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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
WESTMORELAND BAR ASSOCIATION
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MARCH 2015

Westmoreland County's New Court Administrator: Amy DeMatt

by Pamela Ferguson, Esq.

When I asked our new court administrator, Amy DeMatt, if I could interview her for an article in *the sidebar*, she responded, humbly, that she “wasn’t very exciting.” Nothing could be further from the truth.



▲ Court Administrator Amy DeMatt

Although a J.D. is not required to be Court Administrator, Amy, like her predecessor, Paul Kuntz, is an attorney and a member of our Bar. After receiving a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Washington & Lee University in

1996, Amy obtained her J.D. from Washington & Lee Law School. Law school, however, was not her first experience with the courts.

During the spring term of her senior year of college, Amy applied for a six-week internship position with the U.S. Supreme Court. She was selected, and worked with the Administrative Assistant to the Chief Justice. She recalls sitting in on oral arguments and being impressed with the justices’ intelligence and ability to recall details of each and every case before them.

Her internship experience wasn’t all work and no play: she played in a few pick-up basketball games with the justices’ law clerks in the basketball court on top of the Supreme Court Building (facetiously referred to as “the highest court”), and met a few of the justices in the SCOTUS weight room.

During the six weeks she had access to the hallowed halls at 1 First Street, she observed the rule-bound operation of the Court and acquired a respect and deference for those rules steeped in tradition.

Seniority is especially important in the Court’s operation. During the justices’ private conferences, they speak and vote in order of seniority from the Chief Justice to the most junior Associate Justice (currently, Elena Kagan). The most junior Associate Justice is responsible for menial tasks, such as answering the door of their conference room, serving coffee, and transmitting the orders of the Court to the Court’s clerk.

During Court sessions, the justices sit according to seniority, with the Chief Justice in the center, and the Associate Justices on alternating sides, with the most senior Associate Justice on the Chief Justice’s immediate right,

and the most junior Associate Justice seated on the left farthest away from the Chief Justice.

Amy noticed that even the littlest thing, like placement of a glass of water, has a rule to which it must adhere—the justices’ water glasses are also lined up according to seniority.

Through her internship, Amy discovered that she enjoys working in an environment oriented to the use of objective criteria and rules and explains that that is one of the reasons why she describes her new position as her “dream job.” Helping judges and lawyers work efficiently and effectively

is important to her: “Because the courts are so important and we know how hard our local attorneys work to get good results for their clients,” she says, “I’m

“I’m interested in doing whatever I can to make sure that things are run fairly and efficiently.”

interested in doing whatever I can to make sure that things are run fairly and efficiently.”

Amy’s experience and knowledge will help make that happen. After law school, she joined her father, Scott Mears, at his firm, Mears, Smith, Houser and Boyle, P.C., in Greensburg. For six years, she worked in general practice, but devoted the majority of her time to insurance defense. She then

continued on page 2

New Court Administrator: Amy DeMatt

continued from page 1

clerked for Judge Christopher Feliciani for eight years in the arenas of family, civil, and criminal court. The different perspectives she gained as a litigator and law clerk will help her address the needs of both the Bench and Bar.

After two months on the job, Amy admits that she is busier than she expected; however, thanks to Deputy Court Administrator Tami Silvis, Magisterial District Court Administrator Don Heagy, Criminal Court Administrator Pam Neiderhiser, and Administrative Assistant Bobbi Weaver, she is getting acclimated.

Court administration is constantly evolving and Amy explained that there are several changes on the horizon. Don Heagy is currently working on transitioning Magisterial District Judges Charles Christner and Chuck Moore to new locations: MDJ Christner will be moving from his current West Newton location to the Rostraver Township Municipal Building in Belle Vernon, and MDJ Moore is moving from his Scottsdale location to his new office at the Sony plant on Tech Drive in East Huntingdon. Also, due to a \$51,000 security grant from the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the closed-circuit

The Court Administrator's Office advises and assists the president judge in the management and administration of the courts, Adult Probation, Domestic Relations, Judicial Information Services, Juvenile Probation, and the Law Library; administratively supports the Westmoreland County Court System; and coordinates the efficient operations of the eight interdependent court departments.

security equipment at each Magisterial District Court will be enhanced.

In the Civil Division, 2006, 2007, and 2008 cases that have been inactive for the past two years are being reviewed and will be listed as "cases to be purged" in an upcoming issue of the *Westmoreland Law Journal* to allow counsel who feel their cases should remain active to move for the deletion of their case from the purge list. In March, implementation of the Court's Language Access Plan, a statewide requirement from the AOPC that each court has a plan in place to address access to the court for those with limited English proficiency or are hearing impaired, will begin.

Implementation of new court reporter rules in each of the court's divisions is also in the works.

Despite the rigors of her new job, Amy will continue to make time for her family and friends. She and her husband, Mike DeMatt, a partner in Turin & DeMatt, P.C., met in law school and have been married for thirteen years. They have two children, Owen and Allison, who are ten and seven, respectively.

A running enthusiast—Amy was on the track and cross country teams in high school, was an All-American Cross Country runner in college, and ran the Marine Corps Marathon two years in a row during law school—Amy continues to run, albeit only for fun. Last summer, as part of a record-setting relay team, she ran a 10-mile section of the 75-mile Laurel Highlands Ultra race.

There is no question that Amy is a busy woman, and starting a new job—particularly one that requires her time and attention to details in the courts, law library, adult probation, juvenile probation, and domestic relations—could be overwhelming; but not for Amy. She is ready to tackle every challenge that comes her way. According to the Courthouse buzz, she's off to a great start. 🐾

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on the move?

Don't forget! Pa.R.D.E. Rule 219(d)(1)(ii) requires that every attorney shall provide his or her current office and residence address, each of which shall be an actual street address or rural box number, to the Disciplinary Board. All changes in address must be reported to the Attorney Registrar within thirty (30) days after such change.

Be sure to inform the WBA as well, so you don't miss any important mail or e-mail communications.

Remembering Richard A. Kovach

Editor's note: Richard A. "Dick" Kovach passed away on Wednesday, November 19, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Judith; three children, Elizabeth, and her husband, Daniel Kunz, of Wexford, Douglas, and his wife, Amanda, of Pittsburgh, and Sarah, and her husband, John Thompson, of Greensburg; six grandchildren, Thomas and Stella Kunz, Grace and Norah Kovach, and Ryan and Joseph Thompson; two sisters, Bernadette, and her husband, Duane Ponko, of Delmont, and Celine, and her husband, Kenneth Steinmiller, of Export; three aunts, Scholastica Geary, Elizabeth Gessler, and Charlotte Shea; and a number of nieces, nephews, and cousins. Memorial contributions may be made to the Father Gilbert J. Burke OSB Alumni Scholarship Fund, c/o Saint Vincent College, 300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, PA 15650.

by Denis P. Zuzik, Esq.

With the passing of my friend, Richard A. "Dick" Kovach, on November 19, 2014, the Westmoreland County legal community has been diminished. From the time of his graduation from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1973, when he entered practice with his father, the late Albert A. Kovach, as Kovach and Kovach, Dick was the essence of what a lawyer should be—intelligent, astute, learned, prepared, and always ethical. He skillfully advanced and protected the interests of his clients. Since Dick was a general practitioner who concentrated in the areas of estates, real estate, and transactional matters, I benefited from the numerous personal injury cases he referred to me over our long professional collaboration.

However, to speak of Dick Kovach only as a highly qualified and most competent legal practitioner is to speak of only one facet of the man. Dick was first and foremost a family man. He and his wife, Judy, who many of the lawyers may remember from her days working in the original Family Court Administrator's office in the old Courthouse Annex, raised and educated their children, Elizabeth,

Douglas, and Sarah, instilling in them a religious and moral foundation, along with a strong work ethic. They have done Dick and Judy proud and given them six grandchildren.

“Dick was the essence of what a lawyer should be—intelligent, astute, learned, prepared, and always ethical.”

Dick was raised Catholic and his faith was important to him. He attended Greensburg Central Catholic High School, graduating in 1966 after performing as a lineman on the school's first undefeated football team in 1964 and being awarded a football scholarship to Pitt. Dick loved his parish—St. Vincent in Latrobe—where he served as a Eucharistic minister and previously taught CCD classes. A long-time supporter of his children's elementary school, Christ the Divine Teacher, it bestowed on him its Donor award. Likewise, he continued his support of Greensburg Central Catholic High School, which recognized him with its Distinguished Centurion Alumni Award in 2008.

Dick had a long commitment to his community. An active, indeed very active, Latrobe Rotary Member, he was elected its President and designated a Paul Harris Fellow for his distinguished service. Every January, there would arrive in my office mail two tickets to the Rotary's annual fund-raising dinner, accompanied by his usual letter pointing out how I could participate more fully in the event by purchasing a wonderful additional ticket package for only another few hundred dollars.



▲ Dick Kovach

His involvement in the Rotary was not only local. In 1991, he was elected District Governor of Rotary District 7330. In addition to the Rotary, Dick was a member of the Latrobe Area Chamber of Commerce and Knights of Columbus, David P. Nolan Council 940.

As busy and involved as he was, Dick was not all work and no play and could enjoy an alcoholic beverage or two and an occasional cigar. In 1997, wanting to show some appreciation for the referrals he always sent my way, I invited Dick to be my guest on a trip. Three of us were going to the Masters Tournament in Augusta, Georgia. Being a golfer and owning a golf course, Dick was pleased to go. When we picked him up, in addition to his luggage and golf clubs, he brought along a gallon of pre-mixed Manhattans which the three of them (I was driving) managed to consume by the time we reached Princeton, W.Va.

continued on page 4

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@westbar.org. the sidebar welcomes submissions from members or non-members. Please submit to the Articles Editor, c/o WBA.

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Remembering Richard A. Kovach *continued from page 3*

As a memento of that trip, Dick framed a greens flag and his tickets, hanging them on the wall in the eatery of his golf course in Cherry Tree, Pa., Chetremon Golf Club. Dick's father originally purchased the course several years ago, and Dick, after assuming ownership, continually improved it. The Club became a venue for many family get-togethers and for the annual Kovach golf outing where, on the last Sunday in September, he and Judy invited their friends and special clients to a day of golf, camaraderie, fun, and great food.

And so it was that I was looking forward to the annual outing at the end of September 2013 when Dick called and advised he had to cancel owing to a recurrence of lymphoma he had seemed to defeat several years before. After undergoing treatment for it and initially expecting a positive

outcome, he was diagnosed with a pancreatic tumor in December. Over the next eleven months, he struggled valiantly. Always both optimistic and realistic, as a super lawyer he continued to work and arrange his affairs (even selling his beloved Chetremon), doing so to within a week of his passing.

So, you see, Dick Kovach was more than a good lawyer. He was also a wonderful husband and father, a man of faith, a community-spirited individual, fun, and a good friend. He is missed! 🍷

Dick Kovach will be among those remembered at the Westmoreland Bar Association's 53rd Annual Memorial Service to be held at the Courthouse in May 2015.

Please plan on joining us to honor our colleagues.

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From The Bench

A Year In Review

by The Hon. Meagan Bilik-DeFazio

Editor's note: The Hon. Meagan Bilik-DeFazio has been on the Westmoreland County bench for a little over a year. We asked her to share her thoughts on her first year as a judge.

It is so hard to believe that a whole year has gone by already. What a whirlwind it has been! I took the bench in January 2014 and was assigned to the Family Division in Courtroom 10. In July, just when I felt like I was getting the hang of things in Family Court, I moved to the Criminal Division and to Courtroom 1. We are finally settling in now, so it is a perfect time to reflect on my first year.

I'm not sure that I truly appreciated how different the perspective is from the bench as opposed to that of counsel. I find it to be much more complicated. I truly see both sides of each case now. Sure, there are cases that are "no brainers," but even those cases take an enormous amount of thought and reflection because I am always mindful of the impact of my decision on people's lives. In Family Court, even when it was obvious to me what needed to be done, I was often troubled by the emotional impact my decision would have on the family, especially the children.

The children are what I miss most about Family Court. I cherished each moment that I got to spend talking with a child. I learned more from the children in custody and dependency cases than I could have ever imagined. I came to appreciate the needs of children in both custody and dependency settings and how vulnerable they are to the effects of their parents' decisions ... *and mine.*

In custody cases, I found that the child was often the only voice of reason in the case, which was frustrating. In dependency cases, I was always taken

back by the simple needs and desires of the children. They never wanted an iPod or a new toy. They wanted a family, someone to sit and do homework with them, someone to discipline them when they were acting out. They just wanted those basic securities that most children take for granted.

Family Court also made me cognizant of my parenting. I'm not sure if that's good or bad. Now, I'm always paranoid that I'm saying or doing something to scar my children for life. However, I routinely remind my children that they are blessed and that they should be grateful to have two parents who love, cherish, and protect them. In Family Court, I often felt like Jerry Springer and I was shocked by some of the things I heard. You really can't make that stuff up.

Criminal Court is much more tame—both the litigants and the lawyers! I thoroughly enjoy the trial work, having always been fascinated by the jury trial system, and I love hearing

the jurors' perspectives following their verdict.

Upon my transfer to Criminal Court, I found myself missing the "social work" of Family Court, so I invited myself to be part of the criminal Drug Court team. I am really excited about this project and I think this team is going to do great work to help a lot of people in Westmoreland County. It will be gratifying to be able to offer another option for meaningful recovery to those who truly want it. We continue to work diligently to get a quality Drug Court *funded* and up and running in 2015.

Lastly, I have to say I would have been lost this past year without each and every member of my staff. I am so thankful to have "my girls." I guess I

continued on page 6



▲ The Hon. Meagan Bilik-DeFazio





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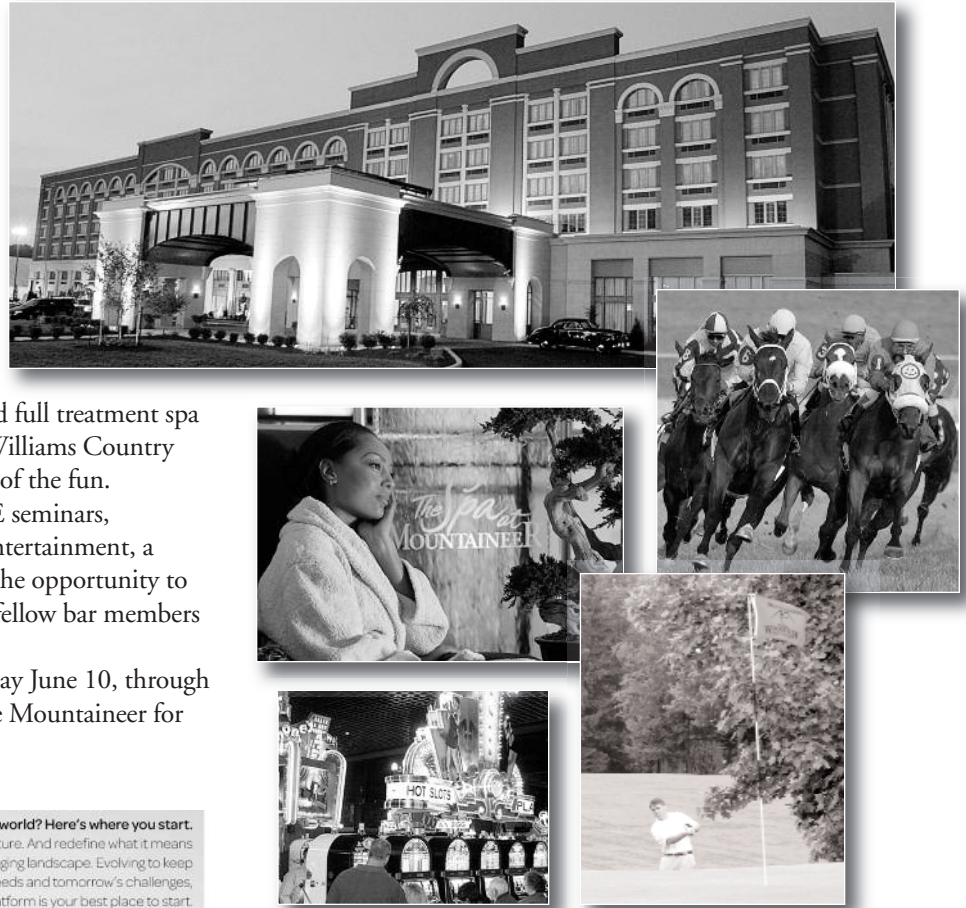
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Be prepared for a one-of-a-kind experience when the WBA travels to the Mountaineer Casino, Racetrack and Resort on June 10-12, 2015, for the 29th Annual Bench/Bar Conference.

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Of course, there will still be free CLE seminars, a Young Lawyer hospitality suite, live entertainment, a vendor exhibit, and most importantly, the opportunity to unwind and hang out with judges and fellow bar members in a relaxed atmosphere.

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A Year In Review

continued from page 5

should thank Judge Caruso and Senior Judge Blahovec, from whom I luckily inherited *most* of my staff. Thank goodness Anita, Kathy, and Ruth didn't retire along with the old guys. They are the best at what they do. Betty saves me from myself each and every day and is so vital to my day-to-day affairs that I have eliminated all of her vacation time. My law clerk, Jaime, is one of the brightest and most diligent young lawyers I have ever met. I say this knowing that it's only a matter of time before someone hires her away from me. Lastly, my deputies, Shawn & Sharon, are a well-oiled machine. I really lucked out with them! My team has rolled with the punches this past year with minimal complaining. I am truly grateful to them.

Finally, I want to thank the members of the Bar Association for your continued patience and professionalism as I get acclimated to my new role and I hope you enjoy being in my courtroom as much as I enjoy having you. 🐾

JANUARY 2015 TRIAL TERM

Of twenty-one cases listed for the January 2015 Civil Jury Trial Term, five settled, twelve were continued, and four resulted in a jury trial.

JOHN A. FRANK
V.
PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE
COMMISSION
NO. 2541 OF 2012

Cause of Action:
Employment Discrimination

Plaintiff was employed by Defendant Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission from October of 1987 through November of 2008, at which time his position as Relocation Officer was eliminated. Plaintiff filed an application with Defendant for the position of Right-of-Way Acquisition Specialist in December 2010. Plaintiff alleges that he was qualified for such a position based on his prior experience working for Defendant.

Plaintiff received a rejection letter from Defendant in January 2011 and was 60 years old at this time. Plaintiff contends that Defendant hired a significantly younger individual with less experience to fill the position. Plaintiff alleges that Defendant violated

JURY TRIAL VERDICTS



BY BETH ORBISON, ESQ.,
 SHANE M. SARVER, ESQ.,
 AND EMILY SHAFFER, ESQ.

the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act and seeks damages for lost back-pay and front-pay wages. Defendant denies that Plaintiff was discriminated against because of his age, and that it had a legitimate non-discriminatory reason not to hire Plaintiff.

Trial Date(s): January 12–14, 2015

Plaintiff's Counsel: Colleen Ramage Johnston and Nikki Velisaris Lykos, Pgh.

Defendant's Counsel: Michael A. Farnan, Camp Hill

Trial Judge: The Hon. Anthony G. Marsili

Result: Verdict in favor of Defendant.

LORRAINE A. ROSSI
V.
PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION
NO. 269 OF 2011

Cause of Action: Negligence—
Automobile Collision

On February 2, 2009, Plaintiff Lorraine Rossi was parked on North Main Street in Greensburg. As she was preparing to exit the driver's seat of her vehicle, she looked over her left shoulder to check for oncoming traffic, placing her left arm on the headrest. While in this position, a Pennsylvania Department of Transportation ("PennDOT") snow plow struck Plaintiff's side view mirror, breaking the mirror's glass and causing it to rotate forward. Plaintiff claimed that the impact caused her body to be driven into her steering wheel, while her left arm remained stuck on the headrest. Plaintiff claimed that she suffered a torn left rotator cuff, along with neck and back injuries, as a result of the incident.

Defendant denied that its snow plow struck Plaintiff's vehicle. Defendant further denied that any supposed contact could have caused the injuries sustained by Plaintiff, as the contact would have been minimal.

Both parties presented the testimony of an expert witness. Orthopedic surgeon Gregory Hung, M.D., testified on behalf of Plaintiff. Defendant presented the testimony of Richard A. Bragg, Ph.D., P.E., a civil engineer and accident reconstructionist. Dr. Bragg testified that Plaintiff's vehicle, a GMC Yukon XL Denali, would not have moved as a result of the contact between the snow plow and the side view mirror.

Trial Date(s): January 7-8, 2015

Plaintiff's Counsel: Paul G. Mayer, Jr., Pgh.

Defendant's Counsel: Henry J. Salvi, Attorney General's Office, Pgh.

Trial Judge: The Hon. David A. Regoli

Result: Verdict in favor of Plaintiff in the amount of \$0.00. The jury found

continued on page 8

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Jury Trial Verdicts *continued from page 7*

that Defendant was negligent, but determined that Defendant's negligence was not the cause of Plaintiff's injuries. Thus, the jury did not award Plaintiff any damages for pain and suffering.

**ROBERT ROY MARTIN AND
MARJORIE SUE MARTIN**

V.

**D.M. BRENTZEL BUILDERS, INC.
NO. 5621 OF 2008**

*Cause of Action: Breach of Contract —
Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer
Protection Law*

Plaintiffs alleged that Defendant breached a June 1, 1995, contract and violated Pennsylvania's Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law ("UTPCPL") stemming from the construction and land grading of a home purchased by Plaintiffs from Defendant. Plaintiffs claimed that as a result of the construction by Defendant, a landslide occurred in the rear of Plaintiffs' property that damaged a deck attached to their residence. Plaintiffs

alleged that Defendant breached the contract and violated the UTPCPL by failing to provide a residence free from a landslide. Plaintiffs thus sought recovery of the money they had to expend to remediate the damage caused by the landslide. Defendant denied that its construction contributed to the landslide, which occurred on February 1, 2005, over nine years after Plaintiffs took possession of the residence.

Trial Date(s): January 12, 2015

Plaintiffs' Counsel: William P.

Bresnahan II, Pgh.

Defendants' Counsel: Mark Ulven,
Pgh.

Trial Judge: The Hon. David A.
Regoli

Result: After Plaintiffs presented their case-in-chief, Defendant moved for a compulsory non-suit, which the Court granted as to Plaintiffs' UTPCPL claim. After Defendant presented its evidence as to the remaining breach of contract claim, jury returned a verdict in favor of Defendant.

**DARREN PELLMAN AND
LORI PELLMAN**

V.

**DECESARE CORPORATION
AND TED M. DECESARE
NO. 2419 OF 2012**

Cause of Action: Breach of Contract

In March 2007, Plaintiffs entered into a written contract with Defendants to build them a house in Penn Township. Construction commenced, and some time in June 2008, Plaintiffs moved into their home. Plaintiffs alleged that Defendants' workmanship and construction of their personal residence was defective and deficient, including the following aspects of construction: roof, basement foundation, hot water tank, and electrical and plumbing systems. Despite Plaintiffs' requests for repair and/or a credit or set-off, Defendants failed to correct the alleged deficiencies to the Plaintiffs' satisfaction.

Plaintiffs filed suit asserting: (1) breach of contract; (2) breach of warranty; (3) negligence; and (4) piercing the corporate veil. At trial, in addition to the testimony of the parties, both parties presented expert testimony from witnesses who were experienced in the construction industry.

Before deliberations, the Court granted a non-suit on both the breach of implied warranty of habitability claim and the negligence claim. The jury considered only whether Defendants breached their contract with Plaintiffs for the construction of their home in a proper and workmanlike manner.

Trial Date(s): January 5–9, 2015

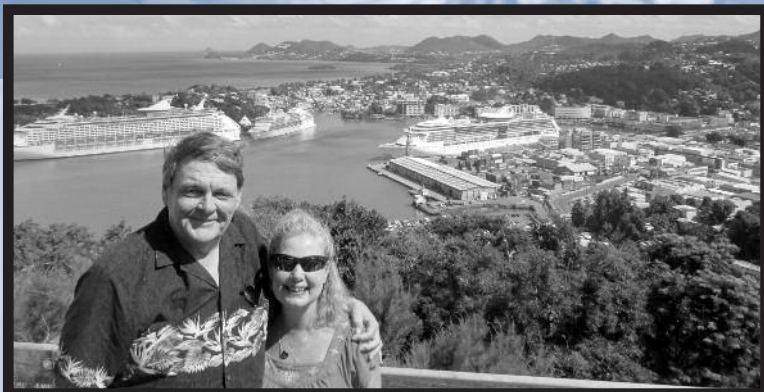
Plaintiffs' Counsel: Joseph J. Bosick and Bradley A. Matta, Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti, LLP, Pgh.

Defendants' Counsel: Bernard P. Matthews, Jr., Gbg.

Trial Judge: The Hon. Richard E. McCormick, Jr.

Result: Verdict in favor of the Defendants. 🍀

where in the world IS THE WBA MEMBER?



Terry O'Halloran and his wife, Sherry, visited Saint Lucia this past November as part of a Caribbean cruise from San Juan, Puerto Rico. "Our ship is in the background behind my head," says Terry. "That damned big head hides everything!"

SAINT LUCIA

New Member Sketches

THOMAS B. ANDERSON has rejoined the WBA as a participating member. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science from West Virginia University, and his J.D. from Duquesne University. Tom is a shareholder with Thomson, Rhodes & Cowie, P.C. in Pittsburgh. He and his wife, Annette, have three children, Tommy, Jeffrey, and Rayna, and live in Mount Pleasant.

P. MICHAEL BOSCHA has joined the WBA as a participating member. Michael studied at the University of Pittsburgh and Allegheny College, where he majored in history, philosophy, and economics, and earned his juris doctor degree from Duquesne University. He resides in Greensburg.

FAITH A. BURNS has rejoined the WBA as a participating member. She earned her undergraduate degree from Saint Vincent College and earned her J.D. from Widener University. Faith is a sole practitioner in Greensburg and lives in Latrobe.

MATTHEW R. COMSTOCK has been admitted as a participating member of the WBA. He earned a bachelor's degree in international politics from Penn State, and his J.D. from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Matthew and his wife, Devon White, live in Hunker.

The court en banc will recognize the newest members of the WBA at the annual New Members Ceremony scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, in Ceremonial Courtroom No. 3 at the Westmoreland County Courthouse at 3:00 p.m.

Please join us for a complimentary reception at The Rialto following the ceremony.

GREGORY J. DEFLORIA has rejoined the WBA as a participating member. Greg earned his undergraduate degree from Pitt, where he majored in political science, his J.D. from the University of Toledo, and is an Assistant District Attorney for Westmoreland County. He and his wife, Janice, have a daughter, Gina, and live in Greensburg.

ANDREW C. HARVAN was admitted to the WBA as a participating member. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Saint Vincent College, and his J.D. from Ohio Northern University. An associate with Sean Cassidy & Associates in Greensburg, Andrew lives in Mammoth.

GEORGE C. MILLER, JR., has been admitted as a participating member of the WBA. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Saint Vincent College, and his J.D. from Ave Maria School of Law in Naples, Fla. George clerked for The Hon. Joseph M. George, Jr., in Fayette County before joining the staff of The Hon. Harry F. Smail, Jr., in Westmoreland.

JOHN J. PETRUSH, JR., has rejoined the WBA as a participating member. John studied international relations and history at the University of Southern California, and earned his J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. He is a Westmoreland County Assistant District Attorney. He and his wife, WBA member Judith Petrush, have two children, Nicholas and Cecilia, and live in Delmont.

VANDA RASZEWSKI was admitted to the WBA as a participating member. She earned a B.F.A. in Acting from New York University, and earned her J.D. from the University of North Carolina. Vanda is an associate with Horner Law Firm, P.C., in Murrysville. She and her husband, Karl, live in Trafford with their two children, Charisma and Karl ("Trip").

THERESA MERRILL STONES has joined the WBA as a participating member. An English major at Allegheny College, Theresa earned a Master of Arts Degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and her J.D. from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She and her husband, AJ, have two children, Daniel and Benjamin, and live in Trafford. 🐾



Galloway-Monzo, P.C. is pleased to announce that **Victor G. Myers** has joined the firm as an **Associate Attorney.**

Victor, the son of Scott and Toni Myers, earned his law degree from Ohio Northern University in 2014 and graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in 2009 with a degree in Environmental Studies. Victor was admitted to practice in 2014 and will be practicing in the areas of criminal law and civil litigation. We look forward to

Victor's capable representation, as our firm continues to provide the highest quality legal representation to our clients in Westmoreland County and surrounding areas.

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"At his best, man is the noblest of all animals; separated from law and justice he is the worst."

— Aristotle

The Road Toad, Under the Knife

by Terry O'Halloran, Esq.

On a recent Saturday, my wife and I met two other couples for dinner at The Road Toad, an establishment along Route 30 in Ligonier Township overlooking the Loyalhanna Creek. We've been coming here for years, but THIS time, I was wearing my "undercover" hat as an *ex officio* food critic envoy of *the sidebar*.



▲ Terry O'Halloran

Be prepared—the building is set up so you actually enter the premises through the bar. This could be a turn-off for some people, but harkening back to my Irish roots, I, of course, immediately felt at home: very "Irish pub-like!" Particularly so because it's an impressive bar: a large three-sided square arrangement that, when filled with convivial conversations and laughter like that Saturday night, makes you shed any dark mood you may be wearing, along with your overcoat when you come through the door.

We "O's" were the last of the party to arrive (as ALWAYS, dammit, but that's another story!), so we were immediately taken to our seats for dinner. Of course, we "O's" were allowed to relax with a refreshing adult beverage, but our company was hungry, so the food was ordered quickly. And so I'll get right to my job.

I would describe the food here, overall, as definitely "more than adequate." It is not *haute cuisine*, nor is it intended to be. I'd call it "American Eclectic." Take our evening, for example. Six meals at our table: two beef filets (the "special"), one ahi tuna, one crabmeat-filled cod, one piccata chicken, and one (yew!) liver and onions. And every one was done, by the eaters' reports, to a degree between "very tasty" and "wonderful!" Even the liver, I'm told. My own palate will never know. You do pay *a la carte* for sides, which can be a bit pricey, to be honest, so be careful when you order. The unrelenting correlation between the volumes I ingest and my outlay of cash is forever discouraging, no matter where I eat.

And the wine list has all the standard potables one could definitely call ... wet. All right, nothing outstanding here, but all drinkable—at least the ones I'll put down MY throat—and it appears

there is an ample selection, most of which, by my choice, I'll never know, to complement the food. And the beer selection is unusually large, I think, with even a few local craft beers being provided as a rule.

Now remember, you overlook the Loyalhanna when you eat here. In the summer, you have an outside creek-side view of the beauty that flows past you. In the winter, you can sit in the glass enclosed porch overlooking the same beautiful Loyalhanna with an ice-covered majesty you can get No Where Else!

If I could change anything here, I'd wish for an even bigger glassed-in porch from which to see "the View." Understanding that there is absolutely nothing wrong with any of the dining areas in The Road Toad, I would advise to either make reservations early or eat there at off-peak hours to sit where

continued on page 12



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To-Wit: Wild Pitch

It wasn't unexpected; in fact, it had been planned for some time. Yet when I walked into my law library and watched as the movers unceremoniously pitched book after book into a wheelbarrow to be carted outside to the waiting Dumpster, it felt nothing less than like I'd been hit in the head by an object moving at speed. For the brief period of time that this psychotic moment assumed full rein, my stomach churned, my knees buckled, and it seemed as if my entire professional life had hit the dirt.

The anxiety engendered by the certain approach of this cataclysmic event had been depressing me ever since I decided to move my office to smaller quarters, quarters that had precious little room for such superfluous legal paraphernalia as law books.

Yikes! I just referred to law books as superfluous legal paraphernalia and yet here I still sit, no heaven-sent brimstone reducing me to ashes, no

cavernous fissures opening up to swallow me whole hog, no woman demanding marriage.

I have forever had a reverence for books, all books (excepting perhaps *Mein Kampf*), but law books have always seemed to me to be particularly holy. They are the corporeal substantiation of professional knowledge, the foundation upon which the entire structure of law has been erected.

Every real lawyer has been in a true law library at one time or another, and insurance defense counsel must surely have heard about them. They are things of such beauty, such elegance, such splendor that I have clung to mine long after most of the volumes had been reduced by the Internet to nothing more than window dressing.

It's all done by computer now, of course, a few keystrokes here, a few mouse clicks there, and *presto chango*, the entire world of law is all there.

The last time I saw a law book actually being used was in a recent television commercial in which someone playing a physician, standing in front of a bookcase, put a copy of a *Pacific Reporter* back on a shelf before turning to the camera to pitch a cure for diarrhea.

Computer research is just not the same as using books, not even close. There's no heft to it, no mass, no weight, and the opinions we now print out and hold in our hands have always seemed to me to possess way too much ethereality to govern the affairs of humankind.

In yesteryear, we all carried books to oral argument. "Perhaps if Your Honor would just read this," I would say, offering up a bound volume

continued on page 12



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Bachelor's degree in Engineering from New York University
Master's degree in Electrical Engineering from Drexel University
J.D. from Temple University
Chemistry studies at University of Pittsburgh
Registered Professional Engineer (Pennsylvania)
Formerly Assistant Professor at Villanova University
Formerly Doctoral Candidate in Mathematics at Bryn Mawr College

To-Wit: Wild Pitch

continued from page 11

bookmarked to a specific case, “the Court may realize how meretricious opposing counsel’s argument really is.” But if I’m going to harness my vast vituperative vocabulary to justifiably denigrate every opposing counsel who disagrees with me, I sure as hell want something with more stopping power than a computer printout.



But to my eternal sorrow, it won’t be that way ever again. The newer generations of lawyers do their research in the clouds and have no worship of bound volumes, no veneration of such bygone things as advance sheets, decennial digests, state reporters. The very things that used to evoke such awe at their assemblage now no longer elicit so much as the slightest

“aw” at their dismemberments.

We cannot permit our beloved books to pass thusly. I therefore beseech all of you to join me next Friday, precisely at noon, as together we rise wherever we are and observe a moment of silence for our dearly departed friends. Insurance defense counsel are excused. 🐼

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The Road Toad

continued from page 10

you will want to sit—On The Porch! Because if you sit anywhere else, it won’t be—On The Porch! Got it?

But regardless of where you sit, it appears the owner has taken the time to hunt down and hire a nice staff to serve you. Speaking for myself, a friendly, efficient wait staff always makes my meals taste better.

We’ve been coming to this place for years and in writing this piece, I was trying to identify why I keep coming back. Certainly the quirky name played its part in the beginning, but I’m long over that. And it is perfectly located as the first oasis coming back from Ligonier after a day-long shopping expedition with my wife. I mean, I’ll stop here for a respite dinner rather than seek the electric shock therapy I really need after those days. But I’m not put through those tortuous excursions often enough to explain how we’ve come to be here as often as we have over time.

I suppose it all comes down to the basics of consistently good food in a beautiful setting with an amiable atmosphere. “Comfortable” is a powerful draw to me for my dining experience, it appears. 🐼



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Westmoreland Revisited

Constitutional Challenge: The Voice of Westmoreland's William Findley In Opposition to Ratification

by The Hon. Daniel J. Ackerman

The United States Constitution stands as such a national icon; it is hard to imagine that, after it was drafted, anyone would question the wisdom of the delegates who had labored in secrecy at Independence Hall in what was then called the Federal Convention. It was not called the Constitutional Convention in those days, for its members were enlisted to make amendments to the Articles of Confederation, which had proved so problematic during the Revolution, and not to design a new government. While the delegates acted outside of their authority, they would prescribe a method for the ratification of their actions and the constitution they finally agreed upon. Approval would be sought, not from the Confederation Congress or the legislatures of the thirteen states, but from the people, through those they chose to send to special ratifying conventions in each of the states.

In Pennsylvania, support for the proposed constitution was strong in Philadelphia and the southeastern counties, and many there hoped that the state would be the first to ratify the new constitution; a distinction which ultimately would belong to Delaware. In the final tally at the Pennsylvania Ratification Convention, which met in Philadelphia at the Pennsylvania State House, now known as Independence Hall, from November 21 through December 15, 1787, the yeas would outnumber nays 46-23; but in the end, surprisingly, one-third of the delegates, primarily from Western Pennsylvania, were opposed to adopting the constitution presented to them.

The minority faction was led by Robert Whitehall of Cumberland County; John Smilie of the newly created Fayette County; and a farmer-delegate from Westmoreland County, William Findley. All three were, ironically, members of the

Constitutionalist Party, which had attracted Scotch-Irish and German settlers in the "back counties." Their political opponents—mostly from the mercantile and professional classes of the east—who called themselves Republicans in state politics, labeled the Constitutionalist as "Antifederalists." Other Antifederalists from western Pennsylvania, though they were not delegates to the convention, included Hugh Henry Brackenridge and Albert Gallatin.



▲
The Hon. Daniel J. Ackerman

ON THE ROAD TO RATIFICATION

An Ulsterman, William Findley, at age 22, immigrated to Pennsylvania in 1763, and arrived in Westmoreland County 20 years later, four years prior to the beginning of the ratification proceedings. In the interim, he had farmed and raised a family in Cumberland County, and served as a militiaman during the Revolution, rising to the rank of captain in the Eighth Battalion of the Cumberland County Associators. He quickly took root in Westmoreland County, purchasing a farm in Unity Township on the banks of the Loyalhanna Creek, between what would come to be Latrobe and the St. Vincent Monastery, and which he would call home for the next 36 years.

In addition to being a farmer, this large man with a florid complexion was also a weaver by trade, a prominent Presbyterian churchman, and a

continued on page 14

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William Findley *continued from page 13*

self-educated writer, who immersed himself in the county's political life. While he was not known as a gifted orator, his political prowess was founded upon his ideas and his common touch with frontier neighbors. This, in short order, would bring him to the ratification convention.

Many in the back counties of the west struggled with mistrust and resentment of those in the east, feelings which were exacerbated by the ratification debate, and which would eventually come to a head in the 1794 insurrection known as the Whiskey Rebellion.

Distrust was a two-way street. The election of delegates to the convention on ratification was scheduled for November 6; yet on October 31, a Philadelphia newspaper, the *Freeman's Journal*, printed a letter from western Pennsylvania asking when copies of the proposed constitution, which had been printed

and circulated, would be sent to that part of the state. It was an open question as to whether the Republican, pro-constitution state government had suppressed or failed to facilitate the distribution of the document to a part of the state most likely to be opposing it.

On the night of the election, Findley, Smilie, and other doubters who were in Philadelphia, had their boardinghouse stoned by a mob. A \$300 reward was offered by the state's executive counsel for the apprehension of the perpetrators, but nobody was caught, and the story was not carried in any of the city's newspapers.

Federalist essays were widely circulated, and the *Federalist Papers*, written by James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay, are still widely read today as a valuable source of constitutional history, but the essays of the Antifederalists were often stifled. For example, Ebenezer Bowman of

Wilkes-Barre candidly noted that he had "carefully avoided" letting local people learn "that any objections were made to the Constitution." A similar form of censorship carried over to the reporting of the ratification convention once it was underway.

Despite all this, and the ultimate vote both in Pennsylvania and the other twelve states, the noted historian, Samuel Eliot Morison, wrote, "There is little doubt that the Antifederalists would have won a Gallup poll." And "the Federalist policy [in Pennsylvania] was to rush things through before the [opposition] could organize."

THE GREAT DEBATE

So just what did the Antifederalists want? The purpose of the convention was to ratify or deny ratification to the proposed constitution as a whole; the delegates could not propose amendments. Those who would oppose ratification would nevertheless

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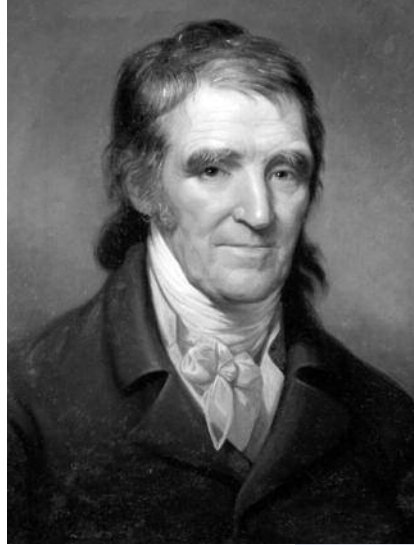
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call attention to specific omissions or sections which they found disagreeable.

One common objection was that the document contained no bill of rights. Findley was particularly distressed that there was no provision for securing the right of trial by jury in civil actions, as was provided for criminal cases. Others (though neither Findley nor Smilie) wanted a unicameral legislature, such as that used in Pennsylvania at the time. Some voices favored a larger House of Representatives; reduction of the government's treaty-making powers; shorter terms of office; immediate prohibition on importation of slaves; the right to bear arms; the right "to fowl and hunt" on unenclosed land and to fish on all navigable waters; to limit the taxing power to "imposts and duties upon goods imported and exported, and postage on letters"; and to deny Congress power over inheritance laws and the regulation of contracts.

Vituperation and insult were no strangers to 18th century political debate. Steven Chambers, a delegate from Lancaster, questioned from the floor Findley's patriotism, service in the Revolution, and character. Findley replied that Chambers was, true to form, doing what he always did in



▲ William Findley, by Rembrandt Peale, 1805.

debates, which was "to discourse without reason and to talk without argument."

Findley was no wide-eyed radical; he conceded of the proposed constitution: "Its outlines are well laid," and that amendments "may answer all our wishes." Yet, he wasn't a pushover. He rebuked the drafters for not including the right to trial by jury in civil cases, asserting: When Sweden abandoned jury trials, "the commons of that nation lost their freedom" ... and a "tyrannical aristocracy" took over.

Two delegates, James Wilson and Thomas McKean, mocked him, with McKean—who was also Pennsylvania's chief justice—saying that jury trials never existed anywhere but in England or in governments modeled after England. The next day the self-educated farmer and weaver brought two books with him, with proof that indeed, Sweden once had jury trials: a *Universal History*, published in London, and the third volume of Blackstone's *Commentaries on the Laws of England*, tartly adding that if his son had been studying law for six months and was unacquainted with the passage in Blackstone, "I would be justified in whipping him." The chief justice had the good sense to not make any comment, while Wilson said, "I do not pretend to remember everything I read."

Of course, there was more at stake than such trivial things as the history of the Swedish judicial system. Articles were being printed in various newspapers lamenting the extremely low voter turnout for the election of delegates to the ratification convention. In response, Findley tried to block the vote of the delegates. Historian Pauline Maier wrote:

On the morning of December 12, Findley—building no doubt on those news items—told the convention that, according to the "best information he could get," no more than a sixth of the people had participated in the vote for convention delegates. Since a majority of the people could well be opposed to the Constitution, he proposed deferring the vote on ratification until "the general sentiments of the people could be obtained." More ominously, he said that under the circumstances the minority would not feel bound by a positive vote and had a right not only "to object to the proposed Constitution" but also, if it pleased, "to associate under another form of government."

Associate under another form of government! This would certainly

continued on page 16

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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.



William Findley *continued from page 15*

have hit a nerve, for only six months earlier a rebellion of anti-government protesters in central and western Massachusetts led by Daniel Shays had been quashed. Their goal had been to shut down the state government over what the protestors deemed oppressive economic policies, and they had disrupted normal operations of the state for nine months. More ominously, it reflected the fact that among many westerners there was a willingness to at least consider the possibility of secession and the creation of a new nation; an idea which would later be floated during both the Whiskey Rebellion (1794) and the Burr Conspiracy (1805).

POST-RATIFICATION

The ratification vote took place on December 12, 1787, but the convention remained in session for three more days, presumably to do the paperwork. Thereafter, one by one, over the next 29 months, other state

conventions would follow suit, until on May 29, 1790, Rhode Island, which at the beginning of the process was considered the most doubtful, became the 13th and last state to do so.

After ratification, Findley, in 1789, would be one of the leaders in yet another convention which drafted a new Constitution for Pennsylvania; and he would soon thereafter serve the new federal government, which the United States Constitution created, by representing the county in Congress from 1791 to 1799, and then again, from 1803 to 1817. During the Whiskey Rebellion, many of his constituents opposed the federal government and he argued on their behalf, while at the same time tried to mediate the dispute. In 1796, as a result of this experience, he wrote the "History of the Insurrection in Western Pennsylvania." He died at age 80 in 1821, and is buried in Latrobe's Unity Cemetery.

The Constitution he argued against has served us well, and he would likely agree that the amendment process did, in fact, answer many of his wishes. It has yet to fully meet the expectations of another delegate, Benjamin Rush, who predicted that "a millennium of virtue and happiness" would follow its enactment. 🇺🇸


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Daniel Joseph

Letters to the Judge

Your honor, Sir,
So it has come to this. The county intends to put profit ahead of fond memories, nostalgia, and historical significance. My cellmate, Jeeter, has just showed me a clipping which Darlene, his

significant other, sent him which boldly proclaims that it is the county's intent to sell

SCI-Greensburg. It was, your honor, bad enough when they closed this venerable institution, but there remained still the hope that with a reversal in the crime rate (one can always hope) it someday might be put back in service.

Do the commissioners think that such a crass move will have no effect on those who, through human frailty, bad luck, and an unsympathetic jury spent some of the best months of their lives there, while learning to draft motions for post-trial relief? Most of the memories of the time spent there may be bad, but at least they are ours. Jeeter points out that his father met his mother in Jeannette while on work-release from No. 5; and some of us met acquaintances there with whom we have reconnected in other institutions or in the waiting rooms of parole offices.

The buildings have historical worth. The place opened way back in 1969, and was the first regional

correctional facility in Pennsylvania, housing an assortment of inmates from nine different counties, and some of our most esteemed senior judges happily sent their first convictees there. First will be the sale, and then the bulldozers will not be far behind. Your honor, it will be like razing the Bastille or Alcatraz. If kept as is the county would have the option of attracting tourists by

opening it as a theme park where future generations could show their grandchildren just where bad timing and the lack of attention to detail might land them.

Please, your honor, do something to stop this desecration, but if you can't, we would settle for a historic marker and a parole. 🐾

Sincerely,
Ricky H. Benbow, Sr.



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Actions of the Board

NOVEMBER 13, 2014

- Accepted Director Beth Orbison's resignation from the WBA Board, effective December 1.
- Accepted Membership Committee report: George Miller and Michael Hilliard as associate members.
- Tabled vote on 2015 budget until December Board meeting.
- Accepted proposal for appraisal of WBA building by Gary Hayden at a cost of \$1,200.
- Discussed opening on LLS board, which needs to be filled at end of December.
- Voted accordingly on proposed bylaw changes:

Approved bylaw change in Article VI, Paragraph 7 for vote at the next quarterly meeting.

ARTICLE VI PARAGRAPH 7:
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AUTOMATIC SUCCESSION AS OUTLINED BY THE BYLAWS, AN ELECTION SHALL BE HELD AT THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION CONSISTENT WITH ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS OF MEMBERS - WITH THE ELECTION OF THE HIGHEST OFFICE TO OCCUR FIRST.

Approved bylaw change in Article VII, Paragraphs 1-2 for vote at the next quarterly meeting.

ARTICLE VII PARAGRAPHS 1-2:

1. Three Directors, who shall be either Participating or Life Members, shall be elected to the Board to serve for a three-year term. Their terms shall be staggered so that one Director is elected each year. All sitting members may complete their elected terms.
2. Any vacancy resulting in fewer than three directors shall be filled by the next most senior director. The most senior director between two directors elected the same year shall be determined by casting lots or mutual agreement

between the two directors. The final resulting vacancy shall be filled by vote of the membership at the next annual scheduled meeting.

Approved bylaw change in Article IV, Paragraph 8 for vote at the next quarterly meeting.

ARTICLE IV PARAGRAPH 8:

8. Members put forth by the Nominating Committee shall automatically be placed on the ballot. Nominations may also be made from the floor, provided that the member has given the Executive Director written notice of his/her intent to seek election at least two weeks prior to the meeting. In such case the Executive Director shall immediately give notice by electronic means to the members of the Association.

In the event that there is no candidate for any given vacancy, who meets the above criteria, nominations shall be permitted from the floor without prior notice.

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DECEMBER 18, 2014

- Accepted Membership Committee report as presented: Vanda Raszewski, John Petrush, Andrew Harvan, Greg DeFloria and Michael Comstock, as participating members.
- Approved 2015 budget with increase of \$15,000 for building renovations.
- Agreed to post upcoming Investment Committee meetings on the board agenda.
- Agreed to look at Laurel Legal Service bylaws to seek change to allow WBA executive director to sit on the board as appointee of the WBA.
- Voted to distribute a request for proposals to address the building façade renovation, including a timeline for bids to be received and project to be completed.

JANUARY 29, 2015

- Accepted Membership Committee report as presented: Tom Anderson and P. Michael Boscha, as participating members.
- Learned of a \$42,000 surplus at end of year, with \$20,000 contributed to the Pershing account in late December.

- Learned that Scott Avolio was appointed to LLS Board effective immediately.
- Agreed to invite anyone interested in serving as PBA Zone 6 Governor to attend the February Board meeting and meet with the WBA Board.
- Learned that the WBA building appraisal will not be completed until early March.
- Voted to place a Board member on *the sidebar* editorial board for improved continuity and communication between the respective boards.
- Agreed to send a membership e-letter to advertise—one more time—the board and committee openings.
- Agreed to hold Annual Meeting at Rizzo's on April 6.
- Agreed to explore possible sponsorship of Art On Tap for the new museum.
- Authorized the expenditure for a new server and new Mac computer for the WBA office staff.
- Agreed that Mr. Andrews will talk with President Judge McCormick about inviting the judges to organize the Friday morning CLE at the Bench/Bar Conference. 🍷

BRIEFLY SPEAKING



Trent A. Echard was elected to Shareholder of Strassburger, McKenna, Gutnick & Gefsky in Pittsburgh. His practice includes all types of civil litigation. In addition, Trent serves as Co-Chair of the firm's

Oil and Gas Practice Group and devotes a significant part of his practice to representing landowners and commercial enterprises in negotiating leases and contracts, and resolving surface use, lease and title disputes. He is also a licensed patent attorney. Trent is an honors graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, with degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Biomedical Engineering. He has a law degree from Case Western Reserve University. Following law school, Trent served as a judicial law clerk in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. 🍷



Pittsburgh Corning Corporation has appointed **Rosalie J. Bell** as Vice President and General Counsel. Rose has served as General Counsel of Pittsburgh Corning Corporation since 2006. She is the chief legal

advisor for Pittsburgh Corning Corporation and Pittsburgh Corning Europe, functioning as General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer, and Assistant Secretary on a worldwide basis. In addition, she serves as a Director of company subsidiaries worldwide. Rose joined the Legal Department of Pittsburgh Corning Corporation in 1989 as a Corporate Paralegal. Throughout her 25-year career with the company, she has served in a series of legal roles with increasing responsibility, including Corporate Counsel, Senior Corporate Counsel, and General Counsel. Before joining Pittsburgh Corning, she worked in the legal department of Westinghouse Electric Company. Rose earned a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of Pittsburgh and a J.D. degree from Duquesne University School of Law in Pittsburgh. 🍷

Save The Date

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH 2015

Annual Holiday Dinner Dance

Oakmont Country Club

🍷 Oakmont, Pa. 🍷



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*All committee meetings and activities will be held at the WBA Headquarters unless otherwise noted. Visit www.westbar.org for more information about activities and CLE courses, or to **register online**.*

MARCH

- 11** Real Estate Committee, Noon
- 17** Family Law Committee, Noon
Presentation of New Members,
3 p.m., Westmoreland County
Courthouse
- 18** Elder Law & Orphans' Court
Committees, Noon
Membership Committee, Noon

APRIL

- 3** Courthouse closed in observance
of Good Friday
- 6** Annual Meeting of the
Westmoreland Bar Association
and Westmoreland Bar
Foundation, Rizzo's Banquet
Hall, Crabtree, Pa.

- 15** Membership Committee, Noon
[CLE] 2015 Personal Injury
Update, Noon to 2:15 p.m.,
2 optional substantive credits
available
- 21** Family Law Committee, Noon
[CLE] Emotional Intelligence:
What Is It and Why It Matters,
4 to 5 p.m., 1 FREE ethics credit
available
- 28** [CLE] Video Compliance
Seminar, 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.,
5 optional substantive and
1 optional ethics credits available

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. 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.

White-Collar Crime and Embezzlement Problems for Lawyers

— LIVE — 1 Substantive Credit Available



An accredited provider for the PA Board of Continuing Legal Education

Detective Tom Horan of the Westmoreland County District Attorney's Office will speak about his 30+ years of experience investigating white-collar crime, including embezzlement by office staff of lawyers and others.

Topics of Discussion:

- Suggestions to avoid white-collar crime & embezzlement
- Tracking and putting together a case for white-collar crime
- The role of a County Detective as a Financial Crime Investigator
- The role of the District Attorney's Office

Moderator: Timothy C. Andrews Esq.

One (1) Substantive Credit is available toward your annual CLE requirements.

You may pre-register for this seminar by visiting the westbar.org website. You must "LOG IN" to register. OR submit the form below.

March 20, 2015

White-Collar Crime and Embezzlement Problems for Lawyers

Name: _____

Attorney I.D. # _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Enclosed is my check made payable to the Westmoreland Bar Association.

Bill my MasterCard VISA DISCOVER for \$ _____ (Amount).

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Credit Card Billing Address _____

Pre-Registration Fees

CLE Credit:

- WBA Members - \$30 per credit hour
- Non-Members - \$50 per credit hour

Non-Credit:

- \$10 Flat Rate
- Waived for Young Lawyers (practicing 10 years or less)
- FREE-I am a member of the WBA Criminal Law Committee

To qualify for Pre-Registration Seminar Fees - Please return this form and your payment to the WBA Office, 129 North Pennsylvania Avenue, Greensburg, PA 15601, **by 12 pm March 19, 2015.**

**Friday,
March 20, 2015
12:00 pm - 1:15 pm
WBA Headquarters**

Seminar Fees:

PRE-REGISTRATION:

(Must be prepaid & received at the WBA office by 12 pm March 19, 2015)

CLE Credit

WBA Members - \$30 per credit hr.

Non-Members - \$50 per credit hr.

Non-Credit

\$10 Flat Rate

Waived for Young Lawyers (practicing 10 years or less) & Members of the WBA Criminal Law Committee

WALK- IN:

CLE Credit

WBA Members- \$40 per credit hr.

Non-Members - \$50 per credit hr.

Non-Credit

\$20 Flat Rate

Waived for Young Lawyers (practicing 10 years or less) & Members of the WBA Criminal Law Committee

Lunch will be provided.

Westmoreland Bar Association

129 North Pennsylvania Ave.

Greensburg, PA 15601

724-834-6730

Fax: 724-834-6855

www.westbar.org

For refund policy information, or if special arrangements are needed for the disabled, please contact the WBA Office at

724-834-6730, or

by email at westbar.org@westbar.org

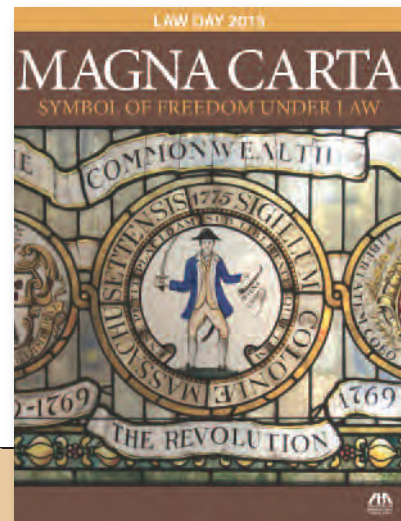
VOLUNTEER FOR LAW DAY 2015

E-mail **Terrilyn Cheatham** at terrilyn.probono@comcast.net,
or return the form below via fax or mail by **Thursday, April 2, 2015**.

Perhaps more than any other document in human history, Magna Carta has come to embody a simple but enduring truth: No one, no matter how powerful, is above the law.

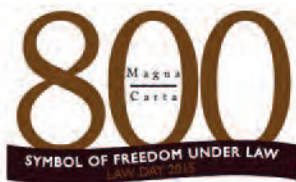
In the eight centuries that have elapsed since Magna Carta was sealed in 1215, it has taken root as an international symbol of the rule of law and as an inspiration for many basic rights Americans hold dear today, including due process, habeas corpus, trial by jury, and the right to travel.

As we mark the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta, join us in commemorating this "Great Charter of Liberties," and rededicating ourselves to advancing the principle of rule of law here and abroad.



LAW DAY 2015 CLASSROOM VISITS

As in years past, we are asking **Westmoreland Bar Association** members to **volunteer** for **classroom visits** in Westmoreland County schools during the month of **May 2015**. If you would like to volunteer, please complete the form below and return it to the Pro Bono Program by **Thursday, April 2, 2015**.



YES! SIGN ME UP FOR LAW DAY! To register for Law Day 2015, complete this form and return it to **Terrilyn Cheatham**, Pro Bono Program of the Westmoreland Bar Foundation, Westmoreland County Courthouse, 2 N Main St Ste 403, Greensburg PA 15601; fax to 724-837-4221; or e-mail terrilyn.probono@comcast.net by **Thursday, April 2, 2015**. Thank you for your interest!

Name _____

Firm _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

School/School District Preference _____ Grade(s) Preference _____

Availability (weekdays in May) _____

Emotional Intelligence: What is it and why it matters

— LIVE — 1 FREE Ethics Credit*



An accredited provider for the PA Board of
Continuing Legal Education

People with high emotional intelligence have the ability to identify, understand and manage their emotions and behaviors in positive ways.

The rewards are numerous:

Less stress and increased resiliency. . . job satisfaction and success. . . healthy relationships. . . self worth and confidence. . . inner peace and freedom.

Topics of Discussion:

- Four attributes of Emotional Intelligence
- Becoming more present and self aware
- Recognizing beliefs and emotions and keeping them from overwhelming you
- Understanding the emotions, needs, and concerns of other people

Presented by: *Elizabeth Minerva RN, HSMI, CWHC*
Excela Health
Well Being Center for Mind/Body Health

You may pre-register for this seminar by visiting the westbar.org website. You must "LOG IN" to register.
OR submit the form below.

April 21, 2015

Emotional Intelligence: What is it and why it matters

Name: _____

Attorney I.D. # _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Sponsored
by the
Westmoreland
Academy of Trial
Lawyers

Please respond by Friday, April 17, 2015.

Tuesday,

April 21, 2015

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

WBA Headquarters

Reception Immediately Following.

1 *FREE*
CLE
Ethics Credit*

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* Seminar is FREE for WBA members.

Cost for non-members is \$50, payable in advance or at the door.

Westmoreland Bar Association
129 North Pennsylvania Ave.
Greensburg, PA 15601
724-834-6730
Fax: 724-834-6855

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Mary Holoman

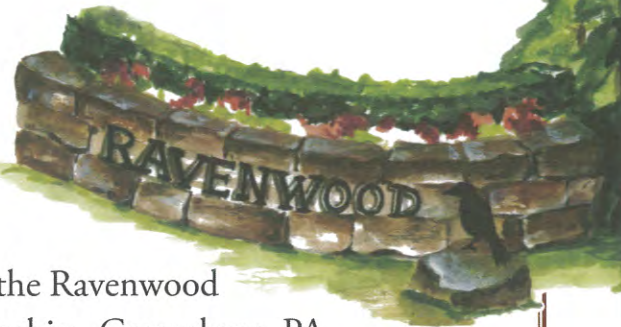
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We would like to invite you to experience the Ravenwood community located in Hempfield Township, Greensburg PA.

On June 21, 2011 ground was broken on this unique housing development which is now complete. The development is located on 96 acres of pristine countryside. Ravenwood is made up of only 44 home sites on this abundant acreage. There are views of the historic Laurel Mountains or graceful rolling hills of a neighboring 18 hole golf course.

Ravenwood offers home sites ranging from just under 1 acre of land to over 9 acres, with all underground public utilities. Home site prices start at \$75,000. Whether you are just beginning the journey with your new family or starting a new chapter in the story of your life, Ravenwood is the answer for anyone wishing to customize their home to fit their lifestyle. This distinguished wooded development will afford you the ability to build the life you always dreamed you would give your family. It will be an affordable investment that will provide you and your loved ones a bright future. A lifetime of happiness begins here.

Please visit our website at www.ravenwoodhomes.com.

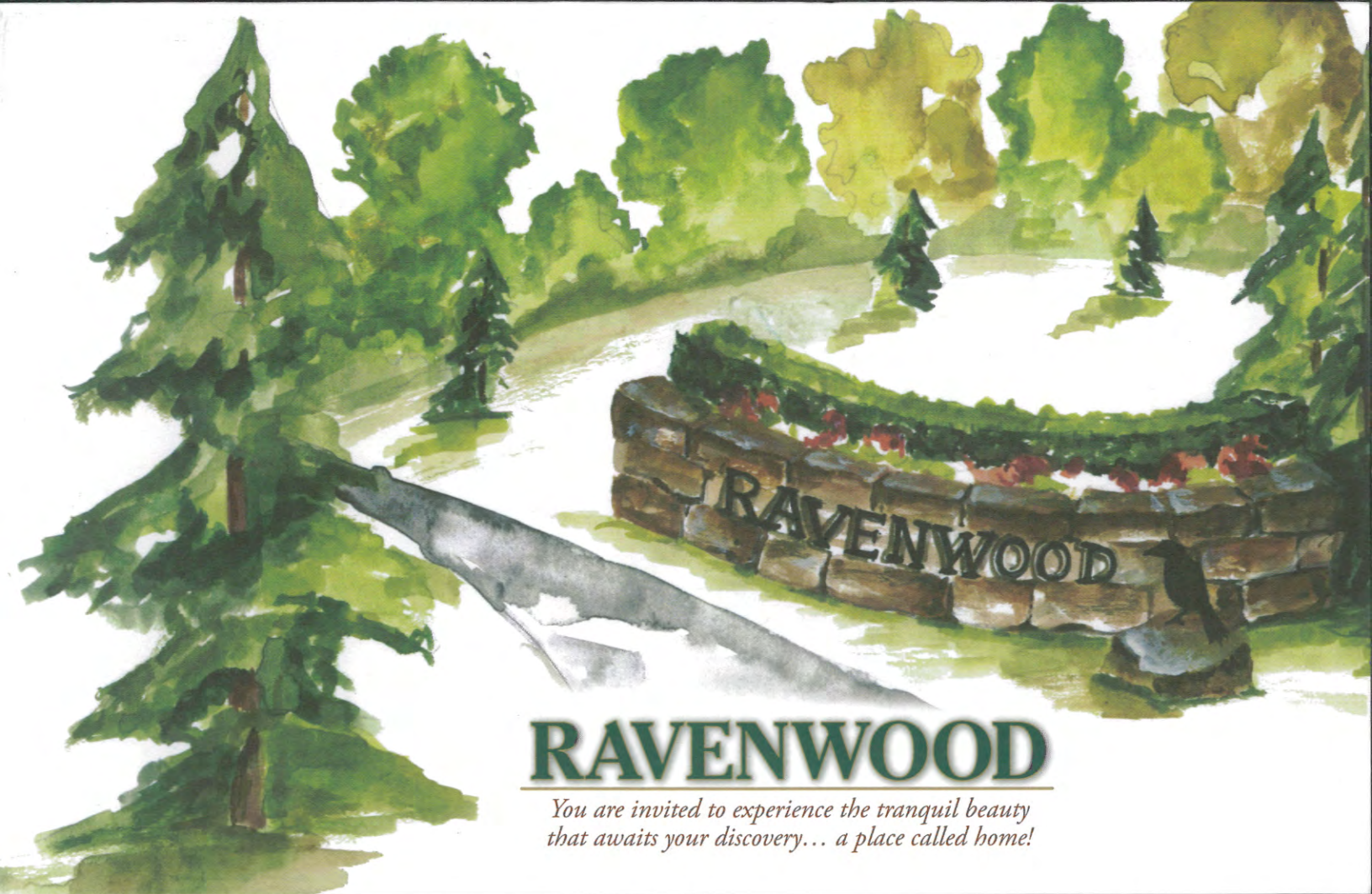
You will find more information regarding each available lot, including acreage and orientation within the development. Also included is information about the surrounding area and answers to some of the most frequently asked questions. Please contact us to learn more about Ravenwood, and to schedule your own personal tour.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

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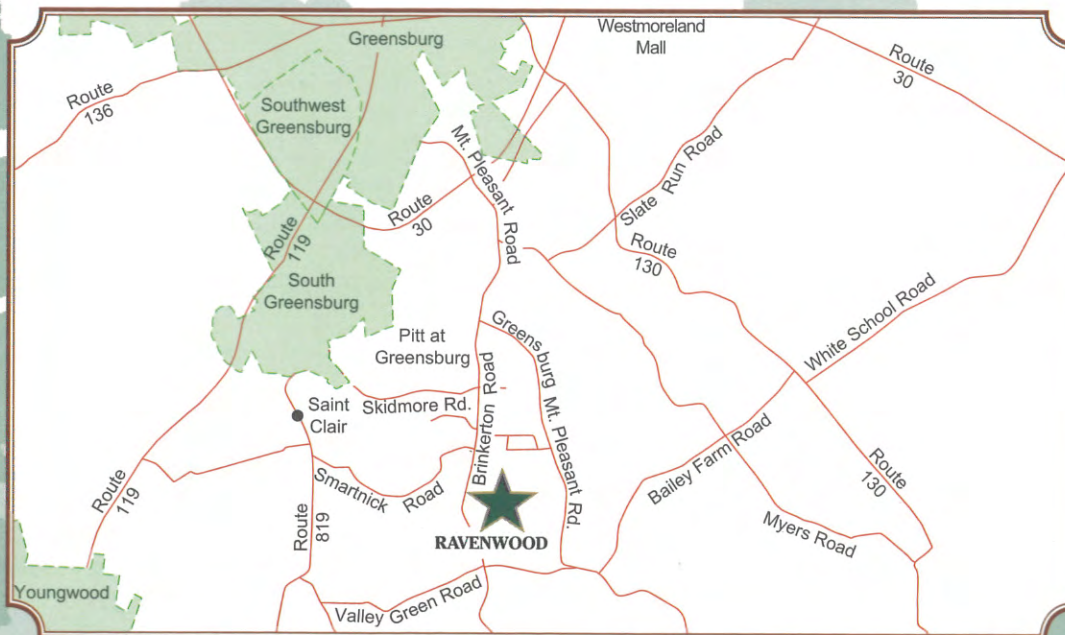


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