By Jeff Lyons

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor (Ret.) will be on hand when the award named in her honor is presented to Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge Anne E. Lazarus at the June 12 Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon.

U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Marjorie O. Rendell, a previous recipient of the O’Connor Award, will deliver the Judge A. Leon Higginbotham Jr. Memorial Public Interest Lecture at the event.

“We are thrilled that Justice O’Connor, the first woman to sit on our nation’s highest court, will be on hand for the 20th anniversary presentation of the award named in her honor,” said Chancellor Kathleen D. Wilkinson.

Before coming to the Supreme Court, Justice O’Connor served as an assistant attorney general in Arizona and was a member of the Arizona state Senate. She was elected as a judge on the Maricopa County Superior Court in 1974 and was selected to serve on Arizona’s Court of Appeals in 1979. Justice O’Connor was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1981 by President Ronald Reagan. She served for more than 20 years and retired in 2006. But retirement has not slowed her down. She launched iCivics, an online civics education venture aimed at middle school students in 2006. She has also written several books in addition to her efforts to advance young people’s understanding of government. She wrote the 2008 children’s book “Finding Susie” as well as her memoir “The Majesty of the Law: Reflections of a Supreme Court Justice.”

continued on page 16

CNA Insurance Program Credit at Bench-Bar

By Jeff Lyons

Philadelphia Bar Association members automatically receive a 5 percent credit applied on a per attorney basis to their CNA bar endorsed professional liability coverage. A CLE seminar to be presented at the 2013 Bench-Bar & Annual Conference will entitle attendees, on a per attorney basis, to an additional 7.5 percent risk-control credit for two years.

Registration is now open for the Bench-Bar & Annual Conference at Revel in Atlantic City, N.J. on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 4-5, 2013.

A total of 22 CLE programs and 7 CLE credits are available at this year’s conference. A new addition to this year’s conference will be a Law Practice Management track among the 22 CLE seminars that will be offered.

The Bench-Bar & Annual Conference provides attendees with the opportunity to earn continuing legal education credit while networking with colleagues and members of the bench. Hundreds of attorneys and judges are expected to attend.

Full conference early-bird registration rates are $369 for members and $219 for Young Lawyers Division members, public interest and government attorneys. For non-members, the full rate is $519. This registration ends on July 19, 2013.

Women in the Profession Committee Co-Chairs Lauren P. McKenna (left) and Regina M. Foley (right) present flowers to Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge Anne E. Lazarus in honor of her being named recipient of the O’Connor Award.

continued on page 12

In This Issue

3 YLD Comedy Night
5 Center City Revival
6 34th Annual 5K
7 Integrity Matters
14 Work-Life Balance
16 Year Club Members
Love Court Reporting, Inc. is a full service company with U.S and World Wide coverage. Our ultimate goal is to give our customers the best product available at the most competitive price.

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The only official provider of discounted court reporting services exclusively for Philadelphia Bar Association members.
I recently attended The National Judicial College's 50th anniversary symposium on "Civility in the American Justice System: Promoting Public Trust and Confidence" as an invited participant. Judges and lawyers from around the country gathered in Philadelphia over a two-day period to examine civility.

We studied model codes of conduct, and split into small groups to begin the creation and drafting process for new Principles of Civility for The National Judicial College. At the end of the symposium, we came away with suggestions on how to promote civility among litigants, lawyers and judges. It was an exciting opportunity to be in the company of esteemed judges, including some from the highest courts in their states, and top thought leaders to talk about civility.

Judge William F. Dressel, president of The National Judicial College, opened up the program referring to the meaning of "civility" and "incivility" (which is in fact a word). "As the cornerstone of a civil society, it is essential that America's judicial system not only serve and be accountable to its citizens, but demonstrate a high level of civility as well," Judge Dressel said.

Retired Oregon Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul J. De Muniz gave the keynote address on "The Importance of Civility in the Courts," referring to the current political climate in Washington, which he said is actually no different than it was hundreds of years ago. He pointed to the discourse between political figures going back to colonial times.

"During the election of 1800, the partisans referred to John Adams as a 'hideous hermaphroditical character' and to Thomas Jefferson as 'a mean-spirited, low-level fellow,'" Justice De Muniz said.

Fortunately, Justice De Muniz noted "incivility in the practice of law and in the courts has not been a part of the institutionalized culture of the American justice system."

"To the contrary, for the most part 'civility' among and between members of the bar, and civility amongst lawyers, judges and those resolving their disputes in a court, has been the norm throughout our country's legal history," Justice De Muniz said.

Justice De Muniz also quoted from a speech to the American Bar Association in 1998, when Justice Anthony Kennedy discussed civility and judicial independence as connected values, necessary to a country founded on the rule of law.

Civility "has deep roots in the idea of respect for the individual," Justice Kennedy said. "We are civil to each other because we respect one another's aspirations and equal standing in a democratic society. Civility defines our common cause in advancing the rule of law."

One of the goals of The National Judicial College is to ensure that judges and lawyers work together to make sure that civility continues to be taught and passed down to each generation. I have made civility one of our hallmark's this year, and it will be the focus of a program at our Bench-Bar & Annual Conference this fall. As lawyers, we can and must be civil and can still be effective advocates in the process.

At the symposium, bar associations were identified as being one of the resources in which our bar leaders can model and teach our young lawyers about civility. I referred to my columns on continued on page 6
Levy Cites City’s Revival, Notes More to Be Done

By Benjamin F. Johns

The Center City District, created in the 1990s in the midst of a financial crisis, has worked to remove graffiti, clean sidewalks, improve the landscape, and enlist community service representatives to transform Philadelphia from a “dirty and dangerous” city to a “clean and safe” one.

Paul R. Levy, president and CEO of the Center City District, discussed Philadelphia’s urban renewal over the past 50 years at a Young Lawyers Division 20/20 program on April 12. He said that as a result of substantial improvements made to the city’s public transit system between the 1950s and 1980s, approximately 70 percent of Center City workers now commute daily on public transportation. Despite this progress, Philadelphia was on the brink of bankruptcy by the 1990s due largely to the loss of federal funding. Center City was left with a significant inventory of vacant buildings and, as Levy described it, was a “9-to-5” downtown.

The turnaround was also attributable to the city’s decisions to focus on arts and culture, and to upgrade the Convention Center. According to a recent survey cited by Levy, only New York City has more arts and cultural institutions per resident than Philadelphia.

Levy’s comprehensive presentation covered a wide range of data and statistics. One of the most interesting trends he cited was the rapid growth in the number of outdoor cafes in Center City. When they were first legalized in 1995 there were no outdoor cafes, but by 2012 there were 274. He joked it is now impossible to lose weight being in Center City.

Philadelphia has also experienced a population increase for the first time in 60 years. Levy attributed this change to the 10-year tax abatement, increased fuel prices, and return of empty nesters into the city.

As for current and future projects, Levy discussed an ongoing initiative to upgrade streetlights to double and triple the amount of nighttime illumination.

Paul R. Levy has led Philadelphia’s Center City District since its founding in 1991.

continued on page 20
34th Annual 5K May 19; Donate Old Sneakers

MORE THAN 1,000 RUNNERS AND WALKERS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN THE 34TH ANNUAL PHILADELPHIA BAR ASSOCIATION 5K RUN/WALK ON SUNDAY, MAY 19 ALONG MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DRIVE.

This is one of the oldest and most respected events of its kind in Philadelphia. The Run/Walk format provides the opportunity for athletes of all levels to participate in this charity event to benefit the Support Center for Child Advocates.

Many different competition divisions are available, including open run, individual run, Bar Association, legal team, corporate team, male and female and age groups. Law firms and companies may enter 5K Run teams. For an application contact Michael Berkowitz at mjberkowitz@crbcp.com or 215-567-2010 (ext 132). Deadline for team registration is May 11.

Awards will be presented to the top finishers in each age group and the overall male and female winners. A $300 prize will be awarded to any Philadelphia Bar Association runner who can defeat 13-time defending champion Neill W. Clark. The prize is sponsored by Association runner who can defeat 13-time defending champion Neill W. Clark. The prize is sponsored by

The Philadelphia Bar Association's Green Ribbon Committee is partnering with Community Recycling’s ShoeBox Recycling for sneaker donations at this year’s 5K Run/Walk to benefit the Support Center for Child Advocates. All of the proceeds from your sneaker donations will go to the SCCA. Simply bring any unwanted sneakers to the event on Sunday, May 19 and drop them off in one of the collection boxes. For shoes that can be repurposed, consider putting a note and your email address into one of the shoes to track their trek via ShoeBox Recycling’s SoleMate program.

The Philadelphia Bar Association is being joined as corporate level sponsors this year by FirsTrust; Wawa; Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC; Caesar Revise Bernstein Cohen & Pokotilow Ltd.; Philadelphia Runner; Iron Mountain; The Legal Intelligencer; Veritext; Landmark Legal Solutions; Reliable; and Capital Project Management, Inc.

In addition, to date, the following law firms have also signed on as legal sponsors for the 2013 Run/Walk: Anapol Schwartz; Cozen O’Connor; DLA Piper; Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP; Fox Rothschild LLP; Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin, PC; Panitch Schwarze Belisario & Nadel, LLP; Pepper Hamilton LLP; RatnerPrestia; Raynes McCarty; Sandals & Associates, PC; Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP; Woodcock Washburn LLP; and Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaer Toddy PC.

The Philadelphia Bar Association

Judicial Commission Discussion

Teresa F. Sachs (left), chair of the Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention, and Chancellor Kathleen D. Wilson appeared on 6ABC’s Puerto Rican Panorama with host Diego Castellanos on April 20 to discuss the judicial commission ratings for the May 21 primary. To read the recommendations of the Judicial Commission, please visit philadelphiabar.org.

Frontline

continued from page 3

civility lessons from George Washington and Abraham Lincoln in the January and February issues of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter, citing to how Washington and Lincoln conducted themselves very civilly at all times. I also discussed the importance of civility this year.

There was also discussion of social media influences and how personal interaction today seems lacking as compared to the past. In today’s economy, now more than ever, bar associations are being encouraged by The National Judicial College to help teach law students and young lawyers about civility and professionalism, so in today’s age of social media, they know how to conduct themselves as professionals.

In fact, this point was recently made at the successful Chancellor’s Leadership Institute program last month on “20th Century Associates in a 21st Century Legal Environment.” Also, through our Bar Association, we have a very strong legal community, which is very close geographically; and our members therefore know that they will encounter each other time and time again.

Later on this year, I will review our Working Rules of Professionalism adopted by our Board of Governors more than 20 years ago and our subsequent Principles of Professionalism and use what I have learned to make sure our Bar Association is at the forefront of these important principles.

Justice De Muniz asked us to all model “the ethical, civility and professionalism values that characterize excellent lawyers and that foster the public’s confidence and trust in the American justice system.” I likewise ask all of you to continue to do so.

Kathleen D. Wilkinson (Kathleen.Wilkinson@wilsonelser.com), a partner with Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker, is Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association.
When it comes to leadership, integrity matters and attorneys often need to get out of their comfort zones, speakers at the April 11 Chancellor’s Leadership Institute said.

The speakers for the program were Judge Kathryn Streeter Lewis, who teaches at Villanova University School of Law, and Emilee R. Ninan, managing partner at Ballard Spahr LLP’s Wilmington, Del., office. The program was held at Ballard’s Center City office.

Ninan suggested “getting out of your comfort zone,” using her personal aversion to public speaking as an example. After making a point to practice her public speaking skills, Ninan found it became easier over time.

Ninan recalled that she was a quiet child and therefore did not necessarily stand out as a future leader. After earning a place as a partner at her law firm, and being the first woman of color to do so at that firm, she realized that it was her responsibility to make certain she was not the last.

“I really care about the professional development of others who are flowing in a similar path,” she admitted. She compared and contrasted her leadership roles at a private law firm, and bar organizations. Her goal-oriented advice: be sure that the “organization is in a better place than when you started, have a certain vision of where you want the organization to go, and be able to make tough decisions.” Stated simply, “Focus on what is best for the client and best for the firm.”

“Focus on what is best for the client and best for the firm.”

“The journey for me began in Philadelphia,” shared Judge Lewis, who retired from the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. Born and raised in Philadelphia and the product of Philadelphia public schools, Judge Lewis said, “It is important that we recognize the great potential we have in our Philadelphia public schools.”

Judge Lewis attended the University of Pennsylvania after strong encouragement from her high school guidance counselor. Two other people who she cited as having significantly affected her journey as a leader were her father and her fourth-grade teacher.

When Judge Lewis expressed to her father her desire to be an attorney, he responded, “If you are willing to work hard and do what it takes, you can become a lawyer.” Her father provided more sage advice to her and her siblings growing up such as, “Education is key. Hard work is not optional, it is required. You are to have respect for yourself and you are expected and required to show respect to others.”

Judge Lewis recommended lawyers, and people in general, should always be looking for opportunities to have a positive impact on someone’s life even when it requires stepping out of one’s job description.

The speakers also responded to a question concerning whether men and women approach leadership differently. Judge Lewis articulated an “expectation of differences between men and women because there are so many projected stereotypes of women in charge, and men in charge.” Ninan stated she prefers to “reserve judgment for each person as an individual.”

Mary-Kate Breslin (marykatebreslin39@gmail.com), an assistant city solicitor with the Philadelphia Law Department’s Tax Unit, Real Estate Division, is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.
One of Pennsylvania Superior Court President Judge Correale F. Stevens’ goals as judge has been to increase community involvement and contact by the court. To that end, Superior Court judges will continue to hold panels across the state.

President Judge Stevens held one of those panels on April 8 with members of the Appellate Courts Committee. So far this year, Superior Court judges have visited the University of Pennsylvania, Chester County, Northampton County and Beaver County. They plan on visiting Dallas High School in Luzerne County, Temple University, Drexel University, Penn State, and Dickinson later this year.

Judge Stevens addressed several topics beginning with panel composition. He emphasized that the judges do not pick their own panels. Superior Court panels are composed of three judges, and could include any mix of the 15 commissioned judges and the five senior judges, and these panels are chosen at random. Judge Stevens also dismissed concerns about panel shopping, pointing out that judges are regular people with regular lives, families and schedules, and if a judge is switched on a case, it is often because of conflict with his or her personal schedule.

Judge Stevens shared that the Pennsylvania Supreme Court hears only about 7 percent of the cases decided by the Superior Court, which means that most of the Superior Court decisions are the law in Pennsylvania.

At one point Judge Stevens voiced a concerned that there may be misconceptions going around about the Supreme Court. He feels that any impression that Supreme Court decisions are made strictly along political lines and with strict political motivations is incorrect, a perception he called harmful to the entire judiciary. He challenged that a close look at Pennsylvania Supreme Court decisions will reveal that many, if not most decisions, are not decided along strict political lines.

The meeting also included contributions from some of the Superior Court staff members in attendance. Philip Yoon, who has been a legal clerk for three different Superior Court judges, became the new chief staff attorney with the Superior Court’s Central Legal Staff on March 25. Yoon emphasized that the court welcomes input from attorneys and from bar associations around Pennsylvania. Other staff members pointed out that the number of pro se cases have increased slightly, mostly in domestic relations and mortgage foreclosure decisions. This may be a result of the recent economic crisis. It was also noted that the Superior Court has been issuing many remands in family cases recently, especially in the Eastern District. These cases are remanded for a more thorough analysis, where trial judges did not follow the new custody factors in their decisions. For anyone interested in learning more about the Superior Court and its cases, data regarding the volume and numbers of cases dealt with by the Superior Court can be found on the Superior Court website.

Thomas L. Bryan (thomaslbryan@gmail.com) is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.
Workers Often Unaware of Right to File Complaint

By Annie M. Kelley

Employees are often not aware of the right to file an internal or external complaint against an employer, or may struggle over whether to even complain of suspected gender discrimination for fear of retaliation. Similarly, employers do not usually set out to have discriminatory policies or practices, but a lack of knowledge of the law can result in Equal Pay Act (EPA) liability without realizing it.

The Women’s Rights & Labor and Employment Law Committees hosted a discussion surrounding the Equal Pay Act and gender discrimination on April 2. Panelists Wanda Flowers, Tracey E. Diamond and Christine shared their experience on topics including negotiating employment contracts, pursuing remedies for violations of the Equal Pay Act and litigating claims for gender discrimination involving unequal pay.

Flowers explained that on a basic level, the EPA statute provides that an employer cannot pay employees differently based on gender for essentially equal work, under the same working conditions. The statute protects employees from wage discrimination on the basis of gender. Starkly different from bringing a Title VII gender discrimination claim, the EPA has no intent requirement. The EPA imposes strict liability on employers, even unintentionally, for wage discrimination on the basis of gender.

Title VII gender discrimination can be a bit tougher to prove, as the McDonald Douglas inference of discrimination or a mixed motive defense involves a burden shifting, which ultimately rests with the plaintiff. Generally when an employee has a claim under the EPA, they have a Title VII claim as well, and both claims may be simultaneously filed. Title VII has requisite number of employees (15). If, for example, a person works for a small firm, they may not have a claim under Title VII, but could still bring a corresponding claim under the EPA or Pennsylvania Human Relations Act.

A major problem for employees, or potential plaintiffs in a gender discrimination suit, is that it is often difficult for an employee to learn that they are receiving unequal pay. There are laws that protect the rights to communicate employee pay, bonuses and benefits, but this is not usual water cooler discussion, nor do employers tend to communicate employees’ salaries. Diamond, who counsels employers, noted that when reviewing employee handbooks, she makes sure there is no language that could discourage sharing such information.

Flowers and Diamond stressed the importance of employee outreach to teach and learn the rights of employees. It is also important for an employee who thinks they may have a claim to memorialize things in writing. For instance, an email from an employee to an employer stating “I recently raised concerns about my compensation package, and now I have a bad review,” is good documentation to have while still on the job. Oral complaints are still protected, but it is good for a client to protect rights and preserve claims of discrimination or unequal pay as much as possible.

Employees should remember to always conduct themselves properly and make sure they’re doing what needs to be done on the job. If a possible gender discrimination issue comes up, employers will be more supportive of a productive employee than an insubordinate one. The bottom line is to be an effective employee, speak up if something is wrong, and to file a formal complaint.

Annie M. Kelley (anniemkelley@gmail.com), law clerk to Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Albert J. Snite Jr., is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.
The Polk-Lepson Research Group recently released its annual survey of professionalism in the workplace focusing on new graduates. The survey showed alarming trends in terms of how recent graduates are viewed, specifically that only 44.8 percent of new grads exhibit professionalism in their first year on the job.

In particular, the perception of new graduates is that they have a sense of entitlement, frequently abuse IT, lack focus, and lack work ethic as compared with their seniors. In fact, the survey shows the perception of young professionals is getting worse.

At this point, I’m guessing the more senior attorneys are nodding in agreement, and the young attorneys are shaking their heads noting how unlike past generations they are on the clock for 24 hours due to technology.

I think back to Will Smith’s song “Parents Just Don’t Understand” which has the line “you’re only 16, you don’t have a rep yet.” Well, if you are from Gen Y, it does not matter how old you are, you do have at least some rep. Because there is a good chance you are labeled with the same brush as the rest of your generation. I can’t say whether this reputation is earned or not, because I don’t have past generations to compare. But the fact is that the perception is there, and young attorneys looking to succeed and advance in their careers must individually address and overcome these labels.

So what is professionalism, and how is it defined? Professionalism is the conduct, aims or qualities that characterize or mark a profession or a professional person. In other words, it’s the behavior expected out of an attorney that is based on how other attorneys act. While individualism is an admirable quality, the survey found that most employers believe new employees should change to meet the expectations of their employers.

Why is professionalism important? Because in employees’ minds, it’s the minimum requirement necessary before they can put you in front of a client or stakeholder. Your career can be hindered if your employer feels you present as being too young.

So how can we improve our professionalism?

First, our appearances matter, and it matters even more so as young attorneys. You don’t need to have the most expensive suit in a room, but make sure you are never the most casually dressed person in a room. If you are attending professional events the default attire should be to dress in a suit.

Secondly, ease up on the cell phones and Internet. One of the largest complaints according to the survey was texting at inappropriate times, excessive use of social media, and excessive use of cell phones for personal calls. In general, laptop requirements in college taught us that it is acceptable to have our laptops accessible during meetings, but it is a bad habit to use any electronic media when others are speaking (unless it is to take notes).

But the most important way to improve professionalism is to learn from your peers. Not only watching how your employers and coworkers behave but through exposure to other attorneys at various stages in their careers. For me, I’ve found that my activities in the Bar Association are an invaluable source to understanding the qualities that characterize the successful members of our profession. Through exposure, not only to fellow young lawyers, but members of the bar at large, young lawyers can identify the qualities that are common to successful attorneys and take these qualities back to their workplace. There are small cues, when to use humor, when to criticize, how to lead, and how to fit in to a work force with multiple generations.

Although it is possible this is just a cyclical generational clash and one day Gen Y will be complaining about Generation Z.

Aneesh A. Mehta (amehta@vklaw.com), an associate with Volpe and Koenig, P.C., is chair of the Young Lawyers Division.
Pro bono work has its own rewards in professional satisfaction and development. And representing nonprofit companies, which have compelling missions, is truly fulfilling. I’ve also learned that handling pro bono matters in your own practice area makes the whole experience even more enjoyable.

For me, these factors came together recently when Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts asked me to represent the Prince Music Theater. Formally known as the American Music Theater Festival, the Prince needed legal assistance in working out its financial difficulties with its bank. This representation brought home to me three important lessons for any nonprofit financial work-out: the need for committed board members who support the organization; the importance of a compelling narrative, both of the past and the future; and the critical need for dedicated people in management to bring these two factors together.

Founded in 1984, the Prince is a nonprofit charitable theater formed to promote and educate the public concerning the legacy of American musical theater. In 2000, the theater purchased and renovated a historic movie theater on Chestnut Street to create a home for its varied and award-winning programs. The Prince funded the building through contributions and a tax-exempt bond issue, but in 2007 and 2008 fell into a dispute with its bank over how to resolve the debt.

PVLA asked us to become involved when a sheriff’s sale appeared imminent. Fortunately, through the efforts of various counsel, including my firm, the sheriff’s sale was stayed for a year. When a stay was no longer available in late 2010, the Prince filed for bankruptcy. All told, these efforts allowed the Prince sufficient time to work to resolve its situation.

Over the following years, we worked with the Prince to develop a workable financial solution. Initially, a group of dedicated supporters and board members – led by Karen and Herb Lotman and Ron Kaiserman – proposed the financial basis for a proposal to the bank. Through mediation – both in the bankruptcy court and the Third Circuit’s appellate mediation program – we used this initial support to come to an agreement with the bank on a payoff amount. This allowed the Prince’s Board to bring in other support to fulfill the agreement with the bank. In the end, we were able to confirm a plan of reorganization that will allow the Prince to regain its former success and continue to fulfill its charitable mission.

Matthew A. Hamermesh (mah@hangley.com) is a shareholder with Hangley Aronchick Segal Pudlin & Schiller.
special early-bird rate for members is good through Sept. 13.

Another highlight of the weekend will be the Friday night reception at Revel’s HQ nightclub. Prices for the 2013 Bench-Bar & Annual Conference are being kept at 2012 levels.

In addition, we are pleased to offer a special Revel hotel room group rate to our Bench-Bar attendees. A rate of $179 plus tax is available Friday, Oct. 4 and a limited number of rooms are available at $149 plus tax for Thursday, Oct. 3. You must be a registered attendee of the Bench-Bar & Annual Conference in order to reserve a room at the group rate. Once you are registered for the conference you will receive instructions on how to make your room reservation.

Sponsors for the 2013 Bench-Bar & Annual Conference include USI Affinity; The First Judicial District of Pennsylvania; Insurance Adjustment Bureau, Inc; JAMS, The Resolution Experts; Love Court Reporting; M. Burr Keim Company; Robson Forensic, Inc.; US Claims Inc.; LawCash; MCS; AppearByPhone; The MCS Group; iDiscovery Solutions; ParenteBeard; and Kroll Ontrack.

For sponsorship information, contact Tracey McCloskey at 215-238-6360 or tmccloskey@philabar.org.

Maria A. Feeley, a partner at Pepper Hamilton LLP, and Julia Swain, a partner with Fox Rothschild LLP, are co-chairs of the Bench-Bar & Annual Conference. Bench-Bar Committee vice chairs are John Encarnacion, an associate at White and Williams LLP; Scott W. Reid, a partner with Cozen O’Connor; and Mindee J. Reuben, a partner with Weinstein Kitchinoff & Asher L.L.C.

Von Seldeneck to Speak May 13

JUDITH M. VON SELDENECK, founder, chair and CEO of Diversified Search, will be the speaker at the Monday, May 13 Chancellor’s Leadership Institute program.

For 35 years, von Seldeneck has been a pioneer in the search industry and a leader in placing qualified women and diversity candidates. She will discuss the value that she and her award-winning firm place on high-potential leaders with diverse perspectives and unique views, and share her personal journey and reflections on leadership. An audience Q&A opportunity will follow.

She was a founder of the Forum of Executive Women more than 30 years ago which today is the largest association of women business leaders in the Philadelphia area. Prior to starting Diversified, von Seldeneck served as executive assistant to Vice President Walter F. Mondale.

The program begins at 12 p.m. in the 11th floor Conference Center at the Bar Association, 1101 Market St. There is no cost to attend this program. Lunch is available for purchase to those who register in advance.

Retirement Testimony

Chancellor Kathleen D. Wilkinson testifies before the Pennsylvania House Of Representatives Judiciary Committee – Subcommittee on Courts on April 18 regarding the mandatory retirement age for judges in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania Bar Association President Tom Wilkinson, the Chancellor’s husband, also testified. House Bill 79 seeks to increase the mandatory retirement age for judges to 75.
 Former Chancellor Clifford E. Haines (left) and Board of Governors Secretary Sophia Lee were speakers at an April 18 naturalization ceremony sponsored by the Philadelphia Bar Association at the U.S. Courthouse. U.S. District Court Judge James Knoll Gardner welcomed 89 people from 33 countries as the newest American citizens. Haines is also a former president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.
The Delicate Balance Between Work, Home Life

By Lauren Strebel

Philadelphia Bar Association Chancellor Kathleen D. Wilkinson and Pennsylvania Bar Association President Thomas G. Wilkinson provided insight on their careers and how they balance their busy professional and personal lives at an April 2 program sponsored by Ms. J.D.

Ms. JD is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to the success of women in law school and the legal profession. The conversation began with why they both decided to become lawyers and how they got involved with their respective bar associations. Kathleen was inspired to be a lawyer after growing up watching lawyers portrayed on TV. She brought posters to the event of her favorite woman lawyer, Amanda Bonner, from the movie “Adam’s Rib,” played by Katharine Hepburn. She joined the bar because of her desire to give back to the legal community. Tom originally wanted to be a journalist, but decided to switch his career path to become a lawyer. His desire to join the bar was sparked by his interest in politics and legal ethics.

Both said that by getting involved with the bar, whether in a local, state or national chapter, young lawyers can connect with others in the profession, take on leadership positions, and grow both personally and professionally. Kathleen added, “bar associations have resources that are not available anywhere else.” For example, there are committees to answer questions one might be nervous to ask a colleague or superior and programs that feature some of the top leaders in the profession.

In fact, when asked what they would have done differently in their legal careers, both said they would have joined the bar associations as young lawyers, or even during law school. Tom said resumes that reflect active bar membership, especially in committees relevant to a niche practice, show potential employers a vested interest in the profession, and could separate candidates from the pack. He also urged the young lawyers and law students in attendance to be curious enough to develop their skills by attending bar events and staying current on developments in their field.

From there, the conversation shifted to work/life balance. Kathleen’s secret is to try not to take herself too seriously. Her motto of the year is “Keep Calm and Carry On” because she knows that though her work life can get overwhelming, ultimately, when the job needs to get done, she will get it done. Tom encouraged the audience to have “outlets” to take their minds off of their to-do lists, such as the gym or gardening. He encouraged the group to “remain positive, professional and civil.” To preempt unnecessary stress, he suggested maintaining open communication with clients, colleagues and superiors.

Kathleen explained that if you reach out and make it known that you want to get involved in bar association programs, people will be more than willing to include you in the process. She suggested volunteering to take minutes, assist with upcoming programs or suggest a future program.

When it comes to time management, Kathleen said she has always been a multi-tasker. It helps knowing that if she falls behind, she can always catch up. “When you love what you do, [sometimes] you have to work on weekends.”

Lauren Strebel (lauren.a.strebel@gmail.com) is a 2014 J.D. Candidate at Earlham School of Law at Drexel University.

Kathleen and Tom Wilkinson talk about bar service and work/life balance at an April 2 Ms. JD program.
Mock Trial Program Helps High Schoolers Grow

By Kishwer Vikaas

Two years ago, Central High School student Melisa Nelson was terrified of public speaking. She knew she wanted to improve her skills. But how? Enter the Central High School Mock Trial Team, one of more than 30 teams from across the city. On a recent Saturday, the unsung 17-year-old Nelson, now a senior, took the witness stand inside an overflowing courtroom at Temple University Beasley School of Law and put her five-hour-a-day practices to work.

In a clear, composed voice she embraced the role assigned her, that of an engineer testifying as an expert in a third-degree murder trial. Her overall poised, as well as calm in the face of cross-examination from the opposing team, impressed the panel of scoring judges, which included an actual judge and leading lawyers from the city’s top firms. At the conclusion of the trial, Nelson received an Outstanding Witness Award. “I was rather surprised,” Nelson confessed. “I thought everyone did an excellent job.”

Nelson was just one of 15 students present on Saturday, as finalists from Girard College and Central High School faced off in a tense two-and-a-half-hour third-degree murder trial. Her overall poise, as well as calm in the face of cross-examination from the opposing team, impressed the panel of scoring judges, which included an actual judge and leading lawyers from the city’s top firms. At the conclusion of the trial, Nelson received an Outstanding Witness Award. “I was rather surprised,” Nelson confessed. “I thought everyone did an excellent job.”

Nelson was just one of 15 students present on Saturday, as finalists from Girard College and Central High School faced off in a tense two-and-a-half-hour trial. The audience included the daughter of Cecil B. Moore, who fought to integrate Girard College, as well as the daughter of Judge William M. Marutani, whose rulings opened Central High School to girls in 1983.

Local high schools have competed in the John S. Bradway Mock Trial Program, hosted by the Young Lawyers Division, Temple-LEAP and Temple Law for the last 33 years. Central won in 1986 and again last year. And on this Saturday, they celebrated their third victory.

Their long road to the city championships included wins over teams from St. Joseph’s Preparatory School, Chestnut Hill Academy, William Penn Charter School, Roman Catholic High School and Germantown Friends.

“The best mock trial teams are able to create communities that support students both in the courtroom and outside,” says Julian Thompson, attorney advisor to the Central team.

Ten years ago, Thompson graduated Central High School, a two-year veteran of the school’s mock trial team. Three years ago, he returned to Philadelphia and Central, as a graduate of Morehouse College and Harvard Law and a member of both schools’ trial teams. “Once I finished law school, I realized that I didn’t want to practice,” says Thompson. “What I appreciated all along was the educational aspects of using law to teach people about things – both inside and outside law.”

Today Thompson works as a project manager for City Year, an AmeriCorps program that partners with high-need public schools to provide full-time targeted student interventions. But four days a week, evenings belong to Central’s mock trial team, where he collaborates with Ronald Romoff, a teacher at Central and his former coach, and Kate Miltner, another attorney-coach.

Thompson knows firsthand the impact mock trial can have on a young person’s confidence. When Romoff first convinced Thompson to join the team as a junior, he was immediately hooked. “I used to sit on the L bus on my way to Plymouth Meeting Mall, where I worked at the Popeye’s and just pour over the case,” he recalls fondly. “It was great because they would give us these complicated fact patterns and I would find my brain could just run for miles with it.” The experience was his first exposure to law.

“I was really smart, but writing was really challenging for me,” recalls Thompson. “It was much easier for me to express myself in public speaking and rhetoric.”

He sees the same pattern in today’s high school students.

“In the long term, I appreciate what mock trial means for minority students,” says Thompson. “I find that minority kids have difficulty in fields connected to literacy and English. But minority kids – African-American kids especially – even if they are uncomfortable with reading or writing have a skill in rhetoric public speaking related to African-American oral traditions.”

As Thompson’s third year as an advisor comes to a close, he’s seen his students flourish both academically and otherwise. “They grow in the courtroom in terms of knowledge of procedures, but I’m more impressed at their ability to lead the team outside of the classroom. They’ve created this inclusive culture where kids can really be comfortable.”

One of those leaders is 18-year-old co-captain Darien Carter. “I was not always a public speaker, it was really scary as a sophomore when attorneys from other teams cross-examined me,” recalls Carter, who played a witness his first year. He admits that initially, he struggled on the team.

But he persevered and in his junior year, came back as an attorney for the team. His favorite part? “There’s always a few seconds before you start speaking when you’re terrified you’ll fumble. But then there’s this eureka moment. And boom, you’re on fire” says Carter.

Carter, now a senior whose college plans will lead him to either Morehouse or Howard University, watched as the team was awarded the city championship. “This was one of my last trials in Philadelphia,” says Carter, who will be there this coming Friday as the team prepares for the state championship in Harrisburg. “I’ve come full circle.”

StrategicAdvisoryServicesLLC.com

Lana Ehrlich at 215-557-2392 or lehrlich@alm.com

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Justice O’Connor has been active in the legal community. She was the first woman to be appointed to the Seventh Circuit in 1981, and she later served on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. She retired from the bench in 2009 and has since been a visiting professor at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. She has also worked with the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon, which honors members who have served the bar for at least 50 years.

The Philadelphia Bar Association Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, June 12, at 12 p.m. at the Hyatt at The Bellevue, Broad and Walnut streets. The meeting will feature remarks from U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor and a presentation by the Women in the Profession Committee Co-Chair Regina M. Foley. The luncheon will be held at the Hyatt at The Bellevue, Broad and Walnut streets at 1101 Market St., 11th floor.

Please make reservations for the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon. Tickets are $55 for members and $70 for non-members. Checks should be made payable to the Philadelphia Bar Association.

Name: ________________________________
Firm/Employer: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
Phone: __________________ Fax: __________________
E-Mail: __________________

Return to: Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon Philadelphia Bar Association 1101 Market St., 11th floor Philadelphia, Pa. 19107-2955

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Credit card payments should be faxed to Bar Headquarters at (215) 238-1159. Purchase tickets online at philadelphia.org
SHOP Exchange Delayed until January

By Brian McLaughlin

The words in the title were enough to get the hearts of both opponents and supporters of the Health Care Law to skip a beat. Is it possible that after all of the debate and work the federal government pulled the insurance exchanges in April? That is not what has happened. Exchanges are still slated to be available in January 2014 with enrollment beginning in October. So what changed?

Health reform calls for a new insurance marketplace, specifically for small businesses, starting next year. The Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) is designed to assist small businesses to buy more affordable health insurance on the exchange. SHOP was scheduled to open in 2014, but full implementation has been delayed due to “operational challenges.” There has been some confusion about this in the industry – this does not mean the SHOP will not open. Rather, the SHOP will open, but instead of having the “employee choice” option, where employers select a level of coverage and employees choose any qualified health plan from any carrier at that level, there will be only one insurance choice. This delay is for the 33 states in which the federal government runs the exchange; states running their own exchanges will have the option to delay having their SHOP open in 2014.

For this one-year delay, an employer will only be able to select from one qualified health plan from a carrier to offer its employees. Is this the only delay we will face in implementation of the exchanges or is this the leading indicator of things to come? Only time will answer that question.

We also received further clarification on the 90-day waiting period. For plan years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2014, a group health plan and a health insurance carrier offering group health insurance coverage may not apply any waiting period exceeding 90 days. This rule applies to both grandfathered and non-grandfathered plans. A waiting period is the period that must pass before coverage for an employee or dependent who is otherwise eligible to enroll under the terms of a group health plan can become effective.

Many plans have waiting periods that end the first day of the month following 90 days. The proposed regulations clarify that this will not be permissible; plans will need to be amended to comply with the requirements. When counting the 90 days, all calendar days are counted, including weekends and holidays. If the 91st day falls on a weekend or holiday, the plan or carrier may choose to permit coverage to be effective earlier than the 91st day, for administrative convenience, but the effective date of coverage may not be later than the 91st day.

For individuals who are in a waiting period for coverage before the effective date of these regulations, beginning on the first day the requirement applies, the waiting period can no longer apply to the individual if it would exceed 90 days with respect to that individual. For example, if an employee begins work as a full-time employee on Oct. 1, 2013 and prior to Jan. 1, 2014 the plan provides full-time employees are eligible for coverage after a six-month waiting period, the employee must be given the opportunity to elect coverage that begins no later than Jan. 1, 2014 (which is 93 days after the employee’s start date) because otherwise, on Jan. 1, 2014, the plan would be applying a waiting period that exceeds 90 days.

The plan would not be required to make coverage effective prior to Jan. 1, 2014.

Brian McLaughlin (Brian.McLaughlin@usiaffinity.com) is vice president of USI Affinity’s Benefit Solutions Group. For more information about insurance and benefit options for Philadelphia Bar members, visit http://www.mysavingsinsurance.com/philadelphia or call 215-563-8113.

Inaugural Hall of Famer

SeniorLAW Center Executive Director Karen C. Buck (from left) joins Chancellor Kathleen D. Wilkinson, Bar Association Executive Director Ken Shear and his wife, Susie, at the SeniorLAW Center’s 35th Anniversary Gala at the Ballroom at the Ben on April 17. Shear was among those inducted to SeniorLAW Center’s Hall of Fame. The other inaugural inductees were Richard N. Weiner, founding board chair; Stephen A. Feldman, of Feldman and Feldman; Paul Carlin, now executive director of the Maryland State Bar Association; Shari J. Odenheimer of Blank Rome LLP; Marlene Kline, Judith B. Neale, Nancy R. Cobb, Angel Recchia and Laura Mintzer (posthumously). Pepper Hamilton LLP was honored as SeniorLAW’s Partner of the Year.
Every Stroke and Dollar Makes a Difference

By Deborah R. Gross

The Philadelphia Bar Foundation’s 25th Annual Golf and Tennis Classic is set for Monday, June 24 at Green Valley Country Club in Lafayette Hill. While it is a great day to enjoy golf, tennis, the weather and each other’s company, it is an even greater opportunity to raise money to support Philadelphia’s public interest legal services community and access to justice. After a day of golf or tennis, we join together for a silent auction and a surf-and-turf dinner. We again have the good fortune to be auctioning off an opportunity to play at the Lexus Champions for Charity national golf tournament at the legendary Pebble Beach Golf Resort. Play three famous courses over three days: Pebble Beach Golf Links, The Links at Spanish Bay and Spyglass Hill Golf Course, courtesy of Wilkie Lexus of the Main Line.

The Golf and Tennis Classic has raised more than $2 million from our players, sponsors and donors over the years. This has enabled the Foundation to make more than $11 million in grants since our beginning in 1964. This chart shows the strength of our legal community.

For each $1 contributed is enormous.

Lest you think the need is too great and your contribution is small, let me assure you the impact of every dollar spent on legal assistance, a corresponding "$1 of quantifiable economic outcomes and savings are realized and contributable economic outcomes and savings are realized and in excess of 2,600 jobs are supported, for all residents in the city of Philadelphia live at or near poverty; and only one in five low-income people who experience a legal problem can get legal help. Clearly, funding of access to justice is essential to protecting individual’s basic rights and makes economic sense.

So how can you help? Every stroke/dollar counts and there are many ways for you to contribute:

• $5 donation: Go Casual for Justice (October 2013).
• $35: check off donation on your Philadelphia Bar dues.
• $25, $50, $100 or more: Memorial or Tribute Gift.
• $65: YLD An Evening of Comedy That Cares, benefiting the Bar Foundation on Thursday, May 9. Purchase tickets at philabarfoundation.org.
• $275-$750: Attend the Andrew Hamilton Gala on Saturday, Nov. 16.
• $1,000: Andrew Hamilton Circle, a $10,000 donation payable over 10 years which goes directly to our endowment. Contact LMacoretta@philabar.org for detailed information.
• Individual Giving: Any amount is welcome. Visit philabarfoundation.org to make a donation.

And finally, I am excited to announce that we will be auctioning off eight passes to the U.S. Open at Merion Golf Club from June 10-16. We will auction two passes for each day of play. Visit www.philabarfoundation.org for details. Thank you to Veritext Legal Solutions for its generous donation of these tickets.

The New York Times published “Immigrant Detainees and the Right to Counsel,” written by Ian Urbina and Catherine Rendy. They report “studies have shown that having a lawyer during removal proceedings vastly improves an immigrant’s ability to defend against deportation. Without counsel, only 3 percent prevail in their asylum cases compared with 18 percent who have legal counsel.”

Pennsylvania’s Interest on Lawyers Trust Account Board (IOLTA) recently issued a report on the impact of funding legal aid, noting that for each $1 spent on legal assistance, a corresponding “$11 of quantifiable economic outcomes and savings are realized and in excess of 2,600 jobs are supported, for all residents” of Pennsylvania. According to the IOLTA report, one in seven Pennsylvania residents is eligible for legal assistance; 32 percent of children and 17 percent of the elderly in the city of Philadelphia live at or near poverty; and only one in five low-income people who experience a legal problem can get legal help. Clearly, funding of access to justice is essential to protecting individual’s basic rights and makes economic sense.

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Deborah R. Gross (debbie@bernardmgross.com) of the Law Offices of Bernard M. Gross, P.C. is president of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation.

Why I Give...

“This is KTMC’s third consecutive year as the lead sponsor for the Philadelphia Bar Foundation’s annual Golf and Tennis Classic. We are strong believers in the delivery of legal services to those who can’t afford such services. The great thing about the Bar Foundation is the broad spectrum of charities that they champion and thus, your charitable dollars are spread among these well-deserving entities without you personally having to analyze which are the neediest charities in any given cycle. We are proud to be associated with the event and the Foundation.”

David Kessler, Partner
U.S. Millionaires Show Tough Love to Heirs

By Jackie B. Lessman

A vast majority of wealthy households have taken some steps to plan for their ultimate transfer of wealth. Most have wills (82 percent) and some have established trusts (52 percent) and/or estate managers (52 percent). Among wealthy business owners, surprisingly few, only 15 percent, have a formal succession plan in place. Among those who already have set up a will, estate or trust plans, few have gone so far as to put in place any stipulations on how heirs access that inheritance — only 20 percent of millionaires.

The survey examined the notion of leaving a legacy. Are today’s millionaires still concerned with how they will be remembered?

For most wealthy Americans, leaving a legacy goes beyond the simple step of transferring financial assets to the next generation. According to our survey, nearly half of American millionaires said leaving a legacy means being remembered and passing on important family traditions. About 19 percent mention property as the biggest part of their legacy while 15 percent say the idea of leaving a legacy is an outdated notion.

Is leaving a financial legacy ever enough?

Sometimes it is. Today’s millionaires expect financial aspects to be a significant component of their personal legacies. Nearly nine in 10 intend to leave something tangible for the next generation. They intend to do this in a variety of ways: passing on property, family heirlooms, or ownership/participation in a business. About 46 percent of millionaires expect to pass on assets through a trust fund.

Do you find that wealthy parents are still providing some level of financial support to their children, despite their desire for them to make their own way?

Millionaires acknowledge they received some help from their own parents and 91 percent of those surveyed are doing even more for their own children. Not surprisingly, in light of the rising cost of education, more than eight in 10 say they have or expect to provide financial support for higher education. Millionaire parents also strongly support basic purchases such as a car (61 percent) and down payments on homes (45 percent), as well as other general expenses.

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Longtime Favorite Chun Hing Still Has It

Chun Hing Restaurant
4160 Monument Road at Stout Road
(in the Pathmark Shopping Center)
Wynnefield Heights
(215) 879-6270

My entire family left our home late every Sunday afternoon for Chinatown. We drove enveloped within the cabin of a new shining black 1954 Buick Century whose chrome-laden bumpers reflected light onto every building we passed. In dense traffic near the Chinese Wall, the car’s radio hypnotized my sister and me with the suspense of the “Shadow,” followed by the blurry drawls of Rochester beamoining the penny-pinchin’ propensities of Jack Benny.

In the mid 50s, two Chinese restaurateurs created blocklong lines: South China on 9th Street near Vine and Shanghai Garden on Race at 919. The queues were populated by “real eaters,” those whose bellies had stretch marks actually visible through the bloated transparency of thin cotton shirts, blouses, pants or skirts. It was not the custom to travel to Chinatown to dine; rather to stuff oneself silly until glutted, then rest, and start all over again instantly.

Father ordered for the four of us, “Wonton Soup for six, please, extra noodles; eight shrimp egg rolls, extra mustard; two chicken chow mein; four orders of spareribs; three shrimp-in-lobster sauce, a pork fried rice and two white rice; one pepper steak.”

Mom: “Won’t be enough.”

Pop: “All right, an egg foo and a Pop: “We’ll rest; we’ll see.”

Mom: “Silly Richard, you didn’t order“F. You’ll bust.”

Me: “Ma, I can’t breathe, I’ll bust.”

Pop: “Don’t be silly. Think-Of-Yourself-Only-Selfish-Person. Your sister maybe wants some extra. Try remembering to consider someone other than yourself.”

It seemed incomprehensible, viewing my little sister across the table, how she could even open her mouth. She’d fallen into a stuporous coma after having willfully devoured humongous piles of food, her mouth beginning to kiss their entrance and demeanor. (Avoid egg rolls and the Peking Duck roll – too greasy.)

Bless America.

Upon entering Chun Hing, one views a pandemonium of a restaurant clearly girded in the old style of assorted rectangular or circular sizes in a room that’s silken-silver-wall-papered and huge. To your left sit Gov. Tom Corbett, former Mayor and Gov. Ed Rendell, and Mayor Michael Nutter. Not actually “them,” but their photos taken while seated somewhere far away.

I began patronizing this eatery more than 35 years ago when I discovered it at 15th and Spruce, and then it transported its “column As and Column B” to Monument Road near City Avenue, the closest eatery to the WCAU and WPVI television stations. So, the Great Walls of Chun Hing are also adorned with historical (and sometimes hysterical) visages of youthful “barely framed” signed photographs of Hurricane Schwartz, Cathy Gandolfo, Rob Jennings, Marc Howard, Anita Brickman, Chad Pradelli and a beaming Renie Chenua-Fattah.

If you ask the owner why there are no portraits of the judiciary, he replies, “Judges too full abalone.”

Here’s what not to miss:
• Shredded Pork and Preserved Turnip Soup ($2.80): piles of glistening pork strips enveloped in a dark broth simmering with sliced, quartered turnips and shiitake mushrooms. String bean shreds abound to add verdant color. This is not your simply wantonly prepared soup concoction. Each spoonful has depth and demeanor. (Avoid egg rolls and the Peking Duck roll – too greasy.)

• Brazenly brown Hot and Sour Soup ($2.80): A textured, but not gelatinous bowl of Goldklick’s “not too sour and not too hot” liquid bath for sliced button mushrooms and chopped Chinese vegetables. The meld warms your heart in fairy-tale fashion.

• Steamed Meat Dumplings (get an order and a half, 12 dumplings) because as large and brilliantly buoyant as they appear, they seem to disappear when your mouth begins to kiss their entrance upon your lips. The surrounding skin is membrane-thin, and the meat as juicy as fruit. A red sweet dipping sauce is served with the dumplings, and its best to also request bite-biting chili oil and hot Chinese mustard. The engorged curvaceous crescents are invigorating and blessed, the best in the city.

• Squid in Special Five Spice Seasonings ($11.55): Like lightly coated calamari, these delicately al dente morsels simply grasp and generously donate the full aura of Chinese tastes and aftertastes. It’s made to be scalding-spicy, so ask for a slightly milder version. Shredded bek

continued on page 21

By Skinny D’Beck

Feasts to Famine

Paul Levy
continued from page 5
throughout the city. He also addressed the work underway at City Hall’s Dilworth Plaza. According to Levy, the initial layout of the Plaza was done with a “fortress mentality,” complete with steps, walls, and barriers. In contrast, the new plaza will have a café, open space, extensive greenery, and a thin sheet of water that will light up with color-coordinated mist as different trains pass underneath. Levy expressed his belief that these and other small-scale things will add up over time to become qualitative and make a positive difference in the city.

For all of the strides made by the city in recent years, Levy’s presentation did not paint an entirely optimistic picture. Detroit is the only other American city with a poverty level that is greater than Philadelphia’s – currently 28.4 percent. A related, major problem facing the city is the lack of jobs. Since 1970, the number of jobs in New York, Boston and Washington, D.C. has increased substantially, but in Philadelphia it has dropped by 25 percent. If that trend continues, there will be 60,000 fewer jobs in the city 10 years from today. In light of this bleak job situation, 42.7 percent of Philadelphia’s residents already commute to work outside of the city.

Levy said that modernizing the city’s tax policy is the key to addressing these issues. Philadelphia has the highest wage tax of the 50 largest American cities. Two-thirds of Philadelphia’s tax revenue comes from taxes on wages and profits, Levy noted, segments that are mobile. This antiquated system of “taxing what moves” was created in a time when heavy industry was centered in the city. Levy believes that the system should be modernized by moving a larger proportion of the tax burden to real estate, and proposed that the city should set a goal of establishing a 3 percent wage tax by 2023. Ultimately, applying a lower tax rate on wages and profits will increase demand for real estate in Philadelphia and, in turn, increase the potential pool for real estate taxes.

Benjamin F Johns (BF@chronicletc.com), an associate with Chronicles & Tephilis LLP, is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Note: While the following listings have been verified prior to press time, any scheduled event may be subject to change by the committee or section chairs. Lunches are $8 for members and $12 for nonmembers, unless otherwise indicated.

**Wednesday, May 1**
Delivery of Legal Services Committee: meeting, 8:30 a.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Rules and Procedure Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.
LegalLine: 5 p.m., 11th floor LRIS offices.

**Thursday, May 2**
Delivery of Legal Services Management Subcommittee: meeting, 9 a.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Senior Lawyers Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center.
Women in Intellectual Property Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $8.
Philadelphia Bar Reporter Editorial Board: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 10th floor Cabinet Room.

**Monday, May 6**
Family Law Section: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

**Tuesday, May 7**
Committee on the Legal Rights of Persons with Disabilities: meeting, 9 a.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.
Women’s Rights Committee: CLE program, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

**Wednesday, May 8**
Section and Division Chairs: meeting, 8:30 a.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Immigration Law Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

**Thursday, May 9**
Legislative Liaison Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $8.

**Friday, May 10**
Workers' Compensation Section Executive Committee: meeting, 10:30 a.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.
Workers' Compensation Section: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.
The Philadelphia Lawyer Editorial Board: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.

**Monday, May 13**
Business Litigation Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $8.

**Tuesday, May 14**
Criminal Justice Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Real Property Section Executive Committee: 12 p.m.,

**Wednesday, May 15**
Business Law Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Young Lawyers Division Cabinet: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.
Federal Courts Committee: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

**Thursday, May 16**
Family Law Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.
Bar-News Media Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

**Friday, May 18**
YLD Comedy Night: 6 p.m., Helium Comedy Club, 2301 Sansom St. Tickets: philadelphiaabar.org.

**Saturday, May 19**
34th Annual Philadelphia Bar Association 5K Run/Walk: 8:30 a.m., Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. Registration: phillybarcharityrun.com.

**Tuesday, May 28**
Women in the Profession Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $8.

**Wednesday, May 29**
Criminal Justice Section: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

**Thursday, May 30**
LGBT Rights Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.

Shifting Nature of News Industry

**Feasts**

continued from page 20

choy and impossibly thin scallion sprinkles surround the plate’s essence. • Sliced Pork with String Beans in Garlic Sauce ($12.95) or Sliced Pork Szechuan Style (double cooked) ($9.95), both blazing with chunks of marinated pork, the former with pea pods and mushrooms, the latter more heated and oiled and golden, fulfilling any Canton, Hunan and Szechuan proclivities. • Shrimp with String Beans in Garlic Sauce ($12.95): These plumpest shelled shrimp are in fetal positions among deeply buttered high mounds of beans, done perfectly to a crunch.

The recipes are “old-time,” adapted toward “Western” tastes, tested for sublime indulgence and gorgeously displayed. Repeat customers are all known by first names by a waitstaff that has remained the same for decades, serving so expertly that the food mirrors their joy in seeing you as a most fortunate cookie.

DONEE ERIS FELIX, MULTOS NUMERABIS AMICOS

Skinny D. Bockol (rbockol@msn.com), a sole practitioner, is an advisory editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter. Read his reviews online at bockol.com.

Crissa Shoemaker DeBree, business reporter for the Bucks County Courier Times and The Intelligencer; Jeff Blumenthal, staff reporter for the Philadelphia Business Journal; Bar-News Media Committee Chair Gina Furia Rubel; and Karl M. Smith, editorial director for Region’s Business recently met with the Bar-News Media Committee to discuss the shifting nature of the news industry.
People

Regina M. Foley, a partner with Raynes McCarty, was a faculty member at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute program “Lights, Camera Evidence!” on April 4.

Erin Loucks, an associate at Deeb Blum Murphy Frischberg & Markovich, has been named to the Bethesda Project’s Young Professional Advisory Board. Bethesda Project is a nonprofit organization dedicated to finding and caring for homeless men and women in the Philadelphia area.

Mary Beth Gray, a partner with Kleinbard Bell & Brecker LLP, was a speaker at the Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas has been holding Personal Injury Cases” on March 19.

Judges Daniel Anders and Ann Butchart of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas were presented with Mazoni Center Legal Services’ annual Justice in Action Awards at its Feb. 27 Open Bar event.

Judge Mark I. Bernstein of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas has been elected to the American Law Institute, an organization producing scholarly work to clarify, modernize and improve the law.

Ronald A. Kovler, a partner with Kovler & Rush, P.C., was course planner and speaker at the recent Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association Luncheon Lecture series CLE “Crossing the Bridge – Pennsylvania and New Jersey Motor Vehicle Law – Imperfect Together.”

David F. Stern and Christopher C. Cara of Pond Lehocky Stern Giordano were guest lecturers in Judge Todd Seelig’s Workers’ Compensation class at Villanova Law School on April 9 and April 16.

Benjamin A. Leace and Robert A. McKinley of RaterPresta were faculty members for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s 7th Annual Intellectual Property Law Institute on April 24-25.

Robert D. Pichini, a partner with Feldman Shepherd Wohlgelernter Tanner Weinstock & Dodig LLP, was inducted as a Fellow in the International Society of Barristers at its annual meeting in Mexico on March 11.

Robert T. Szostak of Rubin, Glickman, Steinberg and Gifford, P.C., served as faculty for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute Medical Malpractice Update seminar presented on March 21.

Kenneth F. Fulginiti of Duffy & Partners was an instructor for the Pennsylvania Association for Justice CLE program “What’s It Worth? Evaluating & Setting Personal Injury Cases” on March 19.


Manny D. Pokotilow, senior partner with Caesar Rivise, Bernstein, Cohen & Pokotilow, Ltd., received the “Best IP Litigator of the Year Award for 2013 in Pennsylvania” from Managing Intellectual Property Magazine at its recent North American IP Awards 2013 dinner.

Jason A. Leckerman, a partner with Ballard Spahr LLP, has been named one of Philadelphia Business Journal’s “40 under 40.” The list recognizes 40 of Philadelphia’s professionals under the age of 40 who demonstrate outstanding leadership in their industries and exceptional commitment to their communities.

Five Elected to PILCOP Board

The Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia has announced the election of five new members to its Board of Directors.

Albert S. Dandridge III, Vice Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, chair of the Securities practice group and Chief Diversity Officer at Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP, was elected as an ex officio member of the Board.

Zachary R. Davis, a shareholder in the Labor & Employment department at Stevens & Lee, recently served on the Keystone State Civil Justice Issues Panel at the Perspectives on Mass Tort Litigation Symposium at Widener University School of Law’s Harrisburg campus.

Jay M. Levin of Reed Smith LLP co-authored an examination of recent developments in property insurance coverage litigation in the American Bar Association’s Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Law Journal.

Matthew L. Wilson, a partner with Martin, LLC, was a faculty member for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s program “Tough Problems in Workers’ Compensation 2013” on April 9.


Julia Swain, a partner with Fox Rothschild LLP, discussed distribution of assets, custody as well as divorce myths in a recent interview with CBS3 Eyewitness News’ Pat Ciarrocchi.

Nancy J. Winkler, a partner with Eisenberg Rothweiler Eisenberg & Jeck P.C., recently served on the Keystone State Civil Justice Issues Panel.

Deborah J. Zateeny, a partner with Zateeny Loftus, LLP, was a course planner and panelist at “Advising Nonprofits: Top 10 Policies and Practices for Nonprofit Organizations” sponsored by the American Law Institute.

Judith Bernstein-Baker, executive director of HIAS Pennsylvania, was part of a delegation of immigration policy experts, legal scholars, legislators, journalists and academics from 16 states to participate in a weeklong German Study Tour from April 14-19.

Michael C. Gross, a partner with Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP, was a panelist on the American Law Institute webinar “Vapor Intrusion – Legal Concerns, Risk Management, and Scientific Factors for Attorneys and their Clients.”

Jerry Lehocky, a partner with Pond Lehocky Stern Giordano, participated in the Pennsylvania Bar Institute CLE “Tough Problems in Workers’ Compensation 2013” on April 9.

"People" highlights news of members’ awards, honors or appointments of a community or civic nature. Send information 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.

Faruqi LLP; Jones Price, an associate at Weber Gallagher Simpson Stapleton Fires & Newby LLP; and Elizabeth Oquendo, staff attorney at the Legal Clinic for the Disabled, were all elected to the Board. Price and Oquendo will serve as ex-officio members of the Board.

The Law Center opened its doors in 1969 as a local affiliate of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, an organization established at the request of President John F. Kennedy during the Civil Rights Movement to address discrimination and violence against African Americans.

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