President Judge Louis J. Presenza of Philadelphia Municipal Court has been selected as the recipient of the 2006 Justice William J. Brennan Jr. Distinguished Jurist Award. The award will be presented at the Association’s October Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon on Oct. 30 at 12 p.m. at the Park Hyatt Philadelphia at the Bellevue.

The award recognizes a jurist who adheres to the highest ideals of judicial service. Any member of the state or federal bench, whether active or retired, who has made a significant, positive impact on the quality or administration of justice in Philadelphia is eligible for consideration.

“I am really flattered and humbled by this award,” Judge Presenza said. When you
We congratulate our partner, Roberta D. Pichini, recipient of the Philadelphia Bar Association’s 2006 Sandra Day O’Connor Award.

Congratulations, Bobbie!
by Alan M. Feldman

“The Bar Association should help to create a good environment for business to attract new companies and persuade those already here to stay, so that our law firms can flourish and grow.”

That’s one of the things I heard most often when I sought the Chancellor’s post, and if I were to start all over again today I’m sure I’d hear pretty much the same thing. But to create an attractive atmosphere for commerce, we need to return to first principles: a city must have decent schools, a clean appearance and — above all — safe streets and sidewalks, both downtown and in our neighborhoods, if it is to thrive. Philadelphia has made great strides in recent years toward becoming the city we all want it to be. From Center City outward, our town pulses with a new energy and vitality. For those of us who have been here all our lives, the transformation is wonderful. And others have taken notice as well — so much so that a national magazine recently cited Philadelphia as America’s “next great city.”

But though we seem to be on the verge of something great, the truth is that we will never be a world-class city until we end the scourge of gun violence that plagues our neighborhoods and costs the lives of so many young people. The human toll of the senseless murders and crippling injuries inflicted by, and upon, our young people, mostly urban, adolescent men, is incalculable. Our city will never be great if ordinary citizens have to worry about being caught in the crossfire of guns no matter where they live. And the gains that we’ve made in improving education will mean little if students have to be afraid to go to school because of gun violence.

And beyond the human tragedy, there’s no doubt that this problem can and will impact upon our ability to grow, prosper and attract the businesses and talent that we need to be a great city. Think about it: Our courts are congested, our prisons full and our social service agencies taxed to the limit by a culture of violence that seems to be spinning even further out of control. And because it would be foolhardy to expect this problem to solve itself, it’s time for the civic and political leadership of our city and state to get behind the hand-wringing and to take decisive action.

But for both legal and political reasons, Philadelphia can’t do it alone. That’s why we applaud the efforts of State Rep. Dwight Evans and some members from suburban districts who recently convened a special legislative session to focus exclusively on the gun violence issue. Certainly, their proposal to amend the state’s authority over gun regulation so that Philadelphia can be given more say over gun control in our own city is a idea worthy of approval, if only because it would provide a laboratory for evaluation of gun control measures without imposing new rules on the rest of the state. Indeed, the same ability to take local action in Philadelphia should be extended to other communities grappling with this frightening problem, so that we can share experiences and solutions with one another. Is there a valid reason not to allow the enactment of such potentially beneficial public safety measures?

The time has come to recognize that continued on page 25

Asian–Pacific Bar to Convene in Phila. in Nov.

by Sunah Park

The National Asian Pacific American Bar Association will hold its 18th Annual Convention in Philadelphia at the Westin Hotel, November 9–12, 2006.

Formed in 1981, NAPABA is the national association of Asian Pacific American attorneys, judges, profes- sors and law students. With 47 affiliates nationwide, NAPABA represents the interests of more than 40,000 attorneys and is a leader in addressing civil rights issues confronting APA commu- nities. NAPABA works continuously on the professional development of minorities within the legal profession and provides a strong voice for increased diversity of federal and state judiciaries.

The theme of this year’s convention, “For a More Perfect Union,” embodies the aspirations of the organization while paying homage to the city in which it will be held. It is expected that more than 600 participants will con- verge on Philadelphia and enjoy its restaurants as well as visit many of its historical sites. This is the first time the convention will be held in Philadelphia.

“Our convention is the largest gathering of Asian Pacific American corpor- ate and firm lawyers, judges and law students in the country. We are really excited that it will be held in Philly this year. Personally, I’m looking forward to having an authentic Philly cheesesteak,” said NAPABA President Amy Lin Meyerson.

NAPABA has held its annual con- ference in Los Angeles, New York, Washington, DC, Seattle, Atlanta, Honolulu, Dallas and Chicago. Past keynote speakers at the conference have included Al Gore and Janet Reno.

This year’s attendees will include the general counsel of Cardinal Health, Dell and Toll Brothers as well as many others. The “NAPABA In-House Counsel Awards” will be presented during a spec- ial dinner ceremony on Friday, Nov. 10, 2006. The cost of the dinner is $60 and is not included in the registration package of events.

Nydia Han, consumer reporter for WABC in Philadelphia, will be the mas- ter of ceremonies at the general convention dinner. Han is vice president for broadcast for the Philadelphia chapter of the Asian American Journalists Association. She received a Bachelor of Science in Journalism with a focus on International Studies from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. Earlier in Korea, she graduated from a program at Yonsei University in Seoul, Korea.

Anyone interested in attending this separate event is advised to register early as the maximum registration is limited to 225 people. Registration for the entire conference is still open and CLE credits will be available for certain panels. Details as to the CLE panels as well as general registration information is available on NAPABA’s Web site, www.napaba.org.

The Asian–American Bar Association of the Delaware Valley will present its Judge William M. Marantini Fellowship and Samuel Gomez Scholarship during the conference.

Tell Us What You Think!

The Philadelphia Bar Reporter welcomes letters to the editors for publication. Letters should be typed. There is no word limit, but editors reserve the right to condense for clarity, style and space considerations. Letters must be signed to verify authorship, but names will be withheld upon request. Letters may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed to: Jeff Lyons, Managing Editor, Philadelphia Bar Reporter, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th floor, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107-2911. Phone: (215) 238-6545. Fax: (215) 238-1267. E-mail: reporter@philabar.org.
Chancellor’s Forum

Fattah, Vallas to Examine Pa. School Funding

By Joseph A. Sullivan

With the current increase in interest in student testing and performance, the issue of equitable funding for public education has become a high profile matter in Philadelphia, the state and the nation. Bar members and guests will have an opportunity to “ask the experts” when Chancellor Alan M. Feldman hosts a Chancellor’s Forum on Oct. 16 at which Congressman Chaka Fattah and Philadelphia School District CEO Paul Vallas will speak.

The forum, “How Pennsylvania School Funding Imparables Philadelphia’s Future (And What You Can Do About It),” is designed to elicit frank comment from the panelists. Following their presentations, Fattah and Vallas will be joined by Helen Gym, a former teacher and consultant with the district, and a parent activist. Gym is also the former editor of Public School Notebook, an independent quarterly education newspaper for parents and teachers.

The idea for this Chancellor’s Forum came from the Association’s Delivery of Legal Services Committee and its education subcommittee in order to address a variety of issues relating to the quality and effectiveness of public schools. The value of such a forum was further emphasized by a resolution adopted by the Board of Governors in January that looks at the impact of school funding disparities from both an immediate and longitudinal perspective. The resolution notes that quality public education is essential to students’ long-term economic well being and their ability to care for their families, as well as the well-being of Pennsylvania’s economy, which includes the ability to attract and retain business by creating a well-educated workforce.

The resolution cites the fact that Pennsylvania has the eighth-greatest disparity in funding between highest and lowest spending school districts in the nation. It further notes that in New Jersey, which has a constitutional clause requiring a thorough and efficient system of public education, that is identical to that in Pennsylvania, the Supreme Court has ordered funding for the poorest districts at a level equivalent to the median school funding of the top 20 percent of the wealthiest school districts to achieve the standards required by its constitution. Using that yardstick, the resolution notes that in Pennsylvania there are 284 school districts that have gaps of more than $2,000 between what they can spend per pupil and the median of the top 20 percent of the school districts across the state.

The gap between Philadelphia and some of the surrounding suburban districts is significantly larger.

Promoted by recent effort to enact school property tax reform, the resolution calls upon the General Assembly to enact a comprehensive system of education funding that ends the gross disparity in spending and educational opportunity available to students in Philadelphia and many other districts across the state.

Congressman Fattah likely will address the federal No Child Left Behind Act, among other topics, and its impact on public education across the state. CEO Vallas is expected to address stu-

continued on page 20
No matter what the scheduled discussion is at the monthly meeting of the Appellate Courts Committee, committee Chair Charles "Chip" Becker is confident attendees will come away having learned something.

"Our topics touch on matters that effect virtually every litigator in the Bar Association," said Becker.

"The speakers that we have at our meetings offer thoughts that would be meaningful to many members of the Bar Association — whether they're in the State Civil Litigation Section or the Federal Courts Committee — because what we're doing significantly overlaps with the work of those committees. And what it reflects is the nature of appellate practice," he said. "Our meetings are useful and informative to anybody in the Bar Association who is litigating."

Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge Richard B. Klein addressed the Appellate Courts Committee at the Committee's Sept. 13 meeting.

Judge Klein discussed recent issues in appellate practice and focus on different parts of the same issue. In the past 18 months, the Appellate Courts Committee has featured speakers from all different levels of the courts. From the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, we've had Justice Sandra Schultz Newman. We've had judges Richard B. Klein, Corrada F. Stevens and Jack A. Panella from Superior Court. From Commonwealth Court, we've had Judge Renée Cohn Jubelirer, President Judge James Gardner Collins and Bonnie Bignone LeadBeter. And from the Third Circuit, Judges Thomas L. Ambro, Theodore A. McKee and Marjorie O. Rendell, along with others," Becker said.

"We're going to invite the appellate courts procedural rules committee so they can interact with us about the issues in Pennsylvania appellate procedure," he said.

"Appellate practice is emerging in this state as something with increasing visibility. We have in this region long viewed the lawyer as someone who handles something from A to Z. It's the Alexander Hamilton notion of being a lawyer where you file the complaint, do the discovery, try the case, handle the appeal, you do everything. That's what a lawyer does. The notion that the various kinds of work across a lawsuit involves different disciplines that should be handled by different lawyers is a fairly new concept for the private practice in this community," he said.

"Part of the work of this committee is to engender a sense that appellate practice is important as a specialty in its own right within the appellate bar, but also to communicate that specialty to the bar at large.

"We want to cultivate the awareness of appellate practitioners as playing an important role in the life of a law firm and in achieving success for a client," Becker said.

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BRENNAN AWARD

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consider what Judge Brennan stood for and the list of prior recipients: this is truly an honor. I would be remiss, though the award is given to me personally, if I did not accept on behalf of all those individuals and agencies that have been part of our program because without them we would not have had the same success.”

“Judge Presenza is a very special person,” said Brennan Award Committee Chair Stephanie Resnick. “Since 1997, Judge Presenza has presided over Drug Treatment Court, which has become a national model for an alternative program to incarceration for those individuals who are substance abusers who have been arrested for drug-related crimes. He has often convened Drug Treatment Court three times a week to address the status of recovery or relapse of the literally thousands who come before him. He has been referred to as a ‘no-nonsense judge’ who could be the ‘best possible ally in the struggle to beat addiction or the worst enemy a shirker and poser could ever hope to meet.’” she said.

“As a result of Judge Presenza’s judicial skill, leadership, personal warmth and compassion, the Philadelphia Drug Treatment Court has an 85 percent non-recidivist rate, when the national average hovers around 50 percent. It is for this accomplishment as well as his numerous other accomplishments that warrants the selection of President Judge Presenza to be this year’s Brennan Award recipient. Prof. Laurence Tribe has characterized the late Chief Justice Brennan as ‘the principal architect of the nation’s system for protecting individual rights’ Presiden Judge Presenza, in his work with the Philadelphia Drug Treatment Court, has carried on Chief Justice Brennan’s traditions. In honoring President Judge Presenza, we honor the memory of the late Chief Justice Brennan,” Resnick said.

Immediate-Past Chancellor Andrew A. Chirls said, “I have had the honor to work with Judge Presenza on the Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention and to see him at work in the Philadelphia Treatment Court. His selfless and cheerful devotion to the tasks at hand are contagious. He makes others want to do their best with him.”

“When I told Judge Presenza that I was going to nominate him, he said, in essence, ‘I hope the award is for the Treatment Court and not for me. I don’t need the attention; the Treatment Court exemplify how the answer can be ‘yes,’ and provides the measure of how the average Joe or Josephine is treated. The strides of our Municipal Court over the years show it, but the development of Treatment Court as a model is most important in showing it,’ Chirls said.

U.S. Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan Jr was the first recipient of the award in 1995. Other recipients of the award, which is now named in honor of Justice Brennan, include the following: President Judge Alex Bonavitacola of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas (1996); Judge Phyllis W. Beck of the Pennsylvania Superior Court (1997); Chief Judge Edward R. Becker of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit (1998); Judge Louis C. Berchile of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania (1999); Chief Judge James T. Giles of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania (2000); Justice Russell M. Nigo of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court (2002); U.S. District Court Judge Louis H. Pollak (2005); Judge James R. Meline, retired U.S. Chief Magistrate (2004), and U.S. District Court Senior Judge Edmund V. Ludwig (2005). The Brennan Award was not given in 2001.

lives with their families, friends and employers in the community. One measure of the justice system is how it treats the average Joe or Josephine. Does ‘the little guy’ get a day in court in a court that is managed well enough to give it to him? Judge Presenza and the Treatment Court exemplify how the answer can be ‘yes,’ and provides the measure of how the average Joe or Josephine is treated. The strides of our Municipal Court over the years show it, but the development of Treatment Court as a model is most important in showing it,” Chirls said.

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Former Irish President Robinson to Speak; Pichini to Be Honored

by Beth Huffman and Jeff Lyons

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

The Association also will present its annual Sandra Day O’Connor Award to Roberta D. Pichini at the event. Pichini, a former chair of the Women in the Profession Committee, is a partner with Feldman, Shepherd, Wohlgelernter, Tanner & Weinstock. Tickets are $50 and can be purchased online at philadelphiabar.org.

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

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

She became the first Labour Party candidate to win the civil service.

Robinson resigned her presidency just weeks before her term ended to accept an appointment as High Commissioner for Human Rights of the United Nations in 1997. A year later, she became the first person in that office to visit China, where she signed an agreement of cooperation for the improvement of human rights in that country. She was responsible for sending human rights workers to such areas as Indonesia and various parts of Africa.

She founded the Ethical Globalization Initiative in 2002, a foundation that focuses on equitable international trade and development, the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa and humane migration policies. She also lectures at Columbia University on international affairs.

Pichini teaches trial advocacy to practicing lawyers throughout the United States at the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. She teaches Temple University Beasley School of Law and Villanova University School of Law, and serves as an instructor on the advisory board of Temple’s Master in Advocacy Program. She also has been an active member of the faculty of the Academy of Advocacy.

Pichini has a degree in nursing from the University of Pennsylvania and a B.A. in English literature from Neumann College. She is a cum laude graduate of the Villanova University School of Law.

The Women in the Profession Committee established the Sandra Day O’Connor Award in 1993 to recognize the important contributions that women attorneys in Philadelphia have made to the legal profession. Previous winners are: U.S. District Court Senior Judge Norma L. Shapiro, the late Juanita Kidd Stout, former justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; Deborah R. Willig, first woman Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association; Professor Marina Angel of the Temple University Beasley School of Law faculty; Third Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Dolores K. Sloviter (former Chief Judge); U.S. District Court Judge Anita B. Brody; Elizabeth II in Buckingham Palace while also meeting with Gerry Adams, president of the Sinn Fein. Robinson forged numerous bonds with foreign countries during her presidency, focusing on developing countries.

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Philadelphia Bar Association October Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon

Monday, Oct. 30 at 12 p.m. at the Park Hyatt Philadelphia at the Bellevue, Broad and Walnut Streets.

• Featuring keynote remarks by Mary Robinson, the first woman President of Ireland.

• Presentation of the Sandra Day O’Connor Award to Roberta D. Pichini.

• Presentation of the Justice William J. Brennan Jr. Distinguished Jurist Award to Philadelphia Municipal Court President Judge Louis J. Presenza.

Bar Forms Nominating Committee

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


The committee has scheduled its next meetings Wednesday, Oct. 11 at 3:30 p.m. and Thursday, Oct. 12 at 5:30 p.m.

Offices for which candidates are being solicited are vice chancellor, secretary, assistant secretary, treasurer, assistant treasurer, and five seats on the Board of Governors, three of which are to be nominated by the Nominating Committee. Each Board of Governors seat carries a three-year term. Individuals who wish to be considered for any of the above offices should submit a resume of their background and indicate the position for which they wish to run. Materials should be submitted to the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Andrew A. Chuls, c/o Susan Knight, Philadelphia Bar Association, Inc., 1101 Market St., 11th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2911, no later than 5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 6.

Please make reservations for the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon. Tickets are $50 for members and $55 for non-members. Checks should be made payable to the Philadelphia Bar Association.

Name:
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ABA President Hopeful for Future of Women

by Jeff Lyons

Things are better for women lawyers than they were 40 years ago, but much can be improved, American Bar Association President Karen Mathis told a gathering of Philadelphia Bar leaders on Sept. 25.

“There are a lot more women lawyers and there are a lot more female mentors,” Mathis said. “And most of us have rewarding and challenging careers. Opportunities for women exist in every corner of our profession,” she said.

Mathis said that women are entering law school now at the same rate as men and are graduating at a higher rate. “No girl needs to grow up as I did, not knowing a woman lawyer.”

Mathis, the third woman president of the ABA, said more and more women are taking leadership roles in bar associations. “Laurel Bellows is the third woman to be the chair of our House of Delegates. Eleven states have women bar presidents. Jane Dalton is your chancellor-elect and will be leading the Philadelphia Bar Association next year.”

She said several states have or have had a female majority on their highest courts. “In private practice, women are represented on all levels of practice. There are 500,000 of us in the United States, and around the world, women lawyers look to our nation to see what to expect and what they should expect. Women have risen to serve on management committees of major law firms.

“In government, we’ve had an attorney general that’s a woman and we’ve had two female secretaries of state. Currently, there are five women serving as state attorneys general. And in the military, 30 percent of members of the JAG corps are women.

“These are all drops in the glass. No question, in the last 40 years, we have made substantial progress. But what happens in the future? There are three possibilities. Things can get better and women will have parity with men and we’ll share this profession as equal partners. Or things will stay the same, and we’ll remain struggling against the same forces.

“Or things could get worse, if arguments for change disappear. If we don’t keep having these discussions, as difficult as they may be, the gains we have accomplished will fade away. It’s up to this generation of leaders to assure that the progress doesn’t evaporate and leave future generations worse off,” she said.

Earlier in the day, Mathis led a roundtable discussion on youth at risk. More than 20 people attended the session, including Chancellor Alan M. Feldman, Chancellor-Elect Jane L. Dalton, Vice Chancellor A. Michael Pratt, U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Marjorie O. Rendell, representatives from the School District of Philadelphia, public interest law agencies, social services agencies and the media.

Mathis talked about the ABA’s Commission on Youth at Risk and its work to enhance laws, judicial intervention strategies, policies, practices and programs to help prevent teens from becoming delinquent or engaging in criminal acts.
Students Get Public Service Encouragement

By Sara Woods

School is back! As an administrator at a law school, the fall semester is always a great time of year. For our first-year students, the excitement (and nervousness) is palpable. Joining them are our second-year students who arrive energized and enthusiastic about their various summer experiences. Faculty and staff look forward to the start of the semester to begin classes and implement the various projects we worked on this summer.

As a committee of the Public Interest Section, the Law School Outreach Committee provides educational and networking events for law students and lawyers interested in public service. The members of the committee are primarily pro bono administrators and public service career counselors at Philadelphia area law schools. The goal of the LSOC is to encourage future lawyers to consider public service as a

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OUTREACH  
continued from page 9

career choice or a necessary part of any private practice in Philadelphia. This fall the LSOC has a number of exciting projects planned. First, thanks to Eve Klibansky and the law firm of Saul Ewing LLP, the LSOC offered a leadership training program for public interest law students on Friday, Sept. 29. Douglas Richardson, a well-regarded columnist and former prosecutor and big firm partner, presented training for law student leaders with topics ranging from the theoretical to the practical. This was also an opportunity for students to meet leaders from other law schools, and see how they handle their roles in their communities. The LSOC kicked off its fall events with the First Monday celebration, held on Sept. 16 at the University of Pennsylvania. Co-sponsored by the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Constitution Society, the Penn Law Public Service Program and the Philadelphia Area Law School Consortium, the event celebrated Constitution Day as well as First Monday. The keynote speaker was Nan Aron, director and founder of Alliance for Justice, followed by a reception for law students and attorneys.

Finally, we are proud to announce a new award for law students who commit their time during law school to public service. In conjunction with the Public Interest Section Annual Reception, we will honor one third-year student each from Villanova, Temple, Rutgers-Camden, Penn and Widener for their outstanding contributions to public service. Applications will be available online in October at philadelphiaabar.org.

The LSOC is working hard to celebrate and encourage law students who give back to our community. If you have suggestions for events for this committee, contact me or any of the other members of the LSOC.

‘Spooktacular’ Focus on Family Fun
by Michael B. Hayes

I suspect few readers will question the truism that ours is a demanding profession. There are many stresses to be endured and sacrifices to be made, all of which (to some extent) put strain on our relationships with family and friends. Ours can also be a lonely profession, in that client confidentiality and other privacy concerns often preclude us from sharing the important details of our daily practice of law with spouses, children, other relatives and friends.

At its core as a member-support and advocacy group, the Philadelphia Bar Association is in a unique position to help bridge the gap between the practice of law, family and friends. Whether through social functions or public interest/volunteer endeavors, the Bar Association offers some terrific opportunities for you to invite your family and friends into your professional life and show them that while the practice of law may be demanding, ours is by no means a cold, heartless, or anti-social profession.

A few years back, the leadership of the Young Lawyers Division (including most notably then-Chair Marla Joseph) decided that it was high time for the YLD to host an event for law association members specifically.

Pro Bono Fair Oct. 12

The Public Interest Section’s Law Firm Pro Bono Committee will hold a Pro Bono Open House Law Fair on Oct. 12 at the offices of Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll LLP, 735 Market St., 42nd Floor. Representatives from more than 36 pro bono referral programs and public interest law centers will be available to speak about volunteer opportunities at their organizations. This event is free and open to all members of the bar.

Light refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP by Oct. 10 to Lisa Whiteley at (215) 664-8187.
Citizenship Day Naturalization

Temple University Beasley School of Law Dean Robert Reinstein (left) and Chancellor Alan M. Feldman addressed new American citizens at a naturalization ceremony on Sept. 18 at the National Constitution Center. U.S. District Court Judge John R. Padova welcomed 88 new American citizens from 37 nations at the event, sponsored by the Bar Association.

Public Interest Calendar

Thursday, Oct. 5
• Women Against Abuse 30th Anniversary Event, 6 to 8 p.m., at Loews Philadelphia Hotel, 1200 Market St.

Tuesday, Oct. 10
• Pro Bono Open House Fair, at Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll LLP, 1755 Market St, Philadelphia. Free and open to all members of the bar interested in learning more about pro bono opportunities. RSVP by Oct. 10 to Lisa Whiteley at 215-864-6167 or whiteley@ballardspahr.com.

Monday, Oct. 16

Friday, Oct. 20
• Education Law Center CLE training program on School Discipline at Dechert LLP, Cira Center, 2029 Arch St, Philadelphia, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Two CLE credits available, free in exchange for handling one pro bono case referred by the Center. To RSVP, contact Carol Gershon at 215-994-2441, or Carol.Gershon@Dechert.com.

Saturday, Oct. 21
• Center for Sexual and Gay Civil Rights, “Just Desserts” wine and dessert reception, at the National Liberty Museum, 321 Chestnut St, from 8 to 10 p.m. For information or to purchase tickets, contact Alicia Marie Williamson at 215-731-1447, ext 15, or awilliamson@center4civilrights.org.

Wednesday, Oct. 25
• SeniorLAW Center wine-tasting party. For more information, visit seniorlawcenter.org.

Judge Kremer Portrait Unveiling Oct. 17

A portrait of the late Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge I. Raymond Kremer will be unveiled on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 4 p.m. in City Hall Courtroom 651 during ceremonies that will remember Judge Kremer and endow a scholarship in his name at Temple University Beasley School of Law. The event is sponsored by the Louis D. Brandeis Law Society and the Friends and Family of Judge Kremer. The portrait, which will hang in City Hall, is the work of noted local portrait artist Joseph Routsen. All members of the legal community are invited to attend the event which will be followed by a brief reception in the City Hall Law Library, Room 600.

Meet Your Resolution Experts

HON. JAMES R. MELINSON
Chief Magistrate Judge of the United States District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania (Ret.)

Judge James R. Melinson has mediated thousands of cases with remarkable success. His broad background includes 16 years of distinguished judicial service on the federal and state courts and nearly 20 years of private practice as counsel, negotiator, mediator, and arbitrator. He has extensive experience resolving a wide variety of complex matters, including admiralty, business/commercial, employment, insurance, intellectual property, malpractice, personal injury, products liability, real estate, tax, securities, and wrongful death. The Judge’s tenacity, resourcefulness, and keen understanding of the diverse dynamics that drive settlement have made him a favorite of the Bench and Bar.

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Hon. Diane M. Welsh conducted nearly 1,800 settlement conferences in her 12 years of distinguished judicial service and served on the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee for the U.S. District Court. Judge Welsh now dedicates her talents to assisting counsel and their clients as a full-time mediator, arbitrator and Special Master, where she has quickly developed a thriving practice handling complex federal and state court cases. She is highly respected for her ability to successfully resolve the most emotionally-charged disputes with sensitivity, patience, and persistence.

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Federal Courts Committee

Newest Judges Rave About Bar Membership

by Jeff Lyons

The two newest judges in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania have something in common—membership in bar associations at the highest levels.

U.S. District Court Chief Judge Harvey Bartle III introduced District Court Judge Thomas Golden and Magistrate Judge Felipe Restrepo to members of the Federal Courts Committee at the Committee’s Sept. 20 meeting. “They’re both outstanding additions to our court and we’re thrilled to have them share their workload,” Judge Bartle said.

Golden, who served as the 109th president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, worked in private practice in Berks County from 1972 until this past June, when he was appointed to the bench by President Bush. He came to the court in July.

“When I decided to change careers, I wanted to do it because it was interesting and challenging. And it certainly has been all of that. I’m spending a fair amount of time in this great city. My criminal work will be done down here for the most part. A good deal of the cases I’ve got are centered in Philadelphia and I’ll try to arrange my schedule to accommodate the members of the bar down here so I’m not running you to the beautiful countryside of Berks County,” Judge Golden said.

“I’m a big proponent of being involved with the bar association. I think the best thing about it is the friends and people you meet. The most rewarding part is the friendships I’ve made through the years. I’ve been very fortunate to become friends with many members of the Philadelphia Bar,” he said.

Judge Restrepo, a native of Columbia, became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1995. He works out of the Nix Courthouse at 9th and Market Streets.

“If you ever had any curiosity about what courtrooms looked like back in the day, I encourage you to drop in on us. The court is really spectacular.”

“I was the president of the Hispanic Bar Association for a few years and I was also a member of the Board of Governors of this Bar Association,” Judge Restrepo said. “I was on the Judicial Selection and Retention Commission for about seven years. If nothing else, the Bar Association gives you the opportunity to meet people, meet judges and meet lawyers in an informal setting, which quite frankly, is invaluable. I would encourage law students to get involved and take advantage of everything the law has to offer you and to give back.”

As an attorney, Judge Restrepo focused on criminal defense work. “I spent most of my time in the federal courts defending the accused. I’m currently assigned to Judges Savage, Buckwalter and O’Neill. I do settlement conferences, discovery disputes and whatever else the judges need my help with,” he said.

Judge Restrepo encouraged attorneys to consider consent trials. “It means you’re consenting to the jurisdiction of the magistrate judge. These cases are assigned to the District Court, but with the consent of the parties the magistrate judge can act as the district court and hear the case with or without a jury,” he explained.

“The real attraction, for those of us practicing, is that you get a date certain. I know that when I was an attorney, I really appreciated the certainty of a date certain because you knew when you could schedule your witnesses, etc. In the district court, many times there’s a real tension between the criminal dockets that our judges have and their ability to accommodate civil trials on a date certain,” Judge Restrepo said.

Corporate Counsel Help Out at LawWorks Event

Volunteer attorneys Eric Dichter (center) and Edward Kiernan (right) work with Alice Cervantes of Flicka Bags at Philadelphia LawWorks’ third annual Corporate Pro Bono Day.

Notice to Potential Judicial Candidates

The Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention of the Philadelphia Bar Association evaluates the qualifications of persons wishing to join the judiciary.

Individuals who are filing for the 2007 primary election as judicial candidates for the Philadelphia Common Pleas or Municipal Courts should contact the Commission on Judicial Selection & Retention c/o Areetha M. Carter, Esq., the Bar Association’s Staff Counsel, to obtain a copy of a Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire and a copy of the Commission’s guidelines and bylaws. Please return the completed questionnaire to “Judicial Commission” at 1101 Market Street, 11th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19121-2911.

Candidates who have previously been evaluated by the Commission are invited to contact the Association to determine whether their ratings are current by contacting Carter at acarter@philabaro.org or (215) 258-6551.

The Commission will complete all ratings for candidates running in the 2007 primary by Jan. 31, 2007; therefore, in order to ensure that each candidate receives a full and fair evaluation, no questionnaires will be accepted for evaluation after Dec. 15, 2006. Individuals are reminded that under the Commission’s Guidelines, any candidates who do not participate in the Commission’s evaluation process will receive “Not Recommended” ratings.

A. Harold Datz, Esquire
2006 Chair, Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention
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Her Gift to a ‘Life Worth Keeping’

Attorney Donates Kidney to Colleague

by Jeff Lyons

Lawyers give each other referrals all the time. But kidneys?

When M. Mark Mendel needed a new kidney in January, 11 people stepped forward to be tested as possible donors. Susan R. Smolens, who specializes in immigration law, was one of those 11 people and matched on more than five of the five criteria needed to become a donor.

“It was a match so close, she could’ve been family,” said Mendel. And although the two are not related, they’ve known each other for years. “My ex-husband’s sister married the younger brother of Mark’s son-in-law,” explained Smolens.

Mendel, 77, isn’t sure of what led to his kidney failure because there was no history of kidney disease in his family. When he learned he was suffering from end-stage renal disease, he was given the option of either getting a transplant or having dialysis. “When the doctor mentioned dialysis, I said ‘you’ve got to be kidding me. There’s no way I’m going to be married to a machine for the rest of my life.’

After a consultation at Penn where he said doctors there were reluctant to perform a transplant on a patient in his 70s, Mendel turned to Hahnemann University Hospital, thanks to a phone call with Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Sandra Schultz Newman, a longtime friend and member of the board of Drexel University who told him of Hahnemann’s transplant program.

Doctors at Hahnemann told Mendel he could put his name on a list to receive a kidney or he could start looking for his own donor. “We put the word out that I was looking for a kidney donor and the response was so touching, I can’t even comprehend it to this day. Eleven people said ‘hey, let me know where and when and I’ll get tested.’ Five or six of them got tested and the others were waiting in the wings,” he said.

Smolens, one of the volunteers, proved to be the best match. “This gracious lady,” Mendel said of Smolens, “decided I was worth keeping around.”

The surgery was scheduled for Jan. 26 and Smolens, 60, went into the operating room first and was prepared for the transplant. A second surgical team got Mendel ready for the transplant. Both procedures went smoothly, with no complications.

“I woke up at 9:50 that night, six or seven hours after the operation, and I felt totally different,” Mendel said. “I had no idea how ill I was and how bad kidney disease can be until it was lifted. And the next day, I felt geometrically better and three days later I was out of the hospital.”

Mendel said doctors wanted him to take a month off from work, because of concerns over possible infection and rejection of the new kidney. “I did try to stay out of the office for a little while, but I’d sneak in to get some work done.”

His lifestyle has changed dramatically since the transplant. Mendel says he’s lost 40 pounds and his blood pressure is fairly normal. He also no longer needs to take medication for a heart condition. But he does take a handful of pills everyday to make sure his body doesn’t reject Smolens’ kidney.

“When something like this happens, you get to be so grateful that there are people who are unselfish enough to do that for you. I’ve always had an organ donor card, but until you’re a recipient, then you realize what an unbelievable unselfish act this is, if you have a living donor,” Mendel said.

For Smolens, the decision to become Mendel’s donor was an easy one. She did a lot of research and found there was very little risk involved. “I give away my clothes, I give away my furniture. I give things away,” she said. “You’re confronted with the fact that if this person doesn’t get your kidney, they’re no longer here. He’s certainly a life worth keeping on this planet.”

Smolens was out of the hospital just two days after the surgery and was back to work just five days later. Within two weeks, she was exercising again. And she says her scar is “virtualy invisible.”

“It’s very gratifying to watch someone come back to life after something like this. Mark was almost dead. He didn’t know how sick he was. He woke up from the surgery healthier than he’d been in a long time.”

Even though M. Mark Mendel and Susan R. Smolens are not related, Smolens was the best match to donate a much-needed kidney.

Candidates Discuss Decisions to Run

Young political candidates discussed their decisions to run for office and the obstacles they faced during their campaign at the Young Lawyers Division’s 2020 Lunchtime Series event on Sept. 22. Panelists Michael Adler, A. Lindsay Doering IV, Larry Farone, Bryan Lentz, Jennifer Nestle and Tony Payton Jr. addressed a group of interested young lawyers at the Association’s 11th floor Conference Center.

The panel discussed such topics as how to connect with the voters, the role of the Internet in campaigns and the importance of fundraising.

“Preparation is everything,” said Doering, the Republican candidate for the 112th District Pennsylvania State House seat. “The candidate should have a vision for why they’re running — that is essential.”

Larry Farone, who lost his recent bid for the Democratic nomination for the 112th house seat to incumbent Babette Josephs, Doering’s November opponent, said that knowing and understanding those you seek to represent is crucial to success.

“If you’re going to go out there and ask someone to vote for you and donate their time for you, you have to know what the important issues are,” Farone said.

Tony Payton Jr., the Democratic Party’s candidate for the 179th District State House seat, agreed with Farone.

“I know my district intimately because I’ve lived there for some time,” he said. “You want to have that familiarity. You’ll gain respect from a lot of people if they see you are active in the district.”

Jennifer Nestle, who lost her general election race in 2005 for the 5th Ward Commissioner in Haverford Township, realized that she needed a campaign manager after she was approached by someone from her district with extensive campaign experience.

“I could focus on what I needed to do on a day-to-day basis, which was talk to the voters,” Nestle explained.

When asked if there is any way to gauge public sentiment and opinion, Bryan Lentz, who is running for the 161st State House District in Delaware County, said experience was the best teacher in campaigning.

Lentz also offered advice to anyone interested in running for public office.

continued on page 19

by Amy Muldoon

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continued on page 19
In Their Own Words

Help Chamber Fix Mass Transit
by Mark S. Schweiker

From southeastern Pennsylvania to southern New Jersey to northern Delaware, the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce is 11 counties strong. Some 5,000 companies and organizations make up our membership.

As diverse as our members are, they share a common concern about improving the region’s infrastructure and mobility so that our highway and transit systems contribute to economic growth.

Gov. Ed Rendell’s Transportation Funding and Reform Commission is holding final public hearings and will prepare its final report to the governor, due Nov. 15.

The Commission has heard much testimony about how best to fund the region’s transportation infrastructure, including public transportation in the Commonwealth. Those of us who live, work and do business in greater Philadelphia know how integral public transportation is to the region’s economy. For example, 500,000 people – 70 percent of all employees in Center City Philadelphia – take SEPTA to and from work each day.

In the Philadelphia suburbs, developers have built office parks with particular consideration of access to public transportation. Tenants and employers realize this is an important benefit for their employees, often subsidizing their fares.

I testified before the Commission that it is essential that there be dedicated adequate funding for public transit. As the chairman of the region’s CEO Council for Growth, I also asked the commission to look into new, innovative transportation infrastructure investments for both highways and transit that will help to elevate greater Philadelphia as one of the world’s premier business locations.

I hope the commission will recommend to Gov. Rendell that funding alternatives such as public/private partnerships seriously be investigated. Officials in Trenton and Dover are already looking at these options.

In the past, members of the Philadelphia Bar Association have strongly supported the Commission’s advocacy to reduce business taxes. I thank you for your support and encourager you to join us in tackling the transportation issue.

Public transit and our transportation infrastructure are critical to our local economy. We need a long-term solution. We need it now.

Mark S. Schweiker is the president and CEO of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce and Chairman of the CEO Council for Growth.

Medicaid Commission Member to Speak Oct. 17
by Beth Hoffman

Joseph W. “Chip” Marshall III, a member of the Medicaid Commission selected by Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt, will discuss the commission’s two-year project and upcoming report in a lunchtime meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 17.

The meeting is co-sponsored by the Public Interest Section, the Business Law Section’s Health Care Law Committee and the State Civil Litigation Section’s Medical-Legal Committee.

Marshall, 52, is chairman and CEO of the Temple University Health System, which includes five hospitals, 8,000 employees and approximately $1 billion in annual revenues. Prior to assuming his current position in 2001, he was an attorney specializing in corporate health law.

The Commission advises the secretary of health and human services on ways to modernize the Medicaid program so that it can provide high-quality health care to its beneficiaries in a financially sustainable way. It consists of elected officials, state health department officials, public policy organizations, individuals with disabilities and others with special expertise.

The commission’s first report, submitted last September, included suggested reforms that projected an $11 billion savings – $1 billion dollars more than the goal. The second report, due Dec. 31, will provide recommendations to help ensure the long-term sustainability of Medicaid. The proposals will address key issues such as:

• How to expand coverage to more Americans while still being financially responsible;
• Ways to provide long-term care to those who need it;
• A review of eligibility, benefits design, and delivery;
• Improved quality of care, choice and beneficiary satisfaction.

The second report will also consider how to address the major issues affecting Medicaid under three different scenarios: an assumption that federal and state spending continues at current paces; an assumption that Congress chooses to lower the rate of growth in the program, and an assumption that Congress may increase spending for coverage.

Marshall also currently serves on the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board and is a former member and chair of the Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission, the body responsible for administering and enforcing the Ethics Act, which regulates the conduct of virtually every public employee, elected official and candidate for public office in the state.

The meeting will be held in the 11th Floor Conference Center at Bar Association headquarters, 1101 Market St. The event, open to all Association members, begins at 12 p.m. with lunch, followed by Marshall’s presentation at 12:30 p.m. Lunch is $7.50 and registration is available at philadelphia.org or by contacting Dawn Burger at 215-238-6367.
The Philadelphia Bar Foundation would like to thank the following 117 law firms for participating in the Raising the Bar Campaign. Thanks to them, nearly $1.5 million has been raised to fund legal services in the Philadelphia area.
Recognition from Bar Foundation

Leaders of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation gathered at the Union League on Sept. 29 to thank those members who have made their full commitment to the Andrew Hamilton Circle and Advocates of Justice. Shown from left are Gerald A. McHugh Jr., former president of the Bar Foundation; Alexander Kerr, co-chair of the Foundation’s Endowment Committee; Elaine Rinaldi Bailey, president-elect of the Bar Foundation; Edward F. Chester, co-chair of the Foundation’s Endowment Committee; philanthropist H.F. “Gerry” Lenfest, who spoke at the event; Robert D. Lane Jr., president of the Bar Foundation and Maureen Mingey, executive director of the Bar Foundation.

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• Raising money for the Philadelphia Bar Foundation’s worthy grantees. These are the local organizations that depend on operating grants from the Bar Foundation.
• Hosting an event that provides all Philadelphia attorneys with the opportunity to socialize both with the partners/colleagues they see every day, and to catch up with all their friends, associates, adversaries, law school buddies whom it is difficult to see on a regular basis.

We need your help to make this event a tremendous success. Buy tickets and bring your significant other or special friend to the event, get your firm to buy tickets, or become a sponsor of the Gala. Your firm can count Andrew Hamilton donations toward its “Raising the Bar” pledge toward legal services.

Contact Maureen Mingey at (215) 238-6334 or by e-mail at mmingey@philabar.org for more information.

The Gala is also the venue for presenting the Foundation’s most prestigious awards – the Bar Foundation Award (formerly the Louis D. Apotheker Award) and the Citizens Bank Pro Bono Award. The Bar Foundation Award is a grant presented annually to a citizen or organization that works with the citizens of the greater Philadelphia metropolitan area to ensure that justice is not just an idealized concept, but a reality. Past honorees include Professor Louis D. Rulli of the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Pennsylvania Prison Society; Frankford Human Relations Coalition; ABRAXAS; Philadelphia Citizens for Children and Youth; Parkway South; Dr. Carter Zeleznik; Mediation Program at Good Shepherd Neighborhood House; House of Umoja; Joseph J. Peters Institute; Hospitality House; Women Organized Against Rape and Operation Understanding.

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Attention Members of IBC Health Plans through USI Colburn:

Health Insurance Renewal is Happening NOW!

January 2007 Open Enrollment is Rapidly Approaching.
If you’d like to make changes to your association-endorsed USI Colburn health plan for next year, you need to act soon.
All requests for plan changes effective January 1st must be received no later than November 15, 2006, so don’t delay!

Renewing is Easy.
Simply complete the enrollment package that you will receive in the mail, or visit Affinity Access at https://affinityaccess.colburn.com, to view renewal information and quotes for available plans.

You Won’t Find a Better Rate Anywhere.
Don’t be fooled by brokers who tell you they can give “cheaper” rates for the IBC products, because they can’t. IBC runs the rates based on your group’s demographics, and the rate will be the same regardless of who places the coverage. The best rate you can get is right here.

Don’t Miss Out on Big Company Benefits at Small Company Rates!
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Need assistance with your renewal?
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610-833-1800 or 1-800-COLBURN.

Deadline for Renewal is November 15, 2006

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Join your Section’s or Committee’s List Serve to stay in touch and keep up to date on the latest Bar events. Visit philadelphiabar.org for more information.

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Civil Rights Committee

Journalist Works to Protect His Colleagues

by Michael J. Carroll

Frank Smyth is the Washington representative of the Committee to Protect Journalists, an organization that fights to prevent the jailing, torture, and murder of journalists. It was once mostly an overseas job but in recent years has become a domestic duty as well.

Smyth met with members of the Association’s Civil Rights Committee on Sept. 19 to talk about his work. Smyth has worked alongside journalists who were killed trying to get the story out. He starts from the premise that whether you are politically left, liberal, or right, you need good information to make informed decisions. And if information does not get out, there can be no accountability for wrongdoing. These may be radical ideas in Burma, Iraq, the Philippines, or North Korea, but should not be in the United States. In the last five years, however, there have been signs that getting the news out is becoming more risky.

Smyth recognizes that the United States has a strong tradition of freedom of the press that is rooted in law, tradition, and culture. He does not blur the information to protect their sources, which can be an essential requirement to get the news out. Smyth cited the growing list of jailed American journalists. He said the list ties the U.S. with a repressive regime like Burma for the total number of jailed reporters. The list he gave was familiar and growing: Judith Miller of The New York Times, Jim Taricani, a correspondent for the NBC TV affiliate in Providence, R.I., the threats to journalists in the Wen Ho Lee case; and the jailing without bail of the San Francisco video blogger, Josh Wolf, to name a few.

Smyth noted the irony that some of the worst offender nations now point to the jailing of reporters in the U.S., and also cite the “war on terror” as justification for actions against their press.

Just as with the threats to civil rights and liberties in recent years, and the violations of domestic and international law, it is essential to address the threats to a free press. Smyth is one of the people helping to do it.

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DA’s Elder Justice Project Seeks Volunteers
by Carole Weiner

The Philadelphia District Attorney’s Elder Justice Project is dedicated to combating the mistreatment of adults 60 years of age or older who are victims of crime, be it on the streets, in their homes or in assisted living facilities. Philadelphia does not become immune to being victimized by virtue of achieving a certain age. To the contrary it is all too common for violent criminals and scam artists to target senior citizens, robbing them not only of their financial security but also their dignity. Indeed older adults are often neglected or made vulnerable by their own family members, depriving them of food, clothing, shelter or medical care.

Recognizing that Philadelphia’s elderly population continues to grow, District Attorney Lyne S. Abraham is committed to providing these men and women with the necessary support system in the event they do become victims of crime and are subpoenaded to appear in court. In order to assist these victims in navigating their way through the criminal justice system, Abraham has created the Elder Justice Project to insure elderly victims are treated in a professional and caring manner, making their participation in the proceedings as painless as possible.

Under the aegis of the Elder Justice Project, assistant district attorneys work in tandem with senior members of the bar who volunteer their time to accompany victims to court, to keep track of the proceedings, access community resources, explain court and police procedures, provide crime prevention information, and, where necessary, help arrange transportation to and from court hearings.

By volunteering in the District Attorney’s Elder Justice Project, you will provide older victims with an invaluable service – making them feel they are not alone, and letting them know the Criminal Justice system does work. Indeed often just by being present the volunteer has the ability to persuade the victim to see the case through to its conclusion.

I have worked as an assistant district attorney for 19 years and to this day I remain in awe of my colleagues’ commitment and diligence, working tirelessly to insure the right result is reached. Nonetheless, I am mindful of the fact that in many cases we simply can’t achieve all we would like without the support and assistance of others. We would welcome the opportunity to have you join us.

Carole Weiner is an assistant district attorney for the City of Philadelphia.
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Laurel and Hardy Live Forever in Films

by Marc W. Reuben

Of the many pleasant and sometimes unpleasant comments received about recent columns, nothing is more pleasant than to be reminded of comic artists who are regrettably omitted from articles about comedy. Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy are at the top of the list. Their omission from the recent note on silly humor was due to the fact that space limitations would have allowed only a paragraph or two about artists who delighted the world for a generation and who live today in black and white spirits.

One of the poor qualities of children (and unimaginative adults) today is their inability to suspend disbelief. Unless something on film is in color and stereo, they do not relate to it. A whole barrelful of great art is lost to them, and one of the chief losers is the gentle art of Laurel and Hardy.

With their baggy suits and bowler hats, they roamed the vistas of comic invention. Hardy was heavy with a small mustache and Laurel was thin with a blank look in his eyes. Colorization makes Laurel's eyes as blue as they were in real life. But the small mustache and Laurel was thin

success. They featured the gentle comedy that marked their oeuvre until they retired in 1950. The subject matter of their films was usually of domestic or work-related invention. Their only Oscar came in 1952 for "The Music Box," a film about them unloading an upright piano from a delivery wagon and pushing it up an enormous flight of concrete stairs (they didn't bother to find the street level back entrance to the home.)

Every so often one of them would have to scratch their head and would let go of the piano, which would then roll noisily down the steps. In the film, they meet their famous foil, Billy Gilbert, who would not get out of their way. While they were insulting him the piano rolled away again. When they found the house locked, they hoisted the piano to the roof, where it dropped through the skylight (in one version) and into a pool of water (in another). The broken piano is finally dragged through the skylight (in one version) and into a pool of water (in another).

Their first silent short films came around 1925 and were an immediate success. They featured the gentle comedy that marked their oeuvre until they retired in 1950. The subject matter of their films was usually of domestic or work-related invention. Their only Oscar came in 1952 for "The Music Box," a film about them unloading an upright piano from a delivery wagon and pushing it up an enormous flight of concrete stairs (they didn't bother to find the street level back entrance to the home.)

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"A friend of mine once got dressed up as Hester Prim and wore a scarlet A-plus." - Lisa Jordan

"My twin sister and I went dressed as Milli Vanilli. She had long hair and I had to wear a wig. We were the hit of the junior high dance that year." - Liz Chacko

"I hung a small, makeshift child safety seat around my neck, with a headless, life-sized baby doll in it, so my head was where the baby's head would be." - Adam P. Rifkind

The last mark of Sennet's hand was "The Chimp," in 1935, where the boys inherit an ape from a bankrupt circus that owed them money. The ape, clearly a man in a monkey suit (Sennet used overtly faux scenes and costumes to add to the silliness of the movies), falls in love with Stan. The ape is named Ethel, which happens to be the name of an unfaithful wife of the man (Gilbert) who owns the rooming house where the boys and the ape try to sleep. When he hears Stan asking Ethel to stop touching him, he enters the room with a rifle and - well - you know how it ends. (Maybe not in 2006. No one gets hurt, but Billy Gilbert shoots at the behind of man and ape as they run away.)

Pies in the face took on a greater depth with them. They were always trying some scheme. But no matter what they did, they could not hurt anyone if they tried. All of their schemes were gentle, and the results were as soothing as they were predictable. Stan and Ollie always were the victims of their own devices and Ollie usually exclaimed "Well Stanley, here's another fine mess you've gotten us into!"

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I don't think anything offensive came out of their work, despite the social climate of the times. Like Shirley Temple, they rose above offense because audiences knew they these boys could never really hurt anyone. Their pratfalls were skillfully choreographed, first by the master Sennet and later by the father of Blake Edwards, who worked with the team. All of the elegant pratfalls taken by Peter Sellers and Herbert Lom in the "Pink Panther" series are derived from Stan and Ollie. Seeing Lom fly up into the air and then grab on to something and pull a room down is as fun in color as it was in black and white.

There have been teams who tried to imitate them. Abbott and Costello used many of their routines, and Hope and Crosby followed their pattern. But none combined innocence and good intentions with comic pratfalls with the grace and humanity of Laurel and Hardy.

Does anyone think an earnest piano or dancing man in an ape suit would make people laugh today? The absence of Laurel and Hardy from public display today - not to mention the other, brilliant practitioners of innocent silliness - is a looming sign of who we have become and what we have done to ourselves. Here's another fine mess we've gotten ourselves into!

Marc W. Reuben, a self-practitioner and substitute writer of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter, has been writing about the arts and media since 1973.

According To...

What's Your Most Memorable Halloween Costume?

- Lisa Jordan

- Liz Chacko

- Adam P. Rifkind
Notice to Philadelphia Bar Association Members

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

1. Article VIII shall be amended and restated as follows:

**ARTICLE VIII - DIVISIONS**

**Section 800. Divisions; Additional Divisions.**

(A) The Divisions of the Association shall be as set forth in this Article.

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

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

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

**Section 802. Membership of Divisions.**

(A) All members of Divisions shall be Members except as set forth in Section 802B hereof and any Member may be a member of any one or more Divisions.

(B) Any Division may permit one or more non-lawyers to serve as members of the Division or any committee thereof, and unless otherwise approved by the Board no non-lawyer may be an officer of any Division.

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

(A) Each Division shall adopt such bylaws and other regulations for its organization, governance and conduct of its business as it deems appropriate, not inconsistent with the Charter, Bylaws and resolutions of the Board.

(B) The officers of each Division shall be the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and such other officers as are provided in its bylaws. In lieu of a Chair, a Division may have two or more Co-Chairs, in which case any reference to the “Chair” of a Division in these Bylaws shall refer to any Co-Chair, as determined by the Division.

(C) No Division may assess dues on its members unless first authorized by

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.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Note: Please call or visit philadelphiabar.org for the most current information. Tickets are $50. Tickets are non-refundable unless otherwise noted.

**Monday, Oct. 2**

Yom Kippur – Bar Association offices closed.

**Tuesday, Oct. 3**

Philadelphia Bar Foundation Board of Trustees – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

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

Family Law Section – meeting, 4 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center.

**Wednesday, Oct. 4**

Delivery of Legal Services Committee – meeting, 8:30 a.m., 10th floor Board Room.

State Civil Litigation Section – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50.

**Thursday, Oct. 5**

Health Care Law Committee – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50.

Civil Rights Committee – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50.

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

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

**Friday, Oct. 6**

Judicial Commission – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

Columbus Day – Bar Association offices closed.

**Tuesday, Oct. 10**

Criminal Justice Section Executive Committee – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

**Wednesday, Oct. 11**

Appellate Courts Committee – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50.

**Thursday, Oct. 12**

Solo and Small Firm Committee – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50.

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

**Friday, Oct. 13**

Judicial Commission – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

**Monday, Oct. 16**

Chancellor’s Forum on Education Funding – 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center.

**Tuesday, Oct. 17**

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

Cabinet – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

Medical Care Commission – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50.

**Wednesday, Oct. 18**

Workers’ Compensation Section Executive Committee – meeting, 10:30 a.m., 11th floor

**Committee Room.**

Workers’ Compensation Section – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50.

Federal Courts Committee – meeting, 12:30 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50.

Medical-Legal Committee – meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $7.50.

LegalLINE – 5 p.m., 11th floor LRIS offices.

**Thursday, Oct. 19**

Family Law Section Executive Committee – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.

Environmental Law Committee – meeting, 12:30 p.m., 10th floor Board Room. Lunch: $7.50.

**Friday, Oct. 20**

Judicial Commission – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

Social Security and Disability Benefits Committee – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50.

**Sunday, Oct. 22**

Young Lawyers Division Family Fall Spooktacular – 12:30 p.m., Sesame Place, Langhorne, Pa. Tickets: $30 adults, $20 children. philadelphiabar.org

**Monday, Oct. 23**

Public Interest Section Executive Committee – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

Young Lawyers Division Cabinet – meeting, 12 p.m., 10th floor Cabinet Room.

**Tuesday, Oct. 24**

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

**Thursday, Oct. 26**

Minorities in the Profession Committee – meeting, 12 p.m., 11th floor Conference Center. Lunch: $7.50.

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

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

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

Board of Governors – meeting, 4 p.m., 10th floor Board Room.

**Friday, Oct. 27**

Judicial Commission – meeting, 12:15 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South. Lunch: $7.50.

Women’s Rights Committee – meeting, 12:15 p.m., 11th floor Committee Room South.

**Monday, Oct. 30**

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

Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon – 12 p.m., Park Hyatt at the Bellevue, Broad and Walnut streets. Tickets: $50, philadelphiabar.org.

**Tuesday, Oct. 31**

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

END OF PAGE 24
the plague of guns hurts everyone. For example, the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence recently revealed how “Philadelphia-area gun dealer Lou’s Jewelry and Loan sold guns used in crime for over two decades, and repeatedly sold guns to gun traffickers and their straw purchasers, yet its gun business was not shut down by federal law enforcement authorities until this summer.” And the ramifications of such gun sales cannot be underestimated. For years, Lou’s sold guns to gun traffickers and straw purchasers, including Saad Abdul Salaam, who supplied a co-conspirator in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. The lesson: uncontrolled access to guns is not just an issue for Philadelphia or Pittsburgh issue, but can harm us all.

The broad, multilayered approach the Philadelphia Bar Association endorses is not limited just to restricting access to guns. We also welcome proposals to create a low-interest loan program for police agencies to purchase new equipment such as bulletproof vests, and providing money for competitive grants that would enable police departments to add patrol officers. Other ideas may also come out of the special legislative session, which will take place after this column is published. But while we look forward to hearing of new constructive suggestions to deal with this crisis, after consideration of the alternatives, we must act.

This issue is not about anybody’s right to hunt. It’s about stemming the tide of gun violence that is literally killing our urban neighbors. It’s about saving innocent lives. For the end, it’s quite literally about saving our cities. I ask every law firm and every lawyer in Philadelphia to join with us and so many other civic organizations in demanding action to stem the tide of gun violence. The future of our city, and our legal community, depends on it.

The Philadelphia Bar Association’s delegates to the American Bar Association’s House of Delegates, and the Association’s Zone Governor to the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s Board of Governors shall be entitled to present and to be heard at all meetings of the Board. (E) On or before January 15 of each year, the Chancellor, upon consideration of the recommendation from the Committee on Minorities in the Profession with respect to such appointment, shall appoint a Member who is a member of a racial minority as a member of the Board, pursuant to Section 208(A)(6).

(E) No member of the Board may designate another person to represent such member at a meeting of, or to cast any vote in the deliberations of, the Board.

4. Section 100A(28C) shall be amended and restated as follows:

Section 100. Classes of Membership; Rights.

(c) A Legal Administrator. A Legal Administrator for purposes hereof shall be a person who is not a member of the Bar but who is qualified as a legal administrator by education, training or work experience and who is employed or retained by a lawyer, law firm, government legal body or other law-related entity in a capacity or function which involves general responsibility for business management, marketing, support services and/or staff personnel of the entity.

FRONTLINE

continued from page 3

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(c) A Legal Administrator. A Legal Administrator for purposes hereof shall be a person who is not a member of the Bar but who is qualified as a legal administrator by education, training or work experience and who is employed or retained by a lawyer, law firm, government legal body or other law-related entity in a capacity or function which involves general responsibility for business management, marketing, support services and/or staff personnel of the entity.

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the plague of guns hurts everyone. For example, the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence recently revealed how “Philadelphia-area gun dealer Lou’s Jewelry and Loan sold guns used in crime for over two decades, and repeatedly sold guns to gun traffickers and their straw purchasers, yet its gun business was not shut down by federal law enforcement authorities until this summer.” And the ramifications of such gun sales cannot be underestimated. For years, Lou’s sold guns to gun traffickers and straw purchasers, including Saad Abdul Salaam, who supplied a co-conspirator in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. The lesson: uncontrolled access to guns is not just a Philadephia or Pittsburgh issue, but can harm us all.

The broad, multilayered approach the Philadelphia Bar Association endorses is not limited just to restricting access to guns. We also welcome proposals to create a low-interest loan program for police agencies to purchase new equipment such as bulletproof vests, and providing money for competitive grants that would enable police departments to add patrol officers. Other ideas may also come out of the special legislative session, which will take place after this column is published. But while we look forward to hearing of new constructive suggestions to deal with this crisis, after consideration of the alternatives, we must act.

This issue is not about anybody’s right to hunt. It’s about stemming the tide of gun violence that is literally killing our urban neighbors. It’s about saving innocent lives. For the end, it’s quite literally about saving our cities. I ask every law firm and every lawyer in Philadelphia to join with us and so many other civic organizations in demanding action to stem the tide of gun violence. The future of our city, and our legal community, depends on it.

The Philadelphia Bar Association’s delegates to the American Bar Association’s House of Delegates, and the Association’s Zone Governor to the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s Board of Governors shall be entitled to present and to be heard at all meetings of the Board. (E) On or before January 15 of each year, the Chancellor, upon consideration of the recommendation from the Committee on Minorities in the Profession with respect to such appointment, shall appoint a Member who is a member of a racial minority as a member of the Board, pursuant to Section 208(A)(6).

(E) No member of the Board may designate another person to represent such member at a meeting of, or to cast any vote in the deliberations of, the Board.

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Deborah Epstein Henry, founder and president of Flex-Time Lawyers, was interviewed in an NBC Nightly News segment “Working Mothers Want More Time,” on July 11. Henry also facilitated a program in New York City for the National Association of Women Lawyers entitled “Up the Down Staircase,” of why so few women lawyers reach the top of big law firms.

Shanna V. Sauls, a solo practitioner, was a speaker at the Aug. 10 Pennsylvania Bar Institute seminar “Negotiation – Reaching Agreement on Your Terms.”

Patricia A. Dubin, a sole practitioner, recently was elected to serve on the board of directors of Women Organized Against Rape.

Peter J. Necson of Kaufer & Henderson LLP has been elected chair of the Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section of the American Bar Association.

Michael A. Morser, a shareholder with Miller, Allan & Raspani P.C., spoke at a July 12 teleconference sponsored by the American Bar Association and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill.

Lisa R. Petkan, a partner with Pepper Hamilton LLP, has been appointed chair of the board of directors of Breast-cancer.org – a nonprofit organization that provides comprehensive information about breast cancer on the Web.

Jon D. Marans of Hamrely, Anshen & Segal LLP and Paulin discussed “Risky Business, Especially When It’s Your Business” at the Education and City Bankers Association’s 2006 EDITventures Conference.

A. Michael Pratt, a partner with Pepper Hamilton LLP, recently spoke at the “Life in the Big City: Understanding the Legal Concerns of Philadelphia’s Elderly.”

Susan Katz Hoffman, a partner with WolfBlock and former Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, taught in the City of Philadelphia Law Department’s annual CLE program, discussing recent changes in the law of eminent domain law as part of a course on “Land Use: A Proactive Approach” on July 19.

Jeffrey L. Beall, a member of Cozen O’Connor, recently served as a presenter at the 12th Annual Northeast Region Employment Law Institute at the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

Gay Parks Rainville, a partner with Pepper Hamilton LLP, has been appointed to the board of directors of the Senior-LAW Center, a nonprofit organization that serves the legal needs of Philadelphia’s elderly.

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Annie L. Hunt, a partner with Pepper Hamilton LLP, was recently appointed as an adjunct professor at Temple University’s Beasley School of Law.

David J. Steckman, a partner with Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP, recently served as a panelist for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute program “Fundamentals of Family Law,” on July 7. Steckman’s presentation covered equitable distribution, alimony, interim and special relief issues.

Deborah J. Zatieny, a partner at Lundy Zatieny, LLP, was a panelist at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute program “Representing Nonprofit Organizations in Pennsylvania” on Aug. 15 in Mechanicsburg and Aug. 16 in Philadelphia.

Richard M. Golomb, managing shareholder and a founding partner of Golomb & Honik, was elected to the Board of Directors of The PILP Foundation on July 16 at the organization’s annual membership meeting in Seattle.

Kysa G. McGrath, vice president for strategic projects and general counsel for WHYY-TV, has been elected president of The Forum of Executive Women.

H. Ronald Klasko, a founding partner of Klasko, Rulon, Stock and Seltzer LLP, recently moderated a panel on “What Corporate Clients Want from Immigration Counsel” at the 2006 American Immigration Lawyers Association Convention in San Antonio, Texas. He recently addressed members of the Association of International Educators on the topic “Lawful Permanent Residence Update” at their annual meeting in Montreal. Klasko also was a panelist at the August meeting of the Council of State Governments’ Eastern Regional Conference on the impact of possible federal immigration legislation on the states.

Jennifer A. Brandt, a member of Cozen O’Connor, recently participated as a panelist at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute Fundamentals of Family Law course.

Christopher Scott D’Angeolo, a partner with Montgomery, McCracken, Walker & Rhoads, LLP, was a moderator and speaker at “Comparative Legal Privilege: What You Thought Was Privileged May Not Be So on Foreign Soil,” presented at the International Association of Defense Counsel’s Annual Meeting in Rome in July.

Gerald J. Cohen, a retired sole practitioner and heart transplant recipient, recently received a silver medal in the badminton competition at The U.S. Transplant Games, a four-day competition for recipients of organ transplants.

Neil Boydew Tanner, associate general counsel for ARAMARK International, was a panelist at the International Young Lawyers’ Association’s panel discussion on “Compliance, the Multinational Challenge” during the group’s 44th Annual Congress Aug. 22-26 at the Intercontinental Hotel in Geneva, Switzerland.

Justin B. Wineburgh, a member of Cozen O’Connor, recently served as a panelist at “Ethics in Filmmaking,” sponsored by the Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts and the Greater Philadelphia Filmmakers.

Benjamin P. Cooper, an associate with Pepper Hamilton LLP, has been appointed to the Committee of Publications for the National Association of College and University Attorneys.

Patrick J. O’Connor, president and CEO of Cozen O’Connor, has been selected for fellowship in the International Academy of Trial Lawyers.

Names Are News

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

Photos are also welcome.
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- **Face Amount Increase Option:** Enrolled members have the ability to increase their life insurance coverage each year for five years, beginning in the second year, without medical underwriting.

- **Flexible Premium:** Increase your premium payments to build cash value or decrease payments in times of financial difficulty.

- **Long Term Care Benefit:** Allows the withdrawal of 4% of death benefits per month for long term care with payments up to $6,000 per month for up to 25 months, or 50 months with extension of benefits!

- **Critical Care Rider:** Receive up to 25% of your policy’s face amount if you have a heart attack, stroke, cancer, renal failure, or major organ transplant, up to $37,500.

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