



THE COURTERLY

January 2001
Volume 3, Issue 2

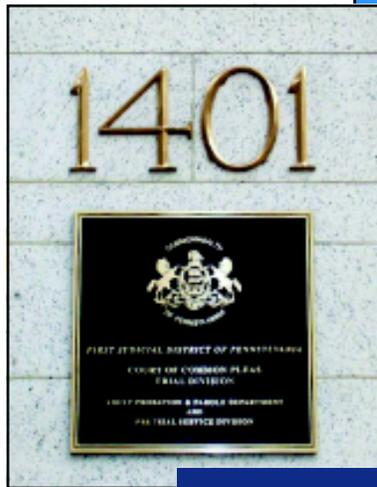
Probation Works

Probation seems to have been first imposed on a broad scale at the end of the 18th and beginning of the 19th centuries by English judges who viewed the existing criminal sentences as particularly harsh and merciless. English law at that time contained well in excess of four hundred capital offenses. Today, at the beginning of the 21st century, probation practices have been refined and modernized to include the latest thinking in corrections and criminal justice. More than 730 employees, representing almost one third (29.4%) of the

total FJD full-time workforce, work as probation officers or in probation-related positions.

Probation and Parole have been established as viable alternatives to costly, overcrowded jails and prisons. The average cost for building a maximum-security bed is said to be \$80,000, and housing and feeding an inmate has been estimated at \$33,000 per year. Comparatively, the average cost of a probation case is miniscule. Probation and parole are clear winners against recidivism. For new drug crimes arrests, former inmates experience 10 new arrests after three years from their release, compared to probation where the average is 3.8, making probation more than twice as effective. In general, probation is two to five times more successful than prison.

In September, the Adult Probation Department moved to newly renovated space at 1401 Arch Street. Upgraded security and an improved working environment were cited.



Points of Interest

- Employees Reach Milestones** 2, 3
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This issue of *The Courterly* pays special attention to the efforts of the FJD Probation Departments



Monday, October 23 was judgment day in the Prothonotary's Office. See back page for other pumpkin contest entries.



FJD ANNIVERSARIES

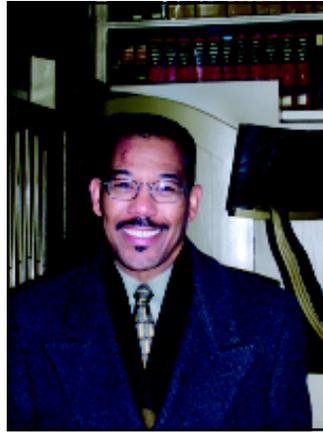
The following employment anniversaries were reached during the period April - September, 2000.

20 YEARS

Sandra M. Andreola, *Juvenile*
Janet Mullin Antonyk, *DR*
Frank Branco, *TC*
Gaybrella Bullard, *DR*
Barbara D. Carr, *DR*
Clayton Carter III, *DR*
Latanya Certaine, *J. Chen*
Helene V. Christian, *Ct. Rep.*
Elizabeth A. Curley, *Admin. Svc.*
Mary T. DePasquale, *Civil Listings*
Diane DiPretoro, *Ct. Rep.*
Anthony DiPrinzio, *Ct. Rep.*
Margaret Dougherty, *J. Chiovero*
Michelle S. Faber, *DR*
Phillip Farling, *Adult Prob.*
Alice M. Flamer, *MC*
Marc A. Flood, *Procurement*
Rita M. Frazier, *Tipstaff*
Joann Gaudioso, *DR*
Vanessa L. Griggs, *DR*
Lisa N. Heyman, *Adult Prob.*
James G. Knowles, *DR*
Denise E. Lancaster, *Pretrial Svc.*
Marianne Lassiter-Ralph, *DR*
James Louis, *TC*
Daniel F. Madonna, Jr., *DR*
Robert H. Manson, Jr., *Tipstaff*
Carla S. Martucci, *Civil Listings*
Susan T. McCauley, *Crim. Rec.*
Arlene Menna, *Adult Prob.*
Diane M. Molas, *Court Rep.*
Norma M. Monte, *Civil Listings*
Grace E. Nogowski, *J. Neifield*
Marcia Osser, *DR*
Nicholas C. Palmer, *Prothonotary*
William M. Plumley, *TC*
Anthony J. Romano, *Procurement*
Darlene G. Servance, *Adoptions*
Domenic R. Severio, *FC*
Dorothy L. Shadding, *Tipstaff*
Joseph A. Sheeran, *Bldg. & Fac.*
Carol A. Sieck, *CCP PJ Office*
Courtney K. Simpson, *Adult Prob.*
Madeline O. Smith, *DR*
James P. Snyder, *Tipstaff*
Sandra L. Stibbins, *Tipstaff*
Donald Sullivan, *Tipstaff*
Joseph R. Urban, *Adult Prob.*
Daniel B. White, *Tipstaff*
Joanne E. Winter, *MC*

25 YEARS

Mark A. Alleva, *DR*
Alexander Bell, *Act. Crim. Rec.*
Dennis J. Brennan, *Civil Listings*
Jacqueline Browne, *Adult Prob.*
Gaeton Bruno, *Jury Selection*
Theodore L. Bryant, *Prothonotary*
Susan A. Carmody, *Act. Crim. Rec.*
Robin Chandler, *Pretrial Svcs.*
James N. Cimorelli, *Prothonotary*
Samuel R. Clark III, *Tipstaff*
John D'Ortona, Jr., *Bldg. & Fac.*
Andrew C. Davis, Jr., *Adult Prob.*
Sandra G. Dorsey, *Adult Prob.*
Joyce M. Ferrero, *Admin. Svc.*
Gregory M. Ford, *Adult Prob.*



Adult Probation Officer **Steffan "Steve" Boyd**.

Two Probation Officers, Different Clientele ...

Adult Probation/Parole Officer **Steffen Boyd**, a ten-year department veteran, previously worked for fifteen years as a drug and alcohol counselor. "Steve" is an Edison High School graduate, class of 1965, a Vietnam veteran, and a graduate of Antioch University earning a BA in Human Services and Counseling. He is married and has three children: two sons, ages eight and nineteen, and one daughter, twenty-nine.

The Adult Probation/Parole Department is located at 1401 Arch Street. Steffen's area of operation is Southwest Philadelphia. He began his career with the initial orientation for probation officers conducted by the department's formal training unit over a 3-4 week period. Continuing education and training are conducted through

in-house and outside workshops and seminars.

Once assigned a client, Officer Boyd conducts an initial face-to-face interview. During this first meeting the Court's sanctions are reviewed, and imposed conditional expectations of probation/parole are reviewed and discussed. "Everything is reviewed and spelled out. Any questions and concerns are aired at this time. The Court's findings are reiterated and discussed. Ground rules are spelled out," explains Boyd. This initial process alleviates any immediate and future misunderstandings. This meeting also serves as an information-gathering process: for instance, verification of the client's present address, educational status, medical and family profile, and employment information.

Subsequent personal interviews are conducted either at the department office or the client's home. Failure to keep appointments or to comply with imposed conditions is considered a *technical* violation. New arrests that result in conviction are *direct* violations. These violations require a new court appearance before the client's sentencing judge. Heavy caseloads require a daily regimen: five to six clients are seen on any given day. Along with initial meetings, there are always various levels of supervision and assessment for each and every client. According to Steve, "Each client is a unique individual with unique needs. Every effort is made to assess an individual's present status, needs and/or conditions. These variables must be evaluated and monitored." These issues include present living arrangements, employment, court-ordered GED acquisition, parenting concerns, drug and alcohol abuse, and community service. Reassessments are conducted every six months. Departmental guidelines are strictly enforced, and there is constant feedback and support from his immediate supervisor.

Steve spends time in the field establishing collateral contacts with his clients' spouses, relatives, employers, and treatment program personnel where applicable. "This time is very important. Sometimes I do this once a week, or it can stretch to once a month. It's never as often as I'd like."

Steffen says he tries to use an "eclectic approach" with his clients, with the end goal being "a successful completion" of their probation/parole. And this means "being mindful of each individual's situation and temperament, which must be dealt with accordingly and respectfully."

After years of experience dealing with individuals in this situation, Steffen concludes: "I am particularly struck by the sheer feeling of hopelessness that has become a way of life for a great number of people. I make a personal effort to make them understand that they *can* turn their life around, and I do my best to provide them with positive alternatives."

Gail N. Gallagher, *DR*
Sharon F. Gibbs, *DR*
Christine Gibson, *Juvenile*
Leslie P. Golstein, *Adult Prob.*
Edward T. Halligan, *Pretrial Svcs.*
Lewis E. Hoye, *Civil Listings*
Arbella J. Hurt, *Adoptions*
Mary C. Jackson, *Juvenile*

Evans A. Kemp, *Juvenile*
Richard S. Lewis, *Pretrial Svcs.*
Michael J. Loftus, *Juvenile*
Bernardin McLaughlin, *Adoptions*
Cynthia D. Miller, *Adult Prob.*
Roselean A. Montgomery, *TC*
Gregory J. Morrone, *FC*
Joseph Pellegrino, *FC*

Michael A. Perri, *Prothonotary*
Mary L. Perri, *Tipstaff*
Michael J. Prete, *Adult Prob.*
Denise Ray, *Juvenile*
Eleanor J. Roberts, *Civil Listings*
Camille M. Robinson, *Procurement*

Continued next page

...One Common Goal

At the Court of Common Pleas, Family Division, 1801 Vine Street, Room 222, the sign on the front door of this office reads: *DON'T MAKE EXCUSES. MAKE IMPROVEMENTS.*

The first desk to the left belongs to **John T. Shields**, Probation Officer, Glen Mills Aftercare. "Tee" to his friends, John Shields is a formidable figure with a disarming smile that belies a heart that is boundless in its charity and compassion. "My philosophy is simple," Tee says. "Surround yourself with positive people and positive things, and you've got to get positive results!"

A graduate of West Philadelphia High, class of '61, and South Carolina State, class of '65, earning a B.S. in Phys.Ed., John Shields has been a juvenile probation officer since 1973. He was nominated Probation Officer of the Year in 1999, and has been nominated this year again for the State award by Judge Panepinto. He is respected by his peers and has earned a reputation in the professional community as a man who tirelessly strives to make a difference in the young lives who come under his care.

His caseload includes probation aftercare of juveniles in the Glen Mills Aftercare Program. He actively monitors their supervised academics and organized recreation. The word *active* is a key word in Tee's vocabulary. He works directly with staff members at the Glen Mills facility, and believes that early intervention and consistent participation are absolute necessities to turn young lives around and to provide positive opportunities for individuals to realize their potential to be productive and creative rather than destructive. John believes in forging and maintaining strong links between the facility, home and community. "Everyone must be involved in the rehabilitative process." Other factors in this process are victim sensitivity, awareness and remorse.

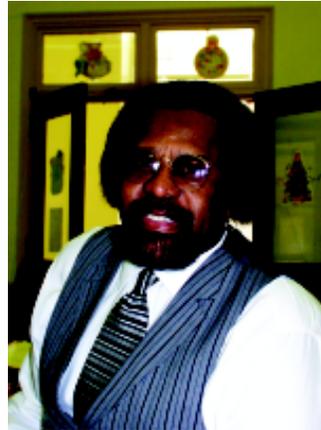
Formal education is a necessary step toward a life of independence and productivity. John believes that kids must "... learn in order to earn," and be given employment opportunities to handle the responsibility of making court-ordered restitution. His clients usually number from seven or eight up to fifteen or sixteen, depending on particular caseloads. After they are discharged from the Glen Mills facility, John sees his clients two to three times a week.

John's experience as a player, coach, and director in organized sports, particularly basketball, has convinced him of the importance of supervised physical activity, and he uses these concepts as a motivational tool to teach life values.

A one-time Director of the Christian Street YMCA, John has coached for thirty years in the Sonny Hill Basketball program, and has been its director for the last three years. "The game is a positive outlet, and the basketball court is a personal arena for someone to understand both his mental and physical capabilities. Not only is he competing against an opponent but he is coming to terms with his own strengths and weaknesses, and pushing himself to do more all of the time. The use of positive role models is stressed. It's an opportunity to feel positive about himself. Self-assessment can be a real wake-up call. Team spirit is important. The goal here is wholeness."

John is proud of his personal contributions and points out individuals he has counseled and coached who have gone on to be successful academics and NBA stars in their own right. "We still keep in touch," John says. "I've made many good friends."

"I was raised in a home with love, respect, and strong family values. I believe in what I do, and I'm happy that I can serve young people in this capacity. I am always left with a feeling of peace when I know I have helped somebody."



Juvenile Probation Officer **John "T." Shields.**

RETIREMENTS

The following retirements were announced for the period April - September 2000.

- Edward A. Aguilar, *Trial Div.*
21 years 11 months
- Elizabeth M. Askins, *DR*
27 years 8 months
- Edward C. Burnley, Sr., *Pretrial Svc.*
34 years 11 months
- Bermadette Casiello, *Adult Prob.*
33 years 8 months
- Carol L. Dandy, *Judge Tucker*
20 years 2 months
- Albina S. Davey, *Judge Goldman*
18 years 8 months
- Lillian M. Dixon, *Pretrial Svcs.*
34 years 1 month
- Maureen E. Esposito, *Ct. Rep.*
11 years 4 months
- Evelyn Gerber, *Court Admin.*
18 years 7 months
- James C. Hesson, Jr., *Adult Prob.*
26 years 7 months
- Charles R. Jaklik, *Adult Prob.*
28 years 2 months
- Matthew F. Lewandowski, *DR*
33 years
- Cynthia A. Marelia, *TC*
24 years
- Barbara McNatt, *DR*
18 years 9 months
- Stella R. Medaglia, *DR*
16 years
- Elaine M. Melchiorre, *DR*
23 years 1 month
- Alexander Moore, *Tipstaff*
25 years 10 months
- Joan M. Raquet, *MC*
17 years 8 months
- Sarah Rouse, *Act. Crim. Rec.*
21 years
- Jerome F. Rymer, *Prothonotary*
32 years 3 months
- Robert H. Smith, *Admin. Svcs.*
30 years 6 months
- Diane R. Weiner, *Adult Prob.*
18 years 8 months

We erroneously reported the years of service of the following retiree in our last issue and apologize for the error:

Annamarie Zweiger, *Crim. Rec.*
34 yrs. 8 mos.

25 Years (continued)

- Maria A. Roll, *FC*
- Mary Shreffler, *TC*
- Francis W. Sweeney, II, *Bldg. & Fac.*
- Sherry D. Taborne, *Adult Prob.*
- Barbara Troupe, *Juvenile*
- Susan M. Vacca, *Juvenile*

- Glenn A. Veney, *Bldg. & Fac.*
- Mildred L. Vessells, *DR*
- Jennifer L. Whitfield, *Adult Prob.*
- Maureen Morris Wolf, *Ct. Rep.*

30 YEARS

- Robert R. DiSipio, *Prothonotary*
- Kenneth V. Hahn, *Adult Prob.*

- Elaine Kasutta, *J. Lachman*
- Anthony M. Medaglia, *Juvenile*
- Francis A. Ronkowski, *Adult Prob.*
- Maria T. Strauman, *Juvenile*
- Darryl Turner, *Juvenile*
- Stanley I. Wilder, *Court Rep.*

Did you know?

Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.

There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.

The longest one-syllable word in the English language is "screeched".

The names of the states are listed across the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the five-dollar bill.

A Gold Medal Winner

The DR Administrative Services Unit is proud to have among its members **Siobhan Driscoll**, a two time gold medal champion in the Special Olympics. Siobhan won her medals in Basketball and Bowling. She also took home the gold in 1999 for basketball. Siobhan has competed in the Special Olympic Games since she was five years old, and her efforts have been rewarded over the years with many medals and honors. Dedicated to her progress as an athlete, Siobhan practices her sports at least two times a week and participates in competitions on a local and state level which ultimately lead up to the Olympic competition.



According to the mission statement of the Special Olympics of Philadelphia, the Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic type sports. The athletes are given continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendships with their families, other Special Olympic athletes, and the community.

Employees of the Domestic Relations Branch are all extremely proud of Siobhan and very happy to have her on our team. She embodies the true spirit of sportsmanship and the athletes' oath. "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." Siobhan is certainly a winner.

Sports Tournament and Scholarship Fund

Former Bail Commissioner Margaret McCook Honored

Two years ago friends and family coordinated a benefit to honor the memory of former Municipal Court Bail Commissioner, **Margaret "Peg" McCook**. Peg was appointed a Bail Commissioner with the Philadelphia Municipal Court in February of 1985 and diligently served in this capacity for over 12 years. Peg was known to everyone as a person with an impeccable work ethic and professional demeanor. She held the respect of the judiciary and many members of the FJD

including external agencies and the public we serve. Although Peg fought valiantly, she succumbed to cancer after a long struggle.

Her family and friends, in an effort to keep her spirit of giving and public service alive, formed a Sports Tournament event which is held annually. This event invites team participation in softball, soccer and basketball competitions to raise money for scholarships awarded to neighborhood children. In addition, a

First Hispanic Trial Commissioner

In June, **Manuel Bustamante**, a native of Bogata, Colombia, became the first Hispanic Municipal Court Civil Trial Commissioner. It is reported that the new commissioner became interested in the law at an early age. Following his graduation from the University of Massachusetts, Manuel earned his degree in law from Northwestern University School of Law, and began to practice criminal defense in 1995. Following a six-month stint as a Spanish interpreter for the Court, the commissioner was promoted to his current position, becoming the first Hispanic to occupy a trial commissioner's office. *The Courterly* applauds Mr. Bustamante for his hard work and dedication.



Court Reporter Invents Ergonomic Keyboard(s)

Court Reporter **Catrina Muller** has patented a new ergonomic keyboard of her own design that reduces strain on reporters' wrists and elbows during long trials. The idea for *eXsteno-Keys*, as the new keyboard is called, came to her while taking testimony from an orthopedic surgeon. The design hinges around the reporter's arms pointing forward rather than curved to meet in the center. To accomplish this, Catrina's design utilizes individual keyboards for the right and left hands. The keyboards are easily adaptable to all stenotype machines in minutes. Congratulations, Catrina.



ors the memory of one of our own and helps so many deserving people!

Peg's family accepts donations throughout the year to help build the future of this worthwhile cause. Donations may be sent to:

**The Margaret 'Peg' McCook
Scholarship Fund
1939 East Albert Street
Philadelphia PA 19125**

portion of the proceeds are donated to the American Cancer Society in Peg's name.

Those who knew Bail Commissioner Peg McCook know that this fun-filled family event is a fitting tribute to such a wonderful friend, mother and public servant.

If you wish to receive information about next year's events feel free to contact the Scholarship fund at the address at right. Individuals or teams may enter. Help support an event that hon-

Leonard Cheeley Gains Diploma

Despite Adversity, He Achieves

Leonard Cheeley, whom you may know as the personable carrier for the Court's delivery service, recently graduated from college. Although confined to a bed following a severe traffic accident, the indomitable Mr. Cheeley had a graduation ceremony right at his bedside. Those in attendance included his wife and Judge Frederica Massiah-Jackson. In addition, Len's coworkers put to-

gether a successful raffle for his benefit. He is making progress, but cannot receive visitors at this time.

We will remember this kind gentleman in our thoughts over the holiday season.



Above: Leonard Cheeley celebrates his achievement while his wife, Doressa (right), The Honorable Frederica A. Massiah-Jackson (left) and other well-wishers look on. Left: President Judge Bonavita and Lori Marko pick the raffle winner.



MC Moves to E-Filing for Small Claims

Philadelphia Municipal Court is implementing electronic filing for Small Claims Court. About 165,000 small claims filings were received by the Court in 1999. Literally tons of paper flow into the MC civil system each year. With this technological innovation, cases will be filed through the Internet. The move will be beneficial for all involved – speeding up the process for the citizens, the attorneys who represent them, and the Court.

E-filing provides an alternative to the largely manual system that has existed for decades. In a preview demonstration for Court officials, the entire small claims process – starting with case initiation and ending with disposition – was performed electronically.

The MC Court Automation Team was organized of Municipal Court and Court Administration experts in small claims case management and technology: MC Deputy Court Administrators Glenn Bozzocco, Esq., and Patricia McDermott; Maria Criniti from the Court MIS Unit; and Carl Divens from the Court Administrator's Office. Together, they pooled their talents and

team ed with members of the Philadelphia Bar and others to bring the pilot project on line through an aggressive, hard work approach. The result? An "inte-

grated, fully customized, Web-based system that includes electronic filing, electronic commerce, online docketing, online forms processing, case manage-

ment and document management."

The reams and reams of paperwork – yearly new civil filings documents would stretch 300 miles if laid end to end – will become a thing of the past, according to program materials. The system will operate in a "paperless" environment. The first test case was successfully filed by an attorney from an office in Malvern, PA on April 13, 2000.

After the testing phase is completed, the Municipal Court plans to expand the ability to file small claims to attorneys and public at large by connecting through the Court's website at <http://courts.phila.gov>.

Did you know?

The characters Bert and Ernie on Sesame Street were named after Bert the cop and Ernie the taxi driver in "It's a Wonderful Life".

In England, the Speaker of the House is not allowed to speak.

It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.



FJD Notes

On October 4, Family Court Administrative Judge Paul P. Panepinto received Interac's Community Service Appreciation Award for his outstanding contributions toward improving the lives of children at risk.

On October 22, Judge Lillian Harris Ransom received the 2000 Mary Philbrook Public Interest Award from the Women's Law Caucus, The Association for Public Interest Law and the Alumni Association of Rutgers University School of Law, Camden. This award was presented to Judge Ransom for her endeavors which exemplify the public interest tradition of Mary Philbrook, the first woman to be admitted to the New Jersey Bar.

Judge Ransom was also chosen as the 2000 recipient of the Doris Mae Harris Award given by the National Bar Association, Women Lawyers Division, Philadelphia Chapter. This award is presented to an African-American woman lawyer who sets a sterling example of professional excellence and commitment to education.

Jury Commissioner Joel S. Johnson, Esquire received the Outstanding Service Award from Widener University School of Law on December 4.

The Honorable Margaret T. McKeown, Domestic Relations Court Administrator, was sworn in as a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas on Thanksgiving Day.

The Honorable Matthew D. Carrafiello was honored by the Frank L. Rizzo Lodge, Order Sons of Italy, as the Man of the Year on October 22.

According to Mary Lou Baker, Director, Operations & Case Processing at Domestic Relations, a bulletin board in the lobby will offer daily inspirational messages to boost morale for employees, and continue the user-friendly image for clients.

Drug Treatment Court Recognized by Justice Dept.

Having hosted site visits from dignitaries from the Bermuda Supreme Court, Great Britain, the U.S. Department of Justice, National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) and the American University in Washington, D.C., the Philadelphia Treatment Court has been designated a U.S. Department of Justice/NADP Mentor Drug Court Site. This prestigious designation has been bestowed upon only 25 of the more than 500 established drug courts throughout the United States. The Mentor Court network is intended to assist other jurisdictions in developing, planning, and implementing drug courts. Recognizing that the strength of this arrangement lay with those courts with experience, the NADCP created the Mentor Court program as "an education, training and technical assistance system that maximizes the use of practitioners' expertise, insight and experience."

While the demands on the Philadelphia Treatment Court resources will increase with this designation, training various jurisdictions and becoming a host city for future drug court conferences sponsored by the United States Department of Justice is viewed as a monumental accomplishment for our court, the City of Philadelphia, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Treatment Court hosted its 24th graduation ceremony in June with dynamic words of encouragement offered to the graduates by Philadelphia 76ers President Pat Croce.



76ers President **Pat Croce** and MC President Judge **Louis J. Presenza**.

Reporters' Gifts Get Smiles

Perhaps more than most of us, kids with cancer need a chance to get away from it all. With them, though, their daily trials and those of their families pose much greater challenges. The Ronald McDonald Camp, now in its 14th year, allows oncology campers to attend free of charge. It is funded solely through donations and, toward that end, court reporters and the administrative staff collected signature clothing, gift certificates, and an assortment of fabulous toys and gifts. According to **Elaine Roy**, Special Projects Coordinator for the Camp, "... an important part of a child's recovery is to allow them to be 'kids first' and cancer patients second. Your wonderful donation will surely put many smiles on many faces."



L-R: **Linda Settles**, **Melissa Copestake**, **Teresa McFarland**, **Keyona Hickson**, **Sindy Touni**, **Janet Fasy Dowds**, **Dolores Policarpo**, **Bernadette Black**.

2001 Combined Campaign

Deck the Halls, Walls, Offices and Homes! It's the holiday season, the time to celebrate and reflect on family, community and country. The holiday season is also a time when we are sensitive to those who are less fortunate. Happily, hundreds of First Judicial District employees generously support the many charitable organizations in the City Employees Combined Campaign.

The 2001 Combined Campaign is underway and will extend through January. This year's theme is "Choose Today to Change Tomorrow", and the FJD has established a goal of collecting \$82,700. We are asking for your help in exceeding that amount. If you haven't given in the past, please consider a small pledge to the charity of your choice. If you've given in the past, please consider a small increase in your pledge. Happy Holidays Everyone!



Goose Ball Charity Bash

Gene Haurin, General Tipstaff, and The Louis J. Koreck Foundation for Women and Children once again thank the court employees who volunteered their time and energy at this year's Goose Ball. The 25th Anniversary Gala, which benefits St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, was held in October and was a great success due to the efforts of the following: **Bruce Beloff**, General Tipstaff; **Anna Blagrove**, General Tipstaff; **Robert Busillo**, General Tipstaff; **Frank Edge**, General Tipstaff; **Gino Giacomucci**, General Tipstaff; **Charles Gorgol**, Court Reporter; **Bill Hester**, General Tipstaff; **Dennis Hanratty**, General Tipstaff; **Mike Lanzalotti**, General Tipstaff; **Catherine Lonergan**, Court Reporter; **Terri MacKenzie**, General Tipstaff; **John Menna**, General Tipstaff; **Nicholas Mirro, Esq.**, Law Clerk; **Tom Reganato**, General Tipstaff; **Louis Spadaccini**, General Tipstaff; and **Mike Yotsko**, Judicial Tipstaff.



Philadelphia Juvenile Court's Job Fair Draws 500

Encouraged and supported by their probation officers, over 200 young people lined up before the doors opened for the Juvenile Court's first Job Fair. The Job Fair was organized by **Julia Davis**, Job Coordinator in the Victim and Community Services Unit, under the direction of Administrative Judge **Paul P. Panepinto** and **Kenneth Hale**, Chief Probation Officer.

Following months of discussion about teaching accountability to youth, employment possibilities were presented for those able to work. Over twenty vendors from the private and public sectors were there. The private sector was represented by Commerce Bank, Pep Boys, Advance Staffing, Redwood Airport Management Inc., Labor Local 33, United Parcel Service, Party Land, and Wendy's. Present from the public & non-profit sectors were City Year Philadelphia, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Greater Philadelphia Federation of Settlements, the Philadelphia Police Academy-Recruitment Unit, Philadelphia Free Library Career Development Program, the Census Bureau, Impact Services, Indochinese American Council, Parkside Association, Germantown Job Center, and the U.S. Army.

A total of over 500 kids attended. Some were accompanied by their parents, and were assisted by probation officers who accompanied them during the fair, providing guidance and support. The young clients were advised to dress "ready to work" and to bring a resume, if possible. For many, this was their first real employment experience. The Job Fair was manned by a volunteer group of supervisors in the juvenile probation department to ensure a worthwhile experience for all involved.

In addition to the Job Fair process, which involved interviewing and other interactions with vendors, attendees were given a

packet of information about filling out job applications, and the importance of personal appearance, punctuality, attendance, and positive job attitudes.

The vendors in attendance were extremely pleased with the attendance and the level of interest and competency of the attendees. Coordinator Julia Davis followed up to cultivate communication between the vendors and job applicants.

Philadelphia Juvenile Court's first Job Fair was a success in several critical areas. The level of interest and attendance were impressive. In addition, bringing together employers and court-supervised youth for the first time

accomplished two other major ends. It was an opportunity for young offenders to go through a professional, well-organized job-related experience that could result in employment. Second, and just as critical, the Fair enabled employers to see court-involved young people as resources — individuals whom, if given a chance, can become valuable employees and valued members of their community.



Top: **Lois Santaguia**, Juvenile P.O. at the Job Fair.
Left: The Fair in full swing.

May 4, 2000 Proclaimed Jury Appreciation Day

On May 4, 2000, Philadelphia saluted those who serve as jurors in the Court of Common Pleas. Jury Appreciation Day kicked off a public awareness campaign emphasizing the importance of jury service, and improvements in the jury system. A short ceremony followed a press conference during which **Renee Chenault**, NBC-10 News co-anchor, addressed jurors in the Jury Assembly Room. Refreshments, movies, prizes and gifts marked the day, along with City Council and Mayoral Proclamations.

As stated by President Judge **Alex Bonavita**, "Jury Appreciation

Day was instituted to achieve two goals: first, to thank the many individuals who take time out of their busy schedules to fulfill the important civic responsibility of jury duty; and second, to increase awareness among the general public of the need for citizens to respond for jury duty."

In January 2000, the Court of Common Pleas began a partnership with Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts, a citizens advocacy group, to improve the Philadelphia jury system. "So far, the focus of the collaboration has been on making the jury system more 'juror-friendly'. Future steps will include

educational events in neighborhoods and schools, as well as a public awareness campaign on the importance of jury duty," said **Lynn A. Marks**, Executive Director of Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts.

According to **Joel S. Johnson**, Esquire, Jury Commissioner, "The Court also examined ways to increase the number of people who respond to jury summons..." The Court implemented several reforms to address this problem, such as increasing the amount of information available on the Internet about jury service, improving the jury service telephone answering

system, and implementing a juror scofflaw court.

The Honorable **Genece E. Brinkley**, who has spearheaded the Court's Jury Appreciation Day efforts, believes "...it is very important for judges and other legal professionals to engage young people by going into the schools to teach them about the importance of jury service, so that when they are summoned to participate in this civic duty, they will respond positively."

Did you know that ...
Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur.

THINGS PEOPLE SAID IN COURT — WORD FOR WORD

Q: What is your date of birth?
 A: July fifteenth.
 Q: What year?
 A: Every year.
 Q: Are you qualified to give a urine sample?
 Q: All your answers must be oral, OK? What school did you go to?
 A: Oral.
 Q: Were you present when your picture was taken?
 Q: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?
 A: Yes.
 Q: And in what ways does it affect your memory?
 A: I forget.
 Q: You forget. Can you give us an example of something that you've forgotten?
 Q: How old is your son, the one living with you?
 A: Thirty eight or thirty five, I can't remember which.
 Q: How long has he lived with you?
 A: Forty five years.
 Q: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?
 Q: What gear were you in at the moment of impact?
 A: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.
 Q: The youngest son, the twenty year old, how old is he?
 Q: You say the stairs went down to the basement?
 A: Yes.
 Q: And these stairs, did they go up also?
 Q: She had three children right?
 A: Yes.
 Q: How many were boys?
 A: None.
 Q: Were there any girls?
 Q: How was your first marriage terminated?
 A: By death.
 Q: And by whose death was it terminated?
 Q: Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a deposition notice that I sent to your attorney?
 A: No, this is how I dress when I go to work.
 Q: Doctor, how many autopsies have you performed on dead people?
 A: All my autopsies are performed on dead people.
 Q: Do you recall the time that you examined the body?
 A: The autopsy started around 8:30 p.m.
 Q: And Mr. Dennington was dead at the time?
 A: No, he was sitting on the table wondering why I was doing an autopsy.

Celebrating Halloween . . .

The seasonal pumpkin carving competition yielded a decorative and imaginative collection of pumpkins of all shapes and sizes. The First Filing Unit's entry, a replica of Cinderella's horse-drawn, white pumpkin carriage was declared the winner (right). Below, President Judge Bonavita, David Blackburn, and Carol Singlar admire the entry sporting a judicial wig.



More Blasts From the Past



In this family photo, Joe Pinto from the Procurement Department is the handsome young man closest to his Dad. The prom picture is a shot of Gene Haurin (Court Officer) and his lovely wife Barbara (Assistant to Chief Dep. Ct. Admin. Dave Lawrence)

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The Courterly is published four times a year. As an employee newsletter, all members of the FJD are encouraged to submit ideas or suggestions. Submissions may be made to the department representatives above, or to Len Hacking in Room 395 City Hall or via e-mail.