“If you build it, they will come.” That phrase uttered by James Earl Jones, among others, in the classic movie, “Field of Dreams,” evokes a myriad of thoughts, dreams, concepts and actions ranging from the practical to the whimsical. That is the driver for this year’s Conference of County Bar Leaders annual educational meeting and training conference — if you can dream it, build upon it and implement it, they (your members) will come and make your association the best that it can be.

The CCBL Committee members have been hard at work planning for your upcoming season with their own version of Spring Training. They have been talking, listening, polling, planning and shaping this conference to provide attendees with a winning formula for success in their local and state organizations. The committee has been listening to the stakeholders, YOU, in coming up with a program that is both meaningful and, of course, FUN! Each inning has been tailored to provide you with the tools for a solid fundamental strategy for making your years in leadership a home run.

As your president, I thought it would be fun to throw out the first pitch with a program that combines lessons in leadership taken from the game of baseball and applies them to your position of leading your organization. We will use quotes, film clips, sound bites and pictures from baseball leaders, heroes and legends to show you that your years in bar leadership can be not only challenging but rewarding by playing the game “the right way.” We are also fortunate to have my good friend and ESPN Resident Bracketologist Joe Lunardi, who will give an insightful and fun presentation on crisis management and dealing with the media from an institutional perspective. Who knows, you may even get a few tips on filling out your March Madness Brackets! Attendees will have the opportunity to obtain 8 hours of CLE credit — all included in the registration fee — a bargain for sure! We have sessions planned on finances, governance, leadership, programs, ethics, diversity, millennial lawyers, planning, retention of members and, of course, FUN.

The committee encourages everyone to bring hats, jerseys, shirts, etc. to show your support for your favorite teams and to wear #PBAccbl2018

Continued on page 2
throughout the conference — especially Friday night’s dinner and entertainment! Wait, did I mention the post-dinner entertainment? How about leading off with comedian impersonator extraordinaire Joe Conklin, followed by games, music and general frivolity — it will be memorable. We will have a photo booth to get your team photos. And remember: What happens in Lancaster stays in Lancaster! Get your team together and register for this conference that is sure to be a classic. Remember, if you build it, they will come! See you in February at the Conference of County Bar Leaders Annual Meeting and make your association the best it can be!

Play Ball at the CCBL February 22-24, 2018, at the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square!

Michael P. Pierce
President, Conference of County Bar Leaders

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**CCBL Schedule of Events**

**Thursday, Feb. 22**

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **“Improving the Playing Field for Accessing Justice”**

Bar association officers, bar executive directors and directors of legal service programs are invited to join in a roundtable discussion to learn about the various legal service organizations around the commonwealth, their missions and how the associations and organizations can better partner with each other to improve access to justice. What is working and what is interfering with these relationships?

3:40 p.m. – 4:40 p.m. **“Rounding the Bases: Hitting a Home Run on Lawyer Wellness” (CLE credit: 1.0 ethics)**

Bar association officers and executive directors can have concerns as to whether a member is suffering mental health or substance abuse issues. What are the signs? If the member is not seeking help on her or his own, what is the best way to reach out to the member? Directly? Through friends? Ask LCL to do it? What help is available? These questions and more will be answered by the panel.

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. **PLAN Reception**

8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. **Early Bird Registration**

9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. **Welcome Social**

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**Friday, Feb. 23**

8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. **Registration**

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **PBA Supermarket and Vendor Fair**

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **Continental Breakfast**

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **“Put Me in Coach, I’m Ready to Play – Your Year in Bar Leadership & Lessons in Leadership Taken from the Game of Baseball” (CLE credit: 1.0 substantive)**

An interactive session utilizing pictures, sound bites, video clips and quotes to get you ready to get off the bench and in the game. This session will use baseball themes and lessons learned from the game of baseball to spark ideas, thoughts and an understanding of what it means to be a bar leader and how to engage your team to produce a winner. The many parallels between baseball and running a successful bar association will be explored in a fun and entertaining way. Get ready to swing away; you are up next!

9:40 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. **P.R.: Crafting the Perfect Response (CLE credit: 1.0 substantive)**

Go behind the scenes with nationally-recognized P.R. professional and broadcaster Joe Lunardi as he leads the discussion through a series of case studies in which issues

**Hotel Reservations**

Make your guest room reservations directly with the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square before Feb. 1, 2018, to obtain the group rate (single $130 per night, plus taxes). Make hotel reservations online [here](#).
management, strategic communications and crisis planning were keys to a positive outcome. P.R. is more than public relations; it’s crafting the perfect response for multiple stakeholders in the digital age. Joe has “been there, done that” for corporate clients, higher education and national television audiences for more than 30 years. You might even get a few tips for March Madness from the bracketologist himself…

9:40 a.m.– 10:40 a.m.  **“Moneyball”** *(CLE credit: 1.0 substantive)*

Jennifer Lewin, Director of Knowledge Management and Governance for the ABA, will discuss the board’s financial oversight role, the importance of having a budget, the role of the board vs. executive director around finances, financial controls, when you need additional board approval, and provide pointers regarding financial reviews and audits.

10:50 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.  **“The Umpire”** *(CLE credit: 1.0 substantive)*

Jennifer Lewin will address running meaningful meetings, how to generate board member engagement, appropriate use of executive committees, organizing agendas, facilitation techniques and ensuring there’s follow-up to board action.

10:50 a.m.– 11:50 a.m.  **“When All Bases are Loaded”** *(CLE credit: 1.0 ethics)*

Even the most experienced pitcher can get rattled when the bases are loaded with family members. You never know if the client in the batter’s box will swing for the fence or lay down an infield grounder to try and advance the runners. The uncertainty may explain the rise in malpractice claims against lawyers in the wills, estates and trusts practice area. Find out why and what we can do to retire the batter, empty the bases, and maintain our ERA. The PBA Professional Liability Committee presents “All in the Family,” a live-action theatrical vignette focusing on current issues confronting Pennsylvania lawyers. Those who attend will be eligible for a discount on their CNA professional liability policy premium.

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.  **Lunch and Awards Presentation**

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.  **Break and County Bar Recognition Award Photos**

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  **“What the Rookies Can Teach the Veterans – Understanding Millennial and Young Lawyers”** *(CLE credit: 1.0 substantive)*

Millennial and young lawyers are a significant resource for a county bar association. This program will discuss demographics of millennial lawyers, including what millennial lawyers want and need. You will leave with a better understanding about how to engage the newest generation of lawyers in leadership positions, continuing legal education, the legal community and pro bono service.

2:40 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.  **“The Draft”** *(CLE credit: 1.0 substantive)*

Strategic planning is critical to the future health and growth of every bar association, large or small. Every county is unique, therefore each county needs to develop its own unique strategic plan, there is no “one size fits all” type of plan you can pull off the shelf. What is a strategic plan? Why is strategic planning important for your bar association? How to develop a strategic plan? Who should be involved in the development of a strategic plan? These are some of the questions to be discussed in this session.

2:40 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.  **YLD Business Meeting**

3:50 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.  **“Keeping & Maintaining Your Free Agents”** *(CLE credit: 1.0 substantive)*

It’s almost 2020, and bar associations need to think outside of the batter’s box in order to remain relevant to both their members and the public they serve. Topics covered will include new and innovative ideas and practical tips on how to enhance your members’ experience, how to recruit and engage new members, what programs and services do your members really want and need, what value-added member benefits are important to your members, and do your members feel like they’re getting a home run with their membership dues. Panel will be moderated by a past president with a panel of three seasoned executive directors from varying bar sizes and locations, who will share their ideas and experiences during this interactive session sure to provide some great takeaways for your bar association!

3:50 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.  **“Diversify Your Bar’s Line-up for a Winning Team”** *(CLE credit: 1.0 ethics)*

Each bar association has senior attorneys, former bar officers, young attorneys, diverse attorneys and attorneys at all stages of their careers. Your bar association will be stronger, more energetic and vital to your members if all members and potential members are incorporated into your association’s activities and structure. This panel will discuss who and how to engage these members to strengthen your bar association team.

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.  **Hot Topics & Cold Drinks**

6:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.  **Dinner and Game Night – Baseball Theme**
CCBL Schedule of Events

Saturday, Feb. 24

8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Hot Breakfast Buffet

8:25 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. “Extra Innings – How To Finish the Game with a Win!” (CLE credit: 1.0 substantive)

The confluence of pressures from home, work and the added responsibilities of bar leadership can derail even the most dedicated and zealous among us. This fast-paced session will explore the essential skills required to do it all, and do it well, while still maintaining your life balance.

9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Post Game Locker Room Debrief

Join the CCBL executive committee team members for a fast-paced debrief that will send you on your way feeling energized and armed with some great takeaways from the event. The team will be throwing out fast balls re-capping some of the MVPs – most valuable points – provided in each of the sessions. A great send-off to help you hit the ground running and make your year in bar leadership the best it can be!

ABA Bar Leadership Institute

Ignite Your Leadership Journey

Registration is now open for the ABA Bar Leadership Institute to be held March 14-16 in Chicago.

The BLI provides presidents-elect or other presidential-track officers with techniques and skills essential to effective bar leadership. The program provides an excellent overview of bar association leadership, governance and communication.

Financial scholarships are available to first-time attendees and consist of a registration fee waiver and a $500 reimbursement of meeting and travel expenses.

For more information, visit www.ambar.org/bli.

PBA Legislative Initiatives Progress in Pennsylvania General Assembly

On Dec. 13, PBA initiative Senate Bill 629, or the Uniform Voidable Transactions Act, unanimously passed the House of Representatives and is now headed to the governor’s desk for his signature. Originating from the PBA Business Law Section, the bill’s intent is to improve and modernize existing Pennsylvania law on fraudulent transfers.

On Dec. 12, SB 844, a PBA initiative and priority, unanimously passed the Senate. The bill, which would expand third-party custody standing and amend a grandparent partial physical custody standing provision, was amended on second consideration to incorporate suggested revisions from the PBA Family Law Section.

Write for The Pennsylvania Lawyer

The Pennsylvania Lawyer, the PBA member magazine, is always looking for informative articles of 2,000 to 3,000 words that help lawyers understand and deal with trends in the profession, offer ways to practice more efficiently and shed light on issues of importance.

To submit an article proposal or request writer guidelines, email editor@pabar.org or write to Pennsylvania Bar Association, Attn. Editor, The Pennsylvania Lawyer, P.O. Box 186, Harrisburg, Pa. 17108-0186.
The PBA Conference of County Bar Leaders (CCBL) is seeking nominations for the Arthur J. Birdsall, Chief Justice John P. Flaherty and Gilbert Nurick awards. The awards will be presented during the 52nd annual meeting of the CCBL, Feb. 22 – 24, 2018, in Lancaster.

• The Arthur J. Birdsall Award recognizes a bar executive who has been a faithful steward of bar traditions, who is committed to the success of his or her bar association, who has enhanced significantly the stature of his or her bar association, who cooperates with other bar executives and bar leaders to make CCBL the best it can be and who puts him or herself second to the needs of the bar association. The award is named in honor of Arthur J. Birdsall, a past PBA county bar services director who retired in 2006 after nearly 40 years of support to local bar associations.

• The Chief Justice John P. Flaherty Award is presented in recognition of the Chief Justice's efforts to encourage the work of the PBA and the CCBL. The award is given to a qualified PBA member to recognize an outstanding effort to promote the objectives and purposes of the CCBL and to improve the legal profession, the justice system or the community.

• The Gilbert Nurick Award, which is named for the late Harrisburg lawyer who served as PBA president in 1967, is presented to any member of the PBA whose dedication and service to leadership and promotion of the local and state organized bar and its activities have resulted in the enhancement of leadership for incoming bar association officers. The award is not given solely because the recipient has held and discharged with fidelity a high office or a variety of offices in the association.

A candidate may be nominated for more than one award. Those making nominations are reminded to review the award descriptions carefully to determine whether their candidate(s) meet the criteria. Nominations for the awards are due Jan. 12, 2018.

For more information and for online nomination forms, visit the County Bar Services area of the PBA website at http://www.pabar.org/site/Public/CCBL or contact Gabriele Miller-Wagner at 800-932-0311, ext. 2240.

Seeking CCBL Executive Committee Member Applicants

Each year, one member of the executive committee of the Conference of County Bar Leaders fulfills his or her term of office and is replaced by selection. Nominations are sought for candidates whose qualifications must include being a president or past president of a county bar association. The new executive committee member will serve up to an eight-year term on the committee. Letters of nomination or applications requesting consideration for selection, along with a current resume, should be sent by Jan. 12, 2018, via e-mail attachment to susan.etter@pabar.org or mail to Susan Etter, PBA Director of County Bar Services, Education & Special Projects, at 100 South Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101.
Birdsall County Bar Impact Grants
Funding Opportunity for County Bar Associations and Foundations

The Birdsall Impact Grant program seeks to assist county bar associations and foundations in the furtherance of charitable, educational or pro bono programs or projects that are consistent with the mission of the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation and succeed in making an immediate impact on the way a county bar operates in service to its members, its court and its community.

If your county bar association is interested in applying for grants funds, please complete the Birdsall County Bar Impact Grant Application found on the Foundation’s website at http://www.pabarfoundation.org/what-we-do/birdsall-impact-grants-program/. The deadline for submission is April 2, 2018.

A total of $1,000 will be awarded. The successful applicant(s) will be notified in writing on or before May 1, 2018, and the grant(s) will be awarded during the Annual Meeting of the Foundation Board of Directors and Members scheduled for Thursday, May 10, 2018 in Hershey, in conjunction with the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

The program is open to all bar associations and bar foundations, with consideration given to those with limited means. To date, the program has awarded $8,000 in grants to support a variety of initiatives including pro bono training opportunities; mentoring programs for new attorneys; and computer hardware to support mobile pro bono outreach programs like Wills for Heroes. Past recipients include Butler County Bar Association Foundation, Lebanon County Bar Association, Erie County Bar Association, Washington County Bar Association, Delaware County Bar Association, Montgomery County Bar Association, Lackawanna County Bar Association and York County Bar Foundation.

The nomination deadline is April 2, 2018. The award presentation will take place at the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s Annual Awards Luncheon scheduled for May 2018, in conjunction with the PBA 2018 Annual Meeting in Hershey PA, May 9 – 11 at the Hershey Lodge.

Visit the Foundation’s website at: http://www.pabarfoundation.org/what-we-do/louis-j-goffman-awards/ for more details including the selection criteria, nomination requirements and a list of past awardees.

Scholarship Opportunities

The Louise Hoffmeyer-Overmiller Memorial Scholarship: Seeking Dickinson Law Scholars with a ‘Fire in the Belly’ for the Law

The Louise Hoffmeyer-Overmiller Scholarship, created by William F. Hoffmeyer, Esq. in honor and in memory of his daughter, is a $6,000 annual award presented to a third-year Dickinson Law student who demonstrates academic excellence, financial need and a “fire in the belly” for the law. The award is paid directly to the law school prior to the start of the fall term to offset the successful candidate's tuition expense.

To be eligible, applicants must be Pennsylvania residents in their second year at Dickinson Law. A cumulative grade point average of at least 3.3 is also required, as is membership in the Pennsylvania Bar Association. The application period closes on Feb. 15, 2018. For more information visit: http://www.pabarfoundation.org/louise-hoffmeyer-overmiller-memorial-scholarships/.

Attention Animal Advocates: Accepting Applications for the 2018 Patti Rose Scheimer Bednarik Memorial Scholarship

The Pennsylvania Bar Foundation (PBF) is accepting applications for the Patti Rose Scheimer Bednarik Memorial Scholarship; an annual award presented to a law school student or young lawyer who pursues an interest in animal welfare as part of his/her daily activities, legal training or law practice.

Pennsylvania residents enrolled in any accredited U.S. law school, law students enrolled in any Pennsylvania accredited law school and Pennsylvania lawyers in practice less than three years are eligible to apply for the $5,400 award. Considered factors include the applicants’ volunteer service to animal welfare organizations, scholarship in the field of animal law and animal welfare and, for practicing attorneys, pro bono legal work in the field of animal welfare.

The application period closes on July 1, 2018. For more information visit: http://www.pabarfoundation.org/what-we-do/patti-rose-scheimer-bednarik-memorial-scholarship-fund/
Volunteers Needed for State High School Mock Trial Competition

High school teams from across the state are gearing up to compete in the 2018 PBA Young Lawyers Division Mock Trial Competition that is set to begin in early 2018. Volunteer jurors are needed for both the local and championship competitions. For more information about volunteering, contact YLD Coordinator Maria Engles at maria.engles@pabar.org.

Get more information on the competition schedule, participating schools and hypothetical case.

Volunteers Needed for PBA ‘Lawyers Saluting Veterans’ Program

The PBA is recruiting lawyer volunteers to handle pro bono cases in their areas of practice or expertise for Pennsylvania’s military veterans as part of the PBA’s “Lawyers Saluting Veterans” program.

Lawyers interested in volunteering for the program should register via the PBA website at www.pabar.org/public/ lsv.asp. Registration requires certification of malpractice insurance. After registering, volunteer lawyers will be able to access electronic documents such as an agreement of representation, a pro bono checklist and a termination letter for use with the veteran clients.

Lawyer volunteers will receive an official certificate of participation for their use in publicizing their involvement in the program.

Veterans in need of pro bono assistance can directly contact those lawyer volunteers who publicize their participation in the program. If the legal matter is one the lawyer does not handle, there is no obligation to take on the veteran as a client. Instead, the volunteer can refer the veteran to the program hotline. The PBA Pro Bono Legal Services Office will also make referrals to volunteer lawyers.

The “Lawyers Saluting Veterans” program is coordinated by the PBA’s Pro Bono Office and Military and Veterans’ Affairs Committee.

For more information, call the program hotline at 800-932-0311, ext. 2570, or email Gabriele Miller Wagner at gabriele.millerwagner@pabar.org and put “LSV” in the subject line.

Pennsylvania Bar Association
Member-to-Member Connection

New! Statewide practice area search service

Use this free service to look for other lawyers in specific areas of practice and geographic locations.

Make your areas of practice up to date:

- Click on Member-to-Member Connection on the gold bar on the PBA homepage.
- Enter your username and password.
- Click on Update My Information under My Dashboard on the left side.
- Scroll down to check your Areas of Practice.
Bucks

Litzke Receives PBA Pro Bono Award

Bucks County attorney Kimberly Litzke was awarded the 2017 Pennsylvania Bar Association Pro Bono Award on Oct. 25. Attorney Litzke has been a strong advocate in improving and increasing pro bono representation for family law matters in Bucks County, especially in the areas of protection from abuse and custody. She completed more than 40 pro bono PFAs on the day she was honored. Attorney Litzke has been very dedicated in recruiting her law firm colleagues and other local private attorneys to actively participate in the Bucks County pro bono program. She has conducted CLEs to teach other lawyers about possible pro bono areas, initiating even more participation. Attorney Litzke is highly recommended by and supportive of the legal aid attorneys and administrative support staff in the Bucks County Office of Legal Aid of Southeast Pennsylvania.

LASP staff had this to say about her: “Kimberly Litzke deserves this award because her commitment to pro bono in Bucks County is amazing. Attorney Litzke has gone above and beyond her duty to volunteer time to pro bono matters. She continues to sacrifice countless hours ensuring that the protection from abuse program progresses forward.”

Carbon

Wills for Heroes

On Saturday, Sept. 30, the Carbon County Bar Association, along with the PBA Young Lawyers Division, hosted the Wills for Heroes program at the American Legion in Lehighton. The Wills for Heroes program provides police, fire, emergency medical responders, military and other front line responders, after meeting with a volunteer Carbon County Bar Association attorney, a will, living will (medical directive) and power of attorney at no cost.

This year’s program was coordinated by attorney Adam Weaver for the Young Lawyers Division of the Carbon County Bar Association. Ten local attorneys volunteered their time and prepared wills and the other estate documents for 25 of our local heroes.

Chester

Learning On Line (LOL)

The Chester County Bar Association introduced Learning On Line (LOL) on its website, which allows members to view CLE seminars remotely to obtain CLE credit. This self-paced program provides members with 24/7 access to view at their convenience. Members can search programs by keywords, subject or credit type and have access to previously purchased seminars in their online library. This distance learning option serves as a valuable member benefit.

Member Appreciation Month

November was a busy month at the Chester County Bar Association. To show members how much they are appreciated, the association offered an activity, service, treat or incentive every day of the month, including free logo design services, portrait photos, yoga lessons, free smoothies and drone lessons! There were also a few social and networking events. CCBA highlighted a member each week on its social media platforms and gave away some great prizes at the end of the month at a member appreciation happy hour.

Dauphin

DCBA Driver’s License Restoration Clinic

Dauphin County Bar Association conducted another Driver’s License Restoration Clinic. Immediate Past Bar President Edward F. Spreha Jr. again led the successful pro bono clinic, which assisted more than 50 people. Eleven attorneys participated in the event. Some job applicants may qualify for a limited license or have other viable options.
On the Local Scene...

Erie

The ECBA Moves to Historic Downtown Building

The Erie County Bar Association has relocated its headquarters to the heart of Erie’s historic district. Built in 1871 and located at 429 West 6th Street, the Oliver Elliott House was vacant and falling into disrepair until the bar association acquired the property earlier in 2017. After several months of breathtaking renovations, the ECBA officially moved into the new building on October 16.

Phase II of the project, the renovation of the carriage house behind the new headquarters, began recently. An addition will be constructed, and the building will become the ECBA’s education center for seminars and meetings in late Spring 2018.

Wills for Heroes a Resounding Success

The Erie County Bar Association (ECBA) hosted its fourth annual Wills for Heroes program on Saturday, Oct. 7 at the Erie County Public Safety Building. It drew 38 participants, which brings the total number of first responders and veterans served by local attorneys to about 200.

Erie County Bar Association Welcomes New Attorneys

The Erie County Bar Association’s Annual Admissions Day was Nov. 3, welcoming three new attorneys who passed the July 2017 Pennsylvania Bar Exam: Lydia Caparosa at MacDonald, Illig; Justin Smith at Williams and Jorden; and Nicholas Maskrey at The Quinn Law Firm.

All three were also admitted to the Western District Court, as were new attorney Corey Bauer at Ambrose Law Firm and William Helbling, who joined the Knox Law Firm late last year.

Dauphin County Bar Association conducted another Driver’s License Restoration Clinic. Eleven attorneys assisted more than 50 people.

Above: Erie County Bar Association relocated its headquarters to the city’s historic district.

Left: Erie County Bar Association hosted its fourth annual Wills for Heroes program on Oct. 7.

Right: Erie County Bar Association welcomed three new attorneys who passed the July 2017 Pennsylvania Bar Exam: Lydia Caparosa at MacDonald, Illig; Justin Smith at Williams and Jorden; and Nicholas Maskrey at The Quinn Law Firm.
On the **Local Scene**...

The Inaugural War of the Roses softball game - Lancaster Bar Association Lions vs. York County Bar Association Batting Barristers – raised over $6,000 for access to justice programs.

**Lancaster**

**Inaugural War of the Roses**

The Inaugural War of the Roses softball game - Lancaster Bar Association Lions vs. York County Bar Association Batting Barristers – raised over $6,000 for access to justice programs.

**Luzerne**

**Judge H. Geoffrey Moulton Jr. Addresses Court and Bar of Luzerne County**

Judge H. Geoffrey Moulton of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court served as the principal speaker at an October gathering of the Wilkes-Barre Law & Library Association (the bar association of Luzerne County). Among the dignitaries attending the gathering was Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court Chair David E. Schwager and Judge Correale F. Stevens, former Pennsylvania Supreme Court justice and president judge emeritus of the Pennsylvania Superior Court.

**Lycoming**

**Lycoming Mock Trial Awards**

At a recent Montoursville School Board Meeting, Attorney John Pietrovito and LLA Executive Director Michele Frey presented the Montoursville High School Mock Trial Team members with awards and a team plaque for their success in last year’s Mock Trial Competition.

The competition had 294 teams from 252 high schools that competed in district and regional contests with hopes of gaining one of the 14 spots at the statewide competition. Montoursville’s team won a district title and suffered a narrow loss to Dubois for a regional title.

Congratulations to the Montoursville team: Hannah Anderson, Hunter Day, Liviu Reynolds, Maranda Garwood, Asher...
On the Local Scene...


Mercer

MCBA YLD Chair Organizes County’s First Wills for Heroes

Zone 10 YLD Delegate/Mercer YLD Chair Melissa Merchant-Calvert organized the first Wills for Heroes (WFH) for the county with the assistance from Mercer WFH Coordinator J. Jarret Whalen and WFH Coordinators Gabriele Miller-Wagner and Hannah Suhr. There was a great response from the veterans, first responders and also the volunteer attorneys, notaries and witnesses. Plans are to continue with yearly events.


Montgomery

Access to Justice Summit Paves Way for an EPIC Eviction Prevention Program

Earlier this year, Montgomery Bar Foundation held its first Access to Justice Summit to promote collaboration and communication among justice-related community agencies, partners and causes. In the months following the summit, a focus group identified several key areas of need and ultimately deemed landlord/tenant matters “fertile ground” — where collaborators could likely make the most immediate and substantial impact. Serendipitously, representatives of Your Way Home (YWH), Montgomery County’s coordinated housing crisis response system for those experiencing homelessness, had reached out to Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania (LASP), seeking connections within our legal community to assist in launching a same-day court/legal service program, which had proven to be effective in other markets. Stemming from this was the formation of the Eviction Prevention and Intervention Coalition (EPIC):

Montgomery Bar Foundation held its first Access to Justice Summit, which led to the formation of the Eviction Prevention and Intervention Coalition (EPIC), a transformational partnership between Montgomery Bar Association, Montgomery Bar Foundation, Montgomery County’s courts, Montgomery County’s Office of Housing and Community Development/Your Way Home, the Montgomery County Foundation and Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania.
a transformational partnership between Montgomery Bar Association, Montgomery Bar Foundation, Montgomery County’s Courts, Montgomery County’s Office of Housing and Community Development/Your Way Home, the Montgomery County Foundation and Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

The EPIC pilot program will launch this January. The program will offer free, limited representation to tenants facing eviction in one Norristown magisterial district court. MBA member-attorneys will provide same-day, pro bono limited representation to tenants facing eviction due to non-payment. EPIC’s community partners will work together to help prevent eviction and connect those in need to county support and other available resources, including social services and limited financial resources needed to maintain stable housing moving forward. The goal of the pilot project is to stabilize vulnerable households in the Norristown community who have historically limited access to legal representation. The pilot will run for a period of six months, after which Your Way Home will review the data to determine if the project warrants continuation or expansion. Although certain details of the program are still being addressed, those involved have marveled over the efficiency and enthusiasm that has moved this program swiftly from conception to execution. Montgomery Bar Association solicited pro bono attorneys to participate in the program and will host a free CLE training on Nov. 30. Legal training for volunteer lawyers, paralegal, and social service staff will be provided by Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania with support from the Montgomery County Courts. Administration is supported by the Montgomery County Courts. This includes assistance in modifying the scheduling of landlord-tenant hearings in the Norristown Magisterial District Court and liaising with the judge and president judge. The courts are also providing on-site meeting space for the tenants and EPIC staff and volunteers.

**MBA Earns Its Eighth Luminary Award**

In October, at the National Association of Bar Executive’s (NABE) Annual Communications Section Conference in St. Louis, Montgomery Bar Association captured its eighth national Luminary Award. This year’s Luminary was given for the breadth of marketing, visual communications, public relations, sponsorship, merchandising and member performances surrounding LAWYERPALOOZA: Montgomery Bar Foundation’s 30th anniversary concert celebration for justice-related causes, held June 1 at the Ardmore Music Hall. NABE is an affiliate of the American Bar Association consisting of over 250 state, local and national bar associations. For its annual Luminary Awards, legal associations are grouped by size (small, medium and large) and judged by a national panel of association marketing, public relations and communications specialists. Only one Luminary is awarded each year in any one of five categories for communications excellence. Montgomery Bar has approximately 2,100 members. Notably, the eight Luminaries awarded since 2005 have been in the national organization’s most concentrated field, consisting of bar associations nationwide with fewer than 5,000 members.

**Northampton**

**Annual Holiday Hope Chest Project**

The fall season was a busy one in Easton. The Northampton County Bar Association organized and participated in the annual Holiday Hope Chest project (631 boxes donated to children across the Lehigh Valley), the Miracle League Trick-or-Treat event with the theme of “Harry Potter,” and its Annual Donut Day event to celebrate members on Love Your Lawyer Day. The young lawyers participated in a “Deep South” cooking course. The NCBA presented the “People’s Law School” again through the Northampton Community College and received some of its best reviews for its members/faculty. The NCBA held its “Amicus Soirée” at the
National Museum of Industrial History, which was new and different for members. The museum is associated with the Smithsonian Institute and showcases some of the Industrial Revolution exhibits and steel production in particular.

Book Buddies

The NCBA’s new community outreach program began in November. “Book Buddies” is a program in which attorneys went into the Easton School District Title I elementary schools to read books to the second grade students. The teachers selected the books, NCBA purchased the books and each student was given a copy of the book to take home. The attorneys all had a great experience interacting with the children. This program will continue in the spring.

Schuylkill

Attorney Posthumously Honored for Service

On March 4, 1916, attorney Robert B. Woodbury left his Pottsville law practice and enlisted in the U.S. Army as a private. He received several promotions. On June 16, 1917, after the U.S. entered the world war, Woodbury received his commission as first lieutenant, Co. C, 103 Engineers, and was transferred in February 1918 to the 11th Infantry. Woodbury, by his example and energy, kept his men at their posts, going for three days without sleep – walking up and down the lines encouraging his men during the battle of Fismette. He was wounded on Aug. 9, 1918, and died several days later in a French hospital. He was laid to rest in the American Cemetery in Belleau, France. To posthumously honor attorney Robert B. Woodbury, the only known bar association member to have lost his life in combat, the Schuylkill County Bar Association sponsored the World War I exhibit at the Schuylkill County Historical Society in Pottsville. Woodbury was also honored in an article in the Republican Herald on Veterans Day.

Washington

Celebrating our 125th Anniversary with a Charity Gala

On Oct. 20, the Washington County Bar Association celebrated its 125th Anniversary with a Charity Gala at the Washington County Courthouse. The event also served as the launch for a three-year “Raise the Bar” fundraising campaign for the Washington County Bar Foundation with the goal of raising “$125k for our 125th.” To date, with pledges, the campaign will net nearly $75,000 for the bar foundation (with two years to go). The gala was attended by 480 members of the bar association and their guests, community leaders and members of the judiciary. The courthouse sparkled with candles, flowers, and specialty lighting, and food, live music and revelers filled every courtroom (as well as the “secret” speakeasy in the lower level of the building!). Nearly every living former bar president attended to pass the gavel from most senior past president, Charles C. Keller, down the years to the current president, Stephanie M. Sewak, and then to incoming 2018 President Susan M. Key. As chairperson for the event, Susan Key spent 18 months with her committee planning every detail, for which a grateful bar association will award her a Certificate of Meritorious Service at its Winter Bench-Bar on Jan. 19, 2018. As part of the
On the Local Scene...

York

The York County Bar Foundation hosted the second York County Legal Aid Community Summit on Oct. 24, 2017, at Wyndham Garden, York. The biennial civil legal aid summit brought together over 115 attendees representing 70 different organizations including human services agencies, social services, court personnel, elected officials and legislative staffers, to learn about the availability of critical legal services for York County residents.

Following the presentations, attendees engaged in a lengthy question and answer session. Surveys were provided and the resulting feedback will be used to identify the barriers to legal services in the community and develop ideas and solutions to close the access to justice gap.

To view the complete civil legal aid summit video, visit https://youtu.be/1Il-S6r2cXcw.

PBF Pro Bono Partner Award Presented

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation, David K. Trevaskis, Esq., PBA pro bono coordinator, presented Carolyn Eyster Steinhauser with the Pro Bono Partner Award.

The leadership of Steinhauser, former executive director of the York County Community Foundation and active community volunteer and consultant, has been invaluable to the efforts of the York County Bar Association and Foundation to raise awareness of and develop partnerships and funding to address the civil legal aid crisis in York County. For this reason, Steinhauser was recognized by the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation (PBF) with the Pro Bono Partner Award.

As the first non-attorney board member and past president of the York County Bar Foundation (YCBF), Steinhauser introduced an informed, focused and organized strategy to build the bar foundation's capacity to deliver and support law-related programs throughout the community. Under her leadership and efforts with YCBF's grants program, important access to justice programs have been initiated or expanded including those provided by PA Immigration Resource Center (PIRC) and MidPenn Legal Services; free legal clinics, pro bono and modest means services; public education efforts by the YCBA; the York County Truancy Prevention Initiative, now a program of United Way of York County; treatment court programs to address causes of behavior, save taxpayer dollars, and reduce recidivism rates; the launch of

PA Supreme Court Justice Debra Todd and Justice Sallie Updyke Mundy with WCBA president Stephanie Sewak (far right) and WCBA president-elect and Gala Chair Susan Key (second from left) at the Bar Association’s 125th Anniversary Celebration and Charity Gala, held Oct. 20, 2017 at the Washington County Courthouse.

Rhodia Thomas, Esq., Executive Director of MidPenn Legal Services; Caty Houtman, YCBA President; Carolyn Steinhauser, David Trevaskis, and Ned Stankoski, YCBF Chair

Representatives of the York County Bar Foundation, MidPenn Legal Services, ACCESS-York, the Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center, the York County Court Self-Help & Law Resource Center, and PA 2-1-1, presented overviews of available services.
On the Local Scene...

the York County Court Self-Help and Law Resource Center and many more. Many of these programs have become state models. Steinhauser was the “anonymous” donor of seed funding to establish two YCBF endowment funds – Legal Aid and Youth Initiatives – to support legal services to the poor and to build law-related programs for youth and families. To launch the Legal Aid endowment, Steinhauser inspired a fellow non-attorney board member to issue a challenge of $25,000 if two attorneys would join him with matching gifts – a goal that was met in record time. YCBA’s confidence in the Legal Aid endowment initiative was confirmed by a $2 for $1 match for gifts to the Shelter From The Storm campaign for legal aid programs which has raised nearly $2.5 million to date.

Carolyn Steinhauser is considered by many community leaders as the human start-up capital for countless projects over the years that have improved the quality of life in the York County community. Not one for the limelight or to take credit, she personally sees her role as a facilitator “connecting the dots” among the different organizations and individuals who can partner to make something happen. It’s in keeping with her philosophy of “strategic philanthropy”: identify a need and opportunity, engage stakeholders to develop a plan to address it, and leverage human and financial resources to make it happen. Steinhauser is now engaged in helping the bar identify strategies to connect legal aid clients to social services.

War of the Roses Raises Funds for Legal Aid

It was a beautiful day at Peoples Bank Park on Sunday, Sept. 10 for the inaugural War of the Roses Charity Softball Game between the Lancaster and York County Bar Associations.

Barbara Sardella led the crowd with a powerful rendition of the national anthem and Judge Merrill Spahn traded his robes for a jersey in the role of play-by-play announcer. Superior Court Judge Victor P. Stabile, York County Commissioner Chris Reilly and Immediate Past PBA President Sara A. Austin threw out first pitches.

Then it was time to play ball! Nearly 240 people watched as the Batting Barristers of York and the Lancaster Lions vied for the cup.

York came up roses with the 9-7 win! It was a day full of fun and excitement for spectators and players alike. Nearly $7,000 was raised to support the work of the PA Legal Aid Network, and the York, Lancaster and Pennsylvania Bar Foundations.

Plans are underway for a rematch across the river in 2018.
## JANUARY | FEBRUARY CLE CALENDAR

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Jan. 11-14
Family Law Section Winter Meeting
New Orleans
Brochure/registration form

Jan. 24-28
PBA Midyear Meeting
Key West, Fla.
Brochure/registration form

Feb. 22-24
Conference of County Bar Leaders
Lancaster
Brochure/registration form

Feb. 28 is the copy deadline for the next issue of The County Line.
Send your news for The County Line to
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