More than 250 bar leaders, including county bar officers and executive directors, young lawyer division members, and the PBA Board of Governors, refined their leadership skills at the 49th Annual CCBL on Feb. 26 – 28, 2015. This year’s event, held at the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square, again focused on leadership.

Keynote speakers included Dr. Jeff McCausland of Diamond6 Leadership, who kicked off Friday morning’s sessions with a program on leading in four directions. Dr. McCausland showed us how we lead our boss, peers, subordinates/employees and ourselves. He offered a deeper understanding of these leadership roles and offered strategies for effective leadership in all four directions within our law firms or bar associations. Dr. G. Terry Madonna returned as our luncheon speaker to give an informative and thought-provoking update on the state of Pennsylvania politics. Dr. Madonna shared his thoughts on the 2014 election results, the first weeks of Governor Tom Wolf’s administration, and the recent activities of the state legislature.

Friday’s educational program lineup included seminars on your year(s) in bar leadership, diversity, the unauthorized practice of law and Wills for Heroes. The Avoiding Legal Malpractice program provided some laughs with a star-studded live performance of several vignettes by the “Permanently Banned from Prime Time Players.” The PBA YLD held a business meeting, and all bar leaders gathered for a valuable and interactive session called “Bring It On!” At this session, we shared information about successful and not-so-successful programs of our various bar associations. We look forward to “bringing” this session back next year.

The Flaherty and Birdsall awards were presented to Gretchen Mundorff of Fayette County and PBA Executive Director Barry Simpson, respectively. (Read more about these deserving recipients in the related article on page 5). In addition, 26 county bar associations were presented with County Bar Recognition Awards, which honor projects and programs.
undertaken in the calendar year to improve the legal profession, justice system and local community. (See related article on page 4).

Game Night returned this year as the Friday night entertainment, with the added twist of a beach party theme. In addition to the Wii™ and other games, contestants were able to hit the dance floor or gather with old and new friends for a photo shoot on a jet ski. Overnight packages were given away to seven fantastic destination resorts, including the Hotel Hershey, Hotel Monaco Pittsburgh, Nematolin, Nittany Lion Inn, Omni Bedford Springs Resort, Seven Springs Resort and Skytop Lodge.

The conference wrapped up Saturday morning with breakfast and three additional CLE programs. The early morning sessions focused on pro bono service and Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers. Pennsylvania House of Representatives Majority Whip Bryan Cutler was part of a later panel, which educated us on the realities of the legislative process. We also held the CCBL executive committee business meeting, where I was proud to pass the gavel to our next leader, Joe Curcillo.

A past president of the Dauphin County Bar Association, Curcillo presently serves as president of the Dauphin County Bar Foundation and chair of the PBA Criminal Justice Section. He is the managing attorney at Curcillo Law, with offices in Harrisburg and Chambersburg, where he specializes in criminal defense. He also serves as the Dauphin County chief solicitor. In addition to presenting CLE on trial advocacy skills for PBI, the DCBA, and the PA Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Curcillo has served as an adjunct professor at the Widener University School of Law and as an instructor of evidence and courtroom presentation at the regional Municipal Police Academy. When Curcillo is not busy with his law practice, bar association work or teaching, he can be found speaking at corporate and organization

Continued on page 3
events as part of the Psychic Entertainers Association, where he is a past president. He was recently presented with the 2014 Milbourne Christopher Foundation’s Mentalism Award in St. Louis, Missouri. The awards ceremony drew 1,400 amateur and professional magicians and mentalists from every corner of the world.

As a final note, we would not have been able to put this conference together without the hard work of the CCBL executive committee members, PBA staff, and the generosity of our sponsors. On behalf of the entire CCBL executive committee, I would like to thank USI Affinity, the PA Association of Bar Executives, Montgomery Bar Association, Berks County Bar Association, Pennsylvania Court Reporters Association, Omni Bedford Springs Resort, Seven Springs Mountain Resort, Skytop Lodge and Conestoga Title Insurance Co.

I have no doubt that Joe will be an effective leader and coordinate an excellent conference next year. Please be sure to mark your calendars and plan to join us in State College for the 50th annual conference on Feb. 25 – 27, 2016. I’ll see you there!
The Pennsylvania Bar Association presented County Bar Recognition Awards to 26 county bar associations during the 49th Annual Conference of County Bar Leaders, Feb. 26 – 28, at the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square, Lancaster. The awards are presented annually by the Pennsylvania Bar Association to bar associations for sponsoring projects that improve the legal profession, justice system and community.

PBA President Francis X. O’Connor said, “The voluntary efforts of lawyers, who so willingly invest their time and their expertise to improve their communities and the legal profession, are worthy of recognition.”

The following local bar associations received awards for notable projects and programs:

- Allegheny County Bar Association: “Practice for Success” Seminar
- Beaver County Bar Association: Ohio River Trail Council’s Gear & Cheer Music Festival, Basic Trial Advocacy Program, and Center Civic Women’s Club Cancer Fund
- Berks County Bar Association: End-of-Life Decision Making
- Bucks County Bar Association: Judicial Portrait Project
- Butler County Bar Association: Veterans Court Program
- Centre County Bar Association: Introduction to PACFile, Low-Fee Attorney Referral Program and Centre County Community Super Fair
- Chester County Bar Association: Past Presidents’ Council and Preservation Campaign
- Cumberland County Bar Association: Adopt-a-Family and Law Day Programs
- Dauphin County Bar Association: Veterans Disability Appeals Lawyer Referral Program
- Delaware County Bar Association: Expungement Seminar for the Public and Lunch and Learn Series with the President Judge
- Erie County Bar Association: Business Partners Program and Launch of Women’s Division
- Franklin County Bar Association: Law Day Program and Wilson College Professional Development Conference
- Lackawanna Bar Association: 2014 Hon. T. Linus Hoban Memorial Forum
- Lancaster Bar Association: Young Lawyers Section’s Program for Boys and Girls Club
- Lawrence County Bar Association: Educational Programming
- Lebanon County Bar Association: Bar Headquarters Relocation
- Monroe County Bar Association: Legal Services Donation and Strategic Plan
- Montgomery Bar Association: Young Lawyers Month of Service and Ongoing Outreach Efforts, MBA Connect Campaign and MBA Leadership Academy
- Northampton County Bar Association: Law Day Program and Charity Quoits Tournament
- Pike County Bar Association: Law Day “Senator for a Day,” Community Funds Programs and Adult Literacy Program
- Schuylkill County Bar Association: Committee Days, Community Outreach and Picture Perfect
- Washington County Bar Association: “Run Your Briefs Off” WCBA Running Club and Youth Law School
- Westmoreland Bar Association: Diversity Seminar, Pro Bono Help Center and Wellness Program
- Wilkes-Barre Law & Library Association: “The Ashley Special” Seminar, Legal-Medical Seminar and Young Lawyers Division Holiday Basket Charitable Fundraiser
- York County Bar Association: Impact Grants, Legal Aid and Scholarship and “Wills for Heroes” Program
The Conference of County Bar Leaders (CCBL) of the Pennsylvania Bar Association honored two prominent attorneys during the 49th Annual Seminar of the CCBL, Feb. 26-28, in Lancaster.

Birdsall Award
Barry M. Simpson, PBA executive director, received the CCBL’s 18th annual Arthur J. Birdsall Award, named in honor of the PBA’s county bar services director who retired after nearly 40 years of support to local bar associations.

The Birdsall Award is presented to a bar executive who demonstrates professional excellence, who is committed to the success of his or her bar association and who significantly enhances the stature of his or her bar association.

A past president of the Allegheny County Bar Association and a past president of the Penn State Alumni Association, Barry M. Simpson is currently in his 17th year of service to the PBA. Simpson is the longest-serving executive director in the 120-year history of the association.

During his tenure, Simpson has instituted various programs and services to benefit lawyers and local bar associations and their staffs. Simpson led the creation of the association’s first free online legal research program for its members. He negotiated legal malpractice insurance plans for the benefit of PBA members. He spearheaded the PBA’s social media efforts.

Simpson has promoted diversity in the legal profession and throughout the organized bar community. He supported the hiring of the PBA’s first Diversity Officer and supported the efforts of the PBA Diversity Task Force and Diversity Team, as well as the PBA Women in the Profession, GLBT Rights, Minority Bar and Civil and Equal Rights committees.

Simpson created the statewide series of annual Presidents’ Dinners to bring together the PBA leadership with the presidents and leaders of local bar associations to build the professional relationships between the state and local bars. He also supported the creation of a special program for local bar executives at the PBA Midyear Meeting, and he has continued to encourage funding and staff support for the CCBL and the PBA’s County Bar Services Department.

He is an active and supportive member of the Pennsylvania Association of Bar Executives, and he has served on working committees of the National Association of Bar Executives.

Flaherty Award
Gretchen A. Mundorff was honored with the Chief Justice John P. Flaherty Award. Mundorff is a founding partner in the Connellsville law firm of Watson Mundorff Brooks & Sepic LLP.

The Chief Justice John P. Flaherty Award honors the work of an association member that supports and promotes the projects and purposes of the CCBL. It also recognizes a member’s efforts to improve the legal profession, the justice system and the community.

Gretchen A. Mundorff was the 2010-11 president of the PBA, the second woman to serve in the role during the 120-year history of the association. During her term as president, she reestablished the Bar Leadership Institute, which prepares young lawyers for future leadership opportunities within the PBA.

Mundorff represents the PBA in the American Bar Association House of Delegates. She has served on the PBA Board of Governors as secretary, zone governor and chair of the Young Lawyers Division. A former vice chair of the Commission on Women in the Profession, she also served on the PBA Legal Services to Middle-Income Persons Committee, PBA Leadership Diversity Task Force, PBA Task Force on the Pennsylvania Judiciary and the PBA Legal Access Task Force.

In 2013, Mundorff received the PBA Anne X. Alpern Award, which is presented annually by the PBA Commission on Women in the Profession to a female lawyer or judge who demonstrates excellence in the legal profession and who makes a significant professional impact on women in the law. Established in 1994, the award was named for Anne X. Alpern, Pennsylvania’s attorney general in 1959 and the first woman state attorney general in the nation.

Mundorff served two terms on the board of directors for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, the educational arm of the PBA. She is a lecturer and course planner for the institute’s continuing legal education seminars.

Mundorff is a life fellow of the American and Pennsylvania Bar foundations and is a past member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Disciplinary Board Hearing Committee.

She currently serves on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Continuing Legal Education Board. She is a past director of the Fayette County Bar Association.
Philadelphia Bar Association Commission Evaluates Judicial Candidates

By Jeff Lyons

It’s been the busiest year in the history of the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention. The Commission is charged with evaluating candidates for judge of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas and judge of the Philadelphia Municipal Court and rating them Highly Recommended, Recommended or Not Recommended for the benefit of the voting public.

“The Commission has been hard at work since early January,” said Commission Chair A. Harold Datz. “To date, the Commission has received in excess of 50 questionnaires from candidates seeking a judicial office.”

“It is the ‘James Brown’ of bar association committees,” said Philadelphia Bar Association Chancellor Albert S. Dandridge III. “It’s the hardest working committee in show business.”

In a city the size of Philadelphia, these candidates are not household names. The Commission’s ratings allow the city’s more than one million registered voters to make an informed choice when they head to the polls on Election Day.

Datz attributed the large number of candidates to the fact that there will be 15 open seats on the ballot this election cycle: currently 12 vacancies on the Court of Common Pleas and three on the Municipal Court. “With the large number of applications, I expect that the Commission will not finish its work until early May,” said Datz, of counsel to Haggerty, Goldberg, Schleifer & Kupersmith, P. C. He is serving as Commission chair for the fourth time.

The Commission is composed of 30 members, four of whom are non-lawyers. The chancellor, chancellor-elect and vice chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association serve on the Commission, along with the president judges of the Court of Common Pleas and Municipal Court, the city solicitor, the chief public defender and a representative from the Philadelphia District Attorney’s office. The remaining members of the Commission represent various Sections and Committees of the Philadelphia Bar Association and affinity bar associations in the city. There are an additional 120 members of the Commission’s Investigative Division – 80 attorneys and 40 lay people – selected from a broad cross-section of the bar association and the community.

The process begins with a prospective judicial candidate submitting a detailed questionnaire to the Commission. This questionnaire can be found on the Bar Association’s website: philadelphiabar.org. Once the questionnaire is received, it is assigned to a five-person review team from the Commission’s Investigative Division.

The assigned team completes a thorough investigation of the prospective candidate and provides a written and oral report to the Commission. The prospective candidate is then invited to appear before the Commission and set forth the reasons why they believe that the Commission should recommend them to the voters of Philadelphia. Next, the candidate is questioned by the Commission about any concerns raised in the investigation. Finally, Commission members vote by secret ballot to determine the candidate’s rating.

If a prospective candidate is preliminarily rated Not Recommended, he or she is afforded the opportunity to appear a second time before the Commission to attempt to change the finding. If unsuccessful in changing the vote, his or her status becomes Not Recommended. The prospective candidate can withdraw from the race at any time prior to the deadline set by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the Not Recommended rating will be not published.

“I am very pleased with how the new rating of Highly Recommended is working out,” Datz said. The standard to be rated Highly Recommended is as follows: This evaluation shall be made for those extraordinary individuals who are being considered for election or appointment to a designated court and who are preeminent in the profession, exceptionally skilled in the law, possess a reputation for the utmost integrity and significantly will enhance or have enhanced the quality of the judiciary.

The Commission anticipates that a rating of Highly Recommended will allow the best candidates to stand out in a crowded filed. The new rating is being tested in this and the 2017 election cycle, after which the Commission will decide whether to make the new rating category permanent.

“The members of the Commission take this process very seriously. Members of the Commission and the Investigative Division have been very generous with their time. I am proud to be part of this fine group of people,” said Datz.

“The bar association staff has been very supportive. [Director of Public and Legal Services] Charlie Klitsch has worked so hard to coordinate the work of the Commission. He and I speak on a daily basis, including some weekends when he is hard at work planning the next week’s meeting.”

Jeff Lyons is senior managing editor of publications at the Philadelphia Bar Association.
Pro Bono Fund Supports Local County Efforts  
By Stephanie S. Libhart, Executive Director PA IOLTA Board

Since 2000, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has asked each lawyer to donate $50 annually to a special fund that supports local pro bono initiatives.

In 2006-07, attorneys and firms contributed more than $85,000 to the fund. Last year, contributions fell below $40,000. The majority of the attorneys who contribute to the fund are solo practitioners and about 27 percent have a mailing address outside Pennsylvania. Of the contributing attorneys living in Pennsylvania, 58 percent reside in Eastern Pennsylvania, 25 percent reside in Western Pennsylvania and 17 percent reside in Central Pennsylvania.

The average contribution for an attorney residing in Pennsylvania is $60. Attorneys with a Florida address are the most generous with an average contribution of $108. Attorneys with a New York address come in second with an average contribution of $88.

Contributions to the fund and the associated grants are administered by the IOLTA Board. Grants are awarded to local county bar associations and nonprofit organizations that provide the administrative structure for local pro bono efforts. In the last two years, the following counties received a grant award from this fund for the administration of local pro bono representation of indigent neighbors facing a civil legal crisis: Chester, Cumberland, Delaware, Clinton, Indiana, Washington and Allegheny.

Make your contribution when you file your annual attorney registration form or anytime online at www.paiolta.org/donate.

PBA Bar Leadership Institute Accepting Applications for 2015-2016 Class

The PBA Bar Leadership Institute provides emerging leaders, representing a broad cross-section of the diversity of the PBA membership, with an opportunity to learn about the PBA, while actively participating in key meetings. Participation in the Bar Leadership Institute provides numerous opportunities to network with PBA members and leadership and helps build lasting relationships that will serve as an invaluable resource for future success.

The Bar Leadership Institute looks to the future of the organization by developing well-informed, committed leaders who will serve the PBA for many years to come. It familiarizes participants with the day-to-day operation of the association, provides a foundation on governance and policy issues and introduces the participants to PBA staff and resources.

If you know a young leader, reach out and encourage him or her to apply. If you are a young leader, visit the PBA website for details and to complete an application.

Applications for the 2015-2016 PBA BLI class are due May 8, 2015. Everything you need is on the website: www.pabar.org/bli.asp
On the Local Scene...

Allegheny County

Allegheny County Bar Association Rolls Out “Bar All Bullying”

On Feb. 19 at Avonworth High School, the Allegheny County Bar Association rolled out its third bullying prevention program, “Bar All Bullying,” for 9th graders. The pilot program, which was presented by the Hon. Patricia McCullough of PA Commonwealth Court, attorneys Phil DiLucente and Whitney Hughes, and ACBA director of marketing Tom Loftus, teaches students about the consequences, including legal ones, of using technology to cyberbully others or to send inappropriate postings. This new program joins the ACBAs “Don’t Be A CyberBully!” and “This is a Joke—Making Fun of Others is Not!” being presented at area schools.

Beaver County

Charitable Fundraising and Giving Committee Supports Local Soup Kitchen

Seventeen members of the Beaver County Bar Association and their family members volunteered their time to serve dinner at The Ladle soup kitchen in Ambridge on Jan. 12. Approximately 80 members of the community were fed dinner, donated by the Bar Association through the BCBA Fund at the Beaver County Foundation, as well as desserts provided by members of the bar. The First Presbyterian Church, which hosts the dinner, greatly appreciated the bar association’s generous donation of time and food.

Mock Trial

More than 100 members of the Beaver County Bar Association served as volunteer jurors, advisers and judges for the 27th annual Beaver County Mock Trial competition. Eight county schools fielded 10 teams, with Quigley Catholic High School advancing to the regional competition and then on to the state competition. Quigley Catholic High School and New Brighton High School presented arguments in the final round of the local competition before a jury panel which was comprised of practicing attorneys who are former participants in the Beaver County Mock Trial Program – a true jury of peers. The panel, organized through the efforts of President Judge John McBride, YLD President Ted Knafelc and Attorney William Hare, included attorneys who are employed by both private firms and public entities in Beaver and Allegheny counties.

Carbon County

Wills for Heroes

Sixteen Carbon County attorneys participated in the Wills for Heroes program on Feb. 21 at the Hilltop Community Center in Summit Hill. The attorneys prepared wills and other estate planning documents for 19 area first responders, military veterans and their spouses free of charge as part of the WFH program. Lehighton attorney Adam Weaver coordinated the event.

Chester County

Spring Is in the Air!

The Chester County Bar Association held its annual Spring Bench Bar, a one-day, very affordable conference held at a local venue. More than 150 members, speakers and sponsors gathered at the Desmond Hotel & Conference Center in Malvern to attend up to six CLE sessions on a wide array of topics. Outstanding presenters including Ellen Freedman, PBA law practice management coordinator, and judges from the Chester County Court of Common Pleas, as well as Federal Court judges and attorneys. Twelve sponsors participated in the Vendor Expo, where attendees networked and learned about their products and services. The day ended with a reception, where networking and camaraderie continued.

1L Diverse Law Student Summer Program

The Chester County Bar Association launched this new program, modeled after the successful program offered by the Philadelphia Diverse Law Group (PDLG). Through relationships with area law schools, CCBA received applications from 11 candidates, and the interview process is well underway. Four candidates will be placed at law firms and through a grant from CCBA’s bar foundation; a fifth student will be placed with Legal Wills for Heroes: Sixteen Carbon County attorneys prepared wills and other estate planning documents for 19 area first responders, military veterans and their spouses free of charge as part of the WFH program. on Feb. 21 at the Hilltop Community Center in Summit Hill.
On the Local Scene...

Continued from page 8

Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania and the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County. The students will gather together to hear prominent speakers, and the summer program will conclude with a ceremonial reception with the members of the bar association.

Dauphin County

Polacek Named 2015 DCBA President

Pamela Polacek has been named president of the Dauphin County Bar Association (DCBA) for 2015. Polacek is a member with McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC in the energy, communications and utility law practice group. Polacek previously served DCBA as vice president, secretary, young lawyers section chair and as a member of the board of directors. She has held several leadership positions with the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

She has received the following recognitions: The Best Lawyers in America®, Energy Law; Central Penn Business Journal, Forty Under 40; Lawyers on the Fast Track; Pennsylvania Rising Stars®; and YWCA Tribute to Women of Excellence.

Erie County

2015 Mock Trials Were A Great Success

Congratulations to Northwestern High School Team I, coached by Jeff Wolford. Northwestern advanced to the Regional Playoffs, held March 11 at the Beaver County Courthouse. Northwestern was ultimately eliminated by Beaver’s Quigley Catholic High School, which advanced to the next level of state competition. Sixteen teams from Cambridge Springs, Conneaut, Fort Le Boeuf, McDowell, Meadville, Northwestern, Northwest PA Collegiate Academy, Saegertown, Warren and Youngsville participated with a play-off between McDowell and Northwestern High School. Special thanks to ECBA Mock Trial Coordinator Denise Pekelnick and our member volunteers. The event is possible only with the support of our many members who served as jurors, judges, bailiffs and timekeepers, which allows our program to accommodate the excellent number of participating teams from local schools.

Law Day Luncheon

The ECBA is proud to host its annual Law Day Luncheon, beginning at noon on Friday, April 24 at the Erie Bayfront Convention Center, with keynote speaker The Honorable Tom Ridge. As the CEO of Ridge Global, Secretary Ridge leads a team of international experts who help businesses and governments address a range of needs. He also serves as a partner at Ridge Schmidt Cyber, a cybersecurity firm founded with former White House Cybersecurity Advisor Howard A. Schmidt. An engaging and dynamic speaker, former Pennsylvania governor and Secretary of Homeland Security, Ridge regularly addresses audiences throughout the world on issues such as security, terrorism, global engagement, leadership, technology and more. We look forward to his keynote address.

The Liberty Bell, Chancellor of the Bar and Pro Bono awards will be presented immediately after lunch, followed by the keynote speaker. An important element of this Law Day event is a unique educational program giving local high school

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Law Day 5K: Erie County Bar Association’s annual 5K will be held on April 25 to benefit Erie’s homeless students.

2015 Mock Trials: Northwestern High School Team I, coached by Jeff Wolford, advanced to the regional playoffs, held March 11 at the Beaver County Courthouse.

Pamela Polacek

Tom Ridge

Law Day 5K: Erie County Bar Association’s annual 5K will be held on April 25 to benefit Erie’s homeless students.
and college students the opportunity of a special presentation from Secretary Ridge prior to the luncheon.

**Law Day 5K Run/Walk**

Erie County Bar Association will celebrate Law Day with the ECBA Law Day 5K on Saturday, April 25, starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Erie County Courthouse. This fun annual event ushers in spring and benefits our “Attorneys and Kids Together” program supporting the educational needs of Erie’s homeless students.

**Women's Yoga**

On Saturday, Mar. 21, Judge Libby Kelly hosted the Erie County Bar Association Women’s Division members to relax and enjoy the company of friends and colleagues for an afternoon event “Wine and Unwind.” First, members enjoyed a fun and social yoga class of mindful meditation and soothing stretches at Plasha Yoga Studios, then went to Judge Kelly’s home for a wine and cheese reception. The Women’s Division welcomed all ECBA members to this wonderful afternoon getaway.

**Lebanon County**

**New Office Provides More Space**

The Lebanon County Bar Association office moved in January, providing additional space for member events and meetings. As part of our Law Day events, elementary students are taking tours of the Lebanon County Courthouse in March and April, learning about our court system, and visiting the EMA, sheriff’s department and city police department.

**Indiana County**

PBA Pro Bono Coordinator David Trevaskis presented President Judge William J. Martin with the Judges Award on Jan. 23, 2015 to recognize his work opening the court to the neediest among the citizens of Indiana County. PBA Pro Bono Coordinator David Trevaskis (not pictured) presented the award. Also pictured are Attorney David Flowers Laurel Legal Services, Indiana County; and Indiana County Bar Association President Beverly A. Gazza.

**Lehigh County**

**Annual Dinner Meeting**

The Bar Association of Lehigh County held its Annual Dinner Meeting on Jan. 15 and congratulated Gavin Holihan on a successful year as 2014 president and welcomed Zachary Cohen as 2015 president. The following 50-year members of the BALC were also recognized: Anthony Thompson, The Honorable Lawrence Brenner, Robert Donatelli, Donald Lipson, James McConnell, James Simmons, and Malcolm Gross. The membership greatly appreciated the remarks by keynote speaker, Sally Kohn.
On the Local Scene...

Luzerne County

The Luzerne County Bar Association's First Annual Travel CLE Presentation and Social Hour

The Luzerne County Bar Association's Travel CLE committee embarked on its inaugural trip to Cuba in Oct. 2014. On June 4, a Cuban-themed CLE offering will be presented by lawyers who traveled to Cuba. Approximately 1,500 photographs will be shown while the speakers present their topics.

Legal and Ethical Issues Surrounding Cuba (1 hour of Ethics CLE)

Moderator: Elaine Cook

Photographic presentation: a pictorial journal of Cuba by Frank Skokoski.

- Lee Ann Palubinsky: “Cuba and Its Regime Since Castro: A Legal and Human Rights Perspective”
- Elaine Cook: “Bay Watch: From the Bay of Pigs to Guantanamo Bay”
- David Glassberg: “The Embargo, from a Legal and Ethical Standpoint, and What Will the Changes Mean Now?”

The CLE cost is $30, $20 for YLD members and $50 for non-members. The CLE offering will be followed by a Cuban-themed social hour to be held at the Westmoreland Club, Wilkes-Barre. The Bar Association Travel Committee's first-ever travel-inspired social will feature Cuban food, Hemingway-inspired daiquiris and mojitos, cigars, rum and Cuban music. Island attire is encouraged. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m., the CLE presentation begins at 6 p.m., and the social hour starts at 7 p.m.

2015 Trip to Scandinavia

The goal of the Luzerne County Bar Association and its Travel CLE Committee is to bring unique educational opportunities to lawyers from a global perspective. A trip is planned each year to a new location. This year’s trip is planned for four Scandinavian countries — Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland — from July 29 to Aug. 8. The trip includes an overnight cruise across the Baltic Sea. Any PBA members wishing to travel to Scandinavia can go to: http://www.gate1travel.com/cookscandi.aspx to join in the fun and adventure.

Montgomery County

A New Twist on the Annual Dinner Dance: Honoring Young Lawyers’ Leadership, Past and Present

In step with its focus on developing and promoting new leadership, the Montgomery Bar will be swaying from its long-standing tradition of honoring its immediate past-president or an esteemed member of the bench for this year’s Annual Dinner Dance on April 24.

This year, MBA members and their guests will be dancing to a different beat, as past and present leaders of its Young Lawyers Section will be honored — and for good reason, according to President Bruce Pancio.

“The list of past [MBA Young Lawyers Section] officers reads almost like a ‘Who’s Who’ in our legal community,” says Pancio, referring to the overwhelming number of its section leaders who have gone on to become respected law partners, county and state bar leaders, and members of the bench.

Executive Director Nancy Paul, who is celebrating her 25th anniversary with the MBA this year adds, “Over the years we’ve been fortunate to have had a very active and passionate Young Lawyers Section. That’s really a testament to all those...”
being honored.” In addition to celebrating Young Lawyers Section leadership, the Bar Association has discounted admission for young lawyers, beyond their traditionally reduced young lawyer rates.

Deep discounts are also being extended to government lawyers and those participating in this year’s MBA Leadership Academy program. As a residual benefit to the Bar, MBA leadership hopes that by realizing the success of its past leaders and the paths they followed to achieve that success, more young lawyers will be inspired to get involved in Section leadership.

Bar Execs at the 2015 PBA Midyear Meeting in Jamaica: Nancy Paul, Kathy Sabol, Fran O’Rourke, Bill Baldwin, Wendy Leeper and Deanna Mindler.
# MAY, JUNE, JULY CLE CALENDAR

## ALLENTOWN
- **Selected Issues in Art Law** May 8
- **Fundamentals of Oil & Gas Law** May 13
- **Privacy & Security** May 15
- **Start-Up & IP Property Issues** May 15
- **Technology Can Get You in Trouble** May 15
- **My Client's Dead** May 19
- **20 Hot Tips in Family Law** May 21
- **From File to Trial: 8 Keys to Success** May 29
- **Portability** June 2
- **Higher Education Conference** June 3
- **Transitioning into Medicare** June 4
- **ERISA Update** June 8
- **Communicating/Colleagues/ Clients** June 9
- **Hot Topics in Patent Law** June 10
- **Common Trust Techniques** June 11
- **Sophisticated Trust Techniques** June 11
- **Practice Before the PHRC** June 23
- **PA's New POA** June 15
- **General Practitioners’ Update** June 24
- **Best Retirement and Estate Plans** May 4
- **How to Handle a Drug Case** May 7
- **Arrest, Search and Seizure** May 9
- **Plane, Train & Bus Accident Litigation** May 10
- **Taking Great Depositions** May 10
- **Law of Guns** May 12
- **Advanced Social Security Disability** May 15

## BEDFORD
- **Solo & Small Firm Conference** July 23-24

## BUTLER
- **NEW PA Law on Entity Transactions** May 4
- **20 Hot Tips in Family Law** May 21
- **Transitioning into Medicare** June 4
- **ERISA Update** June 8
- **PA New POA** June 15
- **Best Retirement and Estate Plans** July 1
- **Hot Topics in Oil and Gas Law** July 15
- **Fire At-Will in PA** July 17
- **Law of Guns** July 22
- **Advanced Social Security Disability** July 23
- **Family Law 101** July 27

## CHAMBERSBURG
- **NEW PA Law on Entity Transactions** May 4
- **Property Distribution in PA** May 12
- **Strategic Negotiator** May 13
- **Social Security Retirement** May 14
- **My Client’s Dead** May 19
- **20 Hot Tips in Family Law** May 21
- **Strategic Mediator** May 21
- **Nonprofit Institute** May 27
- **From File to Trial: 8 Keys to Success** May 29
- **Portability** June 2
- **Transitioning into Medicare** June 4
- **ERISA Update** June 8
- **Dead Man’s Rule** June 9
- **Common Trust Techniques** June 11
- **Sophisticated Trust Techniques** June 11
- **Winning at Trial** June 12
- **PA's New POA** June 15
- **Powerful Witness Preparation** June 16
- **Equal Justice** June 16
- **Sentencing in PA State Courts** June 22
- **Practice Before the PHRC** June 23
- **General Practitioners’ Update** June 24
- **Fear Factor** June 26

## DOYLESTOWN
- **Integrity** May 5
- **Great Dissenters/Faces of Cross Exam** May 6
- **Estate Planning for Younger Clients** May 11
- **Property Distribution in PA** May 12
- **PA's New POA** June 15
- **Sentencing in PA State Courts** June 22
- **Powerful Witness Preparation** June 25
- **Title Insurance 101** July 13
- **Family Law 101** July 27
- **Internet Legal Research** July 30

## EASTON
- **NEW PA Law on Entity Transactions** May 4
- **Estate/Family Vacation Home** May 6
- **Selected Issues in Art Law** May 8
- **Estate Planning for Younger Clients** May 11
- **Property Distribution in PA** May 12
- **Portability** June 2
- **Hot Topics in Patent Law** June 10
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- **Technology Can Get You in Trouble** May 15
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### Warren

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Environmental and Energy Law Section  
Environmental Law Forum 2015  
Harrisburg Hilton & Towers, Harrisburg

**April 9-10**  
PBA Minority Attorney Conference  
Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh

**April 14**  
PBA Civil Litigation Section Pittsburgh Regional Dinner  
The Duquesne Club, Pittsburgh

**April 17-19**  
Civil Litigation Section Retreat  
Hotel Hershey, Hershey

**May 6-8**  
PBA Annual Meeting  
RPPT Section Meeting (May 6-7)  
Women in the Profession Annual Conference (May 7)  
Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel, Philadelphia

**June 1**  
PBA Workers’ Compensation Section  
Centennial Celebration Committee Gala Reception & Dinner  
Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey

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### 2015-2016 CCBL Executive Committee

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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Joseph A. Curcillo, III (Dauphin)</td>
<td>3964 Lexington St. Harrisburg, PA 17109-2618</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jac@bclegal.com">jac@bclegal.com</a></td>
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<td>Vice President</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:burke.burke@verizon.net">burke.burke@verizon.net</a></td>
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<td>Michael P. Pierce (Delaware)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>James R. Antoniono (Westmoreland)</td>
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### The County Line Editor

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diane.banks@pabar.org

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**“The County Line” Production Schedule**

**June 15** is the copy deadline for the Summer 2015 issue of *The County Line*.

Send your news for *The County Line* to diane.banks@pabar.org

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**Mark Your Calendar:**

**April 8-9**  
Environmental and Energy Law Section  
Environmental Law Forum 2015  
Harrisburg Hilton & Towers, Harrisburg

**April 9-10**  
PBA Minority Attorney Conference  
Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh

**April 14**  
PBA Civil Litigation Section Pittsburgh Regional Dinner  
The Duquesne Club, Pittsburgh

**April 17-19**  
Civil Litigation Section Retreat  
Hotel Hershey, Hershey

**May 6-8**  
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