, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States.

“The genesis of the historical society was Chancellor Scott Cooper’s idea,” William J. Fedullo told the Board. Fedullo is a co-chair of the Historical Society, along with Roberta Liebenberg and former Chancellor Robert C. Heim.

“The Historical Society is going to be very beneficial to us as keepers of the flame. This is going to be an inclusive and on-going process,” Fedullo said.

The resolution for the Bar Association Academy says understanding cultural, social, educational, and artistic matters is critical to attorneys interacting with their clients and effectively advancing their careers and enhancing the quality of their lives. Cooper said the Academy is going to be “something special” for the members.

The Board also approved a resolution amending the bylaws of the Criminal Justice Section to provide for election of co-chairs of the section.

The Board also approved the appointment of Board member Brandi Brice to the Association’s Audit Committee. Brice is an assistant city solicitor in the Major Tax Enforcement Unit of the Law Department of the City of Philadelphia.

A. Harold Datz, Caryn Gubin and Marlene Olshan were appointed to the Bar Association’s Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention. Datz, of counsel to Weitz Garfinkle Datz, LLC, will serve a four-year term and will chair the Commission in 2010. Gubin and Olshan will serve two-year terms as lay members of the Commission. Olshan is CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeastern Pennsylvania. Gubin works for Medical Rehabilitation Centers of Pennsylvania. Gubin works for Medical Rehabilitation Centers of Pennsylvania.

Philadelphia Municipal Court Judge Lisette Shirdan-Harris, Markita Morris-Louis, Sam Morgan, Jackie Carolan, Carmen Romano and Mary Gay Scanlon were appointed to the Board of Philadelphia Volunteers for the Indigent Program.

The Board also approved the appointment of Alexander Kerr, John Willis and former Chancellor Harold Cramer to the Board of Directors of Jenkins Law Library. Kerr will serve as president of the board at Jenkins.

Nicole Edwards, an associate with DLA Piper LLP was appointed to the Editorial Board of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.
The earthquake that hit Haiti—a country already devastated by chaos and political unrest—took an unimaginable toll. The Haitian government estimates that more than 200,000 people have been killed and more than 5 million people are in need of emergency services.

Not surprisingly, the Philadelphia legal community—both the public and the private bars—has stepped up to help. In particular, immigration and adoption are the focus of their efforts.

Bar Foundation grantee organizations HIAS Pennsylvania, Nationalities Service Center and Support Center for Child Advocates are the key players in two local programs. Of course pro bono attorneys from the private bar are helping with these efforts, especially Ethan Fogel, a Dechert LLP partner and director of pro bono in its Philadelphia office, and Jennings Durand, also of Dechert. At Durand related, “After the earthquake in Haiti, Ethan and I reached out to HIAS and Council’s Judith Bernstein-Baker to begin exploring ways that Dechert could help Haitian children whose lives have been turned upside-down by the tragedy.”

As a result of discussions, HIAS PA, the Support Center for Child Advocates, and the Dechert lawyers organized the Philadelphia Initiative for Haitian Children, a network of groups interested in helping the children of Haiti. This group convened a Feb. 5 kickoff meeting that included leaders from the local Haitian community, representatives of children’s and immigrants’ services organizations, members of the Mayor’s Commission on African and Caribbean Immigrant Affairs, Partners in Health, local law and medical schools, and immigration lawyers, including an international adoption specialist.

At this initial meeting, the group identified particular tasks on which to focus short-term and long-term efforts and targeted several groups of Haitians in need of short- and long-term help. The Philadelphia Initiative for Haitian Children decided to focus its efforts on specific groups of Haitians, including: those with special medical needs destined for the Philadelphia region; orphans already adopted (or in the process of being adopted) by Philadelphia families but who had not left Haiti before the earthquake; children orphaned by the earthquake; and those (both adults and children) in need of legal help with their immigration status. As word of the Initiative has gotten out, a number of local law firms have volunteered to help staff immigration and adoption cases over the coming months.

Another initiative focused specifically on immigration assistance to the Haitian community in the region is being organized by HIAS and includes the Nationalities Service Center, the Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians, the American Immigration Lawyers’ Association Pro Bono Committee, pro bono attorneys and representatives from the Haitian community. In addition to outreach and education on immigration matters to the Haitian community, this network is offering legal services to help Haitians negotiate the complex immigration regulations that have been put in place to support them.

“The Obama Administration has extended special immigration rights to Haitians in the aftermath of this earthquake,” said Bernstein-Baker, executive director of HIAS and Council. These include humanitarian parole, which allows orphaned or medically needy children from Haiti to enter the United States temporarily to ensure that they receive the care they need, and temporary protected status, extended to Haitians already in the United States to protect them from deportation for 18 months and to allow them to work here since their safety would be at risk if they were deported.

“These are humanitarian efforts on the part of our government, but people are going to need legal assistance to be able to take advantage of the special immigration program,” Bernstein-Baker said. “It is wonderful how people have stepped forward, offering their time and support.”

The work being done by HIAS, the Support Center for Child Advocates and the Nationalities Service Center, as well as the volunteer lawyers they work with, illustrates the importance of having strong public interest legal service organizations, which can respond appropriately and effectively to whatever crisis hits. Last year, we saw a number of our grantee organizations step into high gear to help with those suffering the most from the economic meltdown. This year it’s Haiti.

The financial support given by the Bar Foundation to these organizations in terms of grants for operating expenses allows them to have the wherewithal to support those unbudgeted for emergencies. Of course, the only reason that the Foundation can help is because all of us in the legal community help us do so. We, and them, continue to appreciate your support.

Money is not the only way to help. If you want to provide pro bono services as part of the Haitian Children’s Initiative, please contact Jennings Durand at jennings.durand@dechert.com. For relocation assistance, HIAS PA, Lutheran Family Services’ Resettlement Program and Nationalities Service Center are involved with providing housing, food and counseling for the Haitian earthquake survivors coming to Philadelphia for medical treatment. And, if you or your family want to donate housing or transportation or even clothing and bedding for Haitian refugees, contact Sarah Peterson at speterson@hiaspa.org, Kathrin Ivanovic at kivanovic@mfcpa.org or Janet Panning at janetp@lcsnipa.org.

2009 Arbitration Fee Donors Thanked

Through the arbitration fee donation program, the Philadelphia Bar Foundation, the Philadelphia Bar Association and the Court of Common Pleas have made it possible for lawyers who volunteer their services as arbitrators in the Court of Common Pleas to support equal justice for all.

Arbitrators can designate that all or part of their honorarium be donated to either the Bar Foundation or to Community Legal Services, Inc. The Bar Foundation thanks its 2009 arbitration fee donors, listed below.

March Program Helps Attorneys Gain Business

Throughout 2009, the Philadelphia Bar Association received more and more inquiries from members asking for resources devoted to building a practice and increasing business development skills.

Larger law firms were disbanding and/or laying attorneys off and more attorneys were being pressured to develop business. In an effort to help attorneys gain skills that were not being taught anywhere else, the Bar Association partnered with The Training Resource Group to develop a training program focused on building a practice and providing attorneys with the tools to successfully develop business.

Chuck and Evan Polin of The Training Resource Group have worked with attorneys for more than a decade to help them with their business development skills. They believe that by providing ongoing reinforcement training over time, attorneys can learn the skills that are needed to be successful in business development. The Training Resource Group works simultaneously in four different areas to ensure success. First, they work on developing a plan to identify, target and get in front of more opportunities. They then help attorneys track their plans to make sure that they can measure success. Next, they teach attorneys how to stand out and make their prospective clients more comfortable conducting initial meetings. Finally, they work with the attorneys to help them move out of their “comfort zone” and try different tactics, so that they will have more success developing business.

The training program consists of four, two-hour sessions plus an individual coaching session. These sessions focus on teaching attorneys to build a plan to get in front of more opportunities and introduce strategies to turn those opportunities into business. These sessions help to give attorneys a process and system to build a book of business. To date, there have been three completed programs conducted at the Bar Association. The program has attracted a wide range of participants, from large firms and small firms to partners and associates. All of the participants are focused on building a larger book of business and generating more revenue. Many of the participants were surprised to discover how easy it could be to be successful in developing new business once they were given the proper tools.

One participant, Bart Cohen from Berger & Montague, P.C., said, “The course has equipped me with a focused, methodical and practical approach to managing a task that requires such an approach for most attorneys.”

The next four-session program begins in March and will be held every Friday beginning March 5 from 12 to 2 p.m. at the offices of the Philadelphia Bar Association. For more information, call Chuck or Evan Polin at The Training Resource Group at 215-320-4650.
Young Lawyers Bootcamp Convenes at PBI

Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Daniel J. Anders (above, from left), Board of Governors member Brandi J. Brice, Bar Association Assistant Secretary Sophia Lee, Philadelphia VIP Executive Director Sara Woods and Bar Association Secretary Kathleen D. Wilkinson were panelists for the Young Lawyers Bootcamp opening session "Entering Unknown Territory: Choosing a Career Path" on Feb. 19 at The CLE Conference Center. Vice Chancellor John E. Savoth (right) welcomed attendees.

More than 120 young lawyers and law students attended the program, which also included sessions on getting the most out of your first job, considerations before starting your own practice and the nuts and bolts of networking.

Young Lawyer Bootcamp Coordinator Rachel Kopp (left) joins YLD Chair Albertine Y. DuFrayne at the happy hour that followed the program at Tavern on Broad.

Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Donna M. Woelpper (left) and U.S. District Court Judge Cynthia M. Rufe were panelists for the program "Advice from the Bench." The panel also featured Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judges Paul P. Panepinto, Gary S. Glazer and Charles J. Cunningham, along with Municipal Court Judge Bradley K. Moss.
It is no surprise that young lawyers experience a lot of stress and anxiety. We face deadlines, the potential for liability and are often responsible for maintaining client relationships. In addition to work-related stress, many young lawyers face personal and financial stress.

I recently experienced this first hand. On top of the usual daily stress, in October I was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. In November I had surgery to remove half of my thyroid. In December I learned that I actually did not have cancer. I definitely feel extremely lucky, not to mention very thankful, but the whole experience was overwhelmingly stressful. Since the surgery, I have become committed to leading a happier, lower-stress lifestyle.

I started making time to do the things that I like to do – spend time with family, take a pottery class, actually cook healthy meals – without constantly stressing about what I am not accomplishing at the office in that time. I realized that there is always at least one more thing to do at the office. It will never be the right time to do anything unless I make the decision that there is time. I started making time and I encourage you to do the same.

I realize, however, that this is not always possible. During those weeks that really do not allow for a work-life balance, the March 2010 edition of Women’s Health magazine offers several helpful suggestions about how to energize and de-stress if you only have a few minutes. These quick fix suggestions include listening to an energizing song, taking a moment to sit quietly, organizing your desk to reduce clutter or adding peppermint to your desk either by eating a mint or using something peppermint scented in your office (but I suggest making it mild to avoid creating more stress by having your office neighbors confront you for giving them a headache with an overpowering smell).

Another way that you can mitigate stress and more fully live life is to become involved in the community. To do this, you can take advantage of the Young Lawyers Division’s very strong community service agenda. In April, the YLD will host the annual Law Week celebration. Law Week is a series of activities aimed at introducing law to the public. Events include Legal Advice Live!, which is a public forum at Free Library of Philadelphia branches where lawyers give free legal advice and referrals to those involved in the Philadelphia community. I hope you will join us for an event and, by doing so, take steps to lower the stress in your life.

If you want to find out more about the YLD’s upcoming events, contact any member of the Executive Committee, visit the YLD on the Bar Association’s Web site or find the Young Lawyers Division on Facebook and become a fan of our page.

If you have any questions regarding this event, please do not hesitate to contact Dawn Petit at 215-238-6367 or dpetit@philabaro.org.

YLD Comedy Night May 22 with Dan Cummins

Comedian Dan Cummins, who has appeared on Comedy Central’s “Live at Gotham,” “The Late, Late Show with Craig Ferguson” and “Last Comic Standing,” will be the headline performer at the 5th Annual YLD Comedy Night and Silent Auction on Saturday, May 22 at the Franklin Institute, 222 N. 20th St. The event begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are $65 if purchased by May 7 and $80 after May 7. The cutoff for ticket sales is May 17. No walk-up sales will be available.

All proceeds will benefit the Philadelphia Bar Foundation. A link for registration will be available soon at philadelphia.org.
Services, by pro bono attorneys and by representation by Community Legal structure. The study will include looking to tenants and on the eviction court focus on how legal services are delivered in civil housing cases. That study will a study on the effects of providing counsel Research of Portland, Ore. as the target of ing and family law.

societal and economic benefits of such proceedings where critical human needs are at stake, is moving its focus in 2010 toward studies that demonstrate the societal and economic benefits of such representation in matters involving housing and family law.

Philadelphia has been chosen by NPC Research of Portland, Ore. as the target of a study on the effects of providing counsel in civil housing cases. That study will focus on how legal services are delivered to tenants and on the eviction court structure. The study will include looking at representation by Community Legal Services, by pro bono attorneys and by the paid private bar.

The Civil Gideon Task Force has three working groups – housing, family law and education and communications. “This year, the Task Force will focus on the studies but also on educating the larger legal community about the need for Civil Gideon as well as promoting concrete projects that demonstrate the value of legal representation in housing and family law, in particular,” said Joseph A. Sullivan, co-chair of the Task Force. Sullivan said there is an on-going three-part study of the city’s Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Project being conducted by the Philadelphia-based Reinvestment Fund. He said that the first results of that study are expected shortly and they will reflect data collection from the Diversion Project that will illuminate the elements and the magnitude of the foreclosure crisis. Sullivan added the study will ultimately include an assessment of the impact of not providing counsel in foreclosure proceedings.

“Tenants are unrepresented at a much higher rate than landlords. It’s a way to level the playing field,” said CLS Executive Director Catherine C. Carr, who also serves as co-chair of the Civil Gideon Task Force.

“We are hopeful the NPC study provides data and evidence that having an attorney in a landlord-tenant court case decreases homelessness and increases the ability of people to stay in their home and in homes that are in better shape,” she said. “Often, cases in landlord-tenant court involve the condition of properties. These cases are about the quality of housing and the ability of people to stay in their homes.”

Tenants facing eviction or similar problems come to CLS, Carr explained. Often the tenants come to CLS just days before they’re facing eviction. “We have a pro bono program working with Dechert LLP and Pepper Hamilton LLP where we’ve set up a direct relationship with counsel. We work closely with Tenant Union Representative Network, which does some education for tenants facing the eviction process. We provide legal and technical support for them as well as training.”

The Civil Gideon Task Force was created last year precisely because there is no right to counsel in many civil cases involving fundamental human needs. There is a growing national movement to create a right to counsel in cases of critical need. NPC will develop a research design tool aimed at measuring the costs and benefits associated with providing counsel to tenants in eviction cases. The research design will suggest the most appropriate methodologies, instruments and study sites. The other city involved in the NPC study is Tacoma, Wash.

In February, NPC was to release a report with the idea to interest funders to do a more expansive longitudinal study, which would ideally include funding a grant to an agency like CLS to provide representation to tenants in eviction cases. Sullivan said the Task Force believes such studies, reflecting the benefit of having civil representation for housing and family law matters, will be compelling in making the case for Civil Gideon. “When people are evicted and lose their homes, they often then lose their jobs. When they can’t work and pay taxes, then in many cases, they have to rely on public assistance or other forms of income support that are inadequate. And in many of these cases, this disruptive process also puts their children’s education in peril. In short, a safe home is key to keeping families together,” he said.

“By providing representation in these cases, you’re helping individuals and families and ensuring they can continue to be productive members of society and can contribute to the economic and financial well-being of society as a whole,” Sullivan said.

For More Information
For more information about the Civil Gideon Task Force, contact co-chairs Catherine C. Carr at ccarr@dphila.org or Joseph A. Sullivan at sullivan@pepperlaw.com.

FJD Honors Pro Bono Work

Court of Common Pleas Judge Daniel J. Anders (from left), Chancellor Scott F. Cooper, President Judge Pamela Pryor Dembe and Joseph A. Sullivan gather at the law library in City Hall on Jan. 27 to present the First Judicial District’s Pro Bono Roll of Honor. For the full list of honorees, visit www.courts.phila.gov/probonoawards.
Entries are now being accepted for the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Eighth Annual Legal Writing Competition in honor of the Honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg, associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

The co-chairs of the competition are Kathleen D. Wilkinson, partner at Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP and Secretary of the Association and Diane Penneys Edelman, assistant dean for international programs and professor of legal writing, Villanova University School of Law.

The Bar Association recognizes the importance of excellence in legal analysis and writing skills, and seeks to award a student enrolled in an American Bar Association-approved or provisionally approved area law school for authoring a top-quality competition submission.

“This competition was created eight years ago. It gives law students the opportunity to show off their legal writing talents. The winner is invited to the October Quarterly Meeting to be recognized and presented with the award,” said Wilkinson. “This is an excellent way for a law student to distinguish oneself.”

“We are thrilled that the Bar Association has demonstrated a strong commitment to the development and recognition of excellent legal analysis and writing abilities among Philadelphia-area law students. These skills have always been important to a lawyer’s success, and have become even more crucial in this economy,” said Edelman.

This competition is open to full- and part-time law students who are in their second or third year of study during the 2009-2010 academic year at one of the following six institutions: Drexel University Earle Mack School of Law, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Rutgers University School of Law – Camden, Temple University Beasley School of Law, Villanova University School of Law and Widener University School of Law (Delaware Campus).

Part-time law students in their third or later year of study are also eligible. Students must be in good standing at their institutions. The submission may not have been published previously, although it may have been prepared in connection with a law school course or for a law journal. The submission also may not have been submitted for any other competition during the time when it is under consideration for this competition, until after the time when awards are announced.

The submission must be the work of one author alone (joint submissions will not be considered), and the author must certify that the submission has been prepared without substantial editing from others.

Candidates may submit a law review quality submission on any topic relating to rights, privileges and responsibilities under federal law. Entries must be received by Monday, May 10 at 4 p.m.

The author of the winning submission will receive a cash award of $2,500, the publication of the winning submission on the Bar Association’s Web site and/or in an appropriate Bar Association publication. The winner will be presented with the award at the Association’s Quarterly Meeting in October.

Program on Submitting to Editorial Pages April 22

The Association’s Bar-News Media Committee will host “How and When to Share Your Opinion with the Press - Submitting to Editorial Pages” on Thursday, April 22.

Members will hear from editorial page editors from several area newspapers. Panelists will include Bernard Dagenais, editor of the Philadelphia Business Journal; Hank Grezlak, associate publisher and editor-in-chief of The Legal Intelligencer; Lisa Hostein, executive editor, Jewish Exponent; Irv Randolph, managing editor of The Philadelphia Tribune; Idelle Howitt, managing editor, Metropolitan Corporate Counsel; and Guy Petroziello, editorial page editor, Bucks County Courier Times. Additional panelists will be announced.

The program will take place from 12 to 1:30 p.m. at Bar Association headquarters, 1101 Market St., in the 11th Floor Conference Center. Click here to register. For more information about the Bar-News Media Committee, contact Committee Chair Gina Furia Rubel at gina@furiarubel.com.
Bar 5K is Her First Step Toward Marathon

By Maureen M. Farrell

Aside from the long-term health benefits, I am less stressed and all-around a more congenial person. My family will actually thank me for this. As a result the conversation will be more palatable as well.

Below are five short training tips I developed with my friend and running coach, Ross Martinson (a top-25 finisher at the Boston Marathon) for getting started or maximizing your time amidst a busy schedule:

• Pick a goal race. Your goal might be a marathon, 5K (like the 5K Bar Run on May 16), or running one mile. Once you pick your goal you can work out a plan to achieve it. Check to see if you have any weeks during the training program where you may have schedule conflicts to avoid. Having a plan can keep you from overdoing it in the beginning as well. Lawyers tend to have very driven personalities, and that makes it very easy to start out too quickly. We all want to be the best right away, but running takes time. Beginners can’t go too short or too slow, as long as they get out there consistently. As lawyers we are constantly taking on large amounts of work, but too much running at once can quickly lead to burnout or injury. Three days a week is plenty for anyone getting started. Once you have a realistic plan, let everyone know your goal. Now you have to do it.

• Schedule your runs. You have a plan, now you have to fit them into your schedule. Ross works with many runners and has always urged them to run first thing in the morning, so that the pressures of the day’s schedule do not interfere with the run. For many lawyers, who might not be working just 9-5, scheduling a run during the day can be a great stress reliever and re-energizer. This absolutely makes me far more focused and productive throughout the rest of the workday. It is far more effective than the mid afternoon coffee or chocolate.

The midday run does require extra planning, flexibility, and sometimes having to say no to something that may come up. Whatever time you run, says Ross, be sure to start before you get home. Once you come home the pull of the couch, kids, spouse or TV can be too much to overcome.

• Break up your runs. Doing the same thing during every run can be death of any running program. Keep things interesting by mixing up your runs. Instead of running three miles a week, try making each run unique. Use one day for a slower but longer run and an interval run. A “track workout” may...
MAY 16, 2010
8:30 a.m.

PHILADELPHIA BAR ASSOCIATION

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For the Support Center for Child Advocates

SUPPORT CENTER FOR CHILD ADVOCATES
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Business Law Section Honors

Business Law Section Chair (from left) Lee Applebaum is joined by Vincent Capone, Dennis H. Replansky Award recipient Herman C. Fala, Ralph Mauro and 2009 Section Chair Eric C. Milby at the Section’s Annual Reception on Jan. 26 at the Westin Philadelphia. Capone, vice chair of the Venture Capital and Private Equity Committee, accepted the award for the section’s Committee of the Year. Mauro, chair of the Mergers & Acquisitions Committee, was named Committee Chair of the Year. Philadelphia VIP Executive Director Sara Woods (right photo, from left) accepts a $12,000 check for LawWorks from Applebaum with Mark C. Levy, president of the VIP Board.

Business Law Section Honors

sound like something just for varsity athletes, but these workouts can make anyone’s runs more interesting. A workout could be doing one mile where you alternate going hard one minute with going easy one minute. You will be surprised how much quicker time passes on runs where you mix up the pace. New runners should alternate running with walking on these runs.

• Bring a friend. Talk someone into training with you and you both win. The chance of you skipping a run when someone is waiting to meet up with you is very low. This is a great networking opportunity if you can find a group to run with at lunch, or after work. Double points if this person is a spouse. We already spend enough time away from our families. Why not get fit with them?

• Enjoy it! How many hours do we spend staring at a computer screen? After spending all day sitting and staring at a screen we are often in a rush to get home, and sit and stare at a screen. We should be excited for any excuse to be away from our desks.

Dreading your morning run? Maybe you need to go shorter, or slower, or find more sleep. According to Ross, if you build up your distance slowly, there is no reason to dread any run. Like any good lawyer, I of course, disagree here. I may sometimes dread getting out there (nothing fun about a 20-mile training run), but I always feel better afterward!

Maureen M. Farrell (NEWRY@aol.com) is an estate planning and elder law attorney.
The Women in the Profession Committee is seeking nominations for the 2010 Sandra Day O’Connor Award. Deadline for nominations is Monday, March 22.

The committee established the award in 1993 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 Kidd Stout, 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 faculty; 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; Lila G. Roenberg of Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP; the late Judge Judith J. Jamison; Ellen T. Greenlee, chief defender of the Defender Association of Philadelphia; former Chancellor Audrey C. Talley; U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Marjorie O. Rendell; former Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge Phyllis W. Beck; Roberta D. Pichini of Feldman, Shepherd, Wohlgelernter, Tanner, Weinstock & Dodig; Lynn A. Marks, executive director of Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts; Roberta D. Liebenberg of Fine, Kaplan and Black, R.P.C.; and JoAnne Epps, dean of Temple University Beasley School of Law.

Visit philadelphiabar.org to download a nomination form. Please send nominations to the attention of Dawn Perit, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107.
Bar Academy

continued from page 1

The American Revolutionary War. The light blue in the middle of the badge is derived from the civic flag of Philadelphia and is a tribute to the team’s “Sons of Ben” supporters club. The team’s primary crest is circular, symbolizing unity. The 13 gold stars displayed along the base of the crest represent the original 13 Colonies, while the shield’s contour derives from the Philadelphia coat of arms. The rattlesnake featured in the center of the shield pays homage to a political cartoon by Benjamin Franklin that was featured in multiple editions of the Pennsylvania Gazette in the 1750s. The rattlesnake became a national symbol during the American Revolution, representing the danger of disunity, and was featured on the Gadsden flag. Union’s secondary logo also features the rattlesnake, along with the motto “JUNGERTE aut PERITE,” a Latin phrase meaning “JOIN or DIE,” while the shield pays homage to a political cartoon by Franklin in his cartoons along with the rattlesnake.

The last professional outdoor team to call Philadelphia home, the Atoms, played in the North American Soccer League and won the league championship played in the North American Soccer League and won the league championship in its inaugural season in 1973. The Philadelphia Bar Association, launched this year by Chancellor Scott F. Cooper, lets members register for free or modestly priced courses that will help them be part of the city and become better-rounded people.

To register for this free program, visit philadelphiabar.org. Lunch is available for $15 for those members who pre-register.
As I sit here to write my first column, I think back to how I started to write for the Philadelphia Bar Reporter in the first place. I was clerking for Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Denis Cohen right after law school in 2003. He was co-chair of the Professional Responsibility Committee at the time. I would attend the meetings with the judge and take notes for him, and as a result, I eventually became secretary of the committee. That was my first official “position” with the Bar Association and I felt like I was actually contributing something extra to the Bar Association community.

During the course of the committee meetings, I eventually met Jeff Lyons, the Bar Association’s senior managing editor of publications, and he asked if I would be interested in writing an article on a committee meeting and I agreed, despite the fact that I had never written anything editorial in my life. After three years of law school and training my brain to write in legal style, I was not even sure whether I would be able to write in an editorial style. As a matter of fact, I was not quite sure exactly what editorial style was.

I guess my first article was not as bad as I feared because it actually made its way into the paper and I continued to write articles on the committee meetings from that point forward until the end of my clerkship in 2005. I was eventually appointed to the Bar Reporter Editorial Board and have been there ever since. Over that period of time, I have seen the paper go through format changes, board members, features and editors-in-chief. When I heard that Sunah Park, the former editor-in-chief, had taken a job in Korea and would not be able to continue her role as editor, at first I dismissed the idea of volunteering myself for the position. I thought “how could I come up with interesting topics to write about and head up the board, while also practicing law?” At first, it seemed like an impossibility for me. But then upon further reflection I thought, maybe I could take on the job after all. I mean, if Sunah could go thousands of miles away for a new job in a country where she did not even fully speak the language, the least I could do was to try to fill her shoes and help keep things running smoothly.

So that, in a nutshell, is what brought me to this point, writing my first column as editor of the Bar Reporter. We have recently appointed several new members to the Editorial Board, and I think that they will be able to bring a fresh perspective to the paper. If any members of the Bar have ideas, comments or criticisms regarding the paper that they would like to convey, please feel free to direct them to my attention.

There is a lot of work that goes into putting this paper out every month, but we are always looking for ideas and ways to make the paper more appealing to our members. I am certainly looking forward to making as much of a contribution that I can to the Bar Reporter over the next year and am thankful for the opportunity.

By Asima Panigrahi

SeniorLAW Center Planning Senior Prom for April 23

The SeniorLAW Center Event Committee met to plan its April 23 special event, “SENIOR PROM!” a night of dancing, food and celebration for all ages. Pictured (front row, from left) are honorary co-hosts Joan and David Denenberg and and Bar Association Immediate-Past Chancellor Sayde J. Ladov. Shown in the second row (from left) are Board member Richard J. Conn, event co-chairs and Board members Gay Parks Rainville and Shari J. Odenheimer, Board Chair Wendy E. Bookler, Executive Director Karen Buck and Director of Development and Finance Larry Felzer. Not pictured are honorary co-hosts David Ladov and Vera and Al Dandridge. The event will be held at the Westin Philadelphia from 6 to 11 p.m. Children and prom attire are welcome. For tickets and information, visit www.seniorlawcenter.org, call 215-701-3203 or e-mail lfelzer@seniorlawcenter.org.

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Great Dining Blossoms at Chinatown Eatery

Sakura
1038 Race Street
(215) 873-8338

Its front glass exterior makes this corner shebang look as if it were the Asian version of a huge fluorescent glowworm. Frankly, in the evening, the well-lighted interior is a luminescent reverie of a seeming pan-Asian luncheonette. As you enter, a three-chair sushi-tushie-bar deli-counter is to your left, up a level; and to your right is a “banquet hall” proliferating with tables covered by white linen cloths beneath clear plastic protectors. Three long tables are set to seat eight patrons upon lattice-backed wooden chairs; six smaller tables seat four, one for three and one for two. Everywhere are miniature white teapots ready to be poured. In one corner, a palm’s fronds stick out and upward toward a high dropped-ceiling. Open brown cardboard boxes with Chinese lettering adorn other corners of the eatery.

This used to be the location of Nice Chinese Noodle House that had served tons of scalding wontons accompanied by dozens of white-lipped ladies. A plethora of sliced hot cherry peppers and sordidly scorching sauces flavored the soups, requiring the omnipresence of hundreds of thin napkins. The napkin-tissues were a necessity, to wipe your brow, nose, mouth, hands, chin, clothing and finally your eyes, in heated, tearing disbelief.

Sakura’s fare is mellow in contrast, favored in Mandarin fashion, with choices of items infused with alleged Shanghai and Japanese specialties. Nevertheless, when in Chinatown, do as the locals do: Mandarin’s a must. In fact, the first few times you come here for lunch, dinner or take-out, simply listen to and watch what the Asian customers are ordering. More than 60 percent of the diners are speaking various Oriental dialects, all seemingly understandable to the pleasant and attentive wait-staff. English may not be as easy on the servers’ tongues, but the pictorial displays on the menu allow pronounced pointing to become good manners.

If you spend more than $40 per family-of-five at this BYO, my guess is that your stomachs will be up the Yangtze without paddles, gorged. This is the perfect place to Shanghai your entourage, especially young children, to introduce them to the sounds and the visual feel of authentic Chinese noodle notions.

You may desire to begin your meal with scallion pancakes to initiate the youngsters to a definitive cultural lesson. Two flattened and folded golden thin pancakes appear on white concave plates upon which rest separate cylinders of dark sauces. American pancakes, of course, are round and fluffy, ready for buttering and sweet jelly toppings or syrup. The Chinese version, on the other hand, is limply lengthy and soggy, studded with bits of scallions waiting to be dipped into a soy-ginger or hoisin broth.

“Eat with sauce,” demands our plain-clothed waiter kindly. “No good without sauce.” The faces children make can be scary at times, especially when confronted with tart-flavored green onion sponginess between their cheeks, so be certain to have an order of mini-dumplings nearby to return the twinkles to their eyes. A dozen dumplings are displayed in an oblong deep dish. They are large pinched flat noodles completely embracing, if not choking, chopped shrimp and pork mounds. All seem to simmer in fragrant peanut oils. The kids soak their tongues around the slippery wrappings and let their mouths churn upon the interiors while dipping chopsticks to garner more.

continued on page 19
Chopin’s Work is Perfect for the Piano

By Marc W. Reuben

This month marks the bicentennial of the birth of Frederic Chopin, a composer from the Romantic era who is most closely associated with music for the piano.

Being an old student of that instrument, and having meandered though much of his ouvre, I am inclined to point out that since his death no one has risen to the poetic heights achieved by him. The strains of melody that he created are so beloved as to be organic. The musical forms used by him, many of them based upon Polish folk styles, are the telling point in his compositions. The polonaise is a fanciful dance of the upper class, the mazurka is the dance of the peasant, and the waltz an expression of romantic love.

Chopin was born in Poland in 1810, but spent the last 18 years of his life in Paris where he carried on a famous affair with author George Sand. It was in Paris that he composed much of the work that remains his monument and where he lies buried (his heart was taken to Poland.) But the forms of Polish music are the backbone of much of what he wrote. The stately and martial polonaise, and the folk dances that have come to be called mazurka, comprise a large portion of what Chopin wrote. He composed 57 mazurkas and more than a dozen polonaises, all of them memorable and diverse. And all of them are difficult to play in piano because the performance of his finger-twisting chords and delicate melodies require a degree of control that can be mastered by only a few artists.

Of the forms used by him, the nocturne, a subtype of composition that can be likened to a lullaby, is also famous. The ballade is not a strict form, but a type of melodic/thematic music that Chopin embraced in four notable instances. He wrote two piano concertos and numerous sonatas, in addition to many preludes, which are the most demanding of finger exercises – except to call them exercises is to suggest that they are something less than the superb music they are. To the beginner, his music is an overwhelming blur of notes that young fingers would find difficult to master. Yet with time and practice, each of those many notes becomes an individual vehicle of expression. Played by the right performer, the music is as perfect as anything written for the piano could be.

The fabled “heroic” polonaise may possibly be the most familiar of his works. The popular song “I’m Always Changing Rainbows” comes from the Fantasy Impromptu. The “military” polonaise was played on radio by the resistance in Warsaw at the opening of World War II. Chopin was afflicted by respiratory disease for most of his adult life. He died in Paris at age 39 in 1849. It is said of him that he was not a strong man and therefore did not play his own pieces with the fire and strength that they demanded. This meant that he was a more subtle pianist, and there was much in his music that called for the most suggestive playing.

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Wharton University of Pennsylvania

March 2010 Philadelphia Bar Reporter 19
Editor's note: The following are summaries of opinions issued by the Professional Guidance Committee. The committee’s jurisdiction is limited to rendering opinions about prospective ethical conduct by inquirers who are members of the Philadelphia Bar Association. The letter “T” following an opinion number indicates a telephone inquiry. Attorneys who wish to ask a question, obtain copies of committee opinions or ask the committee to issue a formal opinion should contact Paul Kataras, Esq., the Association’s deputy executive director, at (215) 238-6328.

**Summarized by David I. Grunfeld**

2009-172T Attorney admitted in another state as well as Pennsylvania is not obligated to disclose that on business cards but may do so.

2009-181T Attorney representing husband and wife in defense of foreclosure action in Pennsylvania now has a conflict when parties have separated and each has divorce counsel; conflict may be waived with informed consent, but inquirer may want to withdraw if parties not cooperating.

2009-187T Attorney served with writ of execution by client’s judgment creditor may not name firm’s top clients as having conflict for two lawyers in the same firm to represent two defendants, in the same action, who have cross-claims against each other.

2009-223T Attorney who set up a trust to invest with each client’s consent may not name firm’s top clients as having conflict when parties have separated and each has divorce counsel; conflict may be waived with informed consent, but inquirer may want to withdraw if parties not cooperating.

2009-239T Attorney representing a small estate may divide up the estate between parties after a period of time.

2009-246T Attorney for2009-246T Attorney must withdraw representation before suing client for balance of fee.

2009-247T Attorney representing a small estate may divide up the estate between parties after a period of time.

2009-257T Attorney who represents an inquirer in civil rights case arising out of son’s arrest without client consent, obtains copies of committee opinions or ask the committee to issue a formal opinion about prospective ethical conduct by inquirers who are members of the Philadelphia Bar Association. The letter “T” following an opinion number indicates a telephone inquiry. Attorneys who wish to ask a question, obtain copies of committee opinions or ask the committee to issue a formal opinion should contact Paul Kataras, Esq., the Association’s deputy executive director, at (215) 238-6328.

2009-257T Attorney who represents an inquirer in civil rights case arising out of son’s arrest without client consent, obtains copies of committee opinions or ask the committee to issue a formal opinion about prospective ethical conduct by inquirers who are members of the Philadelphia Bar Association. The letter “T” following an opinion number indicates a telephone inquiry. Attorneys who wish to ask a question, obtain copies of committee opinions or ask the committee to issue a formal opinion should contact Paul Kataras, Esq., the Association’s deputy executive director, at (215) 238-6328.

**Arts & Media**

Continued from page 19

But of them all, two very fine pianists stand above the rest. Romanian Dinu Lipatti, who died even younger than Chopin, did not record many works. But his renditions of Chopin waltzes, any lover of music could tick off, are so perfect that the man put his hand to seems fresh and new, even pieces he played many times before. Moreover, his career can be divided into periods. A younger man dashed off Chopin’s music with a brio that sent chills down the spine. His recordings from the 1930s cover the range of Chopin’s music, and they are quite fine. But his work after 1950 is that of a mature genius who relishes the song and rhythm found in quieter performances of the same music. You hear more and appreciate more. This despite the fact that recordings of the same music made many years apart seem so different. This was a man who never stopped trying to appreciate his gift and explored it every time he sat at the piano. His CD “Selections from the Chopin Collections” contains performances of a lifetime. Along with the Lipatti waltzes, any lover of music could sit on a desert island with joy in the heart just listening.

Marc W. Reuben (marcreuben@yahoo.com), a sole practitioner, is an advisory editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter. He has been writing about the arts and media since 1975.

**Professional Guidance**

**Henry M. Clinton**

This month, Philadelphia VIP recognizes Henry M. Clinton, a member at Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC, for his outstanding volunteer assistance to VIP clients. Clinton began volunteering at VIP in 1992 and has since helped numerous VIP clients. He has used his vast real estate expertise to help VIP’s homeownership clients, acting as a volunteer attorney on roughly 20 VIP cases. He has also shared this extensive real estate knowledge with VIP’s staff members and volunteer attorneys by making himself available as a mentor on dozens of other VIP cases.

Clinton generously served for five years on the Tangled Title Fund’s Advisory Committee, which ensures that low-income homeownership clients are provided with certain costs of transferring title on a fair and consistent basis. The committee meets 10 times a year. Clinton is now representing a client who purchased her home 12 years ago, paying off significant back taxes during that time; however, the record owner failed to transfer legal title to the client.

Because of his dedication to VIP as volunteer, mentor, and committee member, Clinton has impacted so many Philadelphia neighborhoods by helping provide a secure home for VIP clients and their families. For his commitment and dedication to our homeownership clients, Philadelphia VIP offers our heartfelt appreciation to Henry M. Clinton.
HAP Annual Benefit Set for April 8 at Ritz-Carlton

The Fundraising Committee from the Homeless Advocacy Project gathers Feb. 8 at the offices of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP. Pictured are (front) Marsha Cohen, HAP executive director; (second row, from left) Blaine Stanley, ACE; Jack L. Foltz; J. Gordon Cooney Jr. of Morgan Lewis; (third row, from left) Andrea Bloch, HAP development director; Sara Brandes, LEXIS-NEXIS; Cary Moritz, HAP volunteer coordinator; (fourth row, from left) Margaret A. Morris, Reger Rizzo & Darnall LLP; Kevin Stepanuk, Exelon; Madeline M. Sherry, Gibbons P.C.; Caitlin M. Piccarello, Saul Ewing LLP; (back row, from left) James E. DellBello, Morgan Lewis; Ethan D. Fogel, Dechert LLP; and Stephen G. Harvey, Pepper Hamilton.

HAP’s April Benefit will be held Thursday, April 8 at the Ritz-Carlton, 10 Avenue of the Arts, beginning at 5:30 p.m. At the event, HAP will honor Sandy Ballard, founding HAP executive director; Christopher C. Fallon Jr., founding HAP board member and former HAP board president; and Jack L. Foltz, former HAP board president and former vice president and general counsel, Sunoco. The event will feature complimentary cocktails and hors d’oeuvres and a silent and live auction. For more information, visit homelessadvocacyproject.org.
People

Sara Woods, executive director of Philadelphia VIP, was recently named the 2010 recipient of the Donald W. Dowd Alumni Association Award for Public Service by Villanova University School of Law.

Helen E. Casale, a shareholder with Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin, has been elected vice chair of the Interbranch Commission for Racial Gender and Ethnic Fairness.

Jason Banonis, a shareholder with Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Goggin, was recently nominated to become a member of the Council on Litigation Management.

Roberta Jacobs-Meadway, a member of Eckert Seamans Cherin and Mellott, LLC, was recently elected president of the Board of Directors of Hope Allot, USA, credited as Philadelphia and Pennsylvania’s first breast cancer survivor dragon boat racing team.

Deborah J. Zateeny, a partner with Zateeny Loftus, LLP, was a course planner and panelist at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s program “How To Start A Nonprofit Organization” on Jan. 13.

Harris A. Dainoff, an associate with Fox Rothschild LLP, was sworn in Jan. 4 to a six-year term on the Board of Supervisors in East Norriton Township, Pa.

Thomas A. Leonard, a partner with Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP, was recently honored by the American Jewish Committee Philadelphia/Southern New Jersey with the 2010 Learned Hand Award.

Albert Momjian, a partner with Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP, has been elected to serve as president of the Philadelphia Connsular Corps Association. Momjian has served as the Honorary Consul for the Republic of Haiti since 1978.

Abraham C. Reich, co-chair of Fox Rothschild LLP and a past Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, was recently re-appointed to serve on the Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board.

Michael E. Scullin, counsel to McClory, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP, has been elected vice president of the Consular Corps Association of Philadelphia, the oldest consular corps in the United States. Scullin is the honorary consul of France in Philadelphia and Wilmington, Del.

Marc S. Raspani, a partner with Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick and Raspani, LLP, presented at “Representing the Physician 2010” seminar in Orlando, Fla. on Jan. 22. The program was sponsored by the Florida Bar Continuing Legal Education Committee and the Health Law Section and the Tax Section.


Michael F. Schleigh, an associate with Dessey, Mahoney, Valenini & North, Ltd., recently published the article “Owning Up to Attorney Failures: The Need to Disclose Potential Liabilities When Applying for Malpractice Policies” in the American Bar Association publication The Brief.

Joseph Manko, a partner with Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP, was a panelist at the program “Here Comes the Rain: Understanding the Philadelphia Water Department’s New Stormwater Assessment” on Jan. 26.

Karen Faulkner, a partner with Ballard Spahr LLP, has been reappointed to the City of Philadelphia’s Board of Ethics by Mayor Michael Nutter.

Beth L. Weisser, an associate with Fox Rothschild LLP, was recently appointed to serve a three-year term on the board of the Friends of the Philadelphia Zoo Committee.

Bernard Max Resnick, principal in Bernard M. Resnick, Esq., PC, lectured on concert tour deal rights in the music industry at the international music business conference “MIDEM,” which was held in January in Cannes, France. He also lectured at the inaugural “New Noise Santa Barbara” music conference and CLE event in Santa Barbara, Calif., on multiple-rights deals.

Jeffrey L. Dashevsky of Dashevsky, Horwitz, Kuhn & Novello, PC, has been elected to the Executive Committee of the Louis D. Brandeis Law Society for a two-year term.

Francis J. Raucci, of counsel partner with Gough, Shanahan, Johnson & Waterman, PLLP, has been elected as a Fellow of the Academy of Court Appointed Masters.

Paula Sanders, a partner with Post & Scholl, PC., has been appointed as a member of the American Health Care Association’s Legal Committee.


Teddi Kantorczyk, a partner with Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox LLP, discussed the history and potential ramifications of EPA’s endangerment finding at the seminar “EPA Endangerment Finding for Greenhouse Gases: Rationale and Ramifications” sponsored by the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Air & Waste Management Association on Feb. 18 in Bala Cynwyd, Pa.

J. Eric Rathburn, a partner with Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP, has been elected to a three-year term as a member of the Board of Directors of the Havertown Township School District Education Foundation.

E. Harris Baum, honorary consul general for the Republic of Korea, has been named Senior Advisor to the Board of Directors of the Penn Asian Senior Services.

Neil A. Stein, a principal with Kaplin Stewart Meloff Reiter & Stein, PC., has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Homebuilders Association of Bucks and Montgomery Counties.

Pinkenson to Speak at YLD Annual Meeting

Sharon Pinkenson, executive director of the Greater Philadelphia Film Office, is the keynote speaker at the Young Lawyers Division Annual Meeting on Wednesday, March 31.

YLD Chair Albertine DuFrayne, an associate with Petrelli Law, PC., will outline her plans for the year at the event. The YLD will also present its Craig M. Perry Service Award, F. Sean Peretta Service Award and YLD Vision Award at the event. Visit philadelphiabar.org for the location, award winners and registration information.

"People" highlights news of members’ awards, honors or appointments of a community or civic nature. Information may be sent to Jeff Lyons, 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@philabar.org. Color photos are also welcome.
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Ms. Milsark came to Haines & Associates with 27 years of experience at big firms doing patent, trade secret and other complex litigation. In some of her cases, the amounts in controversy exceeded $25 million.

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