Winners recognized in PBA’s ‘Freedom Rocks!’ Law Day contests

2011 winners from Chester, Lebanon and Montgomery counties

By Susan E. Etter,
PBA Education and Special Projects Coordinator

Pennsylvania celebrates Law Day throughout the month of May, and this year, the Pennsylvania Bar Association needed an entire month to visit the winning students and schools in its annual Law Day poster, essay and audio/video contests.

Each year the PBA Law-Related Education Committee promotes poster, essay and audio/video contests for students in grades K-12. These popular contests are sponsored by the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation, and the theme for the 2011 celebration was “Freedom Rocks!”

If you have not watched the winning “Freedom Rocks!” video submitted by a fifth-grade class at the Pickering Valley Elementary School (Downingtown Area School District) in Chester County, you can view it online at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmEOalLGei8. The video is a great way to begin a conversation with students about freedom, rights and responsibilities, and it can be used any time of the year. It also can inspire students to create their own video projects and share their ideas with other students.

PBA member Sara Armstrong and her husband, John, visited the fifth-grade classes at Pickering Valley last fall to talk with students about the Constitution. As a result of their visit, fifth-grade teacher Audrey Blust worked with her students to make the video and submit entries to the essay contest. In addition to winning the video contest, two of her students – Marcus Djuhadi and Megan Gibson – were selected as winners of the essay contest for grades 4-6.

The PBA also visited Gwynedd-Mercy Academy, a private school in Montgomery County, to recognize the K-3 poster contest winner and second-grader Arlyn Kryst. The second-grade students were eager to share their thoughts as we challenged them to play principal for the day and apply the new rule “No Animals in the School,” based on a favorite elementary-level law-related education lesson available through the PBA. The students quickly began to see that making good decisions, applying rules to various situations and being fair is not always so easy to do. For example, what will you decide, as principal, when a teacher asks you if she can bring a hamster into her classroom for a science lesson to help teach her students about animals, their behaviors and how to take care of an animal? How do you apply the new rule? How do you explain your decision? The lesson is a great way to talk with younger students about the need for rules, consequences, fairness, (Continued on Page 2)
Winners recognized in PBA’s ‘Freedom Rocks!’ Law Day contests

(Continued from Page 1)

consistency and writing clear rules. The PBA extends a special thank you to PBA member Lisa Shearman for her work with Mrs. Peffall’s second-grade class. Shearman visited the class in September for the PBA Constitution Day program and encouraged the class to participate in the poster contest.

In Lebanon County, when third-grader Sydney Poleshuk heard about the “Freedom Rocks!” essay contest for grades K-3, she decided to talk with her great-grandmother, “Oma,” to learn a little more about her experiences as a young girl. “Oma” grew up in East Germany, later escaped with a friend and eventually found freedom and safety in the United States. Poleshuk’s essay demonstrates the power and impact these kinds of opportunities can bring to students, not just to learn about law, but to learn about life. Poleshuk’s mother shared that the third-grader’s great-grandmother passed away shortly after Poleshuk’s conversation with her, and Poleshuk was able to read her essay at “Oma’s” funeral. Poleshuk attends Northside Elementary School within the Palmyra Area School District in Lebanon County.

In Montgomery County, two students in Kelly Ann Whalen’s sixth-grade class at Eisenhower Science Technology Leadership Academy of the Norristown Area School District were selected for their writing in the essay contest for grades 4-6. The school became involved in the PBA contests as a result of the civics education program through the Montgomery Bar Association.

Montgomery County fourth-grader Nola Crook, a student at Paul V. Fly Elementary School (Norristown Area School District), loves to draw. She used her talent to enter the PBA poster contest for grades 4-6 and was one of two winning entries. Students in Kathy Phillabaum’s class made Crook a poster with the phrase “We’re so Proud of you Nola!” on the poster as a surprise for her and presented it during the PBA program at the school. The entire fourth grade participated in the program based on the “Freedom Rocks!” video.

The other winning entry in the poster contest for grades 4-6 was fifth-grader Nicholas Chastain of Avon Grove Intermediate School (Avon Grove School District) in Chester County. For the past several years, Chastain’s fifth-grade teacher, Kathy DiDomenico, has used the PBA’s materials to teach her students about the U.S. Constitution and legal system. During the visit to Avon Grove, the PBA was joined by Chester County Bar Association member Amanda Sundquist to meet with two classes at the school and talk about what freedom means. Does it really mean we can do anything we want, or are there limits? The ability to express oneself was a common concern voiced by students in all of the classes we visited this year and definitely a great topic to engage students in a discussion about the Constitution, rights and responsibilities.

Winners were recognized with a special presentation at their schools. Poster contest winners each received an aluminum water bottle with an imprint of their winning poster. Essay contest winners each received a canvas tote imprinted with a quote from their essay. The Pickering Valley class that submitted the winning video entry received a pizza party and water bottles imprinted with the “Freedom Rocks!” theme.

The winning video, posters and essays are all available on the PBA website (http://www.pabar.org/public/education/lawday/2011contestwinners.asp). If you have questions, contact PBA Education and Special Projects Coordinator Susan Etter at Susan.Etter@pabar.org.

The county line

Youth courts are an alternative to traditional juvenile justice systems. In existence for 30 years, youth courts in the last decade have become the most replicated juvenile justice program for non-violent offenses. These student-run disciplinary systems now number more than 1,200 nationwide and succeed by using positive peer pressure to correct disruptive behavior and break the “school to prison pipeline” phenomenon engendered by zero tolerance policies and punitive school disciplinary systems.

Youth courts can be structured as school-based, community-based or juvenile justice-based programs, and by relying on student resources for operations, they are very cost effective, but youth courts also depend on knowledgeable adult volunteers who work to get the courts established and to train the students in justice principles and court operation.

Both of this year’s Pennsylvania Bar Foundation Birdsall Impact Grant recipients are working to expand the pool of knowledgeable youth court volunteers.

The Delaware County Bar Association will use its $500 grant to hold a three-hour training program conducted by the Physicians for Social Responsibility. Geared for lawyers, law students and college students, the session will introduce participants to youth courts and prepare them to go into the Delaware County schools to train on the youth court model.

The York County Bar Foundation used its $500 grant to send its youth court alliance coordinator to the Global Youth Justice training program in June. The training is the first step in a two-year project devoted to the development of youth court alliance programs focused on truancy in all ninth-grade classes throughout the York County School District.

Both of this year’s Pa. Bar Foundation Birdsall Impact Grant recipients are working to expand the pool of knowledgeable youth court volunteers.

The Birdsall Impact Grant program helps county bar associations establish or enhance a charitable, educational or access to justice program or project that is consistent with the mission of the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation and makes an immediate impact on the way the county bar association serves its members, its community and its courts. Named in honor of PBA’s longtime County Bar Services Director Arthur J. Birdsall, the program awards $1,000 annually. If your county bar association is interested in applying for grants funds, please complete the Birdsall County Bar Impact Grant Application found at: http://www.pabarfoundation.org/Files/BirdsallGrantApp2012.pdf. The deadline for submission is April 6, 2012.

A five-person grant evaluation committee comprised of foundation members appointed by the foundation president and the Conference of County Bar Leaders Executive Committee will evaluate submissions and select a recipient(s) to share in a grant(s) totaling not more than $1,000. The successful applicant(s) will be notified in writing on or before May 1, 2012, and the grants will be awarded during the Annual Meeting of the Foundation Board of Directors and Members on May 10, 2012, in Lancaster, in conjunction with the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

The Birdsall Impact Grant program is open to all bar associations, with consideration given to those with limited means.

Dauphin Co. Bar Foundation honored with Goffman Award

The Dauphin County Bar Foundation and a West Conshohocken attorney received Louis J. Goffman Awards from the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation for outstanding pro bono support and service. The awards, named for a late Pennsylvania Bar Association president, were presented May 4 during the Pennsylvania Bar Association Annual Meeting awards luncheon at the Philadelphia Sheraton City Center Hotel.

The Dauphin County Bar Foundation was recognized for its “We Care about Children” campaign that raised funds to employ a dedicated custody attorney at the Dauphin County office of MidPenn Legal Services. MidPenn is a non-profit, public-interest law firm that provides civil legal services to low-income residents and survivors of domestic violence.

In late 2008, the foundation made a leadership commitment of $100,000 and challenged the county’s lawyers and the business community to raise an additional $225,000, which would provide five years of payroll support for the dedicated custody attorney.

(Continued on Page 14)
The PBA Young Lawyers Division 2011 Summer Meeting/New Admittee Conference is slated for Rocky Gap Lodge & Golf Resort in Cumberland, Md., July 28-30.

The 80s-themed weekend conference is titled “The Future’s So Bright: How to increase your value without increasing your hours.” It will provide opportunities to earn up to six CLE credits and to network with fellow young lawyers as well as more experienced lawyers, PBA leadership and judges.

Nestled in the foothills of Rocky Gap State Park and overlooking Lake Habeeb, Rocky Gap Lodge & Golf Resort is a relaxing paradise with activities for everyone. You’ll find a host of services and amenities, including deluxe accommodations, two on-site restaurants, a heated indoor swimming pool and acres of hiking, biking and horseback-riding trails — all just outside your door.

For more information on Rocky Gap Lodge & Golf Resort or to make room reservations, call the resort at 1-800-724-0828 or (301) 784-8400. Room rates are $119. Please refer to the PBA Young Lawyers Group when making your reservations.

Rocky Gap room reservations must be made by July 7. The registration deadline for the PBA YLD Summer Meeting is July 22. To view the meeting brochure, visit http://www.pabar.org/public/yld/meetings/2011YLDsummermeeting.pdf.

The meeting agenda appears below.

Thursday, July 28

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
“Walking on Sunshine” — YLD Business Meeting
Get an update on what is happening in the PBA Young Lawyers Division and learn about the programs for this year and how you can expand your practice through YLD participation. Bring ideas about programs you want to see the YLD implement and ways the YLD can assist your county with young lawyer programs.

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
“Don’t Talk to Strangers” —
Social Networking and Legal Ethics
1.0 Ethics CLE Credit
Social networking tools such as Facebook, Twitter and MySpace are used by people in the legal profession. As their use increases, so does the potential for ethical issues. This presentation will review the value of and the potential problems with legal practitioners using social networking sites. It will cover recent advisory committee opinions and the special problems that can occur when judges establish social networking relationships with attorneys who appear before them in court.

4:15 – 5:15 p.m.
“Don’t Dream it’s Over” —
Learning the Ropes of Courtroom Conduct
1.0 Ethics CLE Credit
Join our esteemed panel of judges as they explain what they expect from the attorneys who practice in their courts. This session will include not only a professional approach to procedural aspects of a case but also a practical approach to courtroom decorum and communication with both opposing counsel and the court.

6:00 – 6:30 p.m.
“Welcome to the Jungle” —
New Admittee Welcome/Cocktails

6:30 – 7:00 p.m.
“Don’t You Forget About Me” —
Speed Networking
Meet your fellow bar members and get to know a little about their practice areas, where they practice, their involvement and position in the PBA, and other valuable information. Bring your business cards.

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
“Hands Across America” — Dinner
Remarks from YLD Chair Hope Guy and PBA President Matt Creme. Duquesne University School of Law Professor Mark D. Yochum will talk about pro bono publico service and the lawyer’s oath.

9:00 p.m. – midnight
“Ain’t Even Done With the Night” —
Reception and DJ

Friday, July 29

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
“Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go” —
Breakfast on your own

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
“We Didn’t Start the Fire” —
Incorporating Sustainable Practices to Increase Profits
1.0 Substantive CLE Credit
As energy costs rise and pressure increases to maintain the bottom line, “going green” is becoming a mainstream activity for businesses. This session will provide you with ways to use the economic downturn as an opportunity to grow your firm and bar association. Learn about the Pennsylvania Lawyers United for Sustainability (PLUS) Program, an initiative developed by the PBA to focus on ways to save money on energy, paper and transportation costs.

10:05 – 11:05 a.m.
“Electric Avenue” — E-discovery
1.0 Substantive CLE Credit
The world of paper has given way to information stored as electronic data, making computers a key component in the collection and production of evidence, presenting new challenges for attorneys. A data security expert from Reclamere Inc. will discuss the difference between e-discovery and computer forensics, providing valuable insights on the technical aspects and the company’s experience with the court’s views in cases involving electronic data.

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
“Take on Me” — InCite
1.0 Substantive CLE Credit
What better way to increase your value than to train others about how to use an inexpensive legal research option! The PBA and LexisNexis provide PBA members with InCite®, a customized legal research program, as a free member benefit. This session will teach you how to train others about navigating this program, increasing your popularity and value.
Pennsylvania Association of Bar Executives (PABE) Retreat & Conference of County Legal Journals (CCLJ) Program

Friday, Aug. 19, and Saturday, Aug. 20, 2011
Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel, Erie, Pa.

FRIDAY, AUG. 19

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. CCLJ Program

11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Attorney Jennifer Pulice, Allegheny County Bar Association Director of Communications & Publications, will provide a general overview of legal journals, the difference between what qualifies as commercial vs. legal advertising, and postal regulations regarding periodicals.

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Open Forum on Legal Journals

1:00 – 1:30 p.m. PABE Retreat... kicks off with a Working Lunch

1:00 – 1:30 p.m. Attorney Penina Kessler Lieber, Obermayer, Rebmann, Maxwell & Hippel, will present the program “Bar Associations: Do We Really Have to Register as Charitable Organizations?”

1:30 – 3:00 p.m. “Show & Tell” – share one of your bar’s events, projects or a change you have made that has been successful (or not!) and “WWYD” (What Would You Do?) – brainstorm ideas and discuss issues or problems in your bar.

3:00 – 3:30 p.m. Break

3:30 – 5:30 p.m. Flagship Trolley Tour of Presque Isle

6:30 p.m. Cocktails and Dinner at The Erie Club

9:00 p.m. Celebrate Erie Free Concert – Masters of Motown

SATURDAY, AUG. 20

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. PABE Retreat continues...

8:30 a.m. Light breakfast in the meeting room

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Attorney Jennifer Lewin, ABA Division for Bar Services, Field Service Representative, will present programs: Bar Association Trends & Developments, Rethinking Member Engagement, and Setting Priorities for Maximum Impact

12:30 – 4:15 p.m. Flagship Trolley Wine Tour

4:15 – 5:30 p.m. Break

5:30 p.m. Dinner on the Sheraton Patio

9:00 p.m. Celebrate Erie Free Concert - Kansas
Students working to change public policy through the PBA civic education initiative

By Susan E. Etter, PBA Education and Special Projects Coordinator

“I know I won’t benefit from this work, but I want to maybe help the kids who will be coming to this school next year. I think I can make things better for them,” explained one of the sixth grade students in Karen Hause’s class.

Beginning in January, sixth-grade students at the International Business and World Language School in Reading, Berks County, learned about public policy by jumping in and working through the process of how they can change policy for the better. The class was one of four schools that participated in the PBA civic education initiative developed by PBA Immediate Past President Gretchen A. Mundorff.

“It really is amazing to watch these young students tackle problems that are important to them and search for solutions. They are learning, and they are engaged in the process. This is exactly the kind of impact we had in mind for the Civics Education Initiative,” Mundorff said.

Mundorff selected civic education as a focus during her term as president after hearing retired United States Supreme Court Justice David Souter speak at the American Bar Association Summer meeting in 2009. Justice Souter and ABA President Steven Zack issued a challenge to all lawyers and judges saying, “Civic education in the United States is not good enough, and we have to do something about it.”

“It felt it was so important for the Pennsylvania Bar Association to do our part by reaching out to schools and volunteering our time and experience to work with young students — the future voters, jurors and leaders of our communities.”

PBA Immediate Past President
Gretchen A. Mundorff

On June 1, the students made a formal presentation of their project to the entire sixth grade, school administrators, and invited guests, including Berks County Bar Association Director Don Smith and PBA Education and Special Projects Coordinator Susan Etter. The PBA recognized the students for their work on the project. Each student received a certificate, and the class was given a special plaque.

All of the students indicated they are glad they have had the opportunity to work on this project. Their pride and excitement was evident in the way they talked about their work and the eagerness with which they answered questions. “I’ve learned a lot. We are helping our school and making a difference. Project Citizen is fun,” remarked one of the students.

A sixth-grade student at the International Business and World Language School in Reading explains his class’s proposed policy to change the current school dress code.

A sixth-grade student at the International Business and World Language School in Reading explains his class’s proposed policy to change the current school dress code.
USI Affinity is the trusted source and insurance administrator for the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

Our portfolio of endorsed products designed for today’s legal professionals include:

- Professional Liability
- Medical
- Dental
- Vision
- Individual Life & Disability
- Group Life & Disability
- Business Owner Policy
- Auto & Homeowners

To learn more please contact us at 800.265.2876 x6 or visit our website www.usiaffinity.com
Courses offered by the PBI

Dates, times and locations are subject to change. Contact PBI’s Customer Service Department for more information at 800-932-4637, 800-247-4724 or 717-796-0804 or visit their Web site at www.pbi.org.

Ohlbaum on Evidence Advocacy: Using the Rules of Evidence to Persuade
July 21, Allentown, Easton, Erie, Meadville, Mill Hall, New Castle, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York
8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m., 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

Immigration Law for the General Practitioner
July 22, Allentown, Meadville, Mill Hall, New Castle, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m., 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

Fair Credit Reporting Act: A Primer
July 26, Allentown, Easton, Meadville, Mill Hall, New Castle, Uniontown, Warren, West Chester, York
9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (substantive)

Fundamentals of Civil Practice and Procedure
9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

Family Law 101
July 28, Allentown, Doylestown, Easton, Erie, Meadville, Mill Hall, New Castle, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, West Chester
8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

Due Diligence in Business Transactions
July 28, Reading, York
12:30 to 4:45 p.m.; check-in at 12 p.m., 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

A Day on Real Estate – East
Aug. 2, Allentown, Doylestown, Lebanon, the county line

Mansfield, Meadville, Media, Mill Hall, New Castle, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, Washington, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York
9 a.m. to 4:10 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m., 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

Paralegal Training Institute
Aug. 3, Lancaster
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m. No CLE credit.

4th Annual Law Practice Management and Development Institute
Aug. 5, Lancaster
7:15 to 8:30 p.m.; check-in at 6:30 p.m., 12 CLE credits (substantive)

Social Media in the Workplace: Facebook, Twitter, foursquare & Other Web 2.0 Sites
Aug. 5, Allentown, Lebanon, Meadville, Mill Hall, Norristown, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, Washington, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York
8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m., 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

Pennsylvania Taxes - Update and Selected Topics
Aug. 9, Allentown, Erie, Mansfield, Mill Hall, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York
9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m., 4 CLE credits (substantive)

Contracts of the Rich and Famous
Aug. 10, Allentown, Erie, Honesdale, Mansfield, New Castle, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York
8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m., 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

The Nine Principles of Litigation
Aug. 11, Allentown, Mansfield, Meadville, Media, Mill Hall, New Castle, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York
12 to 4:15 p.m.; check-in at 11:30 a.m., 4 CLE credits (substantive)

Death and Taxes
Aug. 15, Allentown, Beaver, Greensburg, Johnstown, Mansfield, Meadville, Mill Hall, New Castle, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, Wilkes-Barre, York
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m., 6 CLE credits (5 substantive/1 ethics)

Lincoln on Professionalism
Aug. 16, Allentown, Erie, Johnstown, Mansfield, Meadville, Media, Mill Hall, New Castle, Reading, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York
9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m.; 3 CLE credits (ethics)

The Business Lawyer’s “Refresher” Series: Guaranty and Suretyship
Aug. 17, Allentown, Johnstown, Norristown, Scranton, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York
9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m., 3 CLE credits (substantive)

Anatomy of a “Superstar” Deposition
Aug. 18, Doylestown, Erie, Mansfield, Meadville, Mill Hall, New Castle, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, Wilkes-Barre, Williamsport, York
8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m., 6.5 CLE credits (substantive)

Contracts of the Rich and Famous
Aug. 19, Allentown, Doylestown, Johnstown, Mansfield, Meadville, Mill Hall, New Castle, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, Wilkes-Barre, York
9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m., 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

Family Law: A View from the Bench
Aug. 22, Meadville
8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m., 4 CLE credits (3 substantive/1 ethics)

Internet Legal Research
Aug. 23, Allentown, Johnstown, Mansfield, Meadville, Mill Hall, New Castle, Reading, Scranton, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York
9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m., 3 CLE credits (substantive)

(Continued on Page 9)
YLD Summer Meeting/New Admittee Conference

(Continued from Page 4)

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
“Manic Monday” — Achieving Success in Your Career without Sacrificing the Rest of Your Life
1.0 Substantive CLE Credit
The practice of law is demanding. In addition to attending to the everyday needs of clients, an attorney must also expand and enrich his/her career. Of course, you can’t neglect friends and family either. In this session, attorneys from private and public law practice will provide their experiences and advice on balancing your career and your life to achieve the success you envision as an attorney without sacrificing the rest of the important things in life.

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
“Smooth Operator” — Lunch
The next time you dine with clients or a partner in your firm, impress them with your smooth etiquette. Taking the old “finishing-school” approach with a contemporary humorous twist, our presenters will give you hands-on instruction using different utensils and glassware.

2:00 p.m. “Whip It” — Golf Outing
2:00 p.m. On your own

6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
“Red, Red Wine” — Cocktail Reception
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
“Hungry Like the Wolf” — Dinner
Remarks from YLD Chair-elect Jacob A. Gurwitz and PBA President-elect Thomas G. Wilkinson Jr.
9:00 p.m. – midnight
“Everybody Have Fun Tonight” — Reception and DJ

Saturday, July 30
Departure
Thank you for joining us at the YLD’s 2011 Summer Conference. Now “Beat It.”

PBI Courses
(Continued from Page 8)

Real Estate Issues in Estates
Aug. 24, Allentown, Johnstown, Mansfield, Meadville, Mill Hall, New Castle, Reading, Uniontown, Warren, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre, York
8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

Practice Before the Department of Veteran’s Affairs
Aug. 26, Allentown, Beaver, Mansfield, Meadville, Mill Hall, New Castle, Warren, Wilkes-Barre, York
8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

Negotiation: Reaching Agreement on Your Terms
Aug. 29, Allentown, Beaver, Johnstown, Norristown, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre
8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; check-in at 8 a.m.; 4 CLE credits (substantive)

NO JUDGES. NO JURIES. JUST A PLACE TO REST YOUR CASE.

Now you can take advantage of a value-packed deal that brings your firm together at the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay, a resort deliberately designed to deliver a stimulating setting that will enhance the success of your meeting or partners’ retreat.

• 3% Rebate to Master Account
• 10% Discount on Golf and Spa Services and Products
• Complimentary Indoor Meeting Room Rental
• Complimentary Refreshments at Check-In
• Complimentary Suite Upgrade Per 100 Rooms Actualized
• 25,000 Hyatt Gold passport Points to be shared with the Make-A-Wish Foundation

For more information on this unbeatable deal, call 800 942 2779 or e-mail saleschesa@hyatt.com today. Hyatt. You’re More Than Welcome. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter.
Allegheny

Homer S. Brown Law Association joins as Division of ACBA

The Homer S. Brown Law Association, which was formed in 1969 and initially known as The Black Lawyers of Western Pennsylvania, joined the Allegheny County Bar Association as a Division of the association on April 29.

According to Gary Hunt, president of the ACBA, “While many of the members of the Homer S. Brown Division have been active members of our bar, we have always admired the work of this fine organization and its members’ commitment to the African-American community and minority attorneys.” Homer S. Brown, the namesake of the Division, was the first African-American judge in Pittsburgh and served on the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas from 1956 to 1975.

Beaver

Law Day

Law Day 2011 – with the theme “Freedom Rocks!” – was held on April 29 in Courthouse No. 1 of the Beaver County Courthouse. Members from the bench and bar attended the program with Beaver County elected officials, local legislators, the Quigley Catholic High School (first place) and the Beaver Area High School (second place) Mock Trial teams, Mock Trial Scholarship and Randy K. Hareza Memorial Award recipients, poster and essay contest winners, the Young Lawyer Division’s Civic Appreciation Award recipient, and the first Outstanding Service to the Court of Common Pleas of Beaver County Award recipient. A reception was held at the bar association immediately following the ceremony.

Beaver County Court of Common Pleas honors local resident

The Beaver County Court of Common Pleas presented its first annual Outstanding Service to the Court of Common Pleas Award to Dorothy Sterrett. Judge Deborah A. Kunselman presented the award during the Law Day Ceremony on April 29.

Sterrett was selected to receive this award due to her extraordinary service to the court during jury duty in 2010. Despite suffering a broken arm while serving as a juror, the 89-year-old Beaver County resident insisted that doctors do whatever was necessary so that she could complete her jury service. She was honored as a citizen whose dedication to the justice system should be an example for all.

Professional Clothing Drive

The Beaver County Bar Association Women in Law Committee sponsored a professional clothing drive to benefit Professional Outfitters. This is a local agency that assists no- or low-income job seekers by providing professional clothing for job interviews and work. A large closet full of women’s and men’s business attire was donated to this organization.

Stepping Out

Beaver County Bar Association members visited eight county high schools this spring to present the 16th annual Stepping Out program. More than 1,000 high school seniors received the Stepping Out booklet which details various areas of law, including consumer credit, civil litigation, voting, jury service and other topics. Voter registration forms and driving under the influence statute fliers were distributed to each senior, and an open question-and-answer period was held with the visiting attorney.

Young Lawyers visit local girls’ home

The Young Lawyers Division prepared and delivered dinner to Girls Hope House in Baden, Pa. Girls Hope provides a home for girls in Beaver County who have experienced abuse or neglect in their lives.

Berks

Superior Court visits Reading

A panel of three Superior Court judges heard arguments in Reading on April 12-13. On the first evening of their visit, the officers of the Berks County Bar Association hosted the appellate judges, as well as the local bench, for dinner at the exclusive Stirling Guest House. The following day, Superior Court Judges Anne Lazarus and Paula Ott and Prothonotary Karen Bramblatt, following completion of oral arguments, presented a seminar on appellate practice as part of the BCBA’s Bench-Bar Conference. More than 200 members were in attendance.

President Adams at Law Day

President John Adams, portrayed by professional actor Gary Anderson, was the keynote speaker for the 2011 Law Day Luncheon on May 3 at the Reading Crowne Plaza Hotel. For the 250 people attending, he brought to life this year’s theme, “The Legacy of John Adams … from Boston to Guantanamo.” The day before, Anderson had presented a CLE program, “Search for Justice,” performing as Clarence Darrow. Both performances were very well received.

Chester

Earth Day recycling event

The Chester County Bar Association celebrated its annual Earth Day recycling event on April 21. Attorneys and law firms dropped off their well-used computers, printers, monitors, cell phones and other electronic gadgets to be picked up by a local recycling company, preventing the items from going to landfills. The event raised funds for the bar foundation from the fees for securely erasing the hard drive of computers sent to recycling.

CCBF Sponsor Appreciation Cocktail

The Chester County Bar Foundation hosted its annual Sponsor Appreciation Cocktail on May 3 at the Chester County Bar Association’s recently renovated office space. The foundation’s sponsors were recognized, and about 50 members/ sponsors attended the casual and fun event.

CCBA and Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania celebrated the Annual Peace A Pizza Day on May 19. For all CCBA members who purchase dining for take-out, inside dining or delivery, Peace A
Pizza donated 30 percent of proceeds from the all-day event to benefit Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania. Members referenced CCBA’s coupon to present to Peace A Pizza for recognition.

Legal Lemonade Day

The Chester County Bar Association is proud to have partnered with another homegrown, national nonprofit organization, Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF). CCBA hosted its first “Legal Lemonade Day” on June 8, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and raised more than $6,000. The event had six lemonade posts throughout Chester County. Fundraising goals were set and all proceeds benefited ALSF. CCBA has viewed this opportunity to give back and pay it forward to another organization that is assisting children with cancer.

Fayette

Law Day Mock Trial

Students from Uniontown and Albert Gallatin high schools participated in a Law Day Mock Trial on April 29, coordinated by Attorneys Bernard John and Michelle Dietz with the Fayette County Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Section.

Attorney Benjamin Goodwin prepared Albert Gallatin students in the defense of their high school coach who served alcohol at a party that was attended by both adults and minors. Attorneys Mariah Balling- Peck and Jarred M. Detweiler prepared Uniontown students representing a high school student who was injured in a motor-vehicle accident as she drove home after drinking alcohol at the party. The student’s injuries caused her to lose a prestigious college sports scholarship. Fayette County Court of Common Pleas President Judge Gerald R. Solomon presided over the trial and ruled on numerous objections from both parties during their dynamic representation. Fayette County Bar Association attorneys and other participants from the Fayette County Court House served on the jury.

The bench and bar would like to again thank the students for their lively participation. Special thanks also goes to gifted support teachers Jody Wells, Mary Ann Hughes and to Dietz, John, Goodwin, Balling-Peck and Detweiler and all who volunteered their time to make this year’s mock trial a success.

Lebanon

Law Day ceremony

The Lebanon County Bar Association celebrated Law Day on April 29. Three attorneys were admitted to the bar that day: David Gallagher, Meaghan Shirk and Leonard Zagurskie. Two students received U.S. Savings Bonds as awards for their first place essays on John Adams. School tours of the Lebanon County Courthouse were conducted throughout the month.

Students tour County Courthouse

The Lebanon County Bar Association hosted tours of the County Municipal Building throughout the month of May. More than 150 students in elementary and high school spent a day visiting a courtroom during miscellaneous court and touring the Lebanon County Emergency Management Agency, the city police station and the sheriff’s office.

Adopt-A-Highway

Five LCBA attorneys participated in Adopt-a-Highway in May, spending several hours cleaning up an area of Route 322 in Lebanon County. Mark Schappell, co-chair of the Public Relations Committee, organized the event. “It’s important for us to contribute to our community in a variety of ways, and this is one way we can do that,” he said.

Lehigh

Disney Institute

The Bar Association of Lehigh County partnered with White and Williams L.L.P., Keystone Nazareth Bank and Trust and Lehigh Carbon Community College to bring the world famous Disney Institute and its renowned professional development program, “Disney’s Approach to Leadership Excellence,” to Allentown on Wednesday, March 30. The full-day event allowed local professionals to learn how a leader’s behaviors are instrumental in conveying values, guiding strategy and inspiring passion and interest among employees.

The program was held at the bar association’s headquarters (The Barristers Club) and gave participants new ideas for being more effective leaders and generating high-performance teams.

“This was a great opportunity for Lehigh Valley business professionals to participate in a Disney Institute experience in Allentown,” said Jeff James, vice president for Disney Institute. “It was a day of Disney training that offered dozens of easy-to-implement, proven ideas that can help transform an organization. The program is as appropriate for project managers and intact work teams as it is for leaders and senior executives.”

“Disney’s Approach to Leadership Excellence” gave over 140 participants from 85 different businesses the chance to explore proven Disney leadership philosophies that encourage values that produce results and are fundamental for organizations to grow and succeed.

In addition to the seminar, the bar association awarded one participant a free, three-day Disney Institute class at the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida that included theme park tickets and airfare courtesy of Air Tran and the Lehigh Valley International Airport.

The program was so successful that the bar association and the Disney Institute will again join forces on Sept. 29 to present “Disney’s Approach to People Management.”

(Continued on Page 12)
Mercer

Milford L. McBride Jr.

The Mercer County Bar Association notes with sadness the passing of Milford L. McBride Jr., of Grove City, a past president of the MCBA and a past PBA treasurer and board member, passed away on April 25 at the age of 87. Since 1949, he was a partner, first with his father and later with two of his children, in the McBride and McBride Law Firm. In the practice of law, McBride served as solicitor for the Grove City School Board for many years and also served as solicitor for many Mercer County townships. In addition, he served as solicitor and president for the Mercer County Industrial Authority and solicitor for the Controller of Mercer County. In May, the MCBA adopted a resolution to express “its respect and admiration for Milford L. McBride Jr. as a man and as an attorney, and extends to his family its deepest sympathy.” To read the resolution, visit the bar association’s website at http://www.mcbar.net/uploads/MCLJ_Ol_MAY_24_2011.pdf.

Monroe

Spring Business Meeting/Luncheon

On March 29 the Monroe County Bar Association held its Spring Business Meeting/Luncheon at the Stroudsmoor Country Inn. In what has become a semi-annual spring and autumn event, attorneys were offered a luncheon and a CLE seminar, which were free to members in good standing. More than 60 members participated. The topic of this spring’s seminar, moderated by Josh Byrne of Swartz, Campbell L.L.C., was malpractice avoidance. Eligible attorneys were able to receive a 5 percent discount on their liability insurance.

Pro Bono Conference

Over 40 people attended the second annual Pro Bono Conference on April 20 in the Cramer Room of Burnley Employment and Rehabilitation Services in Stroudsburg. Jeffrey Kash, chair of the Pro Bono Committee, and David Trevaskis, PBA Pro Bono coordinator, were moderators of the conference. The conference and its luncheon were free to attorneys who agreed to accept two pro bono cases during 2011.

Law Day ceremonies

The 2011 Law Day ceremonies were held on three separate days, giving each event its own sense of importance. On April 15, fifth-grade students from Monroe County schools were invited to the Fairy Tale Trials. The trials, with this year’s “Batman” theme, were held in courtrooms throughout the Monroe County Courthouse. On April 29, the Law Day ceremonies continued with a luncheon at the Pocono Inne Town. Kyle Jorstad of East Stroudsburg High School South was the first-prize winner in the annual essay contest. This year’s contest topic was “The Legacy of John Adams: From Boston to Guantanamo.” The winner of the Liberty Bell Award was David Merkin of East Stroudsburg. He was honored for his many contributions to the community, among them the East Stroudsburg Elks #319. May 8 was the final day of the Law Day events, with a Law Day race with more than 60 runners participating. The first-place winner in the Lawyers Division was Steve Krawitz.

Support Staff Luncheon

On May 20, the MCBA hosted the Support Staff Luncheon. Over 40 people, some from the row offices in the courthouse and others with attorneys in private practice, came together to enjoy a luncheon and share some laughter.

Montgomery

Liberty and Law civics program

The Montgomery Bar Association’s Liberty and Law civics program concluded its first year at each of Norristown School District’s public middle schools on May 20. All 500-plus students who participated in the program were given hand-signed “Certificates of Achievement” for their successful completion of the Liberty and Law civics program, while volunteer attorneys and judges received notable praise from teachers, administrators, students and parents alike. This year’s inaugural program arrived at a critical

Luzerne

Past PBA treasurer attends W-BLLA Law Day Dinner

Past PBA Treasurer Francis X. O’Connor attended the Law Day Dinner hosted by the Wilkes-Barre Law & Library Association on May 7. Shown in the photo (from left to right) are: Attorney Joseph P.J. Burke III (executive director, Wilkes-Barre Law & Library Association), Attorney Joseph F. Saporito (vice president), Irene Ziegler (Executive Committee Advisory Board), O’Connor, Lori Nocito (Executive Committee Advisory Board), Dr. Steven Kafrissen (Executive Committee Advisory Board) and Attorney Arthur L. Piccone (past PBA President).
time as schools are faced with significant cutbacks and no budget to speak of for civics education – especially in districts like Norristown that are heavily dependent on government funding.

The MBA hosted an appreciation luncheon at the Montgomery Bar Building on June 20 for those teachers, administrators, volunteer lawyers/judges and others who participated in this program. In addition to saying “thanks,” the program allowed participants time to reflect on the program and discuss in an open forum, “what worked, what didn’t and ideas to improve future offerings.” More information on the Liberty and Law program can be seen on the MBA’s website, montgomerybar.org.

**Philadelphia**

**Philadelphia lawyers refurbish home**

Philadelphia lawyers traded their briefcases for hammers and paintbrushes on May 19, as members of the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Real Property Section volunteered to refurbish a home in the city’s Point Breeze section as part of the Habitat for Humanity program.

**Westmoreland**

**Civics education project**

At their retreat on May 7 at The Lambertville House, the Westmoreland Bar Association board received training from PBA Pro Bono Coordinator David Trevaskis (shown in the photo above, standing) on how to initiate a yearlong civics education project for seventh- and eighth-graders in Westmoreland County.

![Photo by Jeff Lyons](image-url)

He needs an attorney now. He’s looking online.

And there are millions more like him at Lawyers.com:

Lawyers.com has 18 million visitors each year — and 7 out of 10 plan to contact an attorney. Want to grow your practice? Build your profile, promote your firm, interact in legal forums and make the connections that lead to real business.

Millions are ready to hire. Go to www.lexisnexis.com/lawyers and let the world know you’re serious about getting their business.
(Continued from Page 3)

Presentations by foundation supporters offered a focused message that legal aid helps stabilize low-income families and, therefore, helps stabilize the community and the workforce. The custody attorney was hired last December and the foundation is continuing its campaign this year to meet its total fundraising goal.

The Dauphin County Bar Foundation campaign is modeled on similar campaigns conducted during 2004 and 2008 in Lancaster County and during 2007 in York County. Together, these campaigns have raised more than $1 million to support the employment of attorneys dedicated to custody matters involving low-income families.

The other Goffman honoree was Elena Park of Cozen O’Connor’s West Conshohocken office. She provides legal consultation and representation for indigent clients with immigration issues such as the consequences of entering the U.S. without inspection, work authorization, visa processing, asylum, cancellation of deportation, paths to legalization and raids Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials.

Park has been involved in several high-profile cases, including litigation in Hazleton (Lozano v. City of Hazleton) in which the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit declared unconstitutional a local ordinance that sought to penalize landlords and employers for renting to or hiring the undocumented.

Park teaches, mentors and lobbies to support pro bono agencies that help indigent clients with immigration issues, and she speaks frequently to legal, business and community groups about immigration law. She also writes about immigration law for professional journals such as the National Law Journal and Workforce Management.

Park is a member of the American Bar Association, American Immigration Lawyers Association, Asian Bar Association, International Association of Korean Lawyers, Montgomery Bar Association and Pennsylvania Bar Association. She holds degrees from the University of Toronto and Temple University Beasley School of Law.

The Pennsylvania Bar Foundation, the charitable affiliate of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, improves the public’s understanding of the law and its appreciation of democracy and strives to ensure that citizens, particularly Pennsylvania’s most vulnerable, have full access to our legal system. The foundation accomplishes its mission by making grants, seeking financial support from individuals and organizations both within and outside of the legal community, and encouraging bar members to donate their time, talent and expertise in service to the public. ■
**PBA YLD planning caravans across Pa.**

The PBA Young Lawyers Division (YLD) has been busy planning caravans, which have taken place or are scheduled to take place across the state in upcoming months.

On June 17, Zone 7 had a happy hour at the Flagship Niagara Plaza in Erie. Zone 2 held its annual “Steak and Beer Baseball” event on June 18, hosted by YLD Chair-Elect Jacob Gurwitz and culminating in a Reading Phillies game at the FirstEnergy Stadium in Reading.

Upcoming events include a Zone 3 picnic and Harrisburg Senators baseball game on July 17 at Metro Bank Park on Harrisburg’s City Island. The picnic begins at 4:30 p.m. and will be followed by the game. Contact Kevin Taccino for more details (ktaccino@hotmail.com). Also, stay tuned for more information on the Zone 4 Breakfast with the judges, as well as the always popular Zone 5 Oktoberfest event, scheduled for Sept. 29. Contact Kelly Bray (kelly.bray@dyllerlawfirm.com) or Victoria Strunk (victoriaavellino@hotmail.com) with questions about Oktoberfest.

---

**PBI Courses (Continued from Page 9)**

**Using Trusts and Insurance for Asset Protection**

_Aug. 30, Allentown, Beaver, Johnstown, Reading, Wilkes-Barre, Williamsport_

9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m., 3 CLE credits (substantive)

**Primer on Mechanics’ Liens and Bond Claims**

_Aug. 30, Johnstown, Lebanon, Mansfield, Meadville, Media, Mill Hall, New Castle, Uniontown, Warren, Washington, West Chester_

12:30 to 2:30 p.m.; check-in at 12 p.m., 2 CLE credits (substantive)

**e-Discovery in Employment Litigation**

_Aug. 31, Johnstown, Lebanon, Mansfield, Mill Hall, New Castle, Stroudsburg, Uniontown, Warren, West Chester, Wilkes-Barre_

9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; check-in at 8:30 a.m., 3 CLE credits (substantive)
Mark your calendars for these 2011 PBA events

PBA YLD Summer Meeting/ New Admittee Conference
July 28-30
Rocky Gap Lodge & Golf Resort, Flintstone, Md.

PBA Workers’ Compensation Law Section Fall Meeting
Sept. 15-16
Hershey Lodge, Hershey, Pa.

PBA Women in the Profession Fall Retreat
Oct. 21-22
Hotel Hershey, Hershey, Pa.

PBA Minority Bar Committee Diversity Summit
Oct. 27
Hilton Harrisburg, Harrisburg, Pa.

PBA Committee/Section Day
Nov. 17
Holiday Inn Harrisburg East, Harrisburg, Pa.

In this issue of THE COUNTY LINE

Features
Winners recognized in PBA’s Law Day contests .................. 1
Pa. Bar Foundation Birdsall Impact Grants recipients .......... 3
Dauphin Co. Bar Foundation honored with Goffman Award .................................................. 3
YLD Summer Meeting/New Admittee Conference ............ 4
PABE Retreat & Conference of County Legal Journals Program .................................................. 5
Students working to change public policy through the PBA civic education initiative ............................... 6
PBA YLD planning caravans across Pa. .......................... 15

In Every Issue
On the Local Scene .......................................................... 10-13
2011-2012 CCBL Executive Committee .......................... 15
Courses offered by the PBI .................................................. 8