Bench-Bar Registration Ends Oct. 14

By Jeff Lyons


The Bench-Bar & Annual Conference provides attendees the opportunity to earn continuing legal education (CLE) credit while networking with colleagues and members of the bench. Hundreds of attorneys and judges are expected to attend. Twenty-three seminars and 8.5 CLE credits will be available at the conference.

Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald D. Castille will receive the Philadelphia Bar Association’s highest honor, the Bar Medal, at the Bench-Bar’s Opening Luncheon on Friday, Oct. 17. The Bar Medal is given at the discretion of the Chancellor and only when it is felt that someone has contributed to the justice system and/or the community in a manner that is sustained, extraordinary and worthy of emulation.

The Conference opens on Friday, Oct. 17 with a panel of nationally known lawyers who also serve as media correspondents who will address the ethics of covering a moving media target in today’s society. The panel will be moderated by CNN legal analyst Daniel L. Cevallos, Cevallos & Wong, LLP; and includes Cherri T. Gregg, KYW Newsradio 1060; Heather Hansen, O’Brien & Ryan, LLP; Patrick J. Murphy, Fox Rothschild LLP; and Iain Page of Fox 29 Philadelphia.

CLE programming will be presented by the Bar-News Media Committee, continued on page 17.
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OctoBARfest: Every Week Filled With Unique Programming

By William P. Fedullo

 LAST MONTH, THE PHILADELPHIA BAR Association had the distinct honor of hosting the 9th World City Bar Leaders Conference. With delegates representing 16 cities and four continents, the Conference was a fantastic opportunity for us to introduce global delegates to the birthplace of law in America.

This event was important not just to us as a Bar Association but to our city. We were able to show the delegates the very best of Philadelphia and all of the delegates loved Philadelphia and they all would love to come back to Philadelphia.

I want to give special thanks to Chief Justice Ron Castille, former Gov. Ed Rendell and Mayor Michal Nutter for their graciousness in greeting the delegates and talking about our Philadelphia and our Bar Association.

I want to thank all the delegates and presenters at this event. The many kind notes and emails I have received is a reflection on the great work done by our fantastic bar staff and all the bar leaders involved in this event. The planning and participation in this conference was a labor of love for more than 16 months and I know this could not have been done without all of your support. A special thanks to past Chancellor Rudy Garcia for his time-consuming work in putting together the wonderful programming for our event and thanks to his firm, Buchanan, Ingersoll & Rooney PC for hosting the events for one day. A special thanks also to Chancellor-Elect Al Dandridge and to his firm, Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP for one day of hosting and for Al’s help in procuring a very special speaker in Ken Feinberg. I couldn’t be more proud to serve as Chancellor during the year of such a historic milestone for our association.

While we wrap up one significant conference, we continue to put the final touches on our next one – the 2014 Bench-Bar & Annual Conference – which will be held Oct. 17-18 at Borgata in Atlantic City. From our “The Ethics of Covering a Moving Media Target” opening plenary panel to the closing luncheon and “State of the Courts” presentation, some of Philadelphia’s finest lawyers and judges will speak on ethical and substantive topics related to a cross-section of practice areas.

I will have the distinct pleasure of awarding our Association’s Bar Medal to Chief Justice Castille at the Bench-Bar. This will be the first time in seven years that the Bar Medal will be awarded and there is no more worthy recipient than our Chief Justice.

In addition to our wonderful programming, I am particularly excited about the special Friday night performance by Felix Cavaliere of the Rascals. Felix is in both the Rock and Roll and the Songwriters Hall of Fame. He has provided a significant part of the soundtrack of our lives with such hits as “Beautiful Morning,” “Groovin’,” “Good Lovin’,” “People Got to Be Free,” “Lonely Too Long” and my particular favorite, “Ray of Hope,” just to name a few. Felix is a singer-songwriter who helped to shape an entire generation. His message has always been to stand for peace, love, equality, brotherhood and happiness.

This exclusive concert is an added Bench-Bar bonus this year. I would like to thank the following individuals and firms who have helped me sponsor this special performance: Debbie Gross; Carol and Lawrence Huff and Huff Equities, Inc.; Michael Mattioni and Mattioni, Ltd.; Eric Weitz and Messa and Associates; Angelo L. Scaricamazza and Naulty, Scaricamazza & McDevitt, LLC; Robert Mongeluzzi and Salz Mongeluzzi Barrett & Bendesky, PC; and Ron Kovler.

Thanks to all of our Bench-Bar sponsors. It is because of their support that we are able to host this incredible conference. A special thanks to Bench-Bar Chair Shelli Fedullo for the great work she has done with this event.

While we are gearing up for Bench-Bar, we have another special event a week prior. On Oct. 9, we will host our first-ever Education Summit, featuring a “State of the School District” address by Superintendent Dr. William R. Hite. Local lead-

Bar Election Filing Deadline is Oct. 10


Offices for which candidates are being solicited are Vice Chancellor, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Treasurer and five seats on the Board of Governors. Each Board seat carries a three-year term.

Association members may become candidates for any of these offices by filing with the Secretary by Oct. 10, 2014 (at least 60 days prior to the Dec. 9, 2014 Annual Meeting) nominations in writing which, for candidates of the Board, must be signed by at least 25 members who are entitled to vote; for candidates for Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer, shall be signed by at least 35 members who are entitled to vote; and for candidates for Vice Chancellor, shall be signed by at least 100 members who are entitled to vote.

Individuals who wish to run for any of the above named offices should contact Susan Knight, CFO and director of administration, at sknight@philabar.org for additional information. Signatures, along with a resume and written authorization, should be submitted to Association Secretary Jacqueline G. Segal, c/o Susan Knight, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107, no later than 5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 10, 2014.
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Call today for more information on the insurance products available to Philadelphia Bar Association members, including professional membership credit and risk management credit.
Go Casual for Justice Fundraiser! This “jeans day” fundraiser benefits the grantees of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation. Employees at participating workplaces donate $5 (or more) to wear jeans or participate in some other office-wide activity. The date can be designated by each office. To participate, contact Maya Brown at mbrown@philabar.org.

**Monday, Oct. 20**

- **SeniorLaw Center Training:** Providing Legal Services through the Pennsylvania SeniorLAW Helpline, 12 to 2 p.m., PECO/Exelon Building, 2301 Market St.

  Volunteers will be trained to provide advice to seniors who call the Pennsylvania SeniorLAW Helpline. Two CLE credits (1.5 substantive, .5 ethics) in exchange for staffing the SeniorLAW Helpline for two two-hour shifts. Lunch will be provided for those who register in advance. Register by Oct. 13 with Joanna Jarzabowska at jarzabowsk-ia@seniorlawcenter.org

- **Philadelphia VIP Pro Bono Opportunities Day: The Ethics of Pro Bono Service, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads, LLP 123 S. Broad St.**

  Free pro bono training program presented by Philadelphia VIP Attendees can receive 2.5 ethics CLE credits in exchange for handling one VIP case within six months of training. Register with VIP at 215-523-9550 or phillyvip.org.

- **Tuesday, Oct. 21**

  - **Philadelphia VIP Corporate Pro Bono Day:** 4 to 7 p.m., Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP 1701 Market St. Pro bono training program and small business clinic limited to corporate counsel. Register with VIP at 215-523-9550 or phillyvip.org.

  - **Housing Advocacy Project Legal Clinics:** 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., at Families Forward (formerly Traveler’s Aid), 111 N. 49th St. (enter on 48th Street); and 6 to 7 p.m., at Covenant House, 31 E. Armat St.

    To volunteer, please contact Marsha Cohen at marsha@haplegal.org or call 215-523-9590.

- **Wednesday, Oct. 22**

  - **How to Handle a Child Abuse Case CLE Program:** 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., The Philadelphia Conference Center, Wannamaker Building, 10th Floor, Market and Juniper streets.

    Pro bono training program presented by the Support Center for Child Advocates. This program will provide 6.5 CLE credits, 2 of which may be applied toward ethics. Register with PBI at 1-800-247-4724 or at www.pbi.org.

- **Thursday, Oct. 23**

  - **Board Observer Program: The Inside Scoop on Nonprofit Board Services:** 8:30 to 10 a.m., Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th Floor Conference Center.

    CLE training on the basics of nonprofit board service, including charitable issues raised under state and federal laws for current board members. As well as people interested in serving on a nonprofit board. (1.5 substantive CLE credits). RSVP and register online to purchase lunch at www.philadelphia.bar.org. Register for CLE credits at www.pbi.org.

  - **First Judicial District 2014 Pro Bono Publico Awards & Roll of Honor Reception:** (by invitation only) 4 to 6 p.m., Philadelphia City Hall.

  - **Homeless Advocacy Project Legal Clinics:** 1:45 to 2:45 p.m., St. John’s Hospice, 1221 Race St.

    To volunteer, please contact Marsha Cohen at marsha@haplegal.org or call 215-523-9590.

During National Pro Bono Week, the Law School Outreach Committee of the Public Interest Section will raise awareness of the professional responsibility to contribute pro bono service on local law school campuses, and celebrate student pro bono efforts. In addition to individual programming at the separate law schools, the Committee is creating stickers with a slogan in celebration of pro bono legal work and will recruit student volunteers to distribute the stickers to law students at Drexel, Penn, Rutgers-Camden, Temple, Villanova and Widener Universities. Student volunteers will also share information about pro bono opportunities and experiences. For more information, contact Lisa Hurlbut at lisa.hurlbut@temple.edu.
Comittee on Insurance Practice

Pa. Insurance Chief Updates Bar Members

By Lauren A. Strebel

Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner Michael F. Consedine, who oversees the fifth-largest insurance market in the United States and the 14th largest in the world in terms of premium volume, spoke about legal developments in insurance practice with members of the Insurance Practice Committee on Sept. 17. The discussion ranged from the implications of Dodd-Frank to Penn Treaty to the Affordable Care Act and beyond.

Consedine said the Insurance Department is the Commonwealth’s insolvency regulator and the consumer protector. He said the financial crisis of 2008 had “not just a Wall Street impact but a Main Street impact.”

Passed in response to the crisis, Dodd-Frank created the Federal Insurance Office that monitors the industry, reports on gaps in regulatory structure, and advises the Treasury Department and the president on insurance matters. Together with the Federal Reserve, which regulates systematically important financial institutions (SIFIs), such as Prudential and AIG, and the individual state insurance departments, these three distinct entities encompass the complex regulatory scheme of the U.S. insurance market. As vice president of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) Consedine educates foreign markets on how the U.S. regulatory scheme works. The NAIC is focused on uniformity at the state level.

Consedine also provided insight on the implications of the Penn Treaty case. He explained that the legal issue is defining the boundaries of authority between the insurance industry and the court regarding rehabilitating distressed companies. Ultimately there must be a commercial alternative to long-term care insurance, but the challenge will be encouraging the industry to keep making those costly products.

With regard to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), Consedine said Pennsylvania’s first challenge was to decide between a state exchange and the federal exchange. After a vast outreach process involving hearings with stakeholders across Pennsylvania, the state decided to proceed with a state exchange. The challenge will be encouraging the industry to keep making those costly products.

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Judicial Commission Sets Dec. 5 Deadline for 2015 Candidates

The Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention of the Philadelphia Bar Association evaluates the qualifications of persons seeking appointment or election to the Philadelphia Common Pleas and Municipal Courts. Individuals who wish to be considered for appointment or who are considering filing for the 2015 primary election as judicial candidates should contact the Commission on Judicial Selection & Retention c/o Charles J. Klitsch, Esq., the Bar Association’s Director of Public and Legal Services, to obtain a Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire, the Commission’s Guidelines for Evaluation of Attorney and Judge Candidates and Bylaws of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

In order to ensure that each candidate receives a full and fair evaluation, the completed questionnaire must be returned by Friday, Dec. 5, 2014 to “Judicial Commission” at 1101 Market St., 11th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2911.

All candidates who have previously been evaluated by the Commission must submit to a new review if they choose to run in the 2015 primary election. Under the Commission’s Guidelines, any candidates who do not participate in the Commission’s evaluation process will receive “Not Recommended” ratings if they continue to pursue either appointment or election.

Kenneth Murphy, Esq.
2014 Chair,
Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention

Judicial Commission
Sets Dec. 5 Deadline
for 2015 Candidates

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Fifty-one people from 28 countries became American citizens at a special Constitution Day naturalization ceremony on Sept. 17 at the National Constitution Center, sponsored by the Philadelphia Bar Association. Chancellor-Elect Albert S. Dandridge III (left) spoke on behalf of the Bar Association. The ceremony was presided over by U.S. District Court Judge John R. Padova and included speakers Dr. Nina Ahmad and Jeffrey Rosen, president and CEO of the National Constitution Center.

New Citizens Take Oath on Constitution Day

Fifty-one people from 28 countries became American citizens at a special Constitution Day naturalization ceremony on Sept. 17 at the National Constitution Center, sponsored by the Philadelphia Bar Association. Chancellor-Elect Albert S. Dandridge III (left) spoke on behalf of the Bar Association. The ceremony was presided over by U.S. District Court Judge John R. Padova and included speakers Dr. Nina Ahmad and Jeffrey Rosen, president and CEO of the National Constitution Center.
Philadelphia judges are seeking to host law school graduates as judicial fellows to provide the graduates with substantive legal experience while benefitting the court system with additional legal talent, as part of the First Judicial District’s Judicial Fellowship Program. Now in its fourth year, the Judicial Fellowship Program was created in 2011 to address the difficult hiring climate for lawyers that many recent law graduates were facing.

The Judicial Fellowship Program aims to provide high-caliber law graduates with substantive experience in the law, and to support the Court in carrying out key functions. Fellows volunteer their time, have the same responsibilities as regular paid judicial law clerks, and gain the benefit of training by judges in the Philadelphia courts. Judicial fellows’ service helps our high-volume court system maintain its superior quality of service to the Philadelphia community. Judges help judicial fellows by mentoring and providing legal experience that will enhance their competitiveness for paid employment as new lawyers.

Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Lisa M. Rau developed the program with help from Professor Chapin Cimino of Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law as well as faculty and administrators from career services offices at the University of Pennsylvania Law School and Temple University Beasley School of Law. The Judicial Fellowship Program quickly expanded and now welcomes graduates from law schools from across the country. The Philadelphia Bar Association has been a constant supporter of the Judicial Fellowship Program.

The application process is streamlined and selective. Prospective judicial fellows apply directly via email to judges with whom they are interested in working. Judges select judicial fellows from those applicants who apply to them directly. The list of judges with available positions for judicial fellows is provided on the Judicial Fellowship Program’s website. Each judge and fellow team designs a flexible schedule (minimum of 20 hours per week) that ensures reliable service to the judge but permits the fellow to seek a paid position elsewhere. Judicial fellows do not commit to any length of service enabling them to leave the fellowship with two weeks’ notice to their judge upon obtaining paid employment.

As of September 2014, more than 61 judges have volunteered to host judicial fellows and the court has hosted 175 judicial fellows from 36 different law schools. The vast majority of judicial fellows who have left their fellowship departed for paid jobs using their legal skills.

For more information and fellowship application forms, visit www.courts.phila.gov/jfp.

Chancellor William P. Fedullo congratulates Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Pamela Pryor Dembe at a portrait dedication ceremony in her honor on Sept. 18. Judge Dembe was recognized for her service as president judge and the portrait will be on display in City Hall.

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YLD Update

Get Involved: Harvest for Homeless, Boot Camp

By Edward F. Beitz

YLD Update

YLD Boot Camp is particularly special to me, as it was the first Bar Association program that I was responsible for organizing. As a young professional, opportunities to develop confidence as a leader are not just handed to you. We need to seek them out. These past few years as a Bar leader have been invaluable in that regard, and for that reason (among others) I cannot recommend Bar service enough.

School Mock Trial Competition. Anyone interested in volunteering to judge the competitions, or to take part in this fall’s Mock Trial Camp, part of the kickoff to the mock trial season, should feel free to contact me at beitze@whiteandwilliams.com. The Mock Trial Camp is an intensive all-day event organized by Temple-LEAP and the YLD that provides instruction and hands-on training in direct and cross-examination of witnesses. Details about the mock trial tournament and related events will be announced soon.

Edward F. Beitz (beitze@whiteandwilliams.com), an associate with White and Williams LLP, is chair of the Young Lawyers Division.

YLD Boot Camp

YLD Boot Camp

YLD Update

The Young Lawyers Division is now accepting nominations from any voting member of the YLD interested in serving a three-year term on the Executive Committee. This year’s YLD Executive Committee election will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 9.

Each year, seven new members are elected to the YLD Executive Committee. Any voting member of the YLD is eligible for election provided that the term of office for which the individual runs shall not extend beyond his or her membership in the Division. A member is eligible if he/she is 37 years old or younger in the year 2017 or, if he/she is older than 37, not celebrating more than his/her third year of practice in 2017.

The Executive Committee manages and directs the business and activities of the YLD’s approximately 3,000 members, including oversight of more than 30 committees in the areas of public service, law-related education and service to the legal community. Being on the YLD Executive Committee provides lawyers opportunities for leadership, networking, and personal and professional growth early in their careers.

The nominating petition and personal statement must be returned to Dawn Petit, Meetings Coordinator, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market Street, 11th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107 or dpetit@philabar.org, no later than 3 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 10.

The YLD is looking for volunteers early on Saturday, Nov. 1 to meet in Center City and organize the donations. This event is always a lot of fun and the help is needed to sort the mountains of clothes by size and gender to meet the shelters’ needs. It is also a good chance to meet and socialize with other members of the legal community, and get to know the YLD.

The annual Young Lawyers Division Boot Camp will take place Friday, Nov. 14 from 12 to 5 p.m. at the Bar Association offices at 11th and Market streets. The YLD Boot Camp features panels of distinguished speakers on the topics of interview skills, solo and small firm practice, and surviving your first year as a new attorney. The Boot Camp is an opportunity for law students and young lawyers to ask questions of seasoned professionals and develop strategies for a successful career. This event is particularly special to me, as it was the first Bar Association program that I was responsible for organizing. As a young professional, opportunities to develop confidence as a leader are not just handed to you. We need to seek them out. These past few years as a Bar leader have been invaluable in that regard, and for that reason (among others) I cannot recommend Bar service enough.

I would also like to remind our readers that the Temple Legal Education and Participation (LEAP) program is gearing up for next year’s John S. Bradway High School Mock Trial Competition. Anyone interested in volunteering to judge the competitions, or to take part in this fall’s Mock Trial Camp, part of the kickoff to the mock trial season, should feel free to contact me at beitze@whiteandwilliams.com. The Mock Trial Camp is an intensive all-day event organized by Temple-LEAP and the YLD that provides instruction and hands-on training in direct and cross-examination of witnesses. Details about the mock trial tournament and related events will be announced soon.

Edward F. Beitz (beitze@whiteandwilliams.com), an associate with White and Williams LLP, is chair of the Young Lawyers Division.
Climate Change Authority to Speak Nov. 6

In the wake of the unanimous approval of a Board of Governors resolution supporting action on climate change, Chancellor William P.德育 will host a Chancellor’s Forum on the subject on Thursday, Nov. 6.

Dr. Richard Alley, Ph.D. of Pennsylvania State University will be the featured speaker at the Chancellor’s Forum. Dr. Alley is on the subject on Thursday, Nov. 6.

The resolution calls on the U.S. Congress, the Pennsylvania General Assembly and local governments to specifically promote policies, such as carbon pricing, to reduce the use of fossil fuels and greenhouse gas emissions.

The resolution recognizes that “the world’s living scientific organizations have warned repeatedly of the severe human and economic consequences in the near future from global warming,” and declares that “our nation’s first principle is that all people are created equal and enjoy certain ‘ineligible rights’ to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and that reports from the scientific community indisputably demonstrate a serious threat to these rights from global climate change.”

“We work hard to understand the needs of citizens and to be on the cutting edge of many important issues that the public is concerned about,” said Chancellor Fedullo. “We must act now, as it is important for the future of our children and grandchildren to have a stable climate as well as fresh air to breathe and clean water to drink.”

The Philadelphia Bar Association calls on all other associations of legal professionals, all lawyers, and all members of society to continue the call for action on climate change put forward by the continued on page 18
FAMILY LAW SECTION

Client’s Mind Frame Key for Divorce Decisions

By Julia Swain

Emotional challenges faced by divorce clients create barriers for them to make sound legal decisions. Ruth Feinblum, a local therapist whose practice focuses on struggling couples and divorcing individuals, met with the Family Law Section on Sept. 8 and discussed understanding the divorce client's mind frame to help get them through the legal process.

Divorce clients range from those in pre-contemplation stage, who do not see any problems in their marriage; to those in the contemplation stage, who recognize that problems exist but may not do anything for some time; to those in the determination stage, who are considering divorce; to those in the action stage, who are ready to dissolve their marriage. Those clients falling on the contemplation end of the spectrum tend to be ambivalent and require a greater level of support to navigate the legal process in light of their emotions.

Feinblum explained that at the first few meetings, the ambivalent client will be in fight-flight mode, which is the brain's natural response to a threatening situation. During this phase, hormones such as cortisol and adrenalin run high and directly impact rational thought. These clients may appear impulsive, irrational, anxious, aggressive or withdrawn. They also may over or under eat and they can interpret neutral actions as hostile.

Decision-making skills are impaired for clients between the pre-contemplation and determination stages. These clients are only capable of making sound legal decisions with the proper support of the attorney. The attorney, in turn, must balance providing legal advice while avoiding a therapeutic role.

Feinblum explained that family lawyers can utilize some skills from the world of therapy to help clients down the divorce road. The first skill is listening. The right amount of listening will help the client bond with the attorney and make the client feel better and safer. The second skill is maintaining calmness. Neurological studies show that calmness begets calmness. Once the client is feeling more peaceful, rational thinking will return.

Reflecting a client’s feelings (“I understand that you feel…”; “It seems like…”) and then providing some hope, is an important process to engage in with ambivalent clients as they encounter emotional and economic barriers as a result of a divorce and require validation. The goal is to enable clients to make sound legal decisions without emotions clouding their judgment.

People make changes when they feel that the change is important and they are ready to make a change. When family lawyers are tasked with pushing an unwilling divorce party through the legal system, lawyers should explain what is important at each stage of the process to motivate the client by imparting the possible consequences of not making the case a priority. Feinblum suggests family lawyers focus on the client’s needs and wants. Many clients have a plethora of third parties telling them what they need and want. However, clients need to understand their own circumstances to make the best decisions based upon their needs.

Finally, Feinblum encouraged family lawyers to help clients by challenging their negative thinking. This technique is a form of cognitive therapy dealing with thought distortions. Many clients fear for their economic and emotional security after divorce. By directly addressing these fears with possible outcomes that show the client how they will manage can help overcome exaggerated fears of devastating outcomes.

Julia Swain (jswain@foxcroftlaw.com), a partner with Fox Rothschild LLP, is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.
Philadelphia Bar Hosts Global Delegation

By Jeff Lyons

They came to Philadelphia from as far away as Beijing, Tokyo, Jakarta and Johannesburg for four days of meetings with leaders of metropolitan bar associations from around the world to share ideas and network.


The World City Bar Leaders meet approximately every 18 months to discuss issues and challenges facing the worldwide legal profession. In recent years, the conference has been held in Frankfurt, Montreal and Tokyo. The Conference kicked off on Sept. 10 with a reception at the Four Seasons Hotel Philadelphia and welcoming remarks from former Gov. Edward G. Rendell and Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald D. Castille.

“I heard nothing but glowing responses from all who attended it,” said delegate Jani Trias of Barcelona, Spain. “Everything was absolutely great: the academic program, the receptions, the post-conference excursions and activities, all went into making this a truly memorable event.”

Programming began on Sept. 11 at the offices of Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP where topics included judicial and attorney ethics and discipline with a comparison of approaches. The speakers were Penn...

continued on page 13
sylvania Superior Court Judge Anne E. Lazarus, former Chancellor Abraham C. Reich and Alasdair Douglas of London.

After a visit by Mayor Michael Nutter, ACLU of Pennsylvania Executive Director Reggie Shuford was among the panelists for the next program, on security vs. privacy while balancing governmental and individual concerns. Other speakers included Jack Thomas Tomarchio of Philadelphia, Makato Hirasawa of Tokyo and Jani Triage of Barcelona.

Philadelphia’s Bruce P. Merenstein and Carl A. Solano provided a legal history of the Barnes Foundation, which served as good background for delegates who received a private tour later in the afternoon. The day concluded with a reception and dinner at the Rodin Museum.

The conference moved to Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC on Sept. 12. Rochelle M. Fedullo and Jeremy Heep of Philadelphia, along with Pieter van Regeren Altena of Amsterdam and Yoshihisa Hayakawa of Tokyo led a discussion on international discovery. Chancellor-Elect Dandridge introduced the next panel, “Dealing with Disasters – Planning for and Coping with Catastrophic Events.” The speakers were Kenneth R. Feinberg of Washington, D.C. and Eiji Yamahara of Tokyo. Feinberg was special master of the Sept. 11 Victim Compensation Fund and TARP Executive Compensation. He was also the federally appointed administrator of the BP Deepwater Horizon Disaster Victim Compensation Fund.

A discussion on pro bono service and right to counsel featured speakers Prof. Louis S. Rulli of Philadelphia, Yoshihisa Hayakawa of Tokyo, Luc Deshaies of Montreal and Wei Zhang of Beijing. The next panel, on differences in marketing and solicitation, included Philadelphia Bar Association Assistant Executive Director Paul Kazaras, Rudolf Lauda of Frankfurt and Saniah Wu of Jakarta. Programming concluded with a presentation on Tokyo’s plans for the 2016 Olympics with Tsutomo Kuribayashi of Tokyo. The day ended with a private tour of Citizens Bank Park and seats in the Bill Giles Suite at the ballpark to watch the Phillies defeat the Miami Marlins, 3-1.

On Sept. 13, the last day of the conference, delegates visited the Independence Visitors Center where they heard from Chancellor Fedullo and Daniel A. Cotter of Chicago on the founding of the U.S. and Philadelphia’s role in the revolution. A brief walking tour of Independence National Historic Park followed and the delegates wrapped up the conference with lunch at Talula’s Garden on Washington Square.

World City Bar Leaders

continued from page 12

Mayor Michael Nutter welcomes members of the Toronto and Tokyo delegation during the World City Bar Leaders Conference last month in Philadelphia.

Yoshihisa Hayakawa of Tokyo, Luc Deshaies of Montreal and Wei Zhang of Beijing. The next panel, on differences in marketing and solicitation, included Philadelphia Bar Association Assistant Executive Director Paul Kazaras, Rudolf Lauda of Frankfurt and Saniah Wu of Jakarta. Programming concluded with a presentation on Tokyo’s plans for the 2016 Olympics with Tsutomo Kuribayashi of Tokyo. The day ended with a private tour of Citizens Bank Park and seats in the Bill Giles Suite at the ballpark to watch the Phillies defeat the Miami Marlins, 3-1.

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World City Bar Leaders

continued from page 12

Yoshihisa Hayakawa of Tokyo, Luc Deshaies of Montreal and Wei Zhang of Beijing. The next panel, on differences in marketing and solicitation, included Philadelphia Bar Association Assistant Executive Director Paul Kazaras, Rudolf Lauda of Frankfurt and Saniah Wu of Jakarta. Programming concluded with a presentation on Tokyo’s plans for the 2016 Olympics with Tsutomo Kuribayashi of Tokyo. The day ended with a private tour of Citizens Bank Park and seats in the Bill Giles Suite at the ballpark to watch the Phillies defeat the Miami Marlins, 3-1.

On Sept. 13, the last day of the conference, delegates visited the Independence Visitors Center where they heard from Chancellor Fedullo and Daniel A. Cotter of Chicago on the founding of the U.S. and Philadelphia’s role in the revolution. A brief walking tour of Independence National Historic Park followed and the delegates wrapped up the conference with lunch at Talula’s Garden on Washington Square.
Among the events, the First Judicial District will celebrate National Pro Bono Week on Thursday, Oct. 23 with its annual Pro Bono Publico Awards Ceremony and Pro Bono Roll of Honor. The event celebrates the contributions of those who provided pro bono representation in the calendar year 2014 and recognizes the importance of pro bono in ensuring justice for the citizens of Philadelphia.

The entire legal community can support Philadelphia’s legal service agencies on any day during October by participating in “Go Casual for Justice.” Coordinated by the Philadelphia Bar Foundation and the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Large Law Firm Pro Bono Committee, employees at participating workplaces pay a suggested donation to wear jeans for the day. All proceeds go to the Philadelphia Bar Foundation, which provides general operating grants to legal services organizations in Philadelphia. To participate, contact Maya Brown at mbrown@philabar.org.

Whether you are an experienced volunteer, new to pro bono, or new to the practice of law, we hope that you will join us as we celebrate Philadelphia’s commitment to access to justice.

“You make a living by what you get; you make a life by what you give.”

- Winston Churchill

Jodi Schatz and Sara Woods are co-chairs of the Delivery of Legal Services Committee Pro Bono Committee.

Reinstating Insurance for Thousands of Low-Income Pennsylvanians

By John P. Lavelle Jr.

Beginning in July 2011, the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare (DPW), which administers the Medicaid program in the Commonwealth, decided to conduct a review of Medicaid and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families cases that were allegedly overdue for re-evaluation.

The scope of the redeterminations was vast, with potentially devastating consequences for many low-income families and persons with disabilities. By DPW’s own statistics, during the second half of 2011, about 150,000Pennsylvanians, including 89,000 children, lost their health insurance and access to health care. Hundreds contacted Community Legal Services (CLS) for help, frequently telling the same story: they had completed and submitted the required paperwork, just as they had in the past, but their benefits were cut off despite their efforts. Many even had receipts for their submissions.

Early on, CLS realized that the complexity of the legal issues and the number of people affected presented an enormous challenge. It was clear that individual advocacy was not going to resolve the problem. CLS turned to Morgan, Lewis and Bockius LLP to act as co-counsel. Having a long relationship with CLS and sitting on its Board, I was excited by the prospect of working with CLS. My partners Joyce Cowan and Amanda Smith and I assembled a team to pursue the multi-faceted case. Recruiting extra volunteers from Morgan Lewis was easy since everyone we approached wanted to lend a hand.

Our new joint team quickly sprang into action to address the issue. CLS’s efforts to resolve the matter informally were unsuccessful and so, in early 2012, we officially notified DPW and the Commonwealth of our intent to file a class action to reinstate the thousands of dis-enrolled families and negotiations finally began. CLS, like all other legal services programs receiving funding from the Commonwealth, must file a pre-litigation letter prior to filing a class action to avoid “frivolous” litigation. Though this was not a procedure with which we were familiar, it allowed us to begin meaningful negotiations immediately.

Together with CLS lawyers Richard Weishaupt and Justine Elliot, we entered into lengthy negotiations that led to a detailed letter of understanding that resulted in an agreement for the reinstatement of thousands of dis-enrolled families.

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“You make a living by what you get; you make a life by what you give.”

- Winston Churchill

Jodi Schatz and Sara Woods are co-chairs of the Delivery of Legal Services Committee Pro Bono Committee.
"Your sons are here."

They bear no physical resemblance whatsoever, but the bond between Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Vincent N. Melchiorre and his friend, 19-year-old Marcel, is so strong and so familiar that the two are often mistaken as kin.

The judge, not completely caught off guard by the innocent mistake of his staff member, smiles kindly and simply says "thanks" before continuing to his chambers to meet both his actual son, and his good friend, Marcel: a young man the judge met three years ago, while volunteering with the Support Center for Child Advocates, who has become, in many ways, a part of the family.

In 2011, Marcel was a 16-year-old whose story was sadly familiar; especially to those who work firsthand with kids in need of strong advocates. At a young age, he was forced to deal with the repercussions of familial issues stemming from his father’s absence and his mother’s struggles with substance abuse. At school, Marcel, a student with special needs, battled issues with reading and poor grades and had been designed an individualized education program, a plan tailored to the specific educational needs of students facing mental, physical and/or social obstacles.

Judge Melchiorre, then a practicing attorney who was assigned to represent Marcel as part of his service to Child Advocates, immediately saw potential which, to that point, had been overlooked. Marcel represented the duality of a young man with immense promise coupled with, conceivably, crippling impediments.

“I tell my kids all the time, if God puts you in a position to succeed, you have an obligation to give back," said Judge Melchiorre, as he detailed the interest he took in Marcel’s development.

Right away a bond was formed as the judge, himself dyslexic, was able to relate to Marcel’s struggles in the classroom and identified immediately with a young man who, in the process of being disregarded by many, simply needed a small helping of self-belief and someone he could rely on.

Judge Melchiorre found those things for himself through his involvement in martial arts. With decades of training and competitive experience, he discovered the positive effects of focus and self-discipline. While Marcel didn’t share the judge’s interest in Tang Soo Do, Melchiorre was compelled to share the undeniable respect for effort and attention to detail which martial arts afforded him. It wasn’t long before Marcel had an unofficial mentor and, perhaps most importantly, a new friend.

"Martial arts helped me believe that anything I put my mind to, I can do," explained Judge Melchiorre. That included assisting a young man facing incredible challenges.

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The Legal Intelligencer

2014 LAWYERS ON THE FAST TRACK AWARDS DINNER

Featuring Pennsylvania’s Finest Attorneys Under 40

Thursday, November 6, 2014
The Crystal Tea Room, Wanamaker Building
Philadelphia, PA
Cocktail Reception and Awards Dinner
6:00-8:30 PM

To purchase tickets or to inquire about sponsorship opportunities, contact Lana Ehrlich at (215) 557-2392 or lehrlich@alm.com.

philadelphiabar.org
As I enter the final quarter of my two-year presidency of the Board of Trustees of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation, I want to take this moment to thank the many new supporters and friends of the Foundation. I truly appreciate the enthusiasm and willingness demonstrated by many of you to step up to the plate when we are reminded of the growing need for legal representation and advice for the increasing numbers of individuals living below the poverty level.

The Corporation for Enterprise Development just issued a study reporting that 32 percent of the population of Philadelphia does not have enough money to meet basic expenses for three months at the federal poverty level, which is $6,000 for a family of four. More than 50 percent of the population does not have assets that could be converted to cash, such as stocks, bank accounts or retirement accounts. Such economic instability affects decisions across the board, what to eat, where to live, whether to seek medical help, and how much education to receive. Thus, only 25 percent of the population has a bachelor's degree compared to 35 percent achieving a high school degree and 20 percent attaining less than a high school degree.

In the legal community we are extremely fortunate to be educated, employed, and have some kind of financial stability. As lawyers, we know the importance of protecting basic human rights. The Foundation not only provides grants to the legal nonprofits which protect those rights, but also provides coordination and development to secure basic rights. So for example, while we were meeting with representatives from SeniorLAW Center, Regional Housing Legal Services, Philadelphia Legal Assistance and TURN about the Landlord Tenant Legal Help Center, a joint project of the aforementioned groups and the courts, we learned that there are a number of code ordinances prohibiting unlawful self-help eviction practices with which even many of the police are unfamiliar. We then connected with attorneys who assist in training the police and are now working with them on providing an article for the newsletter about these ordinances.

During our 50th year, we have embarked on a series of road shows designed to inform the Philadelphia legal community of the important work done by the Foundation through innovation, coordination, and grant making. In September, we visited Cozen O’Connor, Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin and Ballard Spahr LLP and were overwhelmed by the amount of support and warm welcome we received. At Cozen, more than 50 people gathered for lunch and to learn about the mission of the Foundation. Days later, Marshall Dennehey’s own award-winning band, “Class Action,” opened for our evening celebration at their firm. At each of these events, we have been greeted by attorneys who were unfamiliar with the Foundation, and afterward, without any prompting, have signed up to become members of the Andrew Hamilton Circle and said they can’t wait to attend the Andrew Hamilton Benefit Gala on Saturday, Nov. 8 at the National Constitution Center.

I encourage you too to attend the Gala on Nov. 8. Please join us, to help us thank those who have worked so hard over the past 50 years to assure the success of the Philadelphia legal nonprofit community, to acknowledge and celebrate the enormously valuable work done by our legal nonprofits, and to be part of the future stability and security for the next 50 years.

Deborah R. Gross (debbie@bernardmgross.com) of the Law Offices of Bernard M. Gross, P.C. is president of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation.
Win an iPad Mini
Registration opens at 9:30 a.m. at Borgata in Atlantic City, N.J. on Friday, Oct. 17 for the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Bench-Bar & Annual Conference. Meet our valued sponsors who have made this year’s Bench-Bar & Annual Conference possible. Also, we invite you to visit each of our sponsors throughout the Conference to get your “Passport” stamped to enter a raffle to win an iPad Mini!

Philadelphia Bar Association 2014 Bench-Bar & Annual Conference
October 17 - 18, Borgata, Atlantic City - Registration Form

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Additional Information
Final registration deadline is October 14. Cancellation and Refund Policy: All cancellation requests must be submitted in writing to Tracey McCloskey at tmccloskey@philabar.org. The amount refunded for cancellation is dependent upon the date the cancellation request is received. Cancellations received through Oct. 14, 50% of the total registration fee will be refunded. Cancellations received after Oct. 14 are 100% non-refundable.

Mail to:
Philadelphia Bar Association
1101 Market St., 11th Fl.
Philadelphia, PA, 19107-2955
or Fax to:
215-238-1159

Registration Type: __________________________ Total Due: __________________________
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Register Online at
PHILABENCHBAR.COM

Bench-Bar & Annual Conference Sponsors

Pro Bono Spotlight
continued from page 14
in extraordinary relief for our clients. Many of the most vulnerable families had their cases re-reviewed and everyone was offered an opportunity for reinstatement. Thousands were thus reinstated and regained their health insurance through our efforts. Those of us at Morgan Lewis were pleased to be able to lend our legal talents to such a high-impact case. We learned a great deal about the way the Commonwealth delivers services to its low-income citizens, and we were impressed with the energy and expertise that the CLS lawyers brought to the table. We all felt proud of our efforts and the results we achieved.

John P. Lavelle Jr. (jlavelle@morgancroes.com) is a partner with Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP.
Diversity continued from page 1

the Board of Governors on Sept. 22. The Board also approved a resolution amending the Association’s bylaws increasing the number of diverse individuals appointed by the Chancellor to the Board of Governors from three to six and supplementing the designation “racial minority” and adding “the lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender community or other diverse individuals” as an appointment pursuant to Section 208(C). The amendment must be approved by a vote of Association members before the bylaws can be changed.

The Philadelphia Bar’s Statement of Diversity Principles was first adopted on June 26, 2008. The resolution approved on Sept. 22 supports the diversity goal adopted by the American Bar Association, as follows:

- Goal III, “Eliminate Bias and Enhance Diversity. Objectives: 1. Promote full and equal participation in the association, our profession, and the justice system by all persons. 2. Eliminate bias in the legal profession and the justice system.”

The Statement of Diversity and Inclusion Principles sets forth the following goals:

- Promote meaningful diversity and inclusion, including increased representation of racial and ethnic minorities, women, disabled individuals, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender and other diverse individuals in law firms, legal departments, and other legal organizations to reflect the increased recruitment, retention and promotion of diverse lawyers; and
- Provide educational opportunities for all individuals, particularly racial and ethnic minorities, women, disabled individuals, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender and other diverse individuals, to help them prepare for entry into and advancement in the profession.

In order to transition the Chancellor’s Board of Governors appointments from three members with three-year terms to six members with three-year terms, Chancellor-Elect Albert S. Dandridge III shall on or before Jan. 15, 2015, appoint two members to a term ending December 31, 2017. Vice Chancellor Gaetan J. Alfano shall on or before Jan. 15, 2016, appoint two members to a term ending Dec. 31, 2018, and the 2017 Chancellor shall on or before Jan. 15, 2017, appoint two members to a term ending Dec. 31, 2019. As of Jan. 15, and each year thereafter, the Chancellor shall appoint two members to a three-year term as defined by Bylaws Section 208(A)(6).

The Board also approved a resolution opposing a Directive proposed by the Pennsylvania Workers’ Compensation Office of Adjudication that would shorten from 18 months to 12 months the time for a litigated case to proceed from assignment to a Workers’ Compensation Judge to resolution. By shortening the time period to 12 months, the resolution states that a litigant’s right to due process will be diminished by denying said litigant’s ability to fully and completely litigate a matter before the court. According to the resolution, the new directive will also limit appeals by litigants as well as cause an unfair hardship to Workers’ Compensation judges sitting in locations with higher caseloads.

Insurance continued from page 6

the Commonwealth, the Department chose the federal exchange. Consedine still believes that was the right call. Afterward, the challenge was making sure something was up and running that worked for consumers.

Looking forward, Consedine noted a disruption may occur when the small businesses enter the market. Also, costs may go up now that the insurance companies have a year of data. A notable change has been the consolidation of the industry, especially in Western Pennsylvania. The ACA has tightened profit margins, resulting in mergers of hospitals and insurance companies that realize they need to get big to survive. Consedine predicts this trend will continue to occur across state and country.

There are new regulations in Pennsylvania as a result of the ACA. The Department may now review small group rate filings. Further, some internal changes have been made to streamline how the Department interacts with the trade, carbon taxation, or emissions trading.

“Climate change is one of the most important environmental issues of our times. I applaud the Philadelphia Bar Association for recognizing the importance of this issue,” said Philadelphia attorney Steven T. Miano, who currently serves as chair of the ABA Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources. The Chancellor’s Forum begins at 12 p.m. in the 11th Floor Conference Center at the Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St. Registration is available at philadelphiabar.org.

LAWSERVER REVIEWALS

For details on placing a Lawyer to Lawyer referral ad, contact Lana Ehrlich at 215-557-2392 or lehrich@alm.com.
Employers who sponsor a group health plan with prescription drug benefits are required to notify their Medicare-eligible participants and beneficiaries as to whether the drug coverage provided under the plan is “creditable” or “non-creditable.” This notification must be provided prior to Oct. 15 each year. Below you will find detailed information regarding these requirements.

Medicare Part D, the Medicare prescription drug program, imposes a higher premium on beneficiaries who delay enrollment in Part D after initial eligibility unless they have employer-provided coverage that is creditable (meaning equal to or better than coverage provided under Part D). Employers that provide prescription drug benefits are required to notify Medicare-eligible individuals annually as to whether the employer-provided benefit is creditable or non-creditable so that these individuals can decide whether or not to delay Part D enrollment.

Notification should be sent to all Part D-eligible participants. This includes active employees, COBRA qualified beneficiaries, retirees, spouses, and other dependents of the employee covered by the plan. In many cases, the employer will not know whether an individual is Medicare eligible or not. Therefore, employers may wish to provide the notice to all plan participants (including COBRA qualified beneficiaries) to ensure compliance with the notification requirements.

Participant disclosure notices should be sent at the following times:

• Prior to Oct. 15 each year;
• Prior to an individual’s initial enrollment period for Part D;
• Prior to the effective date of coverage for any Medicare eligible individual under the plan;
• Whenever prescription drug coverage ends or changes so that it is no longer creditable or it becomes creditable;
• Upon a beneficiary’s request.

If the disclosure notice is provided to all plan participants annually, prior to the Oct. 15, CMS will consider the first two bullet points satisfied. Many employers provide the notice either during or immediately following the annual group plan enrollment period. In order to satisfy the third bullet point, employers should provide the participant notice to new hires and newly eligible individuals under the group health plan.

The employer may provide a single disclosure notice to a participant and his or her family members covered under the plan. However, the employer is required to provide a separate disclosure notice if it is known that a spouse or dependent resides at an address different from the address where the participant’s materials were provided. Mail is the recommended method of delivery, and the method CMS initially had in mind when issuing its guidance. The employer may provide the notice electronically to plan participants who have the ability to access the employer’s electronic information system on a daily basis as part of their work duties. If this electronic method of disclosure is chosen, the plan sponsor must inform the plan participant that the participant is responsible for providing a copy of the electronic disclosure to their Medicare eligible dependents covered under the group health plan. In addition to having the disclosure notice sent electronically, the notice must be posted on the entity’s Web site, if applicable, with a link to the creditable coverage disclosure notice. Sending notices electronically will not always work for COBRA qualified beneficiaries who may not have access to the employer’s electronic information system on a daily basis.

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For the past few years, inflation has been of little concern to investors. However, it has recently garnered more attention, due to the pickup in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) earlier this year. In this month’s interview, I sat down with Investment Advisor Bruce Self, CFA, at PNC Wealth Management®, to discuss some of the current trends regarding inflation in the United States.

Why has inflation not been a big concern among most investors over recent years?
The confluence of several factors is keeping inflation at bay. A loose labor market means there is little pressure dragging overall prices higher. With the unemployment rate still above 6 percent, labor market slack has shifted wage- pricing power into the hands of employers. Second, the United States is also benefiting from stability in the commodity and food markets – usually responsible for the lion’s share of volatility in prices. Part of this is due to the energy renaissance in the United States. The ramp-up in domestic natural gas production is keeping domestic energy prices low. Though not as stable, food inflation has been relatively muted for several years as well. Third, prices are also benefiting from international dynamics. Weaker international, especially among the emerging markets, is keeping overall prices muted. In addition, the dollar is benefiting from weaker global growth.

Why did we see an increase in the CPI earlier this year?
The underlying cause of the rise in core inflation, which excludes gasoline and food prices, has been limited to a few areas: new vehicles, clothing, health care, and travel. Vehicle sales have been strong, which helps explain the upward movement of prices. Spending on clothing has not been strong, which does not explain the price movement. Air fares are typically volatile. Market participants keep an eye on these consumer prices as the Fed uses core inflation as a key indicator to help determine whether it must increase interest rates to cool down or heat up the economy.

Does the Fed seem concerned about the recent uptick?
The Fed has shown little concern about inflation, primarily because wage pressures are stable. Wage inflation seems to be hovering around 2 percent, where it has remained since the Great Recession. It would seem policymakers would not show much concern until this number got above 3 percent. Fed research published recently argued that there remains a large pool of long-term unemployed and discouraged workers that can be drawn back into the labor force as the economy expands. However, in order for individuals to ask for better wages they must feel comfortable about their current and future economic situations, which is not likely at present in our view.

Do you expect the Fed to raise interest rates any time soon?
Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen has reinvented that the Fed will not raise the federal funds rate until after a “significant” time has passed beyond ending monetary stimulus. However, most economists would view inflation rising above 2 percent as changing this position, in order to curb price increases given a still recovering economy. In testimony before the Senate Banking Committee, Yellen expressed she was not concerned about inflation, given the lack of wage pressures. She noted that even if inflation reached 2 percent, it was her view that it would not peak much higher than that in the long term.

What is the long-term outlook for inflation in the United States?
The median forecast from the Federal Open Market Committee suggests inflation will stay below 2 percent through 2016. Markets, however, may be too optimistic about Fed policy, in particular in reference to interest rates. Higher prices for consumer goods generally are the drivers of purchasing power and economic activity and should be monitored.

What could cause inflation to rise even further?
There are several indicators to watch that could signal rising inflation, including a continued rise in consumer goods prices; continued vigor in monetary growth with a pickup in the money multiplier; faster wage growth; further increases in energy prices, given the geopolitical situation; and marked improvement in the unemployment rate.

Carol Claytor can be reached at carol.claytor@pnc.com or 215-585-5679. For more information, visit pnc.com/wealthmanagement
Behind the Bench
continued from page 15

The two remain close, getting together often. These days, driving lessons, talks about life, and impromptu lunches dominate the schedule. On a recent summer evening at Citizens Bank Park, Marcel, along with Judge Melchiorre and his daughter, attended a Phillies game; Marcel’s first. That night, Marcel left the ballpark with a smile and a brand new Phillies cap. After a ride back to West Philly, they exchanged goodbyes, and as Marcel walked down the concourse, the Phillies cap. After a ride back to West Philly, they exchanged goodbyes, and as Marcel walked down the concourse, Marcel’s father, Melchiorre, added, “You were such a great feeling to hear that.”

Three years later, Marcel, with the guidance and support of Judge Melchiorre, is now an honor roll student, scheduled to graduate in 2015. Currently, perhaps for the first time in his life, he is able to appreciate his own accomplishments and dream about his own potential. Melchiorre, meanwhile, now goes by “Judge.”

As someone with a history of giving back, Judge Melchiorre, as an attorney, provided hundreds of hours of pro bono legal work, often dedicated to helping young people. Additionally, he has advocated for and taught women’s self-defense classes and volunteers as an instructor at a martial arts studio in South Philadelphia. His efforts, as Marcel can attest, continue to impact so many lives.

Gabriel B. Roberts is senior staff advisor to the District Court Administrator.

Frontline
continued from page 3

ers and stakeholders will share their thoughts and ideas regarding our city’s public education crisis. All attendees are encouraged to participate in the discussion on how to best create a path forward.

The Education Summit also will be an opportunity for Support Our Schools Campaign participants to register for any of these events, visit philadelphiabar.org.

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 non-members, unless otherwise indicated.

Wednesday, Oct. 1
Delivery of Legal Services Committee: meeting, 8:30 a.m., 10th Floor Board Room.

Franchise Law Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.50.

Family Law Section ADR Committee: meeting, 4 p.m., 10th Floor Board Room.

The Law Star Game: 5 p.m., Campbell’s Field, Camden, N.J.

Thursday, Oct. 2
Lawyer Referral and Information Service Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South.

Intellectual Property Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Philadelphia Bar Reporter Editorial Board: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 10th Floor Cabinet Room.

Monday, Oct. 6
Family Law Section: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Tuesday, Oct. 7
Committee on the Legal Rights of Persons with Disabilities: meeting, 9 a.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South.

Women’s Rights Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 8
Legal Rights of Children Committee: meeting, 3:30 p.m., 10th Floor Board Room.

Thursday, Oct. 9
Legislative Liaison Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th Floor Board Room. Lunch: $8.

Chancellor’s Education Summit: 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Friday, Oct. 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 magazine Editorial Board: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South.

Monday, Oct. 13
Columbus Day: Bar Association offices closed.

Tuesday, Oct. 14
Delivery of Legal Services Committee Management Subcommittee: meeting, 8:30 a.m., 10th Floor Board Room.

Real Property Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., Sarvin Baum DeVito Kaplan Scharf, Tally, DC., 1818 Market St., 13th Floor

Criminal Justice Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South.

Wednesday, Oct. 15
Young Lawyers Division Cabinet: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Committee Room.

Federal Courts Committee: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Wednesday, Oct. 16
Family Law Section Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South.

Thursday, Oct. 17
Bar-Bench & Annual Conference: 8:30 a.m., Borgata, Atlantic City, N.J. Register online at philadelphiabar.org.

Saturday, Oct. 18
Bar-Bench & Annual Conference: 8:30 a.m., Borgata, Atlantic City, N.J. Register online at philadelphiabar.org.

Monday, Oct. 20
Public Interest Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th Floor Board Room.

Civil Rights Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Tuesday, Oct. 21
Cabinet: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th Floor Board Room.

Employee Benefits Committee: meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South.

Wednesday, Oct. 22
Medical Legal Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Thursday, Oct. 23
Board Observer Program: meeting, 8:30 a.m., 11th Floor Conference Center.

Law Firm Laboratory: meeting, 11:30 a.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Friday, Oct. 24
Social Security Disability Benefits Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Monday, Oct. 27
Young Lawyers Division Executive Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th Floor Board Room.

Tuesday, Oct. 28
Criminal Justice Section: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Conference Center. Lunch: $8.

Women in the Profession Committee: 12 p.m. 10th Floor Board Room. Lunch: $8.

Wednesday, Oct. 29
LGBT Rights Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South.


Thursday, Oct. 30
Elder Law Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 10th Floor Board Room. Lunch: $8.

Lawyer Referral and Information Service Committee: meeting, 12 p.m., 11th Floor Committee Room South.

Board of Governors: meeting, 4 p.m., 10th Floor Board Room.

Rhonda Brownstein, and her great staff. I was privileged to receive ELC’s education champions award on Sept. 17. I could not have had a more meaningful birthday present.

William P. Fedullo (williamfedullo@gmail.com), counsel to Rosen, Schofer & DiMoro LLP is Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association.
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Chancellor Honored

Chancellor William P. Fedullo was honored by the Education Law Center (ELC) on Sept. 17 at ELC’s annual celebration of education champions at the Crystal Tea Room. Fedullo is joined by ELC Executive Director Rhonda Brownstein (right) and Patricia Cruice, principal of James Dobson Elementary School. Fedullo has made education one of his priorities in his year as Chancellor.

People

Nikki Johnson-Huston, founder of Law Office of Nikki Johnson-Huston LLC, was the keynote speaker at the Yale University Hunger and Homelessness Project on Sept. 30.

Deborah R. Wilzig, managing partner of Willig, Williams & Davidson and a former Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, has been elected as a Fellow in Labor of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers.


David G. Mandelbaum, a shareholder in Greenberg Traurig LLP, has been named Philadelphia’s Lawyer of the Year for Environmental Law in the 2015 edition of Best Lawyers in America.

Remulo L. Diaz Jr., vice president and general counsel of PECO, received the National LGBT Bar Association’s Corporate Counsel’s “Out & Proud” Award on Sept. 18.


Courtenay R. Dunn, an associate with Phelan Hallman LLP, has been named American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Star of the Year for exemplary performance of duties in service to the public and the ABA.

Ezra Wohlgelernter, a partner in Feldman Shepherd Wohlgelernter Tanner Weinstock & Dodig, LLP, recently lectured at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s CLE “Rules of the Road - Fundamentals of Auto Litigation.”

Marc A. Feller, a partner in Dilworth Paxson LLP, has been elected by unanimous vote to become a Fellow of the American College of Bond Counsel.

James C. Schwartzman, a shareholder with Stevens & Lee, has been appointed as secretary to the Executive Board of the Christian Legal Clinics of Philadelphia.

Hillary J. Moonay, of counsel at Williams Family Law, P.C., was a presenter at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s “Drafting Marital Settlement Agreements” program.

Robert N. Hunn, a partner with Kolby, Gordon, Robin, Shore & Bezr, has been elected chair of the Board of Directors of Pathways To Housing PA; a nonprofit whose mission is to transform lives by providing housing for homeless individuals with mental illnesses as well as supportive services.

Meredith Avakian-Hardaway, director of communications and marketing at the Philadelphia Bar Association, received the Rising Star Award Sept. 26 at Temple University’s 14th annual Lew Klein Alumni in the Media Awards.

A. Roy DeCaro, a member of RaynesMcCary, has been reappointed as an adjunct professor at Villanova University School of Law.

James W. Cushing, an associate with the Law Office of Faye Riva Cohen, P.C., has been appointed as secretary to the Executive Board of the Christian Legal Clinics of Philadelphia.

John R. Washlick, a shareholder with Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC, has been appointed to Bloomberg BNA’s Health Law Reporter Editorial Advisory Board.

“People” highlights news of members’ awards, honors or appointments of a community or civic nature. Send news to Jeff Lyons, Senior Managing Editor, Philadelphia Bar Reporter, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th fl., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2955. E-mail: reporter@philabar.org.
Philadelphia’s Employment Lawyers

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