



# County to Celebrate Courthouse Centennial with Gala Events

by P. Louis DeRose, Esq.

On Friday, September 14, 2007, the Westmoreland County Courthouse will be the site of a gala event celebrating the 100th anniversary of its construction and opening. The Centennial Celebration Gala also kicks off a four-month-long juried art exhibition, "History Through Art," sponsored by the Southwestern Pennsylvania Council for the Arts, Inc.



P. Louis DeRose

Approximately 40 works of art by western Pennsylvania artists will center on Westmoreland County historic themes to complement the celebration.

The magnificent Beaux Arts building that we commemorate with the Centennial Celebration Gala is the result of five years of construction begun in 1902. When the county decided to demolish the third Courthouse (built in 1854) in the summer of 1901, there was no firm plan for where the offices and Courts would be relocated. Fortunately, and coincidentally, a new apartment building was under construction just south of the Courthouse on Main Street. The county quickly made an

arrangement with the owners and contractors to complete the new apartment building in 49 days. In short order, the records were relocated to this temporary facility until 1907, when the present Courthouse was completed. The apartment building was converted to an office building and survives today as the Coulter Building at 231 South Main Street, where lawyers and other professionals still maintain offices.

By the fall of 1907, the Courts and the row offices slowly began to occupy the new Courthouse. On January 31, 1908, a dedication ceremony was held to signify the completion of the building.

This structure has always been a source of pride not only for the lawyers and judges who served within its walls, but for the entire Westmoreland County community. The massive central dome towers 175 feet above street level, and was

built in the Italian Renaissance style. The exterior façade is composed of light gray granite and sandstone cut on site by European stonecutters. The interior features Italian marble walls and colorful mosaic tile floors with a grand central marble staircase; circular mezzanines on each floor of the rotunda have balustrades of white

marble. Both mahogany and oak are evidenced in doors, windows, and furnishings. The interior also features fifteen wall and ceiling murals painted by the French artist Maurice Ingres. The assemblage of craftsmen from the area and from Italy who contributed to the project was impressive; many Italian craftsmen elected to stay in

Greensburg and make Westmoreland County their home.

The Centennial Celebration Gala is a black-tie-optional event. There will

*continued on page 4*



President's Message

# The Conversion of a Non-Believer

by James E. Whelton, Jr., Esq.

**I** actually raise a cheer-and-a-half to the underappreciated trial lawyer.

These are words that, in my opinion, are long overdue, but they're not mine. Instead, they are the words of Steven Greenhut in a column published in none other than the *Tribune Review* on July 15, 2007. And



no, you-know-where didn't freeze over.

The recent results in the sexual-abuse cases against the Catholic Church are the source of his apparent conversion. He writes: "In many grievous situations I've covered, had it

not been for trial lawyers there would be no justice, no restitution, no public disclosures of illegality and abuse."

Let me dissuade you, however, of any thought that his conversion is complete. Mr. Greenhut expresses how he is "personally sickened by the degree to which many Americans rely on the legal system ... I despise the way many Americans sue corporations and even governments for supposed harms and slights that have no grounding in reality." Mr. Greenhut concludes that "[s]uch behavior is costly, annoying, adds burden to small businesses, puts the kibosh on new medical advances and is, in many ways, a system in need of more limitations." He cautions, however, "let's not add too many, lest we lose one of the few checks and balances available to the average citizen."

There are many whom I suspect would brand Mr. Greenhut as a traitor to the cause of tort reform because, at least in this instance, he has come to see and appreciate the value and benefit of "trial attorneys," e.g., plaintiff's lawyers working on a contingency basis. This new light with which he views lawyers has

illuminated, for him, a kind of hybrid villain upon whom he now can comfortably cast his aspersions—the "overly aggressive trial lawyer." The oft-cited McDonald's-boiling-hot-coffee case, which I confess I still don't completely understand despite Professor Kerr's repeated lectures, is one of several examples Greenhut points to in support of his criticisms.

While I am pleased to see that Greenhut offers trial lawyers their due, even if only in a limited way, I am not ready yet to pronounce him a fan of the profession. His criticisms have a Machiavellian tone to them. For each

extreme or silly or misreported tort case he can muster in support of his blindered vision, I can come up with ten, maybe more, that afford the profession the dignity it so clearly deserves. I

wonder how many of those early clergy abuse cases were viewed, perhaps by Greenhut or others sharing his views, as "ridiculous cases" where the "folks" (also known as victims or plaintiffs) were looking for a "lottery win?"

The undersized olive branch Greenhut tenders by no means signals impending peace. Unfortunately lawyers are still regarded poorly by much of the public at large. While everyone may love their lawyer, their own guy or gal, they have precious little regard for everyone else's.

So where do we go from here? Well, how about this? We do little to help ourselves with blaring, garish television ads that promise to "fight back," to get the most cash the law allows for accident victims, to stiff creditors or punish doctors. This issue of advertising as commercial speech, sensitive as it

may be, was the focus of a year-long study by the PBA's Task Force on Lawyer Advertising. As a result of many hours of hard work, a number of recommendations will be forwarded to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court for consideration. After all, a little reform might be helpful.

The PBA also recently adopted an "aspirational goal" that every lawyer give annually without charge fifty hours of direct client representation to the indigent. This proposal was designed to fill a dire need within our legal system. Like all such ideas, it also promotes the image of lawyers and for

that reason alone was worthy of meaningful consideration.

If you're at all like me, you like lawyers. You know how hard we work and how much we care. You know also our individual

**If you're at all like me, you like lawyers. You know how hard we work and how much we care.**

and collective commitment to *pro bono* and representing those least able to afford legal services. We take our work seriously and represent our clients zealously—regardless of whether they are paying clients or someone we represent without charge. So, in that respect, I hope I'm preaching to the choir.

Although such preaching rarely yields any measurable results, perhaps if we keep in mind that there is something bigger in what we do than just making a living, that we're part of a truly dignified, honorable profession of service and caring, and if we comport ourselves in that manner in most things, we will never again be expected to apologize for ourselves or for any of our colleagues.

# Remembering George W. Lamproplos

*Editor's note: George W. Lamproplos passed away on Wednesday, July 4, 2007. He retired in 2005 after practicing law for 65 years. He was a past president of the Westmoreland Bar Association (1964-1965) and served on many bar committees. He is survived by two daughters, Karen Phillips, of Sugar Grove, Ohio, and Niki Lamproplos, of Greensburg; two grandchildren, Jody Nikirk and Joseph D. Nikirk III, his friend and companion, Helen Miller, of Greensburg, and his dog, Socrates.*

by Todd T. Turin, Esq.

During anyone's lifetime, there are individuals who we meet and but for that meeting our lives may have turned out far differently. For me, George Lamproplos was one of those individuals. Without our acquaintance, I may have never met my wife and, as a direct result thereof, would not be raising two beautiful children. I may not be practicing law in my hometown, a city that I have always enjoyed and have been deeply drawn to. I think of all of the people I have met because of my relationship with George and how much joy and camaraderie those individuals have brought to my life. Everyone should be so fortunate to meet an individual such as George who can shape a life in such a positive way by just knowing that person.

I first met George in the winter of 1986 through our mutual friends Pota and Aris Seitanakis. Mrs. Seitanakis knew I was graduating from law school and in attempting to assist

me in finding a job in my hometown, she arranged for me to meet George. As luck would have it, shortly after our meeting, George's associate took a position with another law firm; all of the sudden George needed an associate and I needed a job.

My next meeting with George was my interview and for reasons that remain unknown, he hired me despite the fact that my birthday was the same date as his wedding anniversary. From that time, George has been my boss, my mentor, and my friend. Although I only knew George for the last 21 years of his life, he tutored and guided me on many different subjects.

The first is marriage. Although never known as a matrimonial attorney, George was there when I needed him on this subject. I remember this story as well as this morning, I had just returned from Martha's Vineyard where my future wife, Stephanie, had just said yes to my proposal of marriage. The following Monday, I went into George's office, and being excited, I informed George that I was getting married. George was doing a crossword puzzle at the time, and rather than doing cartwheels with me, he barely glanced up and simply stated: "No married man should fear death."

George also taught me about driving. For example, he proved to me that you *can* hit the same telephone pole twice. He convinced me that brake lights are for decoration, not observation; and, lastly, but probably most importantly—at least in George's mind—he proved that he could drive from the Indiana County Courthouse

to Mr. P's in 30 minutes in order to avoid missing the weekly Friday luncheon with his friends.

Another skill George taught me was how to have dessert without ordering it. In order for this to work, you need three or four friends and a restaurant with a number of great desserts. Next, you convince your three or four friends that they should all order dessert, that each

would like a different dessert, and the reason why, and then you convince a waiter or waitress to bring you a clean plate and eating utensil. In the blink of an eye, you have a dessert sampler—George divided everyone's dessert so that he would have a little of each on his clean plate.

George also taught me how to be organized. Admittedly, he tricked me on this one. George used the stack system. To this day, I believe you have to have a great deal of artistic ability to pull this off. What George would do is stack all documents, mail, and/or other important papers on the nearest desk or conference table until the legs of the desk or table were ready to collapse. At that point, or before if he happened to misplace something, he would simply call upon Lisa, our secretary, and inform her that it was time to clean off his desk.

Finally, the subject of law. I can't say that George was the only individual

*continued on page 4*



▲ George W. Lamproplos

the **sidebar**

the sidebar is published bimonthly as a service for members of the Westmoreland Bar Association. Letters to the Editor should be sent c/o WBA, 129 North Pennsylvania Avenue, Greensburg, PA 15601-2311, fax 724-834-6855, or e-mail westbar.org@verizon.net. the sidebar welcomes unsolicited submissions from members or non-members. Please submit to the Articles Editor, c/o WBA.

Back issues from 2000 to the present and a comprehensive, searchable index are available online at [www.westbar.org/html/publications](http://www.westbar.org/html/publications).

#### EDITORIAL BOARD

David J. Millstein, Esq., *Editor*  
Beth Orbison, Esq., *Assistant Editor*  
The Hon. Daniel J. Ackerman,  
*Junior Assistant Lackey*  
Susan C. Zellner, *Associate Editor*  
Diane Krivoniak, *Managing Editor*

## Courthouse Centennial

*continued from page 1*

be food, a cash bar, music, and Courthouse tours, including—weather permitting—the first tours up to the Courthouse dome in 25 years. Tickets

are \$40 per person and are available at the Westmoreland Bar Association office. The event is scheduled to run from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; free parking is available until 7 p.m. in all public lots.

The gala also marks the formal

release of a book celebrating the first 100 years of the structure. “This American Courthouse, 1907-2007: One Hundred Years of Service to the People of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania,” documents the history of the building through words and photographs, and memorializes the architectural legacy of William Kauffman, the man who designed our American Courthouse.

These events are the culmination of three years’ work by the Westmoreland County Courthouse Centennial Committee, comprised of judges, lawyers, academics, and many other interested persons who have brought their many talents and good ideas to this effort. In addition to the gala and book, the committee is hosting a closing reception scheduled to coincide with the anniversary of the 1908 dedication of the Courthouse. The reception will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2008, and will be open to the public without charge.

**Buy your Centennial Celebration Gala tickets today at WBA Headquarters. \$40 per person.**



## Laurel Legal Services Celebrates 40 Years

On October 11, 2007, Laurel Legal Services, Inc., will mark the occasion of its 40th Anniversary with a dinner at the Greensburg Country Club. The event will begin at 6 p.m., with a cash bar, followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$55 per person.

Laurel Legal Services owes its existence to members of the Westmoreland Bar Association and the local community, who were concerned about the lack of legal representation for the poor in Westmoreland County in the mid-1960s. Through President Lyndon B. Johnson’s Office of Economic Opportunity, Westmoreland County O.E.C. Legal Services, Inc., was incorporated as a non-profit corporation on November 17, 1967.

From its modest beginnings 40 years ago, a staff of 35 now provides free legal representation in civil, non-fee-generating cases to low-income residents in six counties: Westmoreland, Armstrong, Cambria, Clarion, Indiana, and

Jefferson. Laurel Legal also assists victims of domestic violence in PFA actions without regard to income.

Funding to provide these free services comes from a variety of sources: the Legal Services Corporation; Title XX Block Grant and State Funds appropriated by the Pennsylvania Legislature; Access to Justice Account funds and the IOLTA Board.

In some counties, special funding comes from local Area Agencies on Aging for residents over 60 years of age. Private donations from churches, bar associations, and individuals supplement the major funding sources.

The Board of Directors includes seven members of the Westmoreland Bar Association: Michele Bononi, currently serving as Treasurer; Charles Wade; John Ranker; Harry Smal; Robert Slone; Cindy Stine; and Mary Meisner.

To purchase tickets, advertise in the program, and obtain more information about the event, call 724-836-2211, extension 1419.



## George Lamproplos *continued from page 3*

responsible for teaching me the law, but I can tell you that George taught me how to be a lawyer.

George exemplified integrity at its finest. If there was a more honest man, I don’t know him. If there was a man more a gentleman, I haven’t met him. And is there anyone who could match his wit? Oh, will I miss that wit. George made sure I realized the importance of honesty, civility, and compassion when dealing with clients,

opposing counsel, and the bench.

George would often tell the story of how he represented a church and instead of accepting a fee he was promised a meeting with St. Peter; he was not promised what the outcome of that meeting would be. From my perspective, there is no doubt that the meeting on July 4 with St. Peter was a witty, entertaining, and honest encounter with eternal heavenly results.



# Remembering Robert J. Cromer

by Michael Flaherty, Esq., Karlowitz, Cromer & Flaherty, P.C.

Robert J. Cromer, a member of the WBA since 1993, died on June 28, 2007, after a long illness. He was 57 years old. Bob maintained offices both in Trafford and in Pittsburgh, where he was President of the downtown firm of Karlowitz, Cromer & Flaherty, P.C.

Bob was born in Missouri but moved with his family to the Trafford area at a young age. He met his wife, Judith Wisner Cromer, while attending middle school in Trafford; they were married after Bob's graduation from the University of Pittsburgh.

Following his graduation from Pitt with a degree in Engineering, Bob volunteered for service in the Army during the Vietnam war era—a time when many young men were trying to avoid military service. He had no idea why he was assigned to the military police, but anyone who saw photos of his earlier years could see why. He was the consummate “man's man”—part Frank Sinatra, part Robert Mitchum, and part Gary Cooper. When Bob talked, people listened.

After his graduation from Pitt Law School, Bob worked for a short time for a Monroeville law firm. He eventually took a position with Dollar Bank as in-house counsel. His expertise in this field helped them through the regulatory

morass of converting from a local savings bank to a national bank. In addition, he drafted loan documents for the bank that are still the standard for many of its commercial transactions.

In addition to being a highly skilled transactional attorney, Bob was also an excellent commercial litigator. It was while working on a case at Dollar Bank that he met prominent Pittsburgh attorney Bela Karlowitz. After the conclusion of that matter, Mr. Karlowitz asked Bob to be his partner. The law firm of Karlowitz & Cromer, P.C., was located in the U.S. Steel Building in downtown Pittsburgh and represented numerous financial institutions. Shortly after the inception of the firm, however, Bob's oldest son, Benjamin, was tragically killed. Bob then concentrated his efforts on his Trafford practice while still maintaining his partnership with Attorney Karlowitz.

In November 2003, Bela Karlowitz suddenly passed away. Bob had a substantial practice in Trafford, but instead of walking away from his Pittsburgh partnership, Bob returned there to maintain the office. It was his sense of professional responsibility to clients and personal responsibility to the firm's employees that compelled him to return to Pittsburgh. Bob asked me to join him as a partner, and together we grew the Pittsburgh practice to be as successful as it ever was. In the last eighteen months of his life, Bob represented clients in seven or eight states in matters of complex multi-million dollar commercial transactions and litigation, all while battling cancer. He wanted to be involved in every aspect of the practice of law to the end.

In addition to his wife, Bob is survived by his son, Michael, his daughter, Becky, and her husband, Roger Reichenbach, and their sons, Benjamin and Charles. The family has requested that memorial donations be made to the Benjamin Cromer Adventure Center at Jumonville Camp and Retreat Center, 887 Jumonville Rd., Hopwood, PA 15445-9901.

EXPERIENCE INTEGRITY EXCELLENCE

**USI Colburn is the endorsed insurance administrator for The Westmoreland Bar Association.**

Specializing in offering members single-source access to a broad spectrum of quality products and services.

- Medical
- Employee Benefits
- Disability
- Term Life
- Long-term Care and more!

To learn more please contact us at  
**800.327.1550**  
**www.colburn.com**

**THE CHOICE OF PENNSYLVANIA ATTORNEYS.**

Lawyer's Professional Liability Insurance you can count on... from a company you can trust!



**USI** Colburn Insurance Service

A USI AFFINITY COMPANY

## LawSpeak

“The majestic equality of the law, forbids rich and poor alike to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal their bread.”

— U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens in his dissent to *Parents Involved in Community Schools v. Seattle School District No. 1, et al.*, June 28, 2007, quoting Anatole France, *Le Lys Rouge* (The Red Lily) 95 (W. Stephens transl. 6th ed. 1922)

# Tim Hewitt Finishes Third at Laurel Highlands Ultra Marathon

by Ryan J. Kammerer, Esq.

Those of you who run probably have heard of the superhuman accomplishments of fellow WBA member Tim Hewitt, most notably that he won the 1200+-mile Iditarod race across Alaska *on foot*. Over the past five years or so, I have become friends with Tim thanks to a running group\* that meets every Saturday and Sunday at 7 a.m. at Lynch Field in Greensburg.

Tim is, without a doubt, the “alpha male” of the group. Where we run and how fast we run are usually determined by Tim in one way or another. Not that he dictates it be this way; rather, the group looks to Tim for guidance in recognition of his astonishing accomplishments and ability.

Running with Tim is always a measuring stick for one’s fitness. The first time I ran with him, I made the mistake of letting him know that I ran two seasons in college. I managed to

\* The group also includes Jeff Monzo.

stay with him for about two miles before he left me for dead somewhere in Wendover. It has taken me years of training to finally be able to stay with him for our typical eight- to ten-mile weekend runs. But training runs aside, I always wondered what it would be like to be with Tim as he finished one of his ridiculously difficult races, seeing him at his competitive best. I got to do just that on June 9, as Tim finished the 70-mile Laurel Highlands Ultra.

That is not a typo—I didn’t mean seven miles—I meant 70, seven-zero! My mission was simple: “help” Tim as his pacer for the last 13 miles. I say “help” because I was not permitted to give any assistance by way of water or food and had to stay behind him at all times. I ambitiously tried to catch Tim at mile 46 and run the last 24 miles with him, but he had already passed

through by the time I arrived. I was told he looked terrible, had thrown up, and got lost at one point. I knew that Tim hadn’t trained for the race as he had in the past and I started to worry about his ability to finish.

I drove to the mile-57 aid station and ran back to mile 55 where I was greeted with a simple “Ryan, you made it!” from a surprisingly smiling Tim. He told me he was struggling, but felt much better now. I knew he was not looking to just



finish; it was time to compete.

We stayed at the mile-57 aid station for fewer than five minutes. When one of the volunteers asked Tim if he wanted to sit, Tim answered, “No. I want to run.” Before I knew it, we were off to finish an incredible race. Before we hit mile 58, Tim passed a runner who had a pacer of his own. On to the next “target,” as Tim calls the runners ahead of him. During this part of the race, I encouraged Tim by telling him that he was OK, but after we passed mile 60, I knew that Tim was more than OK. He was looking to catch as many “targets” as possible.

Miles 60 to 62 opened up on a dirt road that is mainly uphill. There we came upon the second-place female and were within sight of the first. Tim took advantage of the sure-footed open dirt road. I would estimate that our pace was close to seven minutes per mile. At the end of the road, we were back in the woods and Tim was again alerting me to more targets up ahead.

At this point, I had gone from telling Tim “you’re OK” to “you look strong.” The only time we walked was when the terrain was steep hills, and

*continued on page 14*

## Lawyers Abstract Company of Westmoreland County

35 WEST OTTERMAN STREET  
GREENSBURG, PA 15601

Telephone 724 - 834-2822

Agents for Commonwealth Land Title Insurance Company

FULL TITLE SEARCHES  
TITLE INSURANCE  
ABSTRACTS  
REAL ESTATE & MORTGAGE CLOSINGS

## Committee Reports

# If Not You, Who?

## **Nominating Committee**

If you haven't served on the Westmoreland Bar Association Board of Directors, Membership or Building Committees, you are missing a golden opportunity to help your profession, your community, and your bar association.

Yes, there is work involved, but it really isn't that formidable: you are required to attend the monthly meetings; you should contribute ideas, suggestions and solutions on a regular basis; and, you are expected to be an example to the rest of the members as a leadership role model.

There are benefits, too: you get to socialize with a group of attorneys who care about this association; you get to interact with a wonderful, but modest, staff; it looks great on your résumé; and, you can make a difference and help mold the future of the Westmoreland Bar Association.

Service, by its very nature, means a genuine commitment. If you look at the WBA's past officers and directors, you will recognize many familiar names who enjoyed their tenure and appreciated the "big picture" perspective it provided them. All contributed their own special talents, were generous with their time, and felt they took part in a building process that continues today. You can, too.

The Nominating Committee is accepting letters of application for positions on the Board of Directors, Membership Committee, and Building Committee. Any member interested in running for these positions should submit their petition to the Chair of the Nominating Committee, c/o the WBA, by September 30, 2007. If you

know of a qualified candidate who is willing to serve, you may nominate that member in the same fashion. The positions will be filled at the Annual Meeting of the association to be held in April 2008.

Nominees must be active, participating members of the WBA. The responsibilities for each position are as follows:

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors ensures that the WBA's mission, services, policies, and programs are

carried out. Applicants should have experience in WBA activities such as chairing a committee, attending bar functions, and being active in the bar community. In addition, they must be able to think clearly and creatively, and work well with people, individually and in a group. One four-year term is available. The Director will:

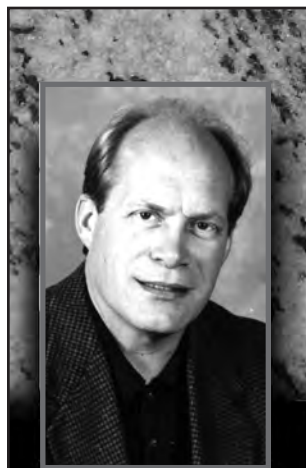
- Attend all board and appropriate committee meetings and special events.
- Serve on committees and offer to take on special assignments.
- Inform others about the organization and its activities and functions.
- Assist the board in carrying out its fiduciary responsibilities, such as reviewing the organization's annual financial statements.
- Take responsibility and follow through on given assignments.
- Contribute personal and financial resources in a generous way according to circumstances.
- Open doors in the community.

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

The Membership Committee is the first point of contact that most applicants have with the WBA. One five-year term is available. The Membership Committee member will:

- Attend monthly committee meetings.
- Personally interview and educate applicants on the workings of

*continued on page 8*



**JOHN M. NOBLE, ESQ.**

(724) 853-2296

FAX: (724) 836-0532

john@noblemediation.com

jnoble@mdbbe.com

## **JOHN M. NOBLE, ESQ.**

### **Experienced Effective Dispute Resolution**

- ♦ Personal Injury ♦ UIM/UM ♦ Construction
- ♦ Complex Medical Malpractice ♦ Products Liability
- ♦ Bad Faith ♦ Property Claims/Fire Loss
- ♦ Partnership Disputes ♦ Liquor Liability
- ♦ School District Liability ♦ Contract Disputes
- ♦ Pharmacy Liability ♦ Mold Claims ♦ ERISA
- ♦ Professional Liability ♦ Real Estate Disputes
- ♦ Sexual Assault Claims ♦ FELA ♦ Custody

Appointed Federal Mediator, Arbitrator and Early Neutral Evaluator for the Western District.



**MEYER•DARRAGH•BUCKLER•BEBENEK & ECK**  
114 SOUTH MAIN STREET, GREENSBURG, PA 15601

Visit [noblemediation.com](http://noblemediation.com) for a list of recent mediations, publications, curriculum vitae and sample mediation agreement.



## Michele Bononi One of Best 50 Women in Business

### BRIEFLY SPEAKING

## Galloway Elected Secretary of PBI Board of Directors



▲ Michele G. Bononi

Michele G. Bononi was an honoree at the 12th annual Best 50 Women in Business awards held in Harrisburg, Pa., in May. The event recognizes the vital impact women business owners and leaders have in creating jobs and building strong communities in every region of the state. Award recipients were chosen by an independent panel of judges based on their dedication to business growth, professional and personal accomplishments, community involvement, and advocacy for women in business.

According to Governor Edward G. Rendell, the awardees are dedicated to making Pennsylvania a better place to live, work, and play. "The[y] are among the millions of hard-working Pennsylvanians who have dedicated themselves to improving their companies and our state's economy," he said. "Their hard work is not only benefiting the commonwealth now, but it is also helping to lay the foundation to keep our state growing for many generations to come."

## Committee Reports

*continued from page 7*

the WBA, including committee assignments, staff responsibilities, and new lawyer opportunities such as the mentor program, the Young Lawyers, and Pro Bono.

- Make recommendations for membership eligibility with specific recommendation for membership class.

### BUILDING COMMITTEE

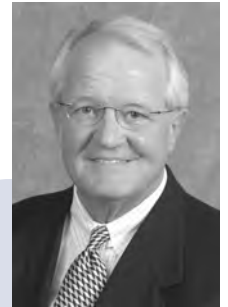
The Building Committee is responsible for maintaining the management and upkeep of Bar Headquarters. One five-year term is available. The Building Committee member will:

- Attend quarterly committee meetings.
- Be knowledgeable about the utilization of Bar Headquarters for business and social functions.
- Help to develop annual budget for operation of building.
- Make recommendations to Board of Directors on matters of concern in building upkeep.

Richard H. Galloway was elected Secretary of the Pennsylvania Bar Institute's Board of Directors at its Annual Meeting held in June. He served as the board's Treasurer from 2006–2007.

Founded in 1965, PBI is the CLE arm of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, providing continuing professional development programs for lawyers and legal publications in all areas of practice for judges, lawyers and others involved in the legal community throughout the Commonwealth.

Dick is a partner in the firm of QuatriniRaffertyGalloway PC, in Greensburg.



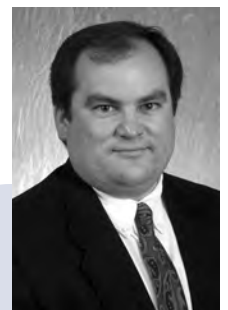
▲ Richard H. Galloway

## Smail Honored by East Suburban Advocacy Group

Harry F. Smail, Jr., was recently honored by the East Suburban Advocacy Group for his *pro bono* representation in a custody case involving a developmentally delayed teenager. The award was presented on July 1, 2007, during the group's "Evening at the Theatre" at the Apple Hill Playhouse in Delmont.

The group recognized Harry for "being extraordinary and making a difference in the life of another person." Harry was contacted for help after the teenager's teachers and mother recognized signs of mental abuse, physical abuse, and severe neglect in the home of his father, who had primary custody. Harry worked to remove the teen from his father's home and have primary custody restored to the mother.

Since the custody modification, the teenager has been doing extremely well. He is happy, content, and was excited to take part in a program this summer where he would learn living skills to help prepare him to live on his own someday.



▲ Harry F. Smail, Jr.



# Firefighters Must Respect Constitutional Limits

*Editor's note: Kim Ross Houser is the assistant chief of the Greensburg Fire Department and a partner in the firm of Mears, Smith, Houser & Boyle, P.C. Reprinted with permission of Firechief Magazine.*

by Kim Ross Houser, Esq.

Fire departments, both career and volunteer, are acting on behalf of governmental agencies. Although some are owned, operated, and controlled entirely by municipalities and others are recognized by ordinance, they both perform governmental functions.

Fire departments of every type are considered "governmental actors." As such, they must know where their customers' constitutional rights begin and where the department's rights of

access and/or taking control end. Failure to know where the boundary of one's constitutional authority sits could subject the fire officer, the fire department, and the municipality to constitutional claims by citizens whose rights have been infringed.

Constitutional claims can arise from numerous instances in the fire service, including motor vehicle accidents, fire suppression operations, structural collapse, and special rescue operations. Although a fire command officer or any other firefighters may construe a violation as an innocent act, it has the potential to affect a criminal investigation or create civil liability for constitutional violations.

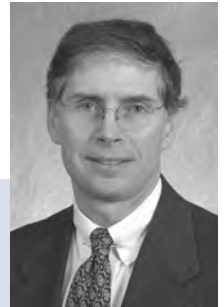
Consider a motor vehicle accident. It's not unusual for firefighters at the scene of an accident to extricate a person, and then preemptively search

the vehicle looking for unusual personal effects. For example, firefighters may be looking for identification or valuable items to give to the injured person or a police officer.

In *Michigan v. Tyler*, 436 U.S. 499 (1942), the U.S. Supreme Court held that firefighters are granted an exception to search-and-seizure warrant requirements in cases of emergency.

The Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution prohibits improper searches and seizures without warrant and probable cause. However, during an emergency incident, governmental actors such as

*continued on page 10*



▲ Kim Ross Houser



Banking  
Insurance  
Trust  
Financial Management  
Investments

**FIRST**  
**Commonwealth**  
800-711-BANK (2265)  
877-816-1801 TTY Line  
fcbanking.com

FCB Member FDIC  
Equal Opportunity Lender

# Firefighters *continued from page 9*

firefighters are granted a temporary, limited right of access to conduct an investigation for cause and origin or to neutralize the emergency.

Without consent of the owner, however, firefighters are not permitted to access all parts of a motor vehicle, including the glove compartment, under the seats, the trunk and the center seat compartment. If firefighters improperly access these areas, valuable evidence may be suppressed resulting in the dismissal of criminal charges. Once the emergency has passed, such as with the patient's removal from the scene and transportation to the hospital, the responders' limited right of access ends. Only police officers who understand the concept of probable cause and the need to acquire a search warrant should proceed. Firefighters are not trained in such matters.

As for a person's home, real estate or commercial premises, firefighter access during building collapse or structure fires is once again limited to saving lives and mitigating the hazard. The incident commander and crew supervisors must exercise great care. Firefighters have no privilege to access unaffected portions of a structure or to

go through unaffected drawers, cabinets or other areas outside the scope of an expected emergency response.

For example, in a partial building collapse, once a hasty search of the remaining portion of the building has been made and search operations have followed protocol to search voids and investigate victim noises, there is no longer a right of access by emergency personnel or police officers except in relation to cause and origin. Just as in a fire, the building collapse scene needs to be preserved in order to allow building code officials, officers, or fire investigators an opportunity to investigate cause and origin.

If firefighters conduct any investigation that is outside the scope of their training and responsibilities, the result could be the suppression of evidence, regardless of what the legitimate or proper investigators have done.

If such a practice is tolerated by fire command officers and not corrected to ensure constitutional compliance and

protections, the command officers can be subject to criminal prosecution and civil litigation for constitutional rights violations. In addition, if a fire officer can be shown to have engaged in a pattern of "indifference" to one's constitutional rights, an action under 42 U.S.C. Section 1983 is a possibility.

Historically, Section 1983 is a right of action against governmental actors. For example, this section has applied to police departments for high-risk governmental law enforcement activities, for prisoner custodial issues (non-time-compression policy events), and to police chases (time-compression spur-of-the-moment reaction rather than deliberate policy). Fortunately, the application of Section 1983 to members of the fire service requires a pattern, policy, or custom of indifference to the violation of such rights. While the level of evidence to show a custom, pattern, or practice is a large hurdle for a civil rights violation claim, the standard used for suppressing evidence is only a violation of the Fourth Amendment.

Firefighters and police officers who are specially trained as arson investigators are painfully aware of constitutional protections and learn the proper application of practices to ensure constitutional compliance. Arson cases are extremely tough to prosecute, even in fires where a lot of evidence has been gathered. Fire investigators are constantly battling to get mere inches of circumstantial evidence; firefighters can help investigators by being aware of the practical consequences of their on-scene actions.

Let's not give the bad guys an easy way out by providing grounds upon which evidence can be suppressed. We need to remember that we're all on the same team.



**724.834.0300**  
rjohnston@beldenlaw.com

## Considering Mediation or Arbitration?

**Please keep me in mind.**

**UM/UIM, PI, Estate or Partnership Dispute, Professional Liability, Custody**

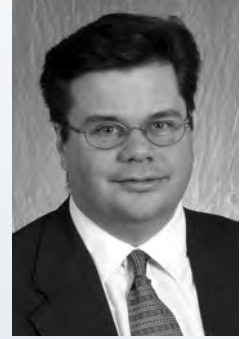
**Bob Johnston**

**Appointed to Federal Court Mediation and Arbitration Program**

  
**BELDEN  
LAW**

# Spotlight on Tim Martin

*Editor's note: Tim Martin has served as Judge Hudock's Chief Clerk in the Pennsylvania Superior Court for over 17 years. He began contributing to the Westmoreland Law Journal as a Case Editor in 1993, and was appointed Editor in 2000.*



**Q WHAT JOBS DID YOU HAVE BEFORE BECOMING A LAWYER?**

**A** During high school I worked as a laborer for my father who was a bricklayer/stone mason. That was all the incentive I needed for college, law school, and a desk job. I also worked for a summer in the kitchen at a Kane Center in Allegheny County. During my last two years of law school I interned

in Pittsburgh for the Disciplinary Board.

**Q WHICH WAS YOUR FAVORITE AND WHY?**

**A** Probably the Disciplinary Board because I got a lot of dirt on attorneys—just kidding.

**Q WHAT IS THE FUNNIEST THING THAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU AS AN ATTORNEY?**

**A** Well, having never practiced, I do not have a story involving clients or the courtroom. Several years ago (thirteen, but who's counting) I agreed to go on a WBA ski outing with a very pregnant Susan Zydonik and her sister. Stu Horner tagged along for the ride up. Besides being ill-equipped for the sport (two words—purple gloves), when I finally got my skis on, I went three feet, fell, and could not get up. Laughing so hard I thought she would go into labor, I told Susie not to try to

help me. A group of senior citizens saw my plight and offered to help. I declined assistance,

however, and waited for ski patrol, who finally showed up, said nothing, and kicked off my skis. Needless to say, I spent the rest of the day in the Foggy Goggle and have retired my purple gloves.

**Q WHAT IS THE QUALITY YOU MOST LIKE IN AN ATTORNEY?**

**A** My only day-to-day contact with attorneys is through the written word, i.e., the appellate brief. Nevertheless, I appreciate honesty and humility, i.e., the willingness to cite to case law that opposes your claim on appeal.

*continued on page 12*



## RELUCTANT TO PROCEED INTO UNCERTAIN TERRITORY?

As many of you are aware, Fayette County Courts differ from Westmoreland County Courts in their rules, practices and customs.

Our Fayette County office and attorneys, including a former Fayette County Assistant District Attorney, can assist you and your clients.



**BLUM  
REISS &  
PLAITANO  
L.L.P. ATTORNEYS  
AT LAW**

LOCAL ATTORNEYS YOU CAN COUNT ON

**25** YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN FAYETTE COUNTY DOMESTIC, CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES.

Mount Pleasant Office • 724.547.4539

Greensburg Office • 724.836.4380

Connellsville Office • 724.628.5020



## Spotlight on Tim Martin *continued from page 11*

### Q WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE JOURNEY?

A I do not travel much anymore, but several years ago I went to Paris and rode the “Chunnel” to London. I also really enjoyed my most recent trip to Nashville.

### Q WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST REGRET?

A That would have to be the inability to get into shape. Damn you, Ben. Damn you, Jerry. However, come next Monday ...

### Q WHO ARE YOUR HEROES IN REAL LIFE?

A Dolly Parton—besides the obvious, she is a savvy businesswoman, philanthropist, and talented songwriter. Also, my friends and co-workers, Dina and Susie, for much the same reasons. (Thanks for the edit, Tennessee!)

### Q WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO ATTORNEYS NEW TO THE PRACTICE OF LAW?

A Be honest and maintain your integrity.

### Q WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT?

A I am still working on it; stay tuned.

### Q WHAT IS YOUR IDEA OF PERFECT HAPPINESS?

A Having good times with my family, friends, co-workers, and Johnny Walker Black, not necessarily in that order. Perfection is not necessary, however.

### Q WHAT IS YOUR MOST TREASURED POSSESSION?

A My immediate family. My brother, sister, and I are very close and I would not want it any other way.

### Q WHAT IS IT THAT YOU MOST DISLIKE?

A NOISY EATERS/DRINKERS!!! Which actually describes most of my immediate family. I could also do without rude, negative, arrogant, and/or cheap people.

### Q WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST EXTRAVAGANCE?

A Spoiling my nephew, Nicholas, and anticipating doing the same with his brother or sister when he or she arrives.

### Q WHAT TALENT WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO HAVE?

A The ability to play the banjo.

### Q WHAT DO YOU VALUE MOST IN YOUR FRIENDS?

A The ability to laugh at ourselves and each other.

### Q WHICH LIVING PERSON DO YOU MOST ADMIRE?

A See the first part of my answer to the question about heroes in real life. Yes, I am obsessed.

### Q WHAT IS YOUR MOTTO?

A Do not answer interview questions truthfully. Being a neurotic hypochondriac, it would have to be whatever is Swahili for the opposite of “Hakuna Matata.” Carpe Diem, I’ll go with that.

## New Member Sketches

The Westmoreland Bar Association is proud to introduce our newest members. These four attorneys bring the total number of participating, associate, and judicial members of the WBA to 507.

*Kirk B. Burkley*, son of WBA member Kenneth B. Burkley, has been admitted as an associate member. A graduate of Greensburg Salem High School, Ohio University, and the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Kirk works for the Bernstein Law Firm in Pittsburgh.

*Eric H. Dee* has joined the WBA as a participating member. A graduate of Greensburg Salem High School, Eric earned his B.A. in Political Science from Syracuse University, and his J.D. from Duquesne University. He is a solo practitioner in Greensburg.

*Sara Jane Flasher* was admitted to the WBA as a participating member. A graduate of Eisenhower High School in Russell, Pa., Sara earned a degree in Nursing from

Jamestown Community College in Warren, Pa., and a degree in law from Duquesne University. She shares an office with Gary Alexander in New Kensington.

*Michele Sabo* has joined the WBA as an associate member. A graduate of Serra Catholic High School and Allegheny College, Michele earned her J.D. from Duquesne University and her LL.M. in Tax from Villanova University. She practices law in Pittsburgh.



# To-Wit: Appellation Spring

by S. Sponte, Esq.

Although I had received the appellate court opinion several days earlier, it wasn't until later that the thing truly jelled for me. It happened while I was driving to work, listening to "Fanfare for the Common Man" on the car stereo. It's an elegant piece of music, both inspired and inspiring, and it's one of the great works Aaron Copland left behind as a marker, a unique and treasured remembrance of his passage. He was far luckier than most, his place in the human pantheon assured by the sheer splendor of his creative energies.

I have always wished to do that, to compose the great song or write the great poem, to create something, anything, of lasting worth to mark my journey. But aside from three spectacular offspring and a goofy talent for putting words to paper in cogent array, I have done precious little, I fear, to

warrant my commemoration.

Composer of nothing noteworthy, I expect no sects after death (who among us does?) to cherish my memory or worship at my altar. As I wrote many years ago, no cadre of bated breaths await my every word, and I expect I'll pass along uncited and unseen.

Yet I had sat there reading the opinion and was completely oblivious to its portent. All along I thought the case significant, but even I was impressed by the opening line of the opinion. "We consider for the first time whether or not ..." Wow, it was a case of first impression. That probably explains why I couldn't find any cases directly on point, huh?

Hunkered down now as I am in the amber glow days of my career, these things have a different meaning for me than they used to. It surprised me, astonished me, in fact, to realize that even after reading the opinion far enough to know I had won, I kept on

reading. I wanted to know, needed to know, how much of my analysis, how much of my brief, how much of me was in that opinion.

It matters more now than just winning or losing. Now it's a matter of markers. We traverse an arcane world, we lawyers, and our victories and defeats are not generally the stuff of ages. Our work products don't get sung, not even hummed, and for the most part, even among our peers, we labor anonymously. Who of our ilk, save Clarence Darrow perhaps, is remembered for our work, lionized for the strength of our characters, for the courage of our convictions? Alas, too often our profession gets remembered for convictions of an entirely different sort.

Surely it is the stage of my life that  
*continued on page 14*



Recommended by lawyers and clients across Pennsylvania since 1933  
724.834.0300 • beldenlaw.com • 117 N. Main Street, Greensburg, PA 15601

## Nancy L. Harris

Estate Planning  
and Administration

Referrals are welcome.



Dennis Persin  
Bob Johnston  
John Greiner  
Jeff Monzo  
Nancy Harris  
Lisa Galloway Monzo  
Brian Aston

# To-Wit

*continued from page 13*

has turned my attention to these things. The geriatric components of it, however, make it no less meaningful.

I want to be remembered, and now, albeit in a cloistered kind of way, I will be. A case of first impression, how many of us can lay claim to that lofty perch? Already I have received a number of phone calls from colleagues and legal publications across the state. They want to know more about it, they are taking note, and it is of me and my work that the note is being taken.

Okay, so maybe I don't get a Grammy out of this, or a Pulitzer or a Nobel. And maybe no one asks for my autograph or turns me into a bobble-head, although my clients have been aiming me in that direction for years. But lawyering is what I do and a lawyer is who I am, and sometimes, when the wind is just right, it turns out that my music can be quite beautiful as well.

© 2007, S. Sponte, Esq.

# Tim Hewitt *continued from page 6*

even then, Tim hiked at a fast pace. We passed target after target. Tim didn't know what place he was in, but said that his goal was to break 14 hours (in 1999, he won the race in just over 13 hours). As we approached the final miles, his goal seemed certain as his pace actually increased. Then, with about 1.5 miles to go, Tim turned his left ankle on a rock.



My heart sank as I heard him groan in pain and fall to the ground. Practically the entire 70-mile trail is covered with treacherous rocks, logs, and roots. He had made it through 68.5 miles without incident—until now. He quickly pulled himself to his feet, still in obvious pain, and went on. About 100 meters further, he turned the same ankle and went down again. I instinctively went to help him to his feet, but in true Tim fashion, he told me sternly to stay away; the rule is no

assistance from your pacer. Even though his body was in pain, his head was still in the race. Amazingly, Tim got to his feet and *ran*, not limped, the last mile of an already grueling 70-mile race. I was no longer saying “you're OK” or “you're strong.”

I was telling him the only thing that was in my head at the time: “You're the toughest guy I've ever met!”

When he crossed the finish line, Tim was shocked to hear he finished third overall out of a field of 70 finishers (94 started). His time of 13:54:52 bested half of the relay teams, and the combined age of the two runners who managed to finish the course faster than he was 52—Tim's age. Tim thanked me for helping him get through those last 15 miles, but it was truly a treat for me to experience the end of a race with superhuman Tim Hewitt—the toughest guy I've ever met.



## HELP YOUR CLIENTS MAKE SOUND RETIREMENT CHOICES

### Total Continuum of Care

- Senior Apartments
- Personal Care
- Memory Impairment Program
- Nursing Care

### Financial Security

Residents at Redstone Highlands are not asked to leave if, through no fault of their own, they exhaust their resources.

### Style of Living

Monthly apartment fee provides the following services:

- Restaurant Style Dining
- Scheduled Transportation
- Barber/Beauty Shop
- Bank
- Exercise Room
- Maid Service
- Maintenance Service
- Personal Security

### GREENSBURG

6 Garden Center Drive  
Greensburg, PA 15601  
(724) 832-8400

### NORTH HUNTINGDON

12921 Lincoln Way  
North Huntingdon, PA 15642  
(724) 864-5811

### MURRYSVILLE

4951 Cline Hollow Road  
Murrysville, PA 15668  
(724) 733-9494



**Redstone Highlands**  
Senior living communities

www.redstonehighlands.org





May 2007 Civil Trial Term

# Jury Trial Verdicts

by Rachel Huss, Esq., Charles J. Dangelo, Esq., and Thomas L. Jones, Esq.

Of forty-one cases listed for the May 2007 Civil Jury Trial Term, ten settled, eighteen were continued, one non-jury verdict was entered, one was scheduled for a non-jury trial, one was a non-binding summary jury trial, one summary jury trial was rescheduled, three verdicts were entered, and six were held to the next trial term. Two jury verdicts for the May trial term are summarized below.

## MAURICE A. NERNBERG & ASSOCIATES

V.

## KISKI AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5649 OF 2004

*Cause of Action: Breach of  
Contract Assignment*

Plaintiff commenced this action as a result of Defendant's alleged breach of a contract assignment. Plaintiff maintained there was an effective assignment of funds to Plaintiff relating to its representation of Lanmark, Inc. (hereinafter "Lanmark") in a legal action with Defendant. The underlying action involved a dispute between Lanmark and Defendant over a construction project. A settlement agreement was reached between Defendant and Lanmark and Lanmark requested that payment of remaining funds be made directly to it. However, at a Motion to Enforce Settlement, a representative of Plaintiff's firm notified Defendant's counsel that there was a purported assignment of funds to Plaintiff and payment should not be made directly to Lanmark. Notwithstanding, Defendant tendered a settlement check to Lanmark in the amount of \$430,000.00 pursuant to the written settlement agreement. Plaintiff sought \$189,369.10 in damages based upon the purported contract assignment breach.

Defendant countered that Plaintiff produced no documentation containing



words of assignment or other evidence that any assignment of present rights by Lanmark ever occurred. Defendant maintained the purported assignment language in the contingency fee agreement was specifically stricken by the President of Lanmark at the time it was signed. Defendant also argued that a contingency fee agreement is a contractual agreement to satisfy legal fees out of the proceeds of a future judgment and does not assign ownership of a client's actual underlying legal claim to the lawyer. Absent a valid assignment, Defendants claimed its payment to Lanmark was proper.

*Plaintiff's Counsel:* Jon Pushinsky, Pgh.

*Defendant's Counsel:* James M. Doerfler, Reed Smith LLP, Pgh.

*Trial Judge:* The Hon. Gary P. Caruso

*Result:* Verdict in favor of Plaintiff in the amount of \$79,671.34. The verdict was modified to include prejudgment interest in the amount of \$27,166.85, for a total award of \$106,838.19.

## LEE LEWIS KUKULSKI

V.

## JOSEPH A. TOTH NO. 3858 OF 2005

*Cause of Action: Negligence—  
Motor Vehicle Accident*

On September 7, 2003, Plaintiff Lee Lewis Kukulski, parked her Toyota Avalon along Lemon Alley in New Kensington, Pa. While she was getting into her vehicle, Defendant Joseph A. Toth backed his Ford F-150 truck into Plaintiff's vehicle, striking the rear bumper. Thereafter, Plaintiff filed a complaint, alleging that Defendant negligently struck her vehicle and thereby caused her to sustain various injuries, including lumbar strain, multi-level annular bulging with mild neural foraminal stenosis, and chronic low back pain. Plaintiff sought both economic and non-economic damages from Defendant.

The evidence presented at trial focused on the circumstances of the accident, the force of the impact on Plaintiff, and the causal connection between the accident and Plaintiff's alleged injuries.

*Plaintiff's Counsel:* Joseph Bock, Pgh.

*Defendant's Counsel:* Scott Mears, Mears, Smith, Houser and Boyle, P.C., Gbg.

*Trial Judge:* The Hon. William J. Ober

*Result:* Verdict in favor of Defendant.

## SecuriKey Investigations

### Licensed Private Investigators

Working with Fortune 500 companies, lawyers, and private citizens to provide professional, thorough service to each client in a timely manner through our network of professional investigators worldwide.

- Investigations
- Witness Locates
- Executive Protection
- Asset Searches
- Surveillance
- Applicant Credential Verification
- Due Diligence

PA License: 4CV2005

AZ License: 1003105

Proud Investigative Professionals since 1998

724.235.9700

602.616.1994

[www.securikey-investigations.com](http://www.securikey-investigations.com)

# bookmark What Have You Been Reading?

by Barbara Jollie, Esq.

I like junk. I like to eat junk, and I like to read junk—but it has to be high-quality junk. The stories I read are always fiction, usually about murder, and often involve attorneys and courtroom dramas. I read this junk not for any redeeming social value, but strictly for escape value. My books are fast and fun, even though the subject matter isn't.



▲  
Barbara Jollie

## THE BETRAYED

❖ by David Hosp ❖

In the midst of a high-level conspiracy involving a government official, a hospital administrator, and a pharmaceutical company, and with dead bodies all over the place, a cop and a law student find love. This story is a whodunit, but character development is weak, and descriptives are too stilted.

## TIES THAT BIND

❖ by Phillip Margolin ❖ Big-time conspiracy, drugs, murder, prostitution, indiscretions, lawyers, politicians, and police—this book has it all, and this lawyer/author can really tell a story. This is a great beach read.

## COUNTERPLAY

❖ by Robert K. Tannenbaum ❖ This attorney/author has a series of books in which he has developed really interesting characters. Butch Karp, a New York D.A., his wife, Marlene Ciampi, a gun-toting retired A.D.A., and their precocious kids get into unbelievable situations and come out on top. The books are all fast reads. In this one, the family saves

New York and the visiting Pope from terrorists, with a little help from their very unusual friends.

## SLEEPING WITH FEAR

❖ by Kay Hooper ❖ This author created a story series about a special unit of FBI staffed by people with powers of extrasensory perception. In this story the powers of one of the team members meet interference by a “dark force.” Of course it all works out in the end. The writing is taut and, although far-fetched, the stories all read well. It *is* entertainment we are seeking after all!

## GUILTY AS SIN

❖ by Tami Hoag ❖ I like most of this writer's stuff, but this one isn't quite up to par. The female attorney is just too much. She doesn't just try the case—she is a victim, she is a detective, she is superwoman in small-town America where, for some reason, all kinds of crimes just start happening, and she is in the middle of it all.

## TRIPWIRE

❖ by Lee Child ❖ The villain is wealthy creep with a hook for an arm. The good guy is an ex-military man who disrupts a crime syndicate that started during the Vietnam War. The hero and his lady-friend are quite a team. Way far-fetched, but a good read.

## KILL ME

❖ by Stephen White ❖ This story was really interesting to me—not my usual “cops solving murders.” Here a guy contracts for his

own death should he become critically ill, which of course, he does. The contract for his death is irrevocable, but he's not ready to go just yet so he must try to outwit his killers, whoever they are. The book is very well written by this psychologist/author. It is a fast read; you cannot put it down, and you have to know how it ends.

## THE SLEEPING DOLL

❖ by Jeffery Deaver ❖ This guy is one of my favorites for his Lincoln Rhyme series. He develops a different character with this story—a woman who specializes in interrogation, an expert in body language, a human lie detector. She confronts a cult-type criminal, but he escapes from prison after her interview of him and she has to track him down. The story surprises with layers of deception revealed in Deaver's hold-your-interest style.

## THE COLD MOON

❖ by Jeffery Deaver ❖ Here Lincoln Rhyme, a brilliant paraplegic criminologist, confronts an equally brilliant criminal. The murders are gruesome. The story is tight and keeps you holding on. I read this one twice.

My very favorite authors are Ed McBain and Jonathan Kellerman. Any book by either of these authors is worth a look. Both write about crime and police investigation. Both write exceptionally well. McBain sets his stories in a New York police precinct and he develops the characters of his

police so that they are real. The writing is clipped and engaging. Kellerman developed the characters of Alex Delaware, a child psychologist, and LA Detective Milo Sturgis. They work together to solve crimes and personal issues. I look forward to each new work by these authors.



## Ashburn Inspections, LLC

Serving Western Pennsylvania

Homes - Radon - Thermal Imaging  
Water - Mold - Pest - Septic

Michael J. Ashburn  
724-516-1665

mail@AshburnHomeInspections.com

www.AshburnHomeInspections.com

*Westmoreland Revisited*

# Arthur St. Clair: Westmoreland's Patriot Prothonotary

by *The Hon. Daniel J. Ackerman*

The eyes of Arthur St. Clair look down on those leaving Courtroom Number 3 from a portrait set in a cartouche above the door. The eyes appear piercing and knowledgeable, as they do in a 1780 portrait by Charles Wilson Peale, now owned by the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

St. Clair's life was a chain of highs and lows, of victory and defeat. If he enjoyed a time of equilibrium,



▲  
*The Hon. Daniel J. Ackerman*

one might guess it occurred in 1773, when, as a significant landowner and justice of the peace, he was appointed by Governor Penn as Westmoreland County's first prothonotary, clerk of the orphans' court, register of wills, recorder of deeds, and clerk of the court

of general quarter sessions. He held similar appointments in Bedford County when it was created in 1771, and it was appropriate that corresponding positions relative to Westmoreland were bestowed upon him, as one who had urged the creation of this new county.

Born in Scotland on March 23, 1736, he studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh before purchasing a commission in the British army. It was, therefore, his duty as a soldier that brought him to North America during the Seven Years War, or what is known here as the French and Indian War. In 1758, he served under General Jeffrey Amherst in the capture of the French garrison at Louisburg, Nova Scotia. The following year, under

General James Wolfe, he fought in one of the most decisive battles ever waged in North America, the Battle of the Plains of Abraham, which resulted in the British capture of Quebec and the obliteration of France's claim to land in North America.

Demonstrating the valor expected of eighteenth century military officers, St. Clair and the rest of Wolfe's army scaled the cliffs at Quebec and then, upon reaching the plain, "Lieutenant St. Clair seized the colors, which had fallen from the hand of a dying soldier and bore them until the field was won by the British." Ironically, St. Clair would be involved in another assault upon Quebec during the American Revolution, this time against, rather than with, the British, but in this second assault St. Clair would find himself on the losing side.

In 1760, he married Phoebe Bayard, who was from a prominent Boston family and, in 1762, he resigned his military commission and moved to Bedford to survey lands for the Penns. The couple was prosperous and St. Clair acquired large tracts of land in the Ligonier Valley, partly through purchase and partly through grants from the king for St. Clair's services in the French war. In fact, he was at the time the largest landowner west of the Alleghenies. There, the St. Clairs built a gristmill and erected a fine residence for themselves and their children.

Westmoreland County consisted of all of southwestern Pennsylvania, save



▲  
*This portrait of Arthur St. Clair, painted by French artist Maurice Ingres, looks down on those leaving Courtroom Number 3 of the Westmoreland County Courthouse.*

Bedford County from which it came. It is interesting that while St. Clair owned no property near the forks of the Ohio, and Hannastown was more conveniently located to his home, he unsuccessfully pressed the governor to designate Pittsburgh as Westmoreland's county seat.

The severest test of St. Clair, as a county official, came in the form of a conflict in 1774 known as Lord Dunmore's War. Lord Dunmore, the Colonial Governor of Virginia, laid claim to this area, then referred to as the Ohio Country, as part of Virginia; and to assert his claim had a small contingent of Virginia militia occupy the abandoned Fort Pitt. The fort, of course, at that time was in Westmoreland County and St. Clair, through his magisterial office, issued an arrest warrant for the officer in charge and had him jailed at Hannastown. Lord Dunmore wrote

*continued on page 18*



# Arthur St. Clair

*continued from page 17*



◀ *The entrance to St. Clair Park, originally St. Clair Cemetery, on North Maple Street in Greensburg. When the borough banned cemeteries, most of the graves were moved to a new location, just east of town. Arthur St. Clair's grave remains in St. Clair Park.*

Governor Penn, demanding that St. Clair be punished for his temerity in arresting one of his agents; Penn responded, defending St. Clair as a gentleman and a person of honor. The Virginia officer eventually obtained his freedom, but only after Virginia's counter-arrest of three Pennsylvania magistrates. Fortunately, this foolishness did not escalate into violence between the states and attention to the problem was diverted by the start of the American Revolution. The Continental Congress eventually resolved the Pennsylvania-Virginia boundary dispute during the war.

In the fifth month of the Revolution, St. Clair was posted at Fort Ticonderoga at the southern end of Lake Champlain. Now, as a colonial officer, he was about to take part in a pincer movement designed to capture the city of Quebec. The eastern arm of the pincer, under the command of Colonel Benedict Arnold, would depart from Massachusetts and undergo a brutal march of 600 miles through the wilderness that now is Maine.

The western arm began in New York, at Ticonderoga, a ruin of a fort, which in May 1775, three months earlier, had been captured by forces under Arnold and Ethan Allen. The

troops departing the fort under the command of General Richard Montgomery would take the more traditional route to Quebec, 500 miles by way of Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence River. The combined American forces of about 1,000 launched a surprise attack on December 31 on the British garrison of 1,300 under the cover of a raging blizzard.

The American strategy initially showed promise but promptly disintegrated when, early in the fight, Montgomery was killed and Arnold wounded. The American forces clung to lines around Quebec the remainder of the winter but departed when British reinforcements arrived in the spring, bringing to an end any possibility that Quebec might one day be the capital of an American state.

On Christmas Eve, 1776, Washington convened a council of war in a home near the Delaware River. Among the officers present was the recently promoted Brigadier General Arthur St. Clair, now in command of a brigade of New Englanders. The final details of a Christmas attack upon Trenton were put in place and, under cover of night, Washington's army crossed the river. Another battle in a snowstorm was at hand. The snow

and sleet that fell that night penetrated the cartridge boxes and arms of the infantry, leaving most of their weapons inoperable. The next morning the question arose as to what was to be done under these circumstances. "You have nothing for it but to push on and charge," advised St. Clair and, indeed, Washington's response was, "Advance and charge." The resulting American victory at Trenton is widely considered the most important of the war and St. Clair's contribution to the outcome was of no small significance. His brigade's artillery caught the Hessians in a deadly crossfire in the center of town. The myth that the Hessians were drunk and unprepared arose perhaps because this American victory was so one-sided and decisive. The Hessian/British force lost 918 men, the vast majority of whom were taken as prisoners, while the American losses were, in Washington's words, "trifling"; only four were wounded.

The British response to the American victory was the advance of 5,500 regulars under General Cornwallis out of a force of 8,000 at Princeton against the American army in Trenton, a distance of only ten miles. The British advance occurred January 1, 1777. The object, as always, was the capture of Washington's army, which, if successful, for all intents and purposes would bring the Revolution to an end.

At the time, Dr. Benjamin Rush, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence and a member of the Continental Congress, who was volunteering as an army surgeon, was lodging at St. Clair's Trenton quarters. He recalled being awakened by the

firing of an alarm gun, and a tearful woman entering his room, followed by a composed Arthur St. Clair, who said that the enemy was advancing. In "Washington's Crossing," David Hackett Fischer describes the exchange between the two men:

"What do you intend to do?"  
Rush asked.

"Why, fight them," St. Clair replied with a smile. Rush remembered that St. Clair then "took down his sword, and girded it on his thigh with a calmness such as I thought seldom took place at the expectation of battle."

Washington deployed St. Clair and his 1,400 New Englanders to defend the American right and, during the course of the day, the army repulsed two British assaults but remained vulnerable. Cornwallis was confident that he would succeed in capturing Washington's forces in the morning but, that night, Washington moved his men around the British lines and the

next day, January 3, defeated Cornwallis' rear guard at Princeton. It was St. Clair, at Washington's council of war on January 2, who suggested neither a retreat nor a general engagement but, rather, that "if the army could reach that point [a crossing known as Quaker Bridge] unobserved and unopposed, it could then proceed almost due north to Princeton, distant about six miles from the bridge." The adoption of St. Clair's suggestion replaced a likely defeat at Trenton with a victory at Princeton.

Six months after the successes in New Jersey, St. Clair returned to Fort Ticonderoga, entrusted with a garrison of 2,000 poorly equipped men, whose health and morale were also substandard. Two years earlier, this was the starting point for the American invasion of Canada. It was now one of the targets of a British plan to strike south from Canada for the purpose of capturing both Albany and control of the Hudson River, and thereby draw Washington's army out

of New Jersey. Key to these objectives was the capture of Ticonderoga. The campaign began by General John Burgoyne, leading a force of 4,000 British regulars, 3,000 Germans, and 1,000 Canadian militia and Indians out of Quebec up the St. Lawrence River to Lake Champlain.

Arthur St. Clair is referred to in some histories as the "unlucky St. Clair." The term might be applied here because Burgoyne's army carried with it 138 pieces of artillery and most of the cannons at Fort Ticonderoga had been removed by the Americans two years earlier and sent to Boston. There would be no siege. Royal engineers accomplished what the Americans believed to be impossible in mounting cannon atop a high peak known as Mt. Defiance, whose crest provided a view of the interior of the fort and the waterway running to the south. Before an attack could take place on the morning of July 6, 1777, word was received that the fort was deserted. The Americans had discovered the

*continued on page 20*

## ***Business Valuation Services***

- Estate & Gift Taxes
- Divorce Settlements
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Stockholder Transactions

Whether your client needs a comprehensive valuation opinion to withstand scrutiny by third parties or an estimate of value for internal use, you can rely on our team of qualified professionals to provide a full range of business valuation services.

Contact: Maryann White, CPA  
*Accredited in Business Valuation*



**KELLY, SPARBER, WHITE  
& ASSOCIATES, LLC**

*Certified Public Accountants*

2510 Ligonier St., Latrobe, PA 15650 • Phone: 724.539.4581  
Fax: 724.537.0332 • E-mail: KSW@kellysparberwhite.com



## Arthur St. Clair *continued from page 19*

British ascent of this “inaccessible slope,” recognized their peril, and escaped the trap under the cover of darkness. The British pursuit of St. Clair’s garrison was blunted successfully by the American rear guard.

Apart from the capture of Ticonderoga, the British plan did not materialize, but the frustration of losing the fort brought charges leading to court martial proceedings against St. Clair in 1778. He was acquitted of all charges; it may be argued that he did what Washington did successfully time and time again—he gave up position to save his forces to fight another day. The proceedings, however, had a negative effect and St. Clair’s contribution to the war was at an ebb. He was, however, at Yorktown as a major-general when Lord Cornwallis surrendered his army.

His return to political life was on a grander scale. He was elected a delegate to the Continental Congress from 1785 to 1787, serving as its president the last year. When the Northwest Territory was created, out of which the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and parts of Wisconsin and Minnesota would be

formed, Congress appointed him territorial governor. St. Clair established the governor’s office at a town that he named Cincinnati. While serving as governor, he also became the senior officer in the United States Army.

Subjugation of the Indians of the Northwest Territory was at once one of the government’s priorities and also one of its major problems. In 1790, Governor St. Clair dispatched General Josiah Harmer and 1,500 troops on a mission against the Miami village near what is now Fort Wayne, Ind., a mission that met with failure. A year later, St. Clair led a similar effort, which met with disaster at the Battle of the Wabash. The 623 soldiers killed there on November 4, 1791, represented the greatest defeat of the American army by Native Americans. St. Clair’s letter after the battle to Secretary of War Henry Knox notes that the attackers concentrated upon the officers, killing all but one, which led to a panic among the inexperienced militiamen. Artillery was abandoned in the retreat because there was not a horse left alive to draw them.

St. Clair made no attempt to describe the event as anything less than



▲ *Arthur St. Clair is buried in St. Clair Park, formerly St. Clair Cemetery, in Greensburg.*

a defeat of monumental proportions. Secretary Knox replied in a sympathetic manner that, “Your misfortune, to be sure has been great and unexpected. But sir, it was one of those events which sometimes happen in human affairs, which could not, under existing circumstances have been prevented . . . Be assured, sir, that however great the defeat, that both your reputation and the reputation of the troops under your command are unimpeached.” Nonetheless, St. Clair resigned from the army at President Washington’s request but remained territorial governor until 1802.

Through the Revolution and during his term as territorial governor, St. Clair often expended his own funds where government money was not forthcoming, only to find in retirement that his claims for reimbursement were either disallowed by Congress or barred by the statute of limitations. Plagued by creditors, his property was sold at auction. “They left me,” St. Clair said, “a few books of my classical library, and the bust of Paul Jones, which he sent me from Europe, for which I was very grateful.” His declining years were marked by poverty borne with dignity. He was



*Beverly A. Dickson-Lewandowski RN ADN CLNC*

### ATTENTION ATTORNEYS MEDICAL RECORDS MAKING YOU ILL?

I have your prescription for relief. I am a RN CLNC (Certified Legal Nurse Consultant). I have 20 years experience reading, writing and deciphering doctors, nurses and other notes, which are parts of the medical record of any legal case. Let me put my **INSIDER** experience to work for you, and get well-deserved relief for the ills caused by your case medical records.

### CONTACT ME TODAY FOR YOUR CURE

#### **BDL MEDICAL LEGAL CONSULTING SERVICES**

724-832-5664 (Home Office) or 724-787-0266

[www.bdlmed-legalconsulting.com](http://www.bdlmed-legalconsulting.com)

Email me: [bdlewandowski@bdlmed-legalconsulting.com](mailto:bdlewandowski@bdlmed-legalconsulting.com)



found by a friend, Lewis Cass, living in a "rude cabin, supported by selling supplies to the wagoners who traveled the road, one of the most striking instances of the mutations which checker life."

On August 30, 1818, Arthur St. Clair fell from his wagon while coming down the ridge toward Youngstown and died from his injuries the next day. It can be safely said that he was not one "of those poor spirits," later described by Theodore Roosevelt, "who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows not victory or defeat." He is buried in Greensburg's St. Clair Park. The marker at his grave states: "The earthly remains of Major-General Arthur St. Clair are deposited beneath this humble monument which is erected to supply the place of a nobler one due from his country. He died August 31, 1818 in the 84th year of his age." No nobler monument has been forthcoming.

With hindsight, and without disrespect for his fellow hero, Nathanael Greene (a Rhode Islander), who had no local connection, one might ask why the 15601 ZIP code does not direct mail to St. Clair, Pa.

#### Sources

- David Hackett Fischer, *Washington's Crossing*, Oxford University Press (2004).
- W.D. Wetherell, *On the Trail of Benedict Arnold*, *American Heritage* (April/May, 2007).
- David McCullough, *1776*, Simon and Schuster (2005).
- *The American Heritage Book of the Revolution*, American Heritage Publishing Co. (1958).
- Samuel Eliot Morrison, *The Oxford History of the American People*, Oxford University Press (1965).
- *The St. Clair Papers*, DaCapo Press (1971).
- Ellis H. Beals, *Arthur St. Clair in the History of Western Pennsylvania*, University of Pittsburgh (Master's thesis, 1928).
- John Bartlett, *Familiar Quotations*, Little Brown and Company (13th ed. 1955).

# foundation focus

## Scholarship Winners Announced

The Westmoreland Bar Foundation is pleased to announce that several law school and college scholarships have been awarded to Westmoreland County residents.



▲  
Britt Freund

#### THE WAYNE R. DONAHUE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

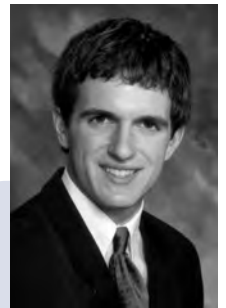
The Wayne R. Donahue Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Murrysville resident, *Britt Freund*, a third-year student at

the Duquesne University School of Law. Britt has performed in the national tour of "A Chorus Line" and is co-owner of Innovative Exercise in Murrysville. He has interned with

Judge Rita Hathaway and is working this summer as a clerk with Belden Law.

#### THE DONALD LAIRD HANKEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Donald Laird Hankey Memorial Scholarship was awarded to *Eric Harbison*. Eric was a *cum laude* graduate of Bucknell University this spring, where he earned a B.A. in economics. While at Bucknell, he captured twelve varsity letters in track and field, and earned seven Patriot League academic honor roll nominations. He will be a first-year law student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.



▲  
Eric Harbison

*continued on page 22*

Looking for a special way  
to remember someone?

### Births • Deaths • Marriages • Anniversaries Making Partner • Passing the Bar

Since 1991, the Westmoreland Bar Foundation has raised thousands of dollars to assist the poor, disabled, elderly and children in our community. Through the **Memorial Program**, you can honor a colleague or loved one with a contribution to the Foundation. Your gift will help serve the needs of our own who have nowhere else to turn for legal services.

If you would like to make a gift to the Foundation as a meaningful expression of respect, please make check payable to the Westmoreland Bar Foundation and mail to WBA Headquarters, 129 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Greensburg, PA 15601.



## foundation focus *continued from page 21*



▲  
*Robert Seibel*

### THE HON. DAVID H. WEISS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Honorable David H. Weiss Memorial Scholarship was awarded to New Alexandria resident *Robert Seibel*. Robert is a second-year student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. While attending

Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, he interned with the Cincinnati Court of Common Pleas and the Association of Community Organizations, a Washington, D.C., non-profit organization. He is currently interning with Superior Court Judge Joseph A. Hudock.

### MOCK TRIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Westmoreland Bar Foundation awarded college scholarships to two members of the winning Greensburg Salem Mock Trial Team and one member of the Burrell High School Mock Trial team.



▲  
*Danielle Waugh*

Danielle is attending Syracuse University to study broadcast journalism; John is attending Washington & Jefferson College to study philosophy and psychology.

*Ashley Smith*, a member of Burrell High School's team, also received a scholarship. Ashley is attending



▲  
*Ashley Smith*

Washington & Jefferson College to study biology and pre-med.

The scholarship criteria were performance in the competition, academics, and financial need.

## CASA Trains First Class

CASA of Westmoreland, Inc., finished training its first class of potential CASA volunteers on August 21. The class was made up of community members coming from all walks of life and a variety of professional backgrounds, as well as a member of CASA's Board of Directors. Training classes cover topics ranging from Pennsylvania's dependency law, Children's Bureau policies and practice, family violence, substance abuse, mental health, child abuse and neglect, and the basics of the Family Court system, as well as interviewing skills, communication skills, report writing, and confidentiality.

This inaugural class of CASA volunteers will be sworn-in by the Family Court during the month of September after completing required Family Court observations. CASA of Westmoreland, Inc., is currently accepting applications for the second class of CASA volunteers scheduled to begin in January 2008. For more information about the CASA program, please visit their website at [www.co.westmoreland.pa.us/CASA](http://www.co.westmoreland.pa.us/CASA).



## Volunteers for Justice

The Pro Bono Program extends thanks to all the attorneys who volunteered their time from April to June 2007.

- Marnie Abraham
- Gary Alexander
- Steven Allias
- Maria Altobelli
- Timothy Andrews
- Marla Blum
- Larry Burns
- Brian Cavanaugh
- Debra Cribbs
- Lou Anne Demosky
- Jennifer Love Dupilka
- Rebecca Fenoglietto
- Michael Garofalo
- Dennis Gounley
- John Greiner
- Melissa Guidy
- James Horchak
- Daniel Joseph
- Jim Kelley
- Karen Kiefer
- Richard Kovach
- Maureen Kroll
- Stephen Langton
- Irene Lubin
- Shirley Makuta
- Chuck Mason
- Philip McCalister
- Paul Miller
- David Millstein
- Milton Munk, Jr.
- Keith Nicola
- Terry O'Halloran
- Brian Petroski
- John Ranker
- Pamela Roudebush
- Robert Slone
- Todd Turin
- Mark Wible

wba

# Actions of the Board

## MAY 15, 2007

- Investment Committee presented annual report; reviewed proposed amendments to Investment Policy Statement. No action taken.
- President Whelton made following appointments to the PBA House of Delegates: Milt Munk, one-year term; Becky Brammell, three-year term; James Boggs, three-year term.
- Learned that Beaver County continues to report problems with the LexisNexis e-filing program; LexisNexis is no longer being considered as a vendor for the Westmoreland County e-filing project.
- Agreed that the WBA should look into establishing affinity relationships with local businesses whereby our members could receive discounts on products while the bar association generates non-dues income.
- Accepted Membership Committee recommendations: Michele Sabo, participating; Kirk Burkley, associate.

## JUNE 19, 2007

- Accepted Membership Committee recommendations: Eric Dee and Marilyn Gaut, participating.
- Reappointed Wayne Whitehead to serve on Investment Advisory Committee until May 2010.
- Reappointed Milt Munk to serve on Investment Advisory Committee until May 2011.
- President Whelton reported on president's dinner he attended for PBA Zone 6; he discussed the idea of forming a consortium to handle e-filing with several bar presidents.
- Moved to adopt staff confidentiality policy.
- WBA PAC reported it will hold legislators breakfast September 14 at 8 a.m. at WBA headquarters.

Candid Camera:

# 2007 Bench/Bar Conference



▲ *"Omigod," thought Bob, "they're drawing the ticket for the fruit basket. This is why I came."*



▲ *Although he was thrilled to be inducted into the Judging Hall of Fame, Judge Blahovec was nonetheless quite disappointed there weren't more folks lined up at the table outside the coffee shop to buy autographed copies of his President Judge card.*



▲ *"A-n-t-i-u-m—d-i-s-e-s-t-u-m—a-b-l-i-s-h—um ... crap!"*



◀ *"Oh, come on," chuckled Moe with gleeful anticipation, "pull my finger."*



▶ *"Put them all together, they spell 'Mother' ..."*



▲ *"Hey, anyone missing a shoe?"*



▶ *"No, no thanks, I've already had too many women and too much wine for one night."*



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

- 3** Courthouse closed in observance of Labor Day
- 5** Women in the Profession, Noon
- 12** Membership, Noon  
Bankruptcy, Noon  
Real Estate, Noon
- 13** CLE: Fundamentals of Estate Administration, Noon to 1:15 p.m.
- 14** WBA PAC Legislators Breakfast, 8 a.m.  
Westmoreland County Courthouse Centennial Celebration Gala, 6:30 p.m.
- 18** Family Law, Noon
- 21** 40th Annual Red Mass, Noon, Saint Vincent College, Latrobe
- 26** CLE: Overview of Procedural Changes in the Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office, Noon to 1:45 p.m.

### OCTOBER

- 3** Women in the Profession, Noon  
Westmoreland Bar Foundation Merry Mixer
- 8** Courthouse closed in observance of Columbus Day
- 10** Membership, Noon  
Bankruptcy, Noon
- 11** Laurel Legal Services 40th Anniversary Dinner, 6 p.m., Greensburg Country Club
- 16** Family Law, Noon  
Board Meeting, 4 p.m.

## LAWYERS CONCERNED FOR LAWYERS CORNER

- The 12-step recovery meeting, exclusively for lawyers and judges, is in downtown Pittsburgh every Thursday at 5:15 p.m. For the exact location, call Pennsylvania Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers at **1-800-335-2572**.
- LCL has a new website at [www.lclpa.org](http://www.lclpa.org). Attorneys and judges will find information on how LCL can help them, a member of their family or a colleague who may be in distress. It is confidential and easy to navigate. Visit it today.
- Lawyers Confidential Help Line: **1-888-999-1941**. Operates 24 hours a day.



Westmoreland Bar Association  
129 North Pennsylvania Avenue  
Greensburg, PA 15601-2311

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

GREENSBURG, PA  
PERMIT #678