

ANNUAL REPORTS

Local Gender Bias and Gender Fairness Committees

2005-2006

**Annual Reports of New York State's
Local Gender Bias and Gender Fairness Committees
2005-2006**

Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee Report

Fourth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts Report

Fifth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts Report

Sixth Judicial District Committee Gender Fairness Committee Report

Seventh Judicial District Committee Gender Fairness Committee Report

Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee Report

Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the
Courts Report

Nassau County Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts Report

Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee Report

New York City Family Court Justice on Wheels Report

New York City Civil Court Committee Report

Gender Fairness Committee of the Criminal Court of the
City of New York Report

Gender Bias Committee, New York County, Supreme Court, Criminal Term

Anti-Bias Committee, New York County, Supreme Court,
Civil Term Report

Gender Fairness Committee of the Twelfth Judicial District Report

Queens County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee Report

Brooklyn Gender Fairness Committee Report

Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

Hon. Linda C. Griffin
Rensselaer Family Court
1504 Fifth Ave.
Troy, NY 12180
518-270-3761

LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2005-2006

Name of the Committee : *Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee*

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair:

Hon. Linda C. Griffin, Rensselaer County Family Court Center, 1504 Fifth Avenue, Troy, New York 12180 (518) 270-3761 ext. 342; Fax (518) 272-6573, lgriffin@courts.state.ny.us

No. Members: 37 No. of Meetings: 2 Average Attendance: 12-15 Use of Video Conferencing: No

Composition of the Committee: Judges & support magistrates: 11; Court personnel: 10; Attorneys: 14; advocates: 2

Please include names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005: *Distribution of written materials in various courthouse locations*

Activities for Women's History Month 2005 or planned for 2006: *Display in conjunction with Unity House (local Domestic Violence agency) at Rensselaer County Family Court Center*

Other Activities in the Past Year:

(1) March 8, 2005 meeting: The Committee heard a presentation on immigrant women and domestic violence by representatives of the Greater Upstate Law Project on Immigrant Women and Domestic Violence.

(2) December 8, 2005 meeting: The Committee heard a presentation from Scott Bowman, a representative of the Rensselaer County Children's Center. Mr. Bowman spoke about the activities at this Center, as well as addressing how the Centers statewide provide a safe, constructive place for the children of litigants to wait while their parents attend Court.

(3) Membership: The Committee is in the process of assisting the Administrative Judge review the current membership roster of the Committee to insure that all members are actively engaged in the Committee, and wish to continue to serve. The Committee has also invited several people to attend meetings as guests.

Plans for Next Year: The Committee has begun working on two proposed projects, one focusing on the judicial selection/election process. We hope to work with a number of other agencies to present a host a forum on the challenge of increasing diversity on the bench and discussion of the "road to a judgeship" from a number of different perspectives.

Another project under discussion is a presentation on the report from the Matrimonial Commission.

The Committee continues work on a brochure entitled "Family Court: Questions and Answers" for distribution in all District Family Courts. The Committee recently received written comments from

members of the Legal Project of the Capital District Women's Bar Association, and will be considering revisions based on that input.

This year marks the 20th year since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts reported that, "Gender Bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is a pervasive problem with grave consequences. Women are often denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity."

What do you think have been the greatest advances for women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts in the past 20 years? How is access to justice, treatment or opportunity more equal?

The sheer numbers of female attorneys, judges and employees in the system now has reduced the "novelty" factor many of us remember from twenty years ago. Certainly having a vibrant female Chief Judge, more women in the management ranks of the Court system and more women attorneys fulfilling diverse roles in the process has increased female litigants sense of access to justice and equality of treatment. With larger numbers of role models in the management of the Court system and in the judiciary, the perception of equal opportunity has increased as well.

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts?

Not taking the advances of the past two decades for granted; increasing the gender diversity of the bench;

Please return this form by March 15, 2006, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, New York 10004
212-428-2793 (Fax)
jgoodman@courts.state.ny.us

LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2005-2006

Name of the Committee: Fourth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair

Polly A. Hoye, Fulton County Judge & Surrogate

223 W. Main St., Johnstown, NY 12095

(518) 736-5691 [phone]; (518) 72-6372 [fax]; email: phoye@courts.state.ny.us

Karen Partyka, Esq.

5 Hibbard St., Amsterdam, NY 12010

(518) 842-5640 (phone & fax)

No. Members: 21 No. of Meetings: 1 Average Attendance: 12 Use of Video Conferencing: yes

Composition of the Committee: 14 judges, 1 Court Attorney, 6 Attorneys at large

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005

Montgomery County: 1) Proclamation Ceremony, October 7, 2005; 2) Breakfast, October 26, 2005; 3) Purple Ribbon Campaign (month-long); 4) Mock Trial with Date Rape scenario (see attachments).

District-Wide: Union Members of CSEA Judiciary Local 333 mounted a campaign to collect donations of used cell phones and chargers to be donated to local domestic violence victim advocacy programs. Donation boxes were placed in Family Courts throughout the 3rd and 4th Judicial Districts (see attachment).

St. Lawrence County:

1) Third Annual Quarter Million Penny Campaign. Schools throughout the county collected pennies to support Renewal House, St. Lawrence County's domestic violence services provider. Schools competed to see which one raised the most money. A prize and public recognition went to the most successful school class (see attached newsletter).

2) Recognition Dinner, October 19, 2005, featuring program entitled, "What is your role", various speakers and an award presentation (see attached newsletter).

Fulton County:

1) October 14, 2005; Domestic Violence Training for Therapists and Social Workers, held at the YWCA in Gloversville (see attached flyer); 2) October 24, 2005; Domestic Violence Training for Magistrates, held at the Family Counseling Center, Gloversville (see attached flyer).

Activities for Women's History Month 2005 or planned for 2006

Fulton, Montgomery Counties

March 11, 2006: First Annual Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Symposium held at Fulton-Montgomery Community College. This day-long event attracted about 150 women attendees from the region and of all ages. The symposium featured 4 tracks (professional development, balancing life demands, finance, rural women and government), with several presentations in each track. A copy of the brochure is attached. Judge Polly Hoye of this committee was a member of a panel of 3 women who are elected officials and spoke about running for office. The event was well received and there are plans to make this an annual event (see attached brochure).

Other Activities in the Past Year

Saratoga County, March 23, 2005: The Legal Project conducted a free legal assistance clinic for people who couldn't afford an attorney (see newspaper article attached).

Fulton & Hamilton Counties, March 19, 2006: the Fulton-Hamilton Counties Magistrates Association featured Judge Polly Hoye as a speaker. She informed the various judges in attendance about the formation of the Integrated Domestic Violence Court for both Fulton & Hamilton Counties.

Schenectady County, April 13, 2005: Panel discussion: "The New Approach to Problem Solving Courts", featured several Schenectady Judges who spoke about drug court, IDV court, alternative treatment court and young adult court. The event was videotaped and the video is available in the Schenectady County Law Library (see attachment)

Montgomery & Fulton Counties, April 20, 2005: "Job Fair" held at Fulton-Montgomery Community Colleges. Montgomery County Surrogate's Court Attorney, Donna Ross, Private practitioner, Karen Partyka, Fulton County Court Judge Polly Hoye and Assistant District Attorney, Melissa Kahn, volunteered their time to speak with job fair attendees about careers in law (see attachment).

Saratoga County, May 6, 2005: "Judges on the Front Line: Assessing Risks and Remedies in Domestic Violence Cases". The Family Violence Task Force of the Unified Court System presented this day-long training for judges which was attended by more than 100 area judges from all courts (see attachment)

Schenectady County, September 2005: The YWCA sponsored domestic violence training for police officers.

Fulton & Montgomery Counties, September 27, 2005: Legal Training for Domestic Violence Advocates. This two hour training was led by Fulton County Court Judge Polly Hoye and was held at Catholic Charities in Amsterdam for advocates in Fulton and Montgomery Counties.

Third & Fourth Districts: October 24, 2005: The Capital District Women's Bar Association held a reception in Albany honoring the women judges of the capital district. Membership and committee work was encouraged to help ensure the continued increase of women judges serving the area (see attachment).

Schenectady, St. Lawrence, Montgomery, Hamilton and Fulton Counties: Implementation of new Integrated Domestic Violence Courts. These 5 counties in our district implemented a new Integrated Domestic Violence Court in the last year, all starting in January, 2006, except for Schenectady County which started earlier in 2005. All of these courts are actively accepting new cases, increasing our court system's ability to provide these cases and their litigants with the attention and efficient processing they deserve.

Saratoga County, March 2006: The Saratoga County Bar Association organized a "Dress For Success" suit drive for the 2nd consecutive year. Supreme Court Judge Stephen Ferradino's chambers served as one of the collection sites (see attachment).

Schenectady County, February 2006: The YWCA sponsored training for prosecutors in domestic violence cases at the Schenectady County District Attorney's Office.

Various Counties in the district: Domestic Violence Task Force meetings (see attachments).

Plans for Next Year:

The existing IDV courts in the district will expand the types of cases they accept and will look to add additional local courts to the list of those they now accept cases from, thereby substantially increasing the caseload of IDV courts in the district.

We are still trying to put together (hopefully for this coming year) a district-wide initiative for either Domestic Violence Awareness Month or Women's History Month. We did meet once by video conference and hope to meet more regularly this year.

This year marks the 20th year since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts reported that, "Gender Bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is a pervasive problem with grave consequences. Women are often denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity."

What do you think have been the greatest advances for women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts in the past 20 years? How is access to justice, treatment or opportunity more equal?

The specialty courts which have been created in New York, especially the IDV Courts, have

increased the ability of our court system and judges to focus on the underlying, continuing problems that cause litigants to repeatedly become involved in pending cases. These new courts, especially the IDV Courts, can better address the needs of all litigants and victims, especially women.

Also, Violence Against Women grant monies have continued to fund existing and new programs in our area which have helped fund IDV courts, prosecutors and domestic violence advocates.

When I started practicing law in this area approximately 23 years ago, I was only the 2nd female attorney in my county. Now the percentage is probably about 40 % women. We now have a woman judge in our county and several others in the district and there are a few female elected district attorneys in the district. Women still tend to be at a disadvantage as litigants in cases and women attorneys and judges are still under-represented in our area. However, those numbers are slowly changing and having more women attorneys and judges can only help women's access to equal opportunity and treatment in the court system.

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts?

Stereotypes still exist and both litigants and women attorneys and court employees still experience some instances of gender bias. Until we can induce children growing up that women and men are equal, this bias will continue to exist and affect how women are treated in the courts. Our biggest challenge is to figure out a way to move our progress forward at a pace faster than that which Chief Judge Kaye has described as "glacial"!

Respectfully submitted,

Polly A. Hoye & Karen Partyka, Fourth District Committee Co-Chairs

LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2005-2006

Name of the Committee - Fifth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair - Hon. Deborah Karalunas, Supreme Court Justice, Onondaga County Courthouse, Room 401, Syracuse, New York 13202.

No. Members 16 . No. of Meetings 0 . Average Attendance N/A. Use of Video Conferencing? N/A

Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc .) 3 Judges, 3 Confidential Law Assistants and 10 attorneys.

Please include names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005 - None.

Activities for Women's History Month 2005 or planned for 2006 - None.

Other Activities in the Past Year - None.

Plans for Next Year: Reconstitute committee; hold quarterly meetings; create flyer; conduct survey.

This year marks the 20th year since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts reported that, "Gender Bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is a pervasive problem with grave consequences. Women are often denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity."

What do you think have been the greatest advances for women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts in the past 20 years? How is access to justice, treatment or opportunity more equal?

There are a greater number of female attorneys, law assistants and judges. As a result, female litigants perceive that the treatment they will receive in the courts is more likely to be just.

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts?

Although the number of female attorneys has increased, statistics establish that the percentage of women leaving the practice of law far exceeds that of men. In addition, there continue to be far too few female in the courtrooms. In the years ahead it will be important for law firms, businesses and the courts to establish and embrace more generous flexible time and place work practices and maternity leave policies.



MARY ANNE LEHMANN
WILLIAM C. PELELLA
ROBERT C. MURPHY
CITY COURT JUDGES



CATHERINE R. MALONEY
CHIEF CLERK
SHERRY L. BAKER
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

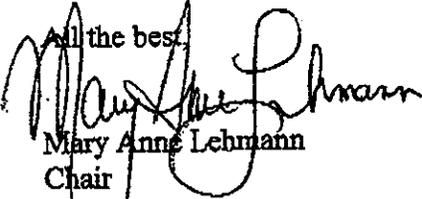
BINGHAMTON CITY COURT
GOVERNMENTAL PLAZA, 38 HAWLEY STREET
BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK 13901
TELEPHONE 607-772-7066
FAX 607-772-7041

Hon. Betty Weinberg-Ellerin
Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, N.Y. 10004

Dear Judge and Counsel;

Enclosed please find the annual report from the Sixth Judicial District, Gender Fairness Committee. A copy of our flier, listing the committee members and describing our mission is attached. Enclosed also please find the list of our Advisory Committee Members who, while not committee members, participate in special projects. We meet on an "as needed" basis. Our activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Women's History Month and Special Projects are attached. We continue to concentrate on issues dealing with Domestic Violence and our advances in this area are purposeful and, we believe, effective.

I look forward to seeing you in April and hearing what the other Committees around the State are doing.

All the best,

Mary Anne Lehmann
Chair

cc: Hon. Judith F. O'Shea, Admin Judge

**FOR FORMAL DISCRIMINATORY
COMPLAINTS CONTACT:**

Desiree Kim
Special Inspector General for Bias Matters
25 Beaver Street - 11th Floor
New York, NY 10004
Phone: 212/428-2125

**PROVIDING ASSISTANCE
TO THE
COUNTIES OF**

**BROOME - CHEMUNG
CHENANGO - CORTLAND
DELAWARE - MADISON
OTSEGO - SCHUYLER
TIOGA - TOMPKINS**

**PROMOTING GENDER FAIRNESS
IN THE COURTS AS IT
RELATES TO:**

**ATTORNEYS
COURT PERSONNEL
JUDGES**

**NEW YORK STATE
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM**



**GENDER FAIRNESS
COMMITTEE SIXTH JUDICIAL
DISTRICT**

HON. JUDITH F. O'SHEA
Administrative Judge

HON. MARY ANNE LEHMANN
Chair

CHRISTOPHER J. ESWORTHY
Deputy Chair

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT</u>	<u>PHONE NO.</u>	<u>E-MAIL</u>
Aaron R. Alwels Sr. Court Reporter	Broome County Court Clerk's	778-2409	AALWeis@courts.state.ny.us
Ellis W. Bozzolo Chief Clerk	Oneonta City Court	432-4480	ebozzolo@courts.state.ny.us
Rita Connerton Judge	Broome Family Court	778-2156	rconnert@courts.state.ny.us
Christina E. DeMass Chief Clerk I	Cortland County Supreme & County Court Clerks	753-5013	cdemass@courts.state.ny.us
Karen A. Eldred Chief Clerk	Otsego County Family Court	547-4288	keldred@courts.state.ny.us
Sandra J. Garufy Law Clerk	Broome County Court Judge Mathews	778-2431	sgarufy@courts.state.ny.us
Jim Jecen Chief Clerk	Ithaca City Court	273-2263	jjecen@courts.state.ny.us
Marianne Kincaid Chief Clerk	Madison County Supreme & County Court Clerks	(315) 366-2539	Mkincaid@courts.state.ny.us
Martha Lyons Law Clerk	Broome Family Court	778-6552	malyons@courts.state.ny.us
Antoinette L. Maddison Sr. Ct. Office Asst.	Madison County Family Court	(315) 366-2291	Amaddiso@courts.state.ny.us
Denise R. Marsili Chief Clerk	Tioga County Family Court	687-1730	dmarsili@courts.state.ny.us
Lori L. Metzko Chief Clerk I	Delaware County Family Court	746-2298	lmetzko@courts.state.ny.us
JoAnn Peet Chief Clerk	Tioga County Supreme & County Court Clerk	687-0544 687-0562	jpeet@courts.state.ny.us
Desiree Rogers Coordinator	Tompkins County Treatment Courts	274-7508 Ext. 114	dsrogers@court.state.ny.us

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT</u>	<u>PHONE NO.</u>	<u>E-MAIL</u>
Jane M. Sbarra Secretary	Broome County Family Court Hon. Rita Connerton	778-6074	jsbarra@courts.state.ny.us
Debbi D. Singer Dep. Chief Clerk	Broome County Family Court	778-2040	dsinger@courts.state.ny.us
Lisa Sokol	Ithaca City Court	273-2263	lsokol@courts.state.ny.us
Elaine Stuart	Broome County Family Court	778-3519	estuart@courts.state.ny.us
Linda VanDeusen Sr. Ct. Office Asst. part-time	Otsego County Supreme &	547-4364(w) 432-1095(h)	lvandeus@courts.state.ny.us
Nan M. Weldy	Chemung County Family Court	737-2902	nweldy@courts.state.ny.us

**DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE AWARENESS
MONTH**



MARY ANNE LEHMANN
WILLIAM C. PELELLA
ROBERT C. MURPHY
CITY COURT JUDGES



CATHERINE R. MALONEY
CHIEF CLERK
SHERRY L. BAKER
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

BINGHAMTON CITY COURT
GOVERNMENTAL PLAZA, 35 HAWLEY STREET
BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK 13901
TELEPHONE 607-772-7006
FAX 607-772-7041

November 16, 2005

Hon. Betty Weinberg-Ellerin
NY State Judicial Committee on
Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, New York 10004

Re: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Dear Judge Ellerin:

Enclosed please find the report from the Sixth Judicial District regarding Domestic Violence Awareness Month. As you can see, we had an extremely successful year. Efforts in this area have become co-ordinated and purposeful, maximizing the resources available to us to increase awareness, improve victim safety and promote accountability of the perpetrator.

As always, we thank you for your leadership in this area.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Anne Lehmann".

HON. MARY ANNE LEHMANN
CITY COURT JUDGE of BINGHAMTON

cc: Honorable Judith F. O'Shea

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Betty Weinberg-Ellerin
Jill Goodman, Counsel

FROM: Honorable Mary Anne Lehmann *ML*
Binghamton City Court

DATE: November 9, 2005

SUBJECT: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The Courts in the Sixth Judicial District have had an extremely active domestic violence awareness month. We continue to build on the successes of the past few years in terms of planning and programs. This year was extremely successful in terms of educational articles for the news media.

- Newspaper coverage editorial - The Press & Sun Bulletin of Binghamton on October 24, 2005 published the editorial "Defenseless: Campaign needed to prevent violence against children." On October 3, 2005 the Press & Sun Bulletin of Broome County ran the article in its living section "Children are the innocent victims of domestic violence" by Mary Haupt, a featured columnist. On October 1, 2005 the Press & Sun Bulletin of Broome County ran a Guest Viewpoint "City has special courts for domestic violence" by the undersigned, this article was reprinted in the district wide newsletter for October. On October 11, 2005 the Press & Sun Bulletin ran an article involving the local domestic violence shelter, the SOS shelter "Community has reached out to domestic violence victims". A copy of all of these articles are enclosed.
- On October 7th the SOS Shelter held its annual breakfast featuring survivors of domestic violence and their stories. A copy of the flyer is enclosed.
- On October 17th the YWCA declared a week without violence. On October 19th the YWCA held its annual breakfast at the Binghamton Club. The guest speaker was Janette Cyganovich Brush, Coordinator of the Broome County Family Violence Prevention Council. The topic of her talk was "Relationships - The Person in the Mirror". A copy of that flyer and the breakfast program is enclosed. Also, on that date, October 19th, Broome

County Executive Barbara Fiala declared October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and issued a proclamation congratulating the YWCA for its efforts in the week without violence.

- The Broome County Bar Association published in its Bar Notes for October of 2005, an article appeared, "Broome County's new Integrated Domestic Violence Court". A copy of that article is enclosed.
- A Stakeholders meeting for the Integrated Domestic Violence Court was conducted on October 28, 2005. Members of the community who would be involved in the Court, including the Bar, were invited to the luncheon meeting where an empaneled discussion discussed the logistics of the Court. Thereafter a meeting of the lawyers, chaired by Judge Charnetsky and joined by Judge Lehmann, discussed the logistics of the operation and the nuts and bolts of launching an Integrated Domestic Violence Court.
- Binghamton City Court marked its second anniversary of the opening of the Domestic Violence Court in Binghamton in October of 2003. The Court now monitors 144 defendants on a regular basis. Binghamton City Domestic Violence section of the Court maintains its two-fold goal: (1) victim's safety and (2) accountability of the Defendant, both pre-trial and post-conviction. The Court statistically has never had an individual who is monitored by the Court injure their spouse/significant other during the course of the Court's monitoring.
- The Family Violence Prevention Council presented an all day seminar "Rebuilding Lives: Overcoming the Impact of Domestic Violence on Family and Children" on November 4, 2005. This was not done during October given the fact that Lundy Bancroft, the nationally known expert in the field, was not available until November 4th, but this is considered part of the Domestic Violence Awareness Month activities conducted by the Family Violence Prevention Council. A flyer is attached.
- The undersigned, the Honorable Mary Anne Lehmann and Steven Cwikla, the Binghamton City Court Domestic Violence Court Coordinator participated in a radio interview that was pre-taped in September and broadcast several times in October on the public radio station, WSKG, discussing Binghamton City's Domestic Violence Court, its goals and its logistics.

- On October 2nd the undersigned, the Honorable Mary Anne Lehmann, taught at the Town and Village Magistrates training in Oneonta regarding pleas and dispositions. A fifteen minute segment was devoted to pleas and dispositions in domestic violence cases and the handling of those cases including forms used by Binghamton City Court.
- The Honorable Richard Bucci, Mayor of Binghamton, declared October Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City of Binghamton by proclamation and honored various stakeholders in the Integrated Domestic Violence and Domestic Violence Courts for their work in the area of prevention of domestic violence.
- On October 18th, Judge Carl Becker from Delaware County, participated in a program sponsored by Safe Against Violence for students at the SUNY-Delhi campus which is designed to educate participants about the experiences of victims of domestic violence by immersing them in a simulation of true life experiences of a victim of domestic violence. The program was entitled "In Her Shoes" and required participants to become familiar with a domestic violence scenario and then attempt to live out the after effects by making choices. Participants were asked to try to obtain housing, medical services, protective services, reunification with the perpetrator, etc. and then experience the consequences of such choices by wearing a bandage to simulate an injury, carry a doll to represent a child who needed protection or attempt to find assistance from providers who were scattered about the building but without a central directory or other convenient means of locating such services.
- Tioga County Family Court maintained a display of what "A New Hope Center" (our domestic violence organization) does for the community, as well as a copy of all brochures from their organization.

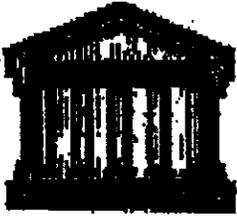
respectfully submitted
Mary Anne Lehmann

YWCA of Binghamton/Broome County
10th Annual Week Without Violence
Public Policy Breakfast
Wednesday, October 19th, 2005

“Stop Relationship Abuse”

- 8:00 am Buffet Breakfast
- 8:20 am Welcome and Opening Remarks:
Elisa Serfass, YWCA Board member
- 8:30 am Speaker:
“Relationships – The Person in the Mirror”
Janette Cyganovich Brush, Coordinator of the Broome County
Family Violence Prevention Council
- 8:50 am Alice Mills Community Service Awards
Donna Lupardo, Assemblywoman,
Past YWCA Board Member and Past Recipient
2005 Recipients:
Beth Harrington, BC Gang Prevention Coalition
Cynthia Sodeur, Harpursville Central School District
Kevin Wright, Binghamton University
- 8:55 am Closing Remarks:
Carole Coppens, Executive Director, YWCA

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca



BarNotes

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE BROOME COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Volume 16 Number 10

OCTOBER 2005

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The BCBA will offer the following Continuing Legal Education Seminars:

TAXES ISSUES FOR THE GENERAL PRACTITIONER
OCTOBER 20, 2005
8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

For information and registration, phone the BCBA at (607) 723-6331

BALANCED LIVES IN THE LAW
OCTOBER 6, 2005
BROOME COUNTY BAR OFFICES
SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS

YOUNG LAWYERS 2nd ANNUAL WINE TOUR
OCTOBER 1, 2005
West Side Cayuga Lake

MEMORIAL CEREMONY
OCTOBER 27, 2005 at 9:30 am
Broome County Courthouse

Note From the Editors

The editorial board of *BarNotes* is devoting a portion of this edition to the campaign for Supreme Court Justice. We have asked each candidate to address our readers as to his qualifications for the position and his thoughts on what he would like to accomplish for the community as a Supreme Court Justice.

Subject to the Code of Judicial Conduct, we have asked each candidate to respond to the following inquiries:

1. Outline your background, including legal education, professional employment and volunteer activity and describe your experience and practice generally and in Supreme Court.
2. Tell us what you hope to accomplish as a Supreme Court Justice.
3. Explain why you feel you are the best candidate for the position of Supreme Court Justice.

The candidates' articles can be found on pages four and five inside.

A Look at Broome County's New Integrated Domestic Violence Court

Family Court Judge Peter P. Charnetsky will be sitting as acting Supreme Court Justice for the new Integrated Domestic Violence (IDV) Court, scheduled to start in January 2006. He offers the following discussion as a general introduction to some jurisdictional, procedural, and other aspects of the new part.

Broome County has been selected as a site for the opening of an Integrated Domestic Violence (IDV) Court by the end of 2005. In an effort to better serve families in crisis, New York State Chief Judge Judith S. Kay announced in her 2003 State of the Judiciary a three-year comprehensive plan to expand Integrated Domestic Violence Courts (IDV Courts) across the state and appointed the Honorable Judy Harris Khuger as the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge to spearhead that effort.

What is an Integrated Domestic Violence Court?

IDV Courts are specialized Supreme Court Parts developed to better serve families in crisis. Our current court structure often requires domestic violence victims and their families to appear in multiple courts (in front of multiple judges) to address their criminal, family, matrimonial and other legal problems. IDV Courts, by contrast, are dedicated to the idea of "one family, one judge", allowing a single judge to hear related cases involving domestic violence victims and their families. The goal of the court is to change the way the justice system treats families and children by promoting more informed judicial decision-making, creating consistency in orders of protection and reducing court appearances, as well as providing enhanced services to victims and ensuring defendant accountability.

Who will preside over the IDV Court?

At this point in the planning process, Family Court Judge Peter P. Charnetsky has been designated as an IDV Judge.

What cases will be included in the IDV Court?

Related criminal, matrimonial, and family court cases involving a single family may be eligible for the IDV Court. Allegations of domestic violence form the threshold requirement for entry into the part, with related cases in at least two of the three areas of law. Family Court cases may include custody/visitation disputes, J.D./PINS cases, as well as abuse and neglect cases. At this point, the threshold requirements for entry into IDV Court will be a pending criminal case involving allegations of domestic violence or a violation of an order of protection. Since the Broome IDV Court will be implemented in phases, case eligibility will gradually increase in the later phases.

For example, consider a custody case pending in Broome County Family Court before Judge Charnetsky. If prior to, or during the pendency of that action, a criminal complaint is filed in Binghamton City Court alleging violence between the parties, that criminal case would be sent to Judge Charnetsky's IDV Court part along with the pending custody case. All court appearances would be coordinated and held at the Broome County Courthouse. Although the cases would be heard in the IDV Supreme Court part, each case will retain its individual integrity and will not be consolidated with each other.

Do IDV Courts operate like Drug Courts?

In general, IDV Courts have little in common with Drug Courts. There are no teams working together for a shared goal. There is no set program with sanctions. Individual cases are not consolidated but retain their individual identities. The goal of the IDV Court is centered around

Continued on Page 7

Old Friends and New Faces

BCBA MEMBER FIRM PITCHES IN WITH UNIQUE FUNDRAISER TO HELP KATRINA VICTIMS

Keith O'Hara

On Friday, September 16th, you may have noticed many Coughlin & Gerhart staff and attorneys dressed in jeans. No, they did not collectively set out to give "Casual Friday" a new meaning. The jeans represented truly successful efforts by the firm to raise money for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Inspired by previous efforts to raise money for victims of the December 2005 tsunami, paralegals Mary Cifaratta and Ronita McPherson, with help from attorney James O'Brien, collected \$3,577 to be sent to help relief efforts for those who have suffered from Hurricane Katrina. Initially, staff and attorneys, with a donation of \$5.00, earned the privilege to wear jeans to work. In addition, the firm sponsored a raffle for its staff. Each purchased raffle ticket represented another \$5.00 contribution to the relief efforts.



The donations started pouring in when attorneys furiously began purchasing tickets in hopes that one of the three prizes, ranging from a paid vacation day to a Cortese gift certificate, would be given to their paralegal or secretary.

Word of C & G's efforts and generosity eventually caught media attention prompting a visit from WBNG-TV. When asked about the efforts of his partners and employees, a beaming O'Brien commented "It was a team effort between staff and attorneys coming together to help out victims of the hurricane".

Broome County's Domestic Violence Court

Continued from Page 1

the coordination of related domestic violence cases, victim safety, defendant accountability, and addressing the needs of families affected by domestic violence.

There are two components that bear some resemblance to a Drug Court. The first is the manner in which IDV Courts assist families in accessing community services and resources in a coordinated manner. Secondly, judicial monitoring of offenders is a cornerstone of the IDV Court.

When will the Broome County IDV Court parts operate?

It is anticipated that the IDV Court parts will operate one day a week.

How will the adjournment of cases into the IDV Court part occur?

An administrative order will be issued identifying eligible cases that will be transferred to the IDV Court part. However, it is anticipated that the IDV Court judge will have the discretion to decline to hear certain cases. For example, if a custody petition is filed on the eve of a criminal trial scheduled in Binghamton City Court, the assigned IDV Court Judge would likely decline to take over the criminal case.

How will cases be identified?

Case identification will be challenging and will require the cooperation of law enforcement as well as the contributing courts. The process will include searching the Domestic Violence Registry and each court's databases at the earliest stages during the commencement of a case as well as identification by the prosecutor of relationships that qualify as domestic violence.

What's next?

A planning group has been formed, and regular meetings are being held to develop a detailed planning document that will serve as a guide for implementing the court by the end of 2005. The IDV Court will initially focus on criminal domestic violence cases that overlap with family court custody cases and will gradually expand to include other related cases.

Notes From the LSABC

The Legal Staff Alliance of Broome County will hold its next meeting on October 4, 2005 at the Olive Garden on the Vestal Parkway. Local attorney Maria Lisi-Murray, a former police officer, will make a presentation concerning the area of Law Enforcement.

On October 20, 2005, the LSABC will host an "Employer Appreciation Dinner" at the Binghamton Club.

For membership and info please contact Joyce Barber at 763-9200. And please remember that you need not

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Broome County Integrated Domestic Violence Court

Stakeholders' Meeting

When: Friday, October 28, 2005

Where: 18th Floor, State Office Building
44 Hawley St.
Binghamton, New York

Time: noon - 2 p.m. - Lunch will be served

There will be a panel presentation and discussion led by the Honorable Peter Charnetsky outlining the development and operation of the Integrated Domestic Violence Court in Broome County which is scheduled to open in January, 2006. Other Topics will include phases of implementation and case identification.

Kindly RSVP to Kathleen Feczko at 607-721-8541 by October 21, 2005.

Family Violence Prevention Council
36-42 Main Street
Binghamton, NY 13905

PSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 122
BINGHAMTON NY

8:30 - 9:00 Registration/
Continental
Breakfast

9:00 - 12:00 Lundy Bancroft

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch Provided

Presentation:
Family Violence
Prevention Council
Celebrates 20 years

1:00 - 4:00 Lundy Bancroft

- Family Violence Prevention Council
- Catholic Charities
- Broome County Department of
Social Services
- Broome County Health Department
- Children's Home of
Wyoming Conference
- Crime Victims Assistance Center
- District Attorney's Office
- Family & Children's Society
- Gang Prevention / Binghamton
Housing Authority
- Opportunities for Broome, Inc.
- SOS Shelter, Inc.
- United Way of Broome County

Lundy Bancroft is a nationally known expert on batterers and their children. He has published articles in the *New England Journal of Medicine* and the *Journal of Contemporary Psychology*, and has spoken on domestic violence and its impact on children across the northeast and in Canada and Costa Rica. He is a former co-director of *Emerge*, the first program in the US for men who batter. He currently works as a Guardian ad Litem and court investigator for various Massachusetts courts.

Mr. Bancroft has presented many dozen trainings on child protection, parenting, and domestic violence to judges and other court personnel for the states of Massachusetts, California, Hawaii, Illinois, Washington, Iowa, and West Virginia.

He is the author of three books:

- *When Dad Hurts Mom: Helping Your Children Heal the Wounds of Witnessing Abuse* (2004). New York: G.P. Putnam.
- *Why Does He Do That? Inside the Minds of Angry and Controlling Men* (2002). New York: G.P. Putnam.
- *The Batterer as Parent: Addressing the Impact of Domestic Violence on Family Dynamics* (2002). With Jay G. Silverman, Ph. D. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Mr. Bancroft has been a regular consultant and trainer to Massachusetts General Hospital on child protection and domestic violence and has served as clinical supervisor for the batterer intervention program at Brockton Family and Community Resources for three years and ran a therapeutic group for violent teenage boys.

This conference is designed to...

- benefit the professionals that have contact with children and families:
- Human Service Professionals
 - Criminal Justice, Judicial, Legal Professionals
 - Healthcare Professionals
 - Mental Health Professionals
 - School Personnel

Learning goals of this conference:

- Increase understanding of the causes of battering, the profile of the offender, and the implications for children
- Develop skills in assessing the impact of domestic violence on children, and in designing appropriate professional interventions by therapists, child protective personnel, advocates, and family court personnel.
- Develop skills to more effectively form alliances with battered mothers to help them keep their own children safe and foster their healing.
- Develop skills in analyzing agency and institutional policies for their impact on children exposed to domestic violence, their mothers, and the batterer.
- Design approaches for holding batterers accountable for their actions.

This program has been approved by NASW- New York State for 5.5 contact hours under approval number A-808.

Cost: \$45.00

Deadline: October 25, 2005

"Rebuilding Lives: Overcoming the Impact of Domestic Violence on Families & Children"

Name: _____
 Agency: _____
 Phone: _____
 Fax or Email: _____
 Address: _____

Enclosed:

- Check
 Voucher/Purchase Order

Make checks payable to:
 Family Violence Prevention Council
 36-42 Main Street
 Binghamton, NY 13905

I am requesting:

- NASW credits - **add \$15.00**
 OASAS credits - **free**
 CEU's from BCC - **free**

No refunds. No confirmation will be sent. For more information or directions call

Phone: 607-778-2153 Fax: 607-778-3788
 Website:

www.gobroomecounty.com/departments/FVPC.php

**SPECIAL PROJECTS:
ESSAY CONTEST**





**COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE GENDER FAIRNESS IN THE COURTS
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann, Chair
Christopher J. Esworthy, Deputy Chair
Binghamton City Court
Governmental Plaza
38 Hawley Street
Binghamton, New York 13901
Telephone (607) 772-7006
Fax (607) 772-7041

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Sixth District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness is holding its second annual essay contest which is open to students attending high schools within Broome County. The committee has evolved from the New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, and is committed to ensuring that both men and women are treated fairly in the Courts in our District.

The enclosed invitation sets forth the specifics of the contest, which is being sponsored by the Broome County Bar Association. We hope that the proposed essay topic is appropriate for social studies and writing curricula, and that the teachers will choose to incorporate the contest into their lesson plans. Of course, students may enter the contest independently.

The generosity of the Broome County Bar enables the committee to award cash prizes for the best essays submitted. A total of three prizes will be awarded with first place receiving \$250, second place \$150, and third place \$100.

The Committee wishes to emphasize that there is no "right" answer. We are looking for creative and thought provoking essays. The papers will be judged on content and style.

Please post, publish, and announce the invitation so that all students may have an opportunity to enter the contest. Essays must be received by April 1, 2006. Thank you for your anticipated participation in this event.

If you need any further information please contact Christopher Esworthy at 778-2159.

Very Truly Yours,

Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann

Very Truly Yours,

Christopher J. Esworthy



**COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE GENDER FAIRNESS IN THE COURTS
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann, Chair
Christopher J. Esworthy, Deputy Chair**

Essay Contest

The Sixth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness invites you to participate in the second annual essay contest.

Three cash prizes will be awarded: \$250 for first place, \$150 for second place, and \$100 for third place. The contest is open to all high school students in Broome County.

Essays should be approximately 500 words. The essay topic is as follows:

Why is the American Jury System important to you? Important to this country? Important to the rest of the world? Also, do you think woman are discriminated against in the jury process?

FORMAL REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Send three legible copies of your paper to the attention of Christopher Esworthy, Broome County Courthouse, PO Box 1766, Binghamton, NY 13902-1766.
- 2) Include a cover page with your name, address, telephone number, school and grade. (if not included your essay will not be considered)
- 3) Do not put any identifying information on the essay itself.

All entries must be received no later than April 1, 2006. The winners will be invited to the annual Bar Association Law Day Dinner in May where the prizes will be awarded. By submitting an entry, you agree that we may publish your essay.

We hope you will share your thoughts and perceptions about this topic with us. Remember, there is no right answer. We just want you to think and we want you to make us think.

**WOMEN'S HISTORY
MONTH**



**Business and Professional Women
of the USA**
Mission Statement

To achieve equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education and research. To elevate the standards of women in business and in the professions. To promote the interest of business and professional women. To bring about the spirit of cooperation among business and professional women of the U.S.A.

Websites:
www.bpwusa.org
or
www.bpwny.org

**YWCA of
Binghamton/Broome County**
Mission Statement

To empower women and girls and to eliminate racism. To create opportunities for women's growth, leadership and power in order to attain a common vision: peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all people. The association will use its collective power toward the elimination of racism wherever it exists.

Website:
www.ywcaofbinghamton.com

Membership information on both organizations will be available at registration desk

YWCA/BPW
Fourth Annual
"Women's History Month"
Breakfast Program

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

**Binghamton Regency
Riverside Room**

7:45 AM:
Welcome by
YWCA and BPW
Representatives
Followed by breakfast

8:15 AM:
Presentation:
Women in the Military

Featured Speaker
Sandra Junker
Retired Army Sgt. 1st Class
Joined the military, April 21, 1969
Retired, November 1, 1990
Veteran's Representative, 15 Years
American Legion Member
American Legion Auxiliary Member
Disabled American Veteran's
Broome/Tioga
League of Women Voters
Southern Tier Women's Network

YWCA/BPW
Fourth Annual
"Women's History Month"
Breakfast
Reservation

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____
State: _____ **Zip:** _____
Phone: (H) _____
(W) _____

Place of Business: _____

E-mail: _____

**Tear off and return with
check for \$16.00**

payable to:
YWCA

ATT: ENCOREplus
80 Hawley Street
Binghamton, NY 13901
Call 772-0340 Ext 222/242
for information

One reservation form per person
Form may be duplicated



**eliminating racism
empowering women**
ywca



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Professional
Women/USA**
Triple Cities BPW

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**YWCA
and
Triple Cities
Business and
Professional Women
invite you to join
their fourth annual**

**"Women's
History
Month
Celebration"**

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

**Breakfast in the
Grand Riverside Room,
Binghamton Regency
One Sarbro Square
Binghamton, NY
7:45 AM - 9:00 AM
\$16.00 per person
Call 772-0340 Ext 222/242
for more information**



LOCAL COMMITTEES REPORTS 2005 - 2006

Name of the Committee:

Seventh Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Number and Email address of the Chair:

Hon. Marilyn L. O'Connor, Monroe County Family Court, Rochester, NY 14614; (585) 429-1904, fax: (585) 428-2597. MOCONNOR@courts.state.ny.us

**Number of Members: 19 Number of Meetings: 5 Average Attendance: 15
Use of Video Conferencing: No**

Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.):

Four judges (1 City, 2 County & AJ), Director of local Alternatives for Battered Women, Office of Court Administration personnel, Community Worker, Labor Union representative, administrators, Bar Association presidents (MCBA and GRAWA), Coordinator of Domestic Violence Court, Attorneys, Court Security.

Please include names of co-sponsors, size of attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month - October 2005

N/A

Activities for Womens History Month 2005 or planned for 2006:

Speaker: Constance Mitchell - Civil Rights Activist/Community Leader
Location: Hall of Justice - March 30, 2006
32 people to attend from the area.

Other Activities in the Past Year:

- > **Gender Fairness Committee Luncheon - July 26, 2005**
Speaker: Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin
Location: Bristol Harbour Resort
Topic: History of the Committee and Activities
- > **CLE Seminar (Free CLE credit)**

Speaker: Jill Goodman, Esq.
Location: Hall of Justice - December 12, 2005
Topic: Proposed Legislative Changes Regarding Matrimonial Reform

- > **Custody/Support Informational Brochures printed in English and Spanish for public distribution Districtwide. (EDD: April, 2006)**

Plans for Next Year:

Focus on Educational Programming:

Additional CLE programs (Ethics or Collaborative Law)

Annual Luncheon with Speaker

Additional speakers for Women's History and Black History Months

This year marks the 20th year since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts reported that, "Gender Bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is a pervasive problem with grave consequences. Women are often denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity."

What do you think have been the greatest advances for women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts in the past 20 years? How is access to justice, treatment or opportunity more equal?

Awareness of gender and racial issues has definitely increased but, while that is important, it does not eliminate the problem.

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts?

Issues of gender and racial bias still exist but are harder to detect because they are more subtle. There is more equity at entry level positions, but advancing to higher/supervisory levels remains a significant problem.

Return to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel

NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts

25 Beaver Street, Rm 878

New York, New York 10004 - or fax the form to (212) 428-2793

**PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE CHANGES
REGARDING MATRIMONIAL REFORM**

DECEMBER 13, 2005 - 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

MODERATOR: HON. MARILYN L. O'CONNOR

**PRESENTER: JILL GOODMAN, ESQ.
COUNSEL for JUDICIAL COMMITTEE ON WOMEN IN THE COURTS**

**PRESENTATION: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DRL§236, Part B, Subdivision 6
POST-MARITAL COMPENSATION OBLIGATION**

Q & A: AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

FEEDBACK

SUGGESTIONS FOR MODIFICATION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

FREE CLE CREDITS

**CourtRoom 303 - Hall of Justice
99 Exchange Blvd.
Rochester, NY**

*You Are Cordially Invited As A Guest Of The
7th Judicial District*

GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
for a
LUNCHEON at BRISTOL HARBOUR RESORT

Guest Speaker:

Honorable Betty Weinberg Ellerin

*Associate Justice
Appellate Division - First Department*

*Chair of the NYS Judicial Commission on
Women in the Courts*

WHERE: **BRISTOL HARBOUR RESORT**
5410 Seneca Point Rd.
Canandaigua, NY 14424
(585) 396-0060

WHEN: **TUESDAY - JULY 26, 2005**
TIME: **12:00 NOON**

*Kindly RSVP by July 10th, to Susan M. Shaw
Secretary to Hon. Marilyn L. O'Connor, MCFCJ
phone: (585) 428-1904 or email: SMSHAW@courts.state.ny.us*

In Celebration of Women's History Month
The 7th Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee
presents

Constance Mitchell

Community & Civil Rights Activist

**Recipient of Rochester Rotary Community Service Award,
United Nations International Award,
Sojourner Truth Award from the National Negro Women's Clubs, and the
Dr. Charles Lunsford - Distinguished Community Service Award from the
Rochester Urban League**

Thursday, March 30, 2006
12:15 pm - 1:30 pm

Free Admission

Seating Limited

Reservations necessary

Call: (585) 428-1904 by March 28th

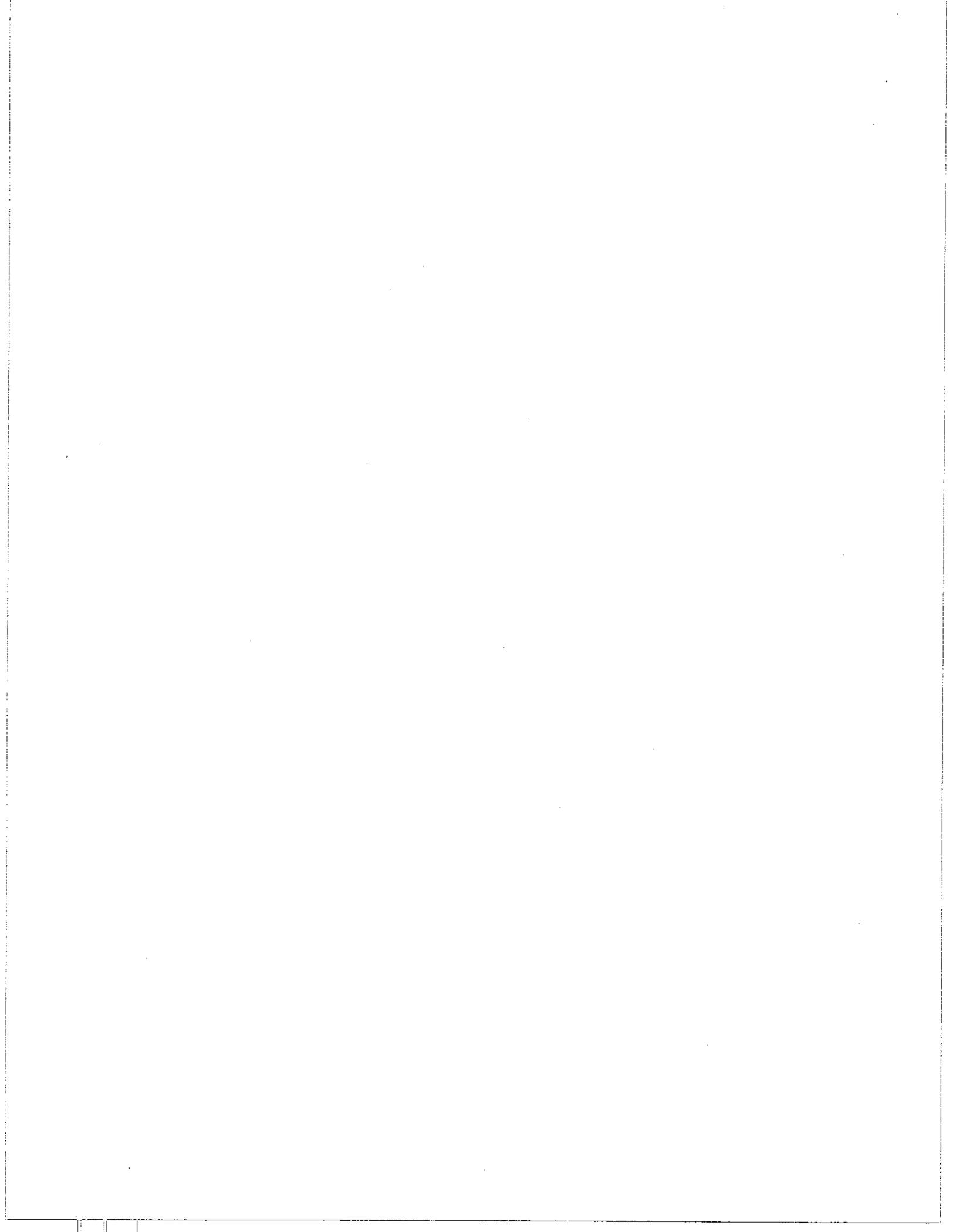
Hall of Justice - Room 303

Brownbag lunch will be provided free



Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee

Hon. Rose Bailey
Erie County Courthouse
One Niagra Plaza
Buffalo, NY 14202
716-845-7115



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Name of the Committee: Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair:

Hon. Rosalie S. Bailey
Erie County Family Court
One Niagara Plaza
Buffalo, New York 14202
Telephone: (716) 845-7475
Fax: (716) 858-7115
RBAILEY@courts.state.ny.us

Number of Members: 28 **Number of Meetings:** 2 **Average Attendance:** 8

Use of Videoconferencing? No

Composition of the Committee:

Judges serving on the Appellate Division, Supreme Court, County Court, Family Court and City Court. Court attorneys. One public defender and one assistant district attorney. Chief clerks, court assistants, courtroom clerks. The Executive Assistant to the Administrative Judge and a Senior Management Analyst - Personnel. A court interpreter. All members of the Anti-Discrimination Panel. Included in this mix are representatives of all counties in our judicial district.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005:

In conjunction with our Administrative Judge, several committee members participated in a program designed to bring awareness to court employees about the UCS Domestic Violence Policy and about remedies available to victims of domestic violence. This program was repeated throughout the district.

Activities for Women's History Month 2005 or planned for 2006:

Our biennial luncheon was held on May 25, 2005 at the Adams's Mark Hotel. Approximately 300 persons attended representing all counties in the district. Attendees included judges, lawyers, court personnel and interested members of the community. We recognized the contributions of ten women from across the Eighth Judicial District.

Honorees were Genevieve Capizzi, Hon. Judith Claire, Margaret Dadd, Esq., Helen Ferraro-Zaffram, Esq., Ilene Fleischman, Hon. Rose LaMendola, Hon. Janice Rosa, Anna Scott, Esq., Carolyn VanSchaik, Esq., and JoAnn Wahl, Esq.

Plans are underway for our 2006 luncheon recognizing the honorees as we install their names on the permanent plaque at the Appellate Division, Fourth Department. We will invite the 2005 and 2003 honorees to join committee members and, we hope, members of the Fourth Department. The Appellate Division is located in the Courthouse named after the late. Hon. M. Dolores Denman, a former chair and a very active member of our committee.

Other Activities in the Past Year:

N/A

Plans for Next Year:

We plan to survey child care availability for litigants in the counties in our district and to investigate if there are any unmet needs for the child care facilities or waiting areas. Also to research the history of women in the courts. We are planning a luncheon at the Appellate Division to honor women who have been previously recognized by our committee and whose name will be installed on the permanent plaque. Plans are underway to develop and participate in a program for Domestic Violence month. In addition, we hope to sponsor a program for National Mammography Day in October to encourage employees and their family members to have mammograms and to distribute literature on self-examinations.

This year marks the 20th year since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts reported that "Gender Bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is a pervasive problem with grave consequences. Women are often denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity."

What do you think have been the greatest advances for women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts in the past 20 years? How is access to justice, treatment or opportunity more equal?

1. A recognition that young and poor women may be unable or unwilling to come to court for redress of wrongs because of the lack of child care. The consequent development of child care facilities within the court buildings for litigants and attempts to make the courthouses more accessible.

2. There is a growing recognition of the seriousness and pervasiveness of domestic violence and the need to train judges, attorneys and court personnel how to handle these sensitive cases. Leadership from the top within the court system has been critical in, for example, mandating training for judges in domestic violence. Important, too, has been the presence of advocates within and without the court system to aid victims.

3. There has been an increased presence of women in administrative and supervisory positions. In our district, for the first time, we have a female Administrative Judge and a female Chief Supreme Court Clerk in Erie County, our largest county. We have had a number of female Chief Court Clerks in other counties in the district.
4. More women have been elected as judges in our district. There are presently 8 women Supreme Court Judges out of almost 30. In Erie County, 50% of the Family Court Judges and 50% of the County Court Judges are female.
5. For court employees, the availability of job-sharing has proven a real benefit to parents of young children who might otherwise have been unable to continue working.
6. Official recognition and policies condemning sexual harassment within the workplace has put sanctions on discriminatory conduct. Training and education for new employees on this topic has helped people understand their rights and also that this conduct will not be tolerated.
7. Growth of specialized courts including IDV courts and Family Treatment Courts.
8. New rules in matrimonial cases aimed at leveling the playing field and speeding up divorce proceedings. These rules include regular and timely billing, prohibiting sexual relationships between attorneys and vulnerable clients. Also, the establishment of standardized formulas for child support through the Child Support Standards Act of 1989 and the creation of Support Magistrate positions have ensured there are dedicated parts of court where support cases are heard and treated seriously.
9. Increased numbers of women graduating from law schools have entered areas of the law that previously were male dominated and have also earned partnerships in law firms. Women attorneys are now more visible in the courthouse than at any time in the past.
10. Women attorneys have advanced to leadership positions within previously male-dominated bar associations. No woman had been president of the New York State Bar Association prior to 1988!

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts?

Outmoded court facilities present a challenge to women litigants, attorneys and employees. Safe waiting rooms, adequate restrooms and available child care facilities are very important.

For women attorneys and court employees, balancing work with child care and care of

elderly relatives is an increasing challenge. As the number and age of women in the court system grows, more working women will face these issues.

While the percentage of female judges has been increasing, there is a lot of room to grow.



STATE OF NEW YORK
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
92 FRANKLIN STREET-3RD FLOOR
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202-3902
(716) 845-2505
FAX (716) 858-4828

JONATHAN LIPPMAN
Chief Administrative Judge

JAN H. PLUMADORE
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
Courts Outside New York City

SHARON S. TOWNSEND
District Administrative Judge
Eighth Judicial District

ANDREW B. ISENBERG, ESQ.
Executive Assistant

May 2, 2005

MEMORANDUM

**TO: JUSTICES, JUDGES, CHIEF CLERKS & AGENCY SUPERVISORS,
ALL NON-JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES - EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
AND BAR ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS**

FROM: HON. AMY J. FRICANO
Chair-Eighth Judicial District, Gender & Racial Fairness Committee

RE: WOMEN IN THE LAW AWARDS LUNCHEON

The 8th Judicial District's Gender & Racial Fairness Committee has planned an awards luncheon to be held on **WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2005 at the Adam's Mark Hotel, 120 Church Street, Buffalo, New York.** Lunch will commence at 12:00 noon.

The Honorees are : **Genevieve Capizzi, Hon. Judith Claire, Margaret Dadd, Esq.; Helen Ferraro-Zaffram, Esq.; Ileen Fleischmann, Hon. Rose LaMendola, Hon. Janice M. Rosa, Anna L. Scott Esq.; Carolyn VanSchaik, Esq. (Posthumous) and JoAnn Wahl, Esq.**

We invite your attendance as well as members of your organization and/or office to recognize these outstanding women who have contributed to both the legal and the community at large.

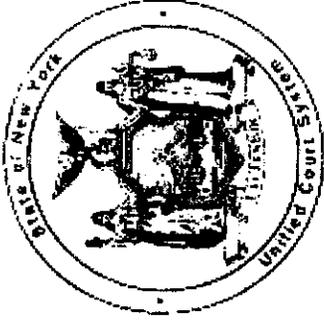
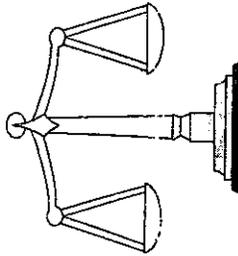
Reservations for the luncheon with checks made payable to "Women in the Courts Committee" should be forwarded to the Eighth District Administrative Office, 92 Franklin Street-3rd Floor, Buffalo, New York 14202. Reservations are being accepted immediately at a cost of \$ 25.00 per person. Tables of ten can be reserved. Please make your reservations as soon as possible but **no later than the close of business on May 20, 2005.**

For further information, please contact Chair, Hon. Amy J. Fricano (439-7055) or Marie Villari, Eighth Judicial District Office (845-2511).

We are hopeful that you are able to attend. Thank you.

AJF:MV:sw

C: Hon. Sharon S. Townsend, Administrative Judge
Andrew B. Isenberg, Executive Assistant
Marie Villari, Sr. Management Analyst
Eighth District Gender & Racial Fairness Committee



**UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM
8th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GENDER & RACIAL FAIRNESS
COMMITTEE PRESENTS
WOMEN IN THE LAW
AWARDS LUNCHEON**

Wednesday, May 25, 2005
Adam's Mark Hotel
Buffalo, New York

PROGRAM

Welcome Hon. Sharon S. Townsend
Presentation of Awards Hon. E. Jeannette Ogden
Marie Villari

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Hon. Rosalie S. Bailey
Hon. Sheila A. DiTullio
Andrew B. Isenberg, Esq.
Linda Fogle
Hon. Amy J. Fricano, Chairperson
Hon. Jerome C. Gorski
Mary Lou Hayden, Esq.
Brenda Heath, Esq.
Colleen Kelly
Jean Levey
Danielle H. Matchle, Esq.
Hon. E. Jeannette Ogden
Ruby Olive
Cathy S. Quattrini, Esq.
Kim A. Reed
Lisa Bloch Rodwin
Hon. Robert J. Russell, Jr.
Sheila Weir Schwaneckamp, Esq.
Lori Shurilla
Michelle Tendorf
Sharon Thomas
Marie Villari
Hon. John Ward
Oliver Young, Esq.

NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM 8th JUDICIAL DISTRICT WOMEN IN THE COURTS/ GENDER & RACIAL FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

The New York State Task Force on Women in the Courts issued its first formal report approximately 18 years ago indicating in unequivocal language that "gender bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is pervasive." It was the Task Force's directive to create a "justice system more fully committed to fairness and equality." Much has been achieved and, of course, more needs to be done. The awards today recognize women who have contributed significantly to the judicial system; to its fairness and its sense of equality. Thank you to the Honorees, we owe them much.

HONOREES

Genevieve Capizzi
Hon. Judith S. Claire
Margaret Dadd, Esq.
Helen Ferraro-Zaffram, Esq.
Ilene R. Fleishmann
Hon. Rose D. LaMendola
Hon. Janice M. Rosa
Anna L. Scott, Esq.
Carolyn VanSchaik, Esq. (Posthumous)
JoAnn Wahl, Esq.





PRESS RELEASE

New York State
Unified Court System

Hon. Sharon S. Townsend
Administrative Judge
Eighth Judicial District

Contact: Andrew B. Isenberg
Executive Assistant
(716) 845-2506

Release: Immediately, May 18, 2005

THE FOURTH CELEBRATION OF THE WOMEN IN THE LAW AWARDS LUNCHEON WILL BE HELD MAY 25, 2005 AT THE ADAM'S MARK HOTEL, 120 CHURCH STREET, BUFFALO, NEW YORK COMMENCING AT 12:00 NOON. THIS EVENT IS SPONSORED BY THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT'S, GENDER & RACIAL FAIRNESS COMMITTEE. THE FOLLOWING HONOREES HAVE BEEN SELECTED FROM THE JUDICIAL-LEGAL COMMUNITY FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BENCH, BAR AND COMMUNITY:

GENEVIEVE CAPIZZI, PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT; HON. JUDITH S. CLAIRE, CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY FAMILY COURT JUDGE; MARGARET DADD, ESQ.-COMMISSIONER NYS DEPT. OF CIVIL SERVICE; ILENE R. FLEISCHMANN, ASSOCIATE DEAN @ UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO; HELEN FERRARO-ZAFFRAM, ESQ.; HON. ROSE LaMENDOLA, RETIRED SUPREME COURT JUSTICE, HON. JANICE ROSA, SUPREME COURT JUSTICE;

ANNA L. SCOTT, ESQ.; CAROLYN VAN SCHAIK, ESQ. (POSTHUMOUS) AND JOANN WAHL, ESQ.; CLERK OF THE COURT FOR THE APPELLATE DIVISION, 4TH DEPARTMENT.

RESERVATIONS FOR THE LUNCHEON WITH CHECKS, MADE PAYABLE TO "THE WOMEN IN THE COURTS COMMITTEE" SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE 8TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, 92 FRANKLIN STREET-3RD FLOOR, BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202 (845-2505). RESERVATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED IMMEDIATELY AT \$25.00 PER PERSON AND TABLES OF TEN WILL BE ACCOMMODATED.

State court officials honor women in law

By Matt Gryta

NEWS STAFF REPORTER

Nine Western New York female judges, court officials and lawyers and a deceased Niagara Falls attorney whose community activism will be immortalized at a residence for homeless women will be honored by state court officials at a Buffalo luncheon today.

The 17th annual Celebration of Women in the Law, being conducted by the state court system's Gender and Racial Fairness Committee, will begin at noon in Adam's Mark Hotel on Church Street.

The honorees include: retired State Supreme Court Justice Rose E. LaFollette; Chautauque County Family Court Judge Judith S. Claire; State Supreme Court Justice Janice M. Rosa, judicial overseer of Western New York district courts; State Civil Service Commissioner Margaret Dashi of Africa University at Buffalo; Law School Associate Dean Rene R. Fleischmann; Chief Clerk

Joann M. Wahl of the Fourth Department Appellate Court in Rochester; Genevieve Cappizzi, fiscal watchdog of Western New York courts; Helen Ferraro-Zaftram, a Buffalo attorney specializing in elder care; and Ann L. Scott, a Buffalo attorney noted for free legal work for the poor.

A posthumous award will be presented in honor of Carolyn A. Van Schalk, a Niagara Falls attorney and community activist who died in a car crash two years ago.

Sharop S. Townsend, administrative judge of the Eighth Judicial District, said that in honor of Van Schalk, a 19-unit home for homeless women and their children, to be known as Carolyn's House, will be opened this summer by the YWCA of Niagara.

All 10 recipients were selected by the local judicial and legal communities for their outstanding contributions to the bench, bar and community, Townsend said.

e-mail: mgryta@buffnews.com

Buffalo 15g
5/25/05

LOCAL COMMITTEES 2005-2006

Name of the Committee:

Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts

Name, Address and Telephone and Fax Numbers of Chair:

Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, New York State Court of Claims, 140 Grand Street, Suite 507, White Plains, NY 10601, [Telephone] (914) 289-2310, [Fax] (914) 289-2313, truderma@courts.state.ny.us

No. of Members: 40

Composition of the Committee: Judges, Attorneys, Director of the County Office for Women

Local Committee Activities for the Past Year

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005:

The committee organized seminars in Rockland and Westchester Counties entitled, "Beware of the Ethical Pitfalls for Attorneys as Clients" Several other organizations joined as co-sponsors. Susan L. Pollet, Esq., Executive Director of the Pace Women's Justice Center, Hon. George Marlow and Deborah Scalise, Esq. were the speakers. Attorneys in attendance were able to earn CLE credit through Pace.

Activities for Women's History Month 2006:

The committee sponsored an essay contest open to all high school students in the Ninth Judicial District. The topic was:

Tom and Emily, both high school juniors, have been dating each other exclusively for a year when Tom hears from his friend that Emily had a few dates with Vince. Tom confronts Emily in the school parking lot. She responds "that's a lie" and starts to walk away. Tom becomes violent and pushes Emily to the ground. She reports the incident to school officials. The school has a policy to deal with school fights, but refused to act in this case. Emily claims this is gender bias.

Please discuss:

- The school's denial to take any action
- How Emily and Tom handled this situation
- Any differences you perceive if Tom's and Emily's positions were reversed



Local bar associations contributed to the cash prizes which will be awarded at a breakfast in the courthouse on April 28, 2006.

Other Activities in the Past Year:

On April 15, 2005 we held a breakfast in White Plains to award the student winners of our 2004 Essay Contest in recognition of Women's History Month. At the breakfast, Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman and Hon. Francis Nicolai, Administrative Judge of the Ninth Judicial District, presented the winners with their prizes. The students, their parents, school administrators, teachers, bar leaders, judges, attorneys and committee members joined in the celebration.

During the course of the year, we had various meetings including a two part presentation, "The Effect of a Borderline Personality in a Custody Matter." Dr. Ruth Nirenberg, Executive Director and Carla Quail, Assistant Executive Director, of the Mental Health Association of Westchester, offered useful background medical information for judges hearing and lawyers trying custody cases. At another meeting, Hon. Denis Donovan, the Supervising Judge of the Matrimonial Part in Westchester County, discussed the current handling of matrimonial cases in the county.

Have you worked in partnership with other groups? Yes; Bar Associations? Yes; Law Schools? Yes

Plans for Next Year:

We intend to present a CLE program in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month and will again sponsor a high school essay contest in celebration of Women's History Month.

The Pace Women's Justice Center
in cooperation with The Gender Fairness Committee
of the Ninth Judicial District

Presents

Beware of the Ethical Pitfalls
for Attorneys as Clients

Tuesday, October 18, 2005
6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

New York State Judicial Institute
Omni Room
Pace University School of Law

Welcome and Introduction by
Susan L. Pollet, Esq.
Executive Director, Pace Women's Justice Center

Hon. George Marlow
Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department

Deborah Scalise, Esq.,
Jones Siedzik Garneau & Nardone LLP

Cost - \$35
(Includes Dinner and 2 CLE Credits)

RSVP: Pace Women's Justice Center, Attn: James Bavero, (914) 422-4069
Please make checks payable to the Pace Women's Justice Center

Space is limited

This Program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board for a maximum of 2 credit hours. The course is sponsored for CLE accreditation by The Pace Women's Justice Center. Full and partial scholarships based on financial need are available. For information on the guidelines, and to apply, please contact James Bavero at (914) 422-4069. All requests are confidential. This program is suitable for transitional (i.e., newly admitted) and non-transitional attorneys.

The Pace Women's Justice Center
in cooperation with The Gender Fairness Committee
of the Ninth Judicial District

presents

Beware of the Ethical Pitfalls
for Attorneys as Clients

Monday, November 7, 2005
6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Suffern Free Library
210 Lafayette Avenue
Suffern, New York
(845)357-1237

Welcome and Introduction by
Susan L. Pollet, Esq.
Executive Director, Pace Women's Justice Center

Hon. George Marlow
Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department

Deborah Scalise, Esq.,
Jones Siedzik Garneau & Nardone LLP

Cost - \$35
(Includes Dinner and 2 CLE Credits)

RSVP: Pace Women's Justice Center, Attn: James Bavero, (914) 422-4069
Please make checks payable to the Pace Women's Justice Center

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OFF THE RECORD



NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YORK STATE COURT OF CLAIMS

P.O. BOX 7344, ALBANY, NY 12224

www.nyscourtofclaims.state.ny.us

April 2005 - Vol. 13, No. 2

GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE CELEBRATES WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The Ninth Judicial District to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts held a breakfast on April 15, 2005, to recognize the winners of its Annual Essay Contest in celebration of Women's History Month. Ninth Judicial District Administrative Judge Francis Nicolai and Court of Claims Judge **Terry Jane Ruderman** presented the awards.

Students were asked to write on the topic: "The local school board has announced that it is considering adopting a policy that all high school sports must be co-educational or there will be no funds from the budget for the teams. A group of parents has organized to oppose this policy. Write a letter to the board explaining your reasons for opposing or supporting the policy." In the freshman/sophomore category, Tammy Beram from Our Lady of Victory Academy won First Prize, and Caitlin Melvin from Newburgh Free Academy won Second Prize. In the junior/senior category, Jessica Kase from Horace Greeley High School won First Prize, and Hannah Beck from Horace Greeley High School won Second Prize.

The generosity of the various professional organizations and bar associations enabled the committee to award cash prizes. The students read their essays to the 50 assembled guests. Committee Chair, Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, was pleased to note that this year the committee received more entries from a greater number of high schools than it had in previous years. The committee anticipates that this contest and awards breakfast will be held again next year and is hoping for even greater participation in the district.



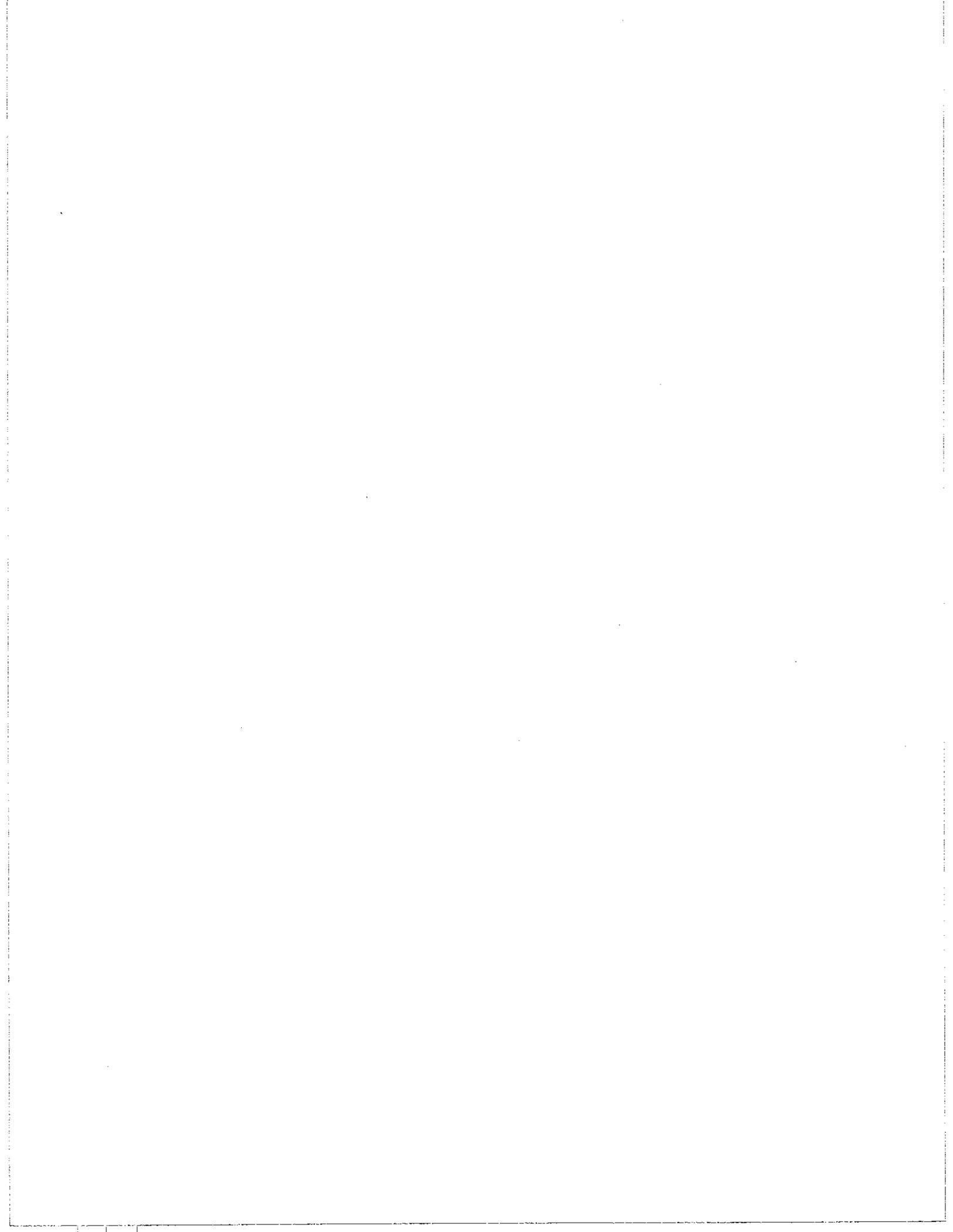
L-R: Hon. Francis Nicolai, Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Jessica Kase, Hannah Beck, Tammy Beram, Caitlin Melvin



Nassau County Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts

Hon. Margaret Reilly
District Court Judge
99 Main Street
Hempstead, NY 11550
516-572-2107

Stephen W. Schlissel, Esq.
Schlissel, Ostrow
200 Garden City Plaza, Suite 301
Garden City, NY 11530
516-877-1800



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2005-2006

Name of the Committee: Nassau County Judicial Committee on Women In The Courts

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair:

<u>Honorable Margaret C. Reilly</u>	<u>Stephen W. Schlissel, Esq.</u>
<u>99 Main Street, Hempstead, NY 11550</u>	<u>200 Garden City Plaza, Suite 301</u>
<u>(516) 572-2107 (phone)</u>	<u>Garden City, New York 11530</u>
<u>(516) 572-2368 (fax)</u>	<u>(516) 877-8000 (phone)</u>
<u>reilly@courts.state.ny.us</u>	<u>(516) 294-3188 (fax)</u>
	<u>profsws@aol.com</u>

No. Members 30 No. of Meetings Approx. 4/yr. Average Attendance Approx. 26

Use of Video Conferencing No

Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.) Judges, lawyers,
Court administrators, advocates, Court personnel

Please include names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005 The theme was "Domestic Violence in the Workplace" and programs were conducted in six (6) Courthouses to provide Court personnel with information regarding domestic violence and the Court's policies and procedures regarding the same. Different themes were presented in each Courthouse. See attached.

Activities for Women's History Month 2005 or planned for 2006 In 2005, we held a program to honor the Honorable A. Gail Prudenti and to celebrate Women's History Month. See attached. In 2006, we are scheduled to have a program honoring former Supreme Court Justice Patricia D. Collins, who started as a Family Court Judge, with the dedication of a plasma television in her honor in the waiting room of the Nassau County Family Court. See attached.

Other Activities in the Past Year

Plans for Next Year To have expanded activities and to honor the 20th year of the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts

This year marks the 20th year since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts reported that, **“Gender Bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is a pervasive problem with grave consequences. Women are often denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity.”**

What do you think have been the greatest advances for women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts in the past 20 years? How is access to justice, treatment or opportunity more equal?

We believe the greatest advance is the extraordinary amount of education and information that is being provided about gender bias, access to justice and equal treatment. This education and information has shown to be extremely helpful in making giant steps towards equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity.

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts?

We believe the greatest challenge is the need for further education, not only of women, but especially of men.

We see the future of anti-gender bias to be in the education of those who engage in such gender bias. We believe educating those individuals should be the focus of the next 20 years.

Please return this form by **March 15, 2006**, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, New York 10004
212-428-2793 (fax)
jgoodman@courts.state.ny.us

SUFFOLK COUNTY WOMEN in the COURTS

2005-2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Name & Address of Co-Chairs:

Hon. Hertha C. Trotto

Acting County Court Judge
Suffolk County District Court
400 Carleton Avenue
Central, Islip, N.Y. 11722
E-mail: HTROTTO@courts.state.ny.us
Tel. no.: 631-853-7418
Fax no.: 631-853-5401

Susan C. Fox

Associate Court Clerk
Suffolk County District Court
400 Carleton Avenue
Central Islip, N.Y. 11722
E-mail: SFOX@courts.state.ny.us
Tel. no.: 631-853-3280

No. of Members: 40

No. of Meetings: 8

Average Attendance: 20

Use of Video Conferencing: Although used in the past, we prefer to meet in person at one location.

Composition of Committee: Includes judges in Supreme Court, Family Court, District Court and Town Justice Court, a Support Magistrate, County Social Services Commissioner, court personnel from various departments, representatives from Hofstra Law School and Touro Law Center, attorneys in private practice, women's services representatives, members of Suffolk County Task Force to Prevent Family Violence, members of the Suffolk County Women's Bar Association, Amistad Black Bar Association of Long Island and the Suffolk County Bar Association and members of the community.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005

The Committee cosponsored a program: *"Domestic Violence in Native American and Rural Communities: Unique Strengths and Challenges."* Other sponsors included Center for Court Innovation, The Retreat, Inc., Suffolk County Executive's Task Force to Prevent Family Violence, East End Consortium on Family Violence, Suffolk County Women's Bar Association, Suffolk County Bar Association, Shinnecock Substance Abuse Mobilization Project, Brighter Tomorrows. The program was held on November 16, 2005 at the Community Center on the grounds of the Shinnecock Nation Reservation in Southampton. A distinguished panel including Hon. Joseph Farneti, the Presiding Justice of the Suffolk County I.D.V. Court focused on the challenges of domestic violence issues facing Native American and rural communities and the barriers to connecting victims to services. Issues such as cultural barriers and differences in lifestyles were many of the topics discussed. After the formal program, the members of the Shinnecock Nation hosted a traditional Native American lunch for conference participants. Feedback was positive.

Activities for Women's History Month 2006 (March 2006)

Due to the great success of our 2005 program, the Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee is again sponsoring an essay contest and month long celebration featuring a pictorial display and art show. During March, on the second floor mezzanine of the Cohalan Complex in Central Islip, we are presenting our updated pictorial display of Suffolk County Women Judges, including four newly elected female judges, and Support Magistrates and a historic time-line of their appointments. Also, artwork by Brentwood School District students reflecting the Women's History Month theme "Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams" is on display. Suffolk County high school students are participating in an essay contest recognizing a woman from their community or the greater community of New York State who has inspired them through her achievements and activism on behalf of her community. This year, winners will receive a V.I.P. court tour and luncheon. Monetary prizes have been sponsored by Touro Law Center and Suffolk County Women's Bar Association, Suffolk County Bar Association Women & the Law Committee, Suffolk County Criminal Bar Association, Long Island Hispanic Bar Association, Amistad Black Bar Association of Long Island, Brehon Society of Suffolk County and Suffolk County Matrimonial Bar Association. Award recipients will be honored at a reception March 30, 2006.

Other activities in the Past Year:

Discussion of WIC Annual Committee Reports (May 2005)

Bagels and Books Breakfast (May and October 2005): Committee members participated in programs with the Children's Center Advisory Committee and Family and Children's Association. Books were donated by committee members and the Suffolk County District Court Judges Association.

October Breast Cancer Courthouse Alert (Week of October 17-21, 2005): Distribution of literature at Riverhead and Central Islip Court facilities in cooperation with the Suffolk County Women's Bar Association and "JALBCA." Volunteers staffed tables in courthouses and distributed materials provided by the American Cancer Society.

Annual Making Strides Breast Cancer Walk: Members of the Committee joined Suffolk County Women's Bar Association members for the annual walk at Jones Beach on October 16, 2005.

Special Guest Speaker: SGT. Nanci Byrne, Suffolk County Police Department Domestic Violence and Elder Abuse Bureau (October 2006) presented a program about the SCPD's domestic violence and elder abuse policies and procedures.

Thanksgiving Food Drive, Hats and Mittens Collection for Children's Center (October-January 2006)

New Year's Luncheon (January 2006)

Special Guest Speaker: Jill Goodman, Esq., Counsel to NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts (February 2006) addressed our local committee on the history of the NYS committee and the Task Force formed by the Honorable Lawrence H. Cooke, Chief Judge of the State of New York in 1984. She discussed the initial report of the Task Force and the subsequent 10 and 15 year reports. She highlighted two outstanding underlying structural problems inhibiting women in many settings both in and out of the courts: violence against women and lack of economic power. Ms. Goodman also noted that issues of access to the courts (including interpreters and the self represented) are dominated by women who need such services. A questionnaire was distributed to members requesting input and ideas about the Committee's mission, successes and future roles.

Heart Health Courthouse Alert (February 3, 2006): Coincided with the American Heart Association's national "Go Red for Women" Campaign Day. Volunteers from our committee distributed literature (bilingual) obtained from the American Heart Association and the NYS Department of Health. Nurses from the State University at Stony Brook Hospital provided free blood pressure screenings to court employees and court users. Red ribbons, healthy heart pins and stress management materials were distributed to all participants.

Project Assist: This is an ongoing information service providing brochures about all types of nonprofit, nonlegal community services available to litigants and members of the public who visit Suffolk courthouses. Many of the materials are bilingual or in foreign languages. Pamphlet display racks are located in Central Islip and Riverhead courts.

During our March 2006 meeting we welcomed newly elected judges in Suffolk County.

Plans for next year:

Ongoing support of the Childcare Centers in the Cohalan Court Complex.

Continue with Domestic Violence, Breast Cancer, Heart Health and Women's History Month programs.

In response to requests of the public during this year's Breast Cancer Courthouse Alert Program, the scope of materials will be expanded to include information on other types of cancer although breast cancer would remain the highlighted issue.

Renew focus on issues concerning women litigants and families that appear in our courts.

This year marks the 20th year since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts reported that, “Gender Bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is a pervasive problem with grave consequences. Women are often denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity.”

What do you think have been the greatest advances for women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts in the past 20 years? How is access to justice, treatment or opportunity more equal?

Members observed the following advances for the benefit of women litigants, attorneys and court employees since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts issued its original report:

Litigants

-The passage of the Child Support Standards Act and accompanying legislation has resulted in a dramatic improvement in enforcement of child support and maintenance orders.

- In Suffolk County, Childcare Centers are devoted to the care of children whose parents are tending to court appearances and other court business.

- Programs for the self-represented, many of whom are women.

-Problem solving courts such as: Domestic Violence parts, Integrated Domestic Violence parts, Mental Health Courts, Family Court Drug Courts

-In Suffolk County, there is an increased availability of substance abuse facilities and training for incarcerated females.

Court Employees

-In partnership with the Federal Court, childcare for court employees is provided at the Courtyard Kids program in Suffolk County, adjacent to Cohalan Court Complex in Central Islip.

-Affirmative action in hiring women to titles traditionally held by males.

-Alternative Work Schedules for court employees.

-Sexual Harassment policy clearly defined.

-Domestic Violence policy for court employees established.

-Inroads have been made on the bench: women now sit as Matrimonial Judges and Family Court judges throughout the State.

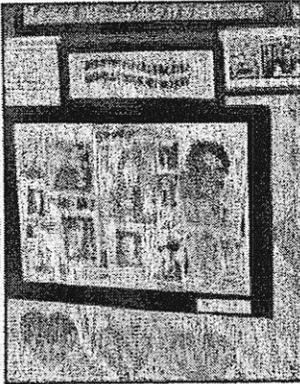
Looking to the future, challenges yet to meet:

- Insidious forms of gender bias still exist for female litigants and attorneys.
- Continue to improve the attitudes and perceptions of court personnel.
- Inequality of the glass ceiling regarding female judges. In Suffolk County, only twenty-one of the seventy-seven judges are female.
- Expansion and support of court liaison/advocate programs for victims of domestic violence.
- Address difficult issues of mixed expectations for women who juggle the demands of motherhood and their careers.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Hertha C. Trotto and Susan C. Fox, Co-Chairs

SUFFOLK COUNTY COURTS CELEBRATE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



On April 18, 2005 the Suffolk County courts and the Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee sponsored a celebration of National Women's History Month in a special ceremony held at the Cohalan Court Complex in Central Islip. District Administrative Judge H. Patrick Leis III and Dean Lawrence Rafal from the Touro Law Center were honored speakers at this year's ceremony.

This year, the Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee invited high school students from across Suffolk County to participate in an essay competition entitled "Women Change America". Students were asked to submit essays which recognized American women who have transformed culture, history and politics through their leadership in the fields of law, politics and government. Special recognition was given to the six contest winners and prizes were awarded by a number of competition sponsors, including Touro Law Center, Suffolk County Bar Association Women in the Law Committee, Suffolk County Women's Bar Association, Amistad Suffolk County Black Bar Association, Columbian Lawyers Association of Suffolk County and the Suffolk County Matrimonial Bar Association. In addition, ten Awards of Distinction were given to selected essay participants. Each and every high school student who participated in the contest received an Award of Recognition for their efforts.

In addition, the Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee gave each of the sixteen winning high school students an opportunity to shadow a judge or law school professor during the weeks that followed. In Central Islip, winners toured the Cohalan Court Complex and spent the morning observing the Honorable Hertha C. Trotto, the Honorable Patricia M. Filiberto, the Honorable Gaetan B. Lozito, and the Honorable Toni A. Bean at work in their courtrooms and chambers in District Court. In Riverhead, three winners had the opportunity to spend the day with County Court Judge Randall Hinrichs. The students were able to observe felony trial proceedings. Judge Hinrichs also took time out of his schedule to answer questions posed by the students about the criminal justice system.

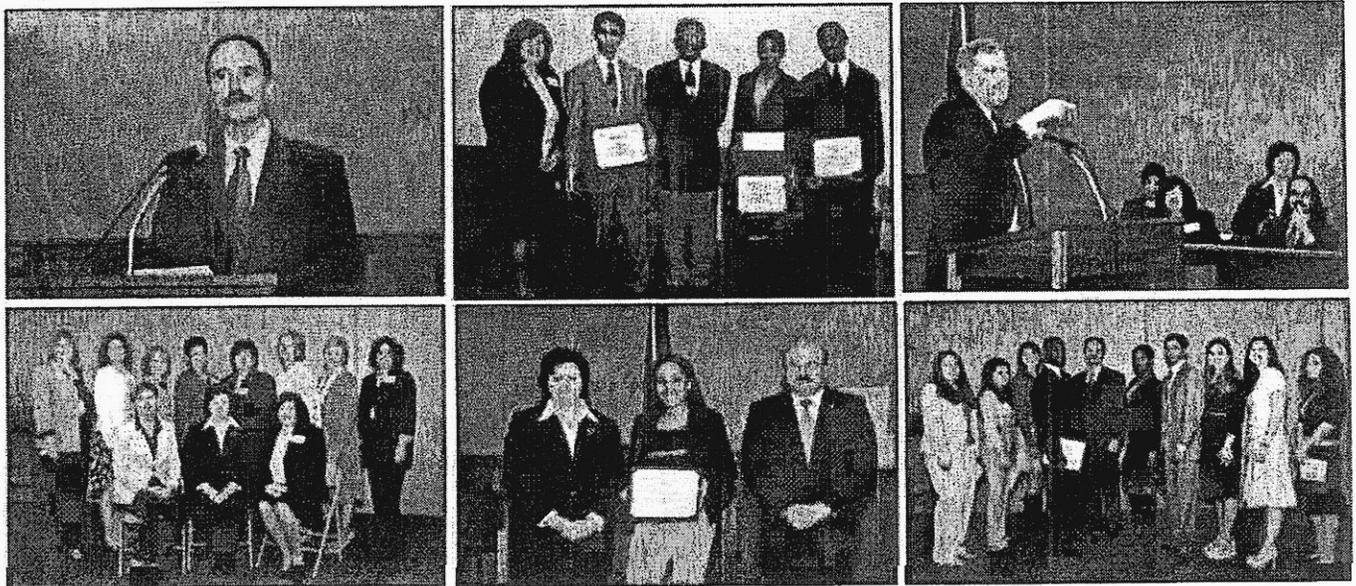
In addition to the above, the Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee sponsored an art exhibit, furnished by students from the Brentwood School District, grades K through 12, in celebration of Women's History Month. This exhibit was on display in the second floor mezzanine of the Cohalan Court Complex, along with a pictorial display of Suffolk County Women Judges and Support Magistrates, during the month long celebration of Women's History Month. Each of these students received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Women in the Courts Committee in recognition of their fine work.

Justice Leis observed, "It is truly a joy to have so many of our high school students participate in this year's Women's History Month celebration. It is my hope that their participation in commemoration of this important month long observance will allow each of them to more fully appreciate the contributions that so many women have made to change America."

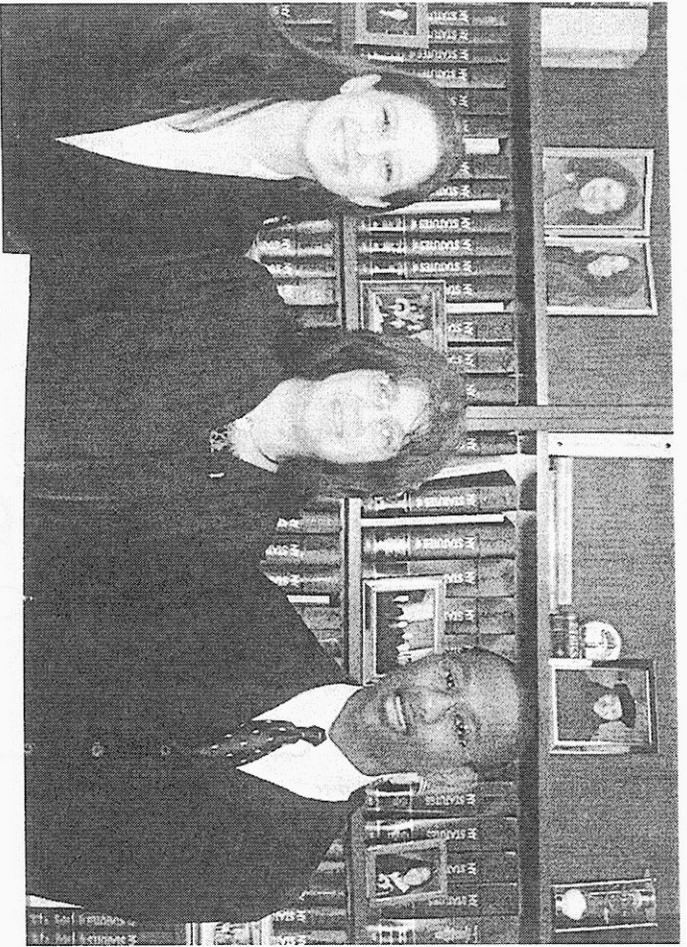
Congratulations to Hon. Hertha C. Trotto, Committee Chair, Sue Fox, Program Chair, and to the members of the Women in the Courts Committee who worked hard to make this well received program a success.

Photos continued on page 10

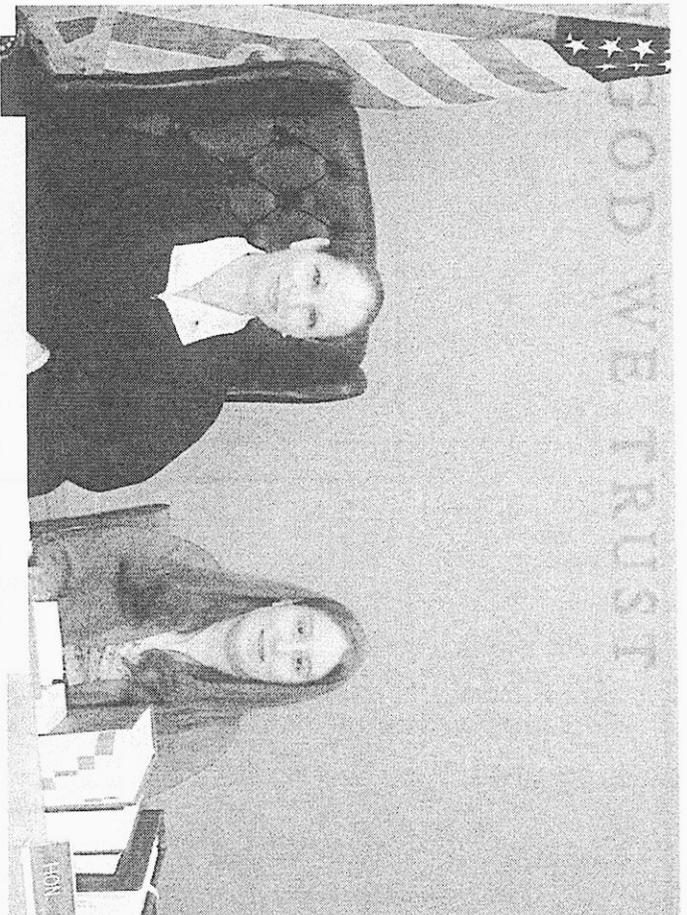
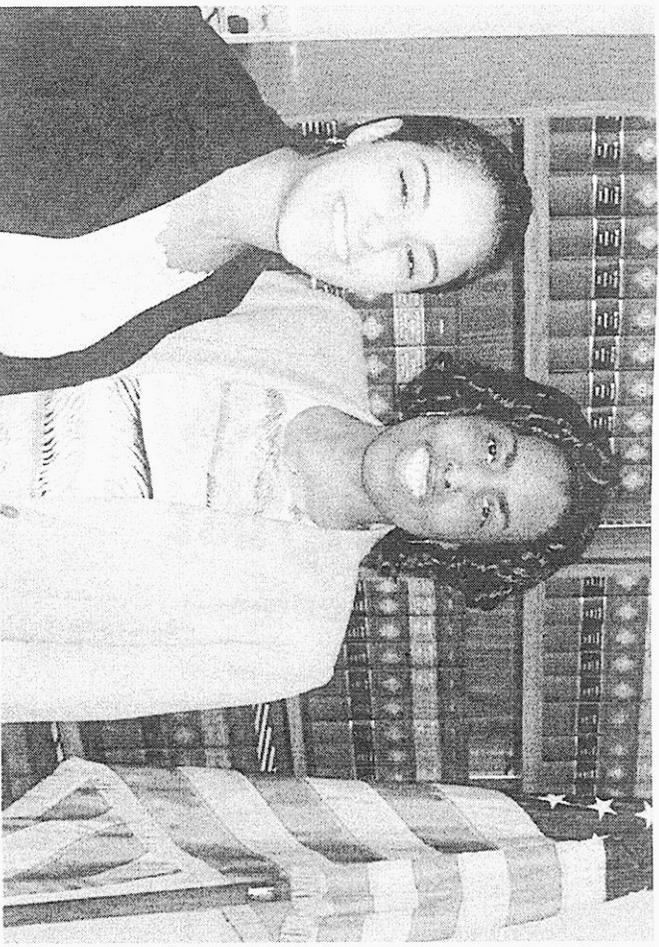
By: Warren G. Clark, Court Attorney-Referee



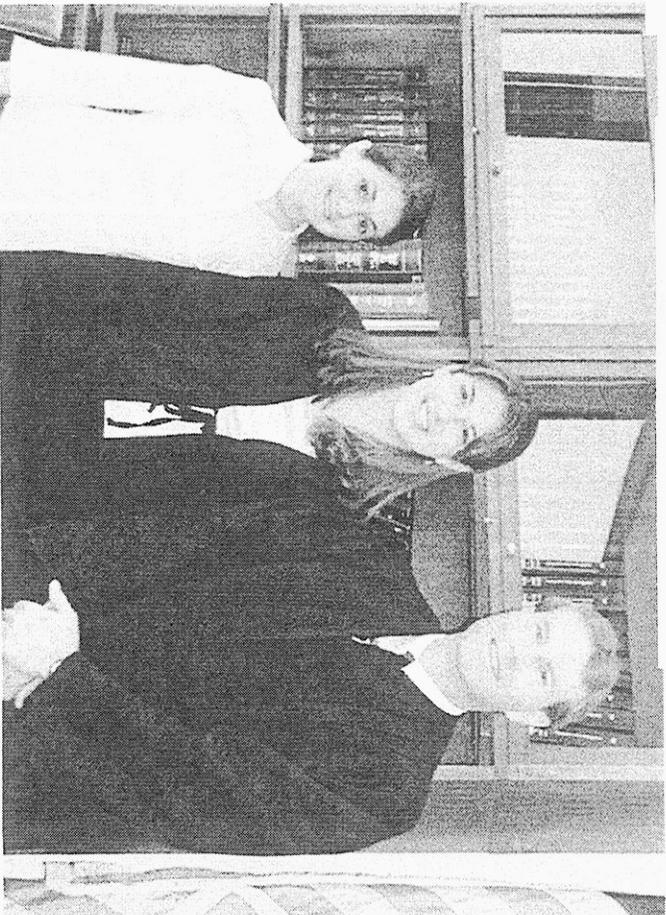
Photos by Carol Stewart



2005 WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



SHADOW A JUDGE DAY





Thank you for joining us at our recent
Bagels and Books Breakfast
at The Cohalan Court Children's Center.



Your continued support helps ensure
that more than 2,500 children
are served each year by
Family and Children's Association's
Children's Center at the Cohalan Court Center.

October 26, 2005



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: November 21, 2005

Historic Domestic Violence Conference at the Shinnecock Nation

EAST HAMPTON, NY – Historic was the word of the day as advocates, judges, attorneys, immigration specialists, social workers, police, victims and representatives of the Shinnecock Nation were warmly welcomed by Hon. Joseph Farneti, Suffolk County, Tracey Lutz, Executive Director, The Retreat Inc. and Chairman Randy King, Shinnecock Tribal Trustee, at a conference held to discuss the challenges of confronting domestic violence in Native American and Rural Communities.

“This event is historic and inspiring. It is symbolic of the number of people and organizations who work together to increase awareness of the social and judicial resources available to the underserved and rural communities,” observed Honorable Joseph Farneti, presiding judge of the Integrated Domestic Violence Court in Central Islip.

The Retreat and the Center for Court Innovation co-sponsored the November 16, 2005 “Domestic Violence in Native American and Rural Communities: Unique Strengths and Challenges” conference at the Community Center on the Shinnecock Indian Nation, Southampton, NY, hosted by the Shinnecock Nation. This conference was organized as an educational forum for community leaders to discuss the challenges of domestic violence issues in Native American and rural communities.

Conference panelists discussed barriers to connecting domestic violence victims to services in diverse communities. Lauren Walsh, Senior Legal Advocate, The Retreat Inc. presented the concern of closely-knit small towns and farming areas with limited access to transportation to the major centers where courts and services may be located. Isabel Sepulveda-de Scanlon, President of OLA, represented the Hispanic community on Long Island’s East End, and described some of the unique concerns of non-English speaking domestic violence victims. Gwen Wright, Supervisor, OPDV’s Rural Project provided practical insights with regard to overcoming barriers to service access in rural communities. A call to action by Allan Todd Costell Esq., who specializes in immigration law was made regarding making enacted law effective for domestic violence victims; he discussed the need for the Executive Branch/INS to promulgate regulations so the “U” visas can be made available in appropriate cases. Members of the Shinnecock and Unkechaug Nations, including Roberta O. Hunter, esq., were able to provide insight regarding contexts of oppression, family, community and resilience within Native American Nations.

Hon. Deborah Kooperstein, Southampton Town Justice, discussed the efficiency of the local courts in adjudicating cases of domestic violence. She emphasized that the local courts understand the problems and concerns in the community and can tailor solutions appropriate to the individual case. Recognizing the importance of supportive services to victims of domestic violence, Judge Kooperstein implemented an advocacy program in the Southampton Justice Court which continues to be a useful resource for victims and court personnel.

Marguerite Smith, Esq., of the Shinnecock Nation, emphasized that, "What we need is a language of understanding on both sides. We need to learn to ask for help and you need to understand what we are asking for." Smith summarized the differences in perception between the services offered for domestic violence victims and the Shinnecock people.

The keynote address was given by Debra O'Gara, Director of the Legal Advocacy Program at CONNECT, a non-profit domestic violence organization dedicated to the prevention and elimination of family and gender violence; she is an attorney who worked for many years for the Puyallup Indians near Seattle, Washington, and has been affiliated with Mending the Sacred Hoop, Inc., a national organization that addresses family violence among Native Americans.

Rev. Michael F. Smith, of the Shinnecock Indian Nation Health Committee and the Executive Director of SAMP provided closing words and prayer of love and community unity.

Co-sponsors of this notable conference include: Suffolk County Executive's Task Force to Prevent Family Violence, Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee, East End Consortium on Family Violence, Suffolk County Women's Bar Association, Suffolk County Bar Association, Shinnecock Substance Abuse Mobilization Project, Brighter Tomorrows, and the Communities of Faith Task Force.

The mission of The Retreat, Inc. is to create awareness about and meet the needs of those affected by violence through intervention and prevention programs for both residential and non-residential clients of the East End of Long Island from Brookhaven to Montauk, both North and South Forks.

For more information, please contact Lauren Walsh, Senior Legal Advocate, The Retreat Inc. at (631) 329-4398, lauren@theretreatinc.org.

Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee

**Cordially invites you to attend our
New Year's Luncheon**

Date: Friday, January 6, 2006

Time: 12:30 -2:30 p.m.

**Place: Irish Coffee Pub
131 Carleton Avenue
East Islip, N. Y.**

**Hats and Mittens gladly accepted for
The Cohalan Court Children's Center**

R.S.V.P. by 12/23/05

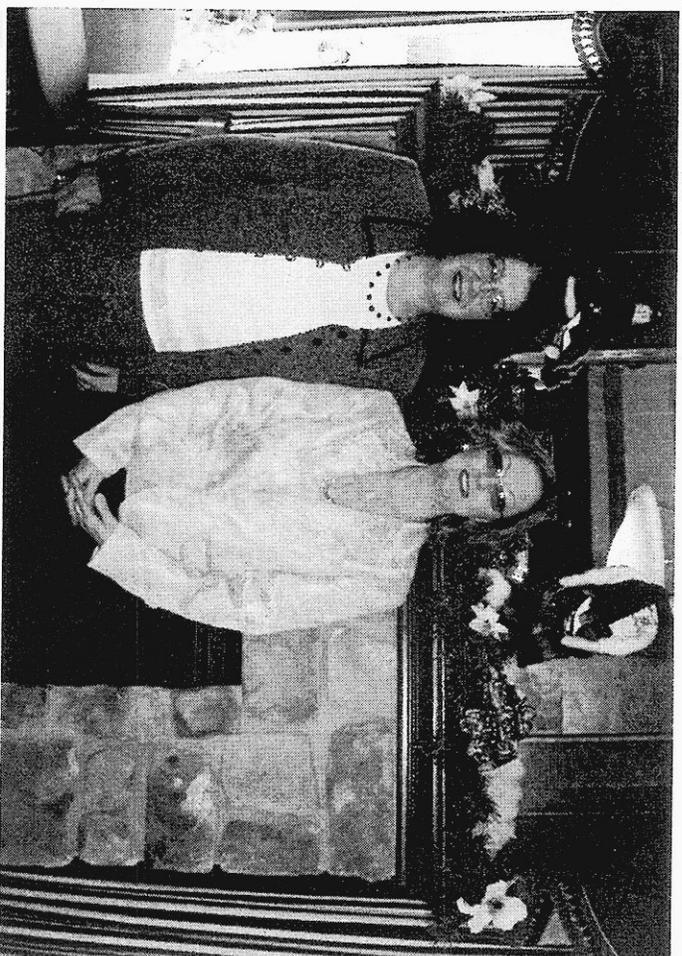
Susan Fox

631-853-3280 sfox@courts.state.ny.us

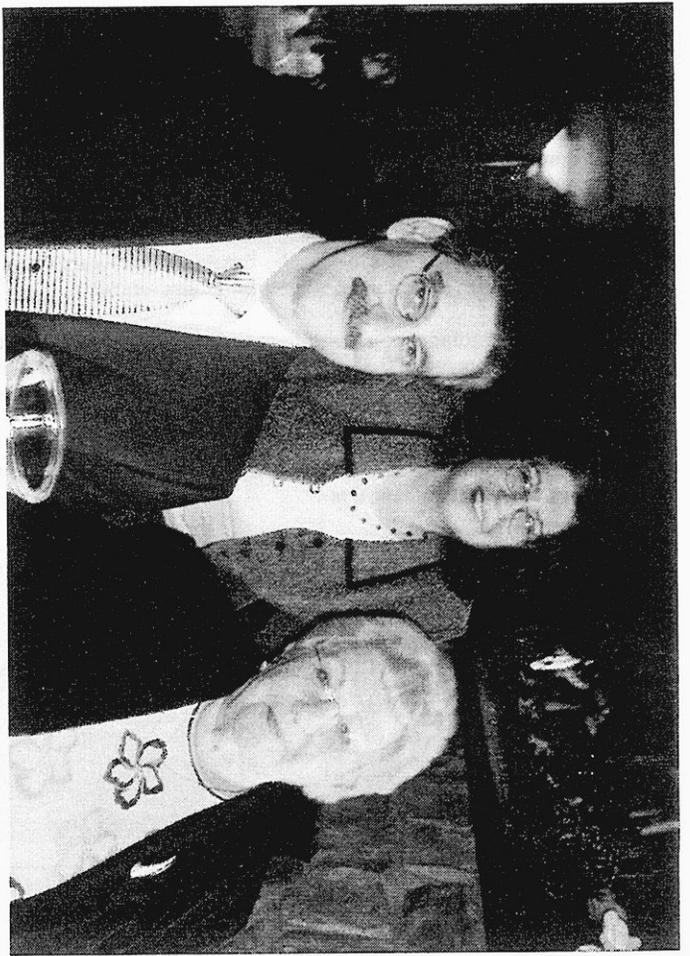
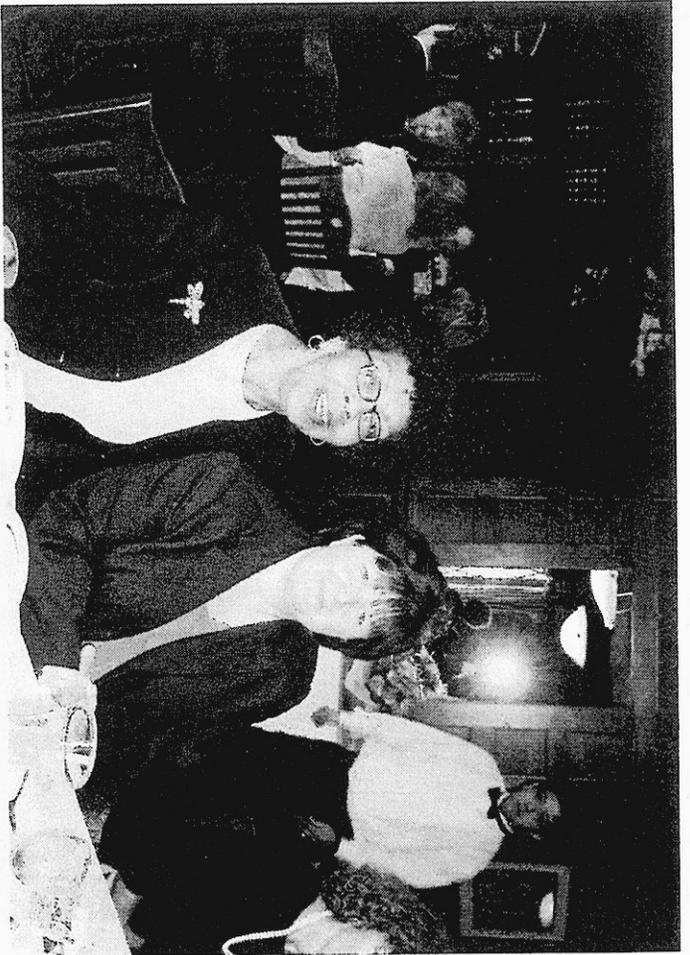
Hon. Hertha Trotto, co-chair

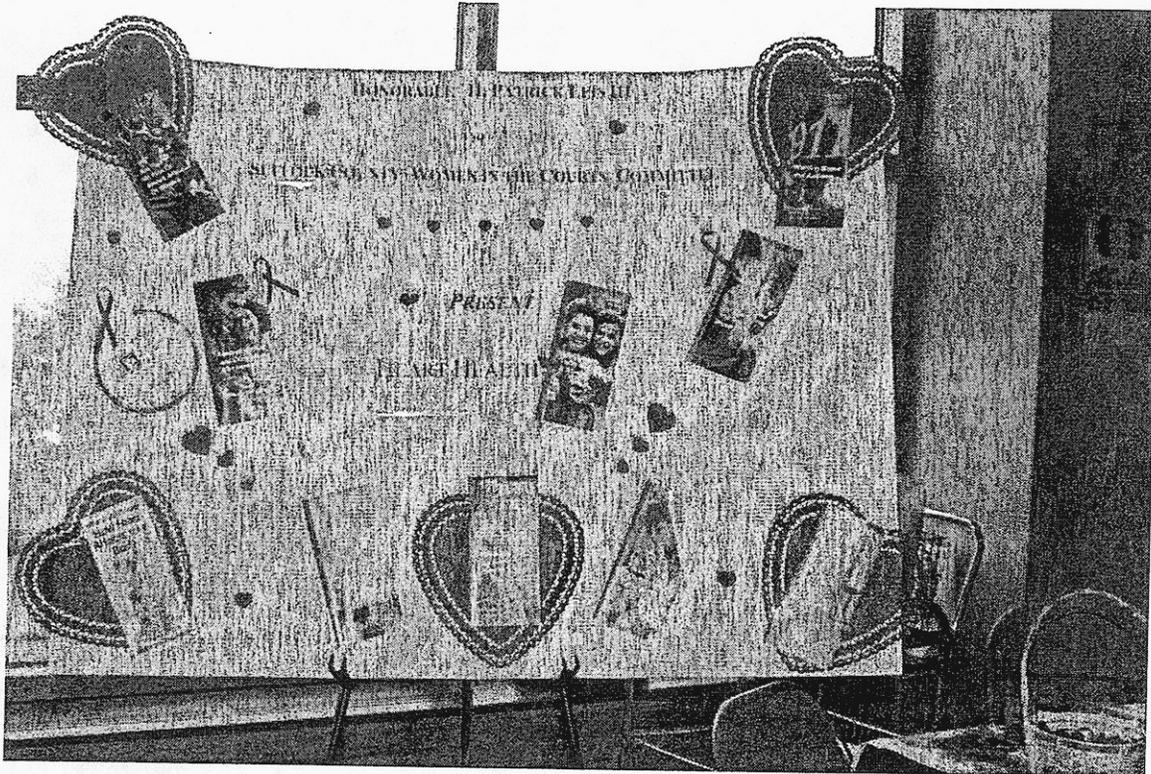
Susan Fox, co-chair

2006 NEW YEAR'S LUNCHEON



2006 NEW YEAR'S LUNCHEON





HEART HEALTH - 2006

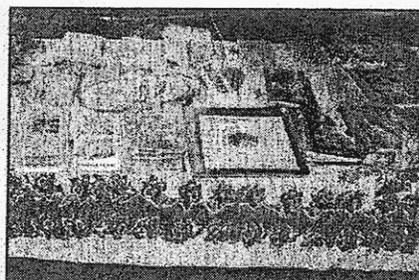
On February 3, 2006, the Suffolk County Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts sponsored its second annual "Heart Health - 2006" event at the Cohalan Court Complex in Central Islip and the Criminal Courts Building in Riverhead. The date was significant in that it coincided with the American Heart Association's national "Go Red For Women" campaign, which looks to raise awareness of heart health for women. Court employees were encouraged to wear red in support.

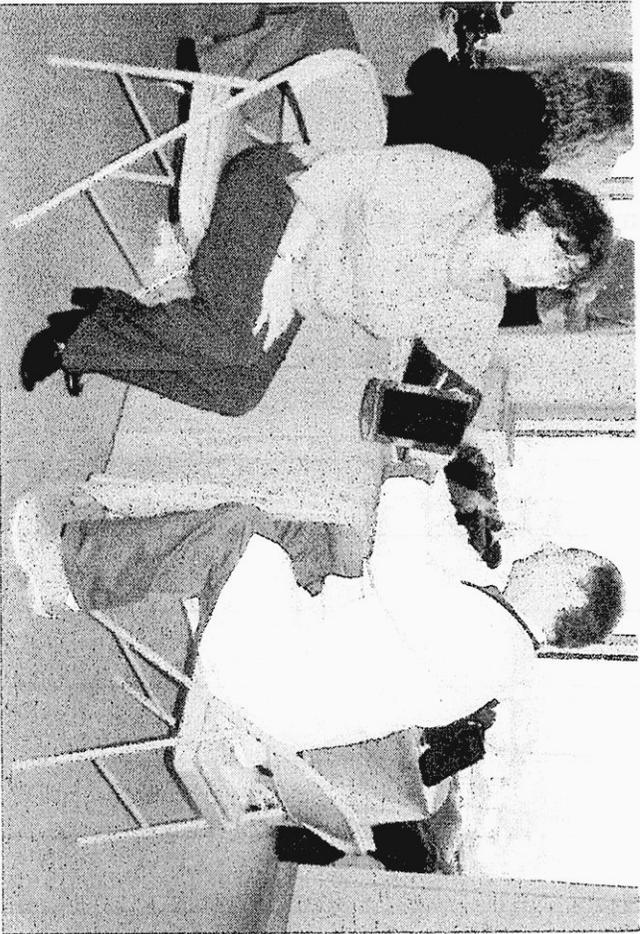
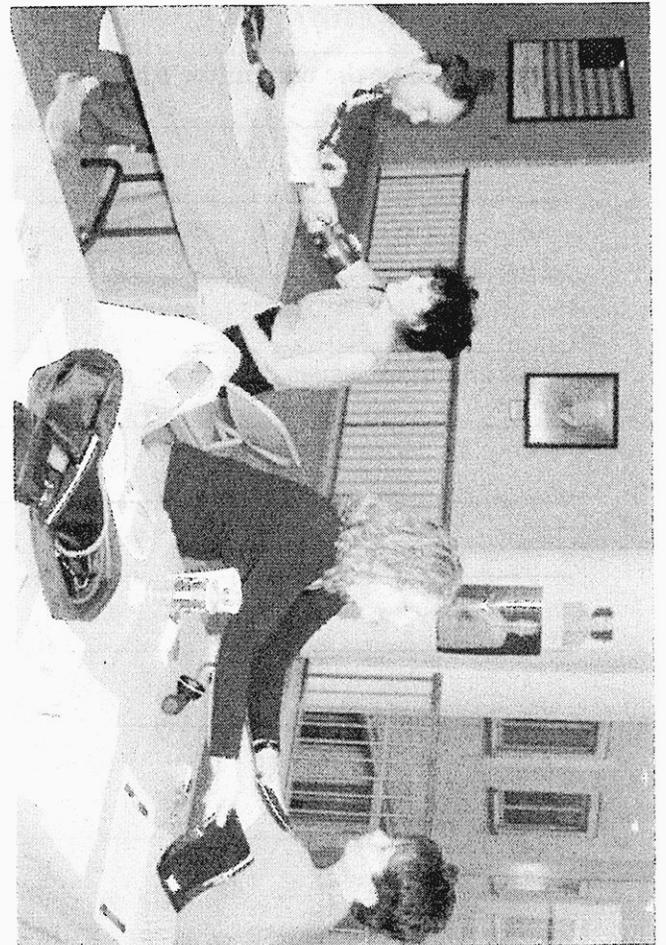
Educational materials were available for both men and women, including, high blood pressure, stroke, cholesterol, benefits of fitness and Red Dress pins provided by the American Heart Association. General heart health, stress management, diet, heart-friendly recipes, red ribbons and other materials were also available.

Volunteer cardiac care nurses from Stony Brook University Hospital were on hand at both locations to provide free blood pressure screenings. The nurses had a limited number of free give-aways, including stress relief lotion, pill boxes, zippered pouches and 'stress-o-meters', which were a big hit! Many employees and visitors to the courts took advantage of the information and free screenings, making this a very successful event.

Special thanks is extended to Stony Brook University Hospital for providing the volunteer Cardiac Care nurses and to all who volunteered to work the event. ☪

By: Laura Corkery, Secretary to Appellate Division Justice





WICC HEART HEALTH 2006

Committee Meeting - February 1, 2006

Special Guest: Jill Goodman, Esq.
Counsel to NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts

Please be prepared to discuss the following:

What has been the most important part(s) of the mission of the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts over the past 20 years?

Where have we succeeded?

What should be the committee's role at the present time?

What important issues does the committee need to focus on in the future?

Name(optional) _____

Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee

invites you to celebrate

Women's History Month

recognizing

Suffolk County High School Students' Participation in

"Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams"

Essay Competition and Art Exhibit

Honored Speakers:

Hon. H. Patrick Leis III

District Administrative Judge

and

Dean Lawrence Raful

Touro Law Center

March 30, 2006 - 3:00 p.m.

Central Jury Room

Second Floor

Cohalan Court Complex, Central Islip

Prizes sponsored by:

Touro Law Center

Suffolk County Women's Bar Association

Suffolk County Criminal Bar Association

Suffolk County Bar Association Women & the Law Committee

Amistad Black Bar Association of Long Island

Brehon Society of Suffolk County

Long Island Hispanic Bar Association

Suffolk County Matrimonial Bar Association

Refreshments will be served

SUFFOLK COUNTY WOMEN IN THE COURTS COMMITTEE

CELEBRATES WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH ♣ MARCH 2006

BY INVITING

***ALL SUFFOLK COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS GRADES
NINE THROUGH TWELVE***

TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR SECOND ANNUAL

*** ESSAY CONTEST ***



WOMEN: BUILDERS OF COMMUNITIES AND DREAMS

In 500 words or less, recognize a woman from your community, or from the greater community of New York State, who has inspired you through her achievements and activism on behalf of her community. You may draw your information from research and/or a personal interview of the person whom you recognize.

TOP PRIZE - \$350

FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORE CATEGORY.....\$350
JUNIOR/SENIOR CATEGORY.....\$350

SECOND PRIZE - \$200

FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORE CATEGORY.....\$200
JUNIOR/SENIOR CATEGORY.....\$200

ALL ENTRANTS WILL RECEIVE CERTIFICATES FOR PARTICIPATING

- AND -

SELECTED WINNERS WILL BE INVITED TO A
V.L.P. COURT TOUR AND LUNCHEON

PRIZES SPONSORED BY: LOCAL BAR ASSOCIATIONS & TOURO LAW CENTER

PLEASE SUBMIT ENTRY WITHOUT IDENTIFYING MARKS ON ESSAY ITSELF. ALL ENTRIES SHOULD HAVE A COVER SHEET ATTACHED INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

◆STUDENT'S NAME ◆ADDRESS ◆PHONE NUMBER ◆ SCHOOL ◆ GRADE ◆

MAIL ENTRIES TO:

DONNA MURNANE, CO-CHAIR
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH COMMITTEE
C/O SUFFOLK COUNTY SUPREME COURT
400 CARLETON AVENUE
CENTRAL ISLIP, NEW YORK 11722

TO BE ELIGIBLE ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 17, 2006

WOMEN: BUILDERS OF COMMUNITIES AND DREAMS - 500 WORDS OR LESS recognize a woman from your community or from the greater community of New York State who has inspired you through her achievements and activism on behalf of her community. You may draw your information from research and/or a personal interview of the person whom you recognize.

Judging Criteria			
	Maximum Points Available	Points Awarded	Comments
1. Content (40) a. Essay effectively conveys message on how women change America (see theme above) b. Research and historical content is accurate c. deduction for exceeding word limit	20 20 -10		
2. Originality and Communication (40) a. Do vocabulary and word usage enhance the thesis? b. Does the essay have a creative approach? c. Writing style is easy to read and follow d. Writing style is original and interesting	10 10 10 10		
3. Grammar (20) a. Words are spelled correctly b. Words are used correctly c. Sentences and paragraphs are constructed correctly. d. Essay includes an introduction, body, and conclusion	5 5 5 5		

TOTAL _____

JUDGE # _____

Essay # _____

First Place, Junior/Senior Category

**Heather Giuffre, Grade 11
Smithtown High School West**

The most influential people in this world are not always the most popular. The ones who contribute the most to the community are not always the ones who constantly have their names and pictures in the paper. Terry Sherland, while perhaps not the most well-known woman in New York, is a woman that I believe has a strong, positive impact on the Smithtown community.

Terry Sherland may only work a part-time job, but don't let that be misleading. Her volunteer work is unremitting and consumes much of her time. She runs the St. Patrick's food pantry in Smithtown, organizing many specific food drives during the holidays, but also making sure that there is a continuous supply of food as well. Though it may not seem that there are many needy families in Smithtown, there are hundreds of people that are very grateful for Mrs. Sherland's work. She helps the groups that are most often overlooked, especially in the wealthier areas of Long Island: the poor and the hungry.

As well as maintaining the food pantry, Terry Sherland is also a dedicated Girl Scout leader and is very active with the Girl Scout Council, an organization dedicated to making improvements within the community. Although her eldest

daughter's troop has gone off to college, Mrs. Sherland is still a leader of her younger daughter's troop for the past twelve years. Over these past twelve years, she has made the necessary connections to allow the members of our troop to make positive changes in our community. By her coordination with the Sunrise Assisted Living Center, we have been able to host a variety of activities for the senior citizens, such as a fall festival and other crafts. Mrs. Sherland also encourages joint events with younger Girl Scout troops, thus spreading the inspiration of volunteering to the younger generations. She led our troop of twelve girls through our Silver Awards, a project requiring dozens of hours of leadership, community service, and thirty hours to be spent on a project to better the community. Now, she is helping us all complete the prerequisites for our Gold Awards, which require 60 hours on a project.

Terry Sherland is a woman that contributes greatly to the community of Smithtown, New York. She is an inspiration to those who want to help the needy.



Second Place, Junior/Senior Category

**Jasmine E. DePaula, Grade 12
Central Islip High School**

Theresa J. Bryant was born in Moultrie, Georgia on December 14, 1962. At the age of four, her parents moved to Fort Greene, Brooklyn. Throughout her school years she ran track and played the violin, and was a member of the Arista Honor Society. Teresa was the District's number one track star, winning many medals and trophies. She was chosen to run for Colgate at the young age of thirteen.

In 1976, her family packed up and left the city life of Brooklyn, and moved to Central Islip, a quiet town in Suffolk County, Long Island, New York. She was thirteen and in the ninth grade. Teresa was a very active young lady in high school. She played on the Varsity Volleyball team for three years, and cheered on the Varsity Cheerleading team. It was in Central Islip High School where she met her husband, Alex W. Bryant. They were often called "high school" sweethearts.

Teresa has served the Suffolk community in various ways. In 1980, she coached the Suffolk County PAL Cheerleading Team for two years. In that same year, she was an advocate for the St. Jude's Children's Center. In 1985, she was titled the leader of the Suffolk County Girl Scout group. Five years later, she became an American Red Cross volunteer and taught CPR.

For three years, Teresa worked as a registered nurse at the Pilgrim Psychiatric Center and was promoted to the building supervisor. She supervised over 60 employees and over 350 patients. In 1992, she won the New York State Recognition Award from the Office of Mental Health. Teresa also won the the Town of Islip Distinguished Community Service Award in 2000. Not only did she win awards for her hard work, she was chosen as a nominee for the New York State School Nurse of Year Award in 2001.

Now 43 years old, she currently volunteers in many different organizations. She opened her home as an emergency respite for abused and neglected children, as well as adopted a child in special needs. She is the co-pastor of E.P.H.O.D. Ministries, Inc., the co-host of the radio broadcast "Empower Hour", owning Real Estate with Faith, the executive board member of the International Dream Team Christians, on the Board of Directors of Central Islip Civic Council, the provisional Rotary Club Treasurer of Central Islip and Islandia, the delegation leader of the U.S. government People to People Ambassadorial Program, NYS Coordinated School Health Advisory Council Mentor, just to name a few. Making a living, Teresa is one of the registered nurses in the Central Islip High School for the past nine years and is a licensed real estate agent for Prudential Douglas Elliman.

Mrs. Teresa Jeanette Bryant has inspired me and many others in countless ways. She has dedicated herself to the Suffolk County community for more than 25 years. She has held many leadership positions and has done a marvelous job at them. Not only has she dedicated her time and hard work to the community, but to her family as well. Teresa has been married for the past 25 years, and has raised three beautiful young ladies. Everyone knows "Mrs. B." as a wonderful and inspiring woman, who is full of love and is always smiling. Her spectacular personality makes her the person she is today.



First Place, Freshman/Sophomore Category

**Jessica Delalio, Grade 10
Shoreham Wading River High School**

When reflecting on an individual who has inspired me through her achievement and activism on behalf of the community, I need not look very far. As a matter of fact, I need only to glance out my window, across the street, at the home of my aunt, Diane Smith. As a resident of Wading River, Diane is an active member in the community who has taken to heart the saying, “A little kindness goes a long way.” Her charitable role in the community truly inspires me beyond words.

A woman of character, morals and abounding generosity, Diane volunteers her time in a myriad of ways. She offers help to the elderly, the sick, and local families in need and gives encouragement and advice to all who ask. As a part of Pastoral Care, once a week Diane visits the sick at the Stony Brook Hospital. She prays with them, keeps them company and offers hope in hopeless cases. One summer she spent time with a teenage boy who suffered serious head trauma. She talked with him, consoled him and raised his spirits. Aside from her charitable works in the hospital, Diane is a regional coordinator for the Carmelite Society, a religious organization. She is in charge of seven Carmelite communities in Nassau and Suffolk County on Long Island. Some of her responsibilities include planning retreats, days of prayer and meetings.

More locally, Diane continues her individual works of charity for those less fortunate. She volunteers her time to St. John the Baptist Respect Life committee and helps with Birthright, an

organization aiding single women with children who have financial difficulty. Diane, once a Boy Scout Cub Master and a Girl Scout Leader, is a Eucharistic minister at the local church, St. John the Baptist. She also finds time in her busy schedule to visit, bring grocery shopping and drive to church every Sunday a ninety-four year old shut-in woman. Even when it snows, she makes sure this elderly woman’s doorway path is clear of snow and ice. My Aunt Diane is an outstanding role model who touches many lives. Her charity, goodwill, humble heart, and activism within the community stir within me great admiration and inspiration.

Every day, I am motivated by the example my Aunt Diane sets. I am inspired to strive beyond my best to help the community and those around me. I aspire to be more like my Aunt Diane so that I too can be a light that brightens peoples’ lives and shines within my community.



Second Place, Freshman/Sophomore Category

**Shola Farber, Grade 10
The Ross School**

One might pass Maxine Jackson on the streets as she walks on the streets of East Hampton without much thought. Just a woman of color. In fact, this is a woman of many colors, from many perspectives. Now in her seventies, Maxine Jackson's mother was a Shinnecock Indian, her father was a Dutch and Black South American Indian. One of her grandmothers was Jewish, herself the daughter of a Yeshiva teacher.

Maxine spent her adult life in East Hampton, often struggling to raise her many children after their father took off when the kids were little. Maxine raised her children to be color blind in an era when most of East Hampton's black community members lived on a single street, and were farm workers, hotel or estate workers and maids. Ms. Jackson was well read, intelligent and proud. A generation ago, her children mixed with white kids when socialization between the races was still unusual in East Hampton, as well as in the whole of the United States.

Maxine Jackson is an inspiration because she has lived her life well through example. When her children were small, this mother made the time to volunteer in the East Hampton Schools. She was fully aware that she was presenting herself as a role model not just for her children, but for the other East Hampton children of color. Equally important, she knew that by interacting as an equal among whites in our community, she was providing a window of

truth to those for whom prejudice was the norm. She says she was not the exception, just a public example of reality.

The racial issues in East Hampton have changed in the years that Maxine Jackson has lived here. In a single generation, the demographics have changed dramatically. The black population has diminished. The Hispanic immigrant population has grown exponentially. But minority issues of cultural acceptance and financial struggle are not dissimilar. The mere numbers of the new minority cannot be dismissed. Maxine Jackson's worthy self-respect and hard work can serve as a model for community members attempting to address current social and racial issues.

Over the years, Maxine has had a vast array of jobs, usually doing whatever labor it took to pay the bills. These days, Maxine teaches meditation. Like so many elderly, she offers much we can learn from about how to live life with grace. Next time you are walking along the sidewalk, consider taking a pause from your hectic obligatory thoughts, to contemplate the life lived by the elderly person you just passed. Like Maxine, most people have stories to tell from lessons learned. Has she achieved great things? Surely singular moments of interaction disperse to touch many lives. Was she an activist on behalf of her community? Absolutely, by her subtle example, Maxine Jackson has mixed, mingled and positively influenced the lives of several generations of East Hampton residents.

WOMEN JUDGES & JUSTICES OF SUFFOLK COUNTY

Appellate Division - Second Department

Supreme
Court

Surrogate's
Court

County
Court

Family
Court

A. Gail Prudenti - 2001

Catherine T. England
1982

A. Gail Prudenti
1995

Barbara R. Kahn
2005

Catherine T. England
1981

Marilyn Friedenberg
1987

Marion T. McNulty
1988

A. Gail Prudenti
1991

Nicolette M. Pach
1993

Mary M. Werner
1991

Barbara E. Lynaugh
2001

Elizabeth H. Emerson
1995

Joan M. Genchi
2003

Denise F. Molia
1998

Carol MacKenzie
2005

Sandra L. Sgroi
2001

Marlene Budd
2006

Emily Pines
2002

Martha L. Luft
2006

Marion T. McNulty
2005

Carol MacKenzie
2006

Karen Veronica Murphy
2006

**DISTRICT COURT JUDGES
OF SUFFOLK COUNTY**

**GIOANNA I. LACARRUBBA
1974**

**SONIA M. VERAS
1997**

**ANNE F. MEAD
1974**

**JOAN M. GENCHI
1998**

**HERTHA C. TROTTO
1991**

**CAROL MACKENZIE
1999**

**FRANCEL TROTTER-
BELLINGER
1991**

**EMILY PINES
1999**

**MADELINE FITZGIBBON
1994**

**GAETAN B. LOZITO
2001**

**BARBARA R. KAHN
1995**

**GEORGIA A. TSCHIEMBER
2003**

**SANDRA L. SGROI
1996**

**TONI A. BEAN
2004**

**PATRICIA M. FILIBERTO
1997**

**G. ANN SPELMAN
2005**

**Town & Village
Women
Justices**

East Hampton Town
Catherine A. Cahill (1994)
Lisa R. Rana (2004)

Riverhead Town
Syrena Stackpole (1931)

Town of Shelter Island
Katherine Z. Pope (1998)
Helen Rosenblum (2004)

Southampton Town
Deborah E. Kooperstein (1993)
Barbara L. Wilson (1998)

Southold Town
Louisa P. Evans (1994)

Village of Amityville
Debra Ann Urbano DiSalvo
(2003)

Village of Babylon
Jennifer Anne Henry (2001)

Village of Bellport
Lynn A. Green (1990)

Village of the Branch
Jacqueline Lupichuk Skubik (1989)

**Village of Head
of the Harbor**
Anne Bowns Sayre (1989)
Ellen Dee Fishkin (1995)

Village of Huntington Bay
Joan Geiler (1973)

Village of Lake Grove
Helen Thompson (1989)
Theresa Whelan (2001)
Melissa B. Greenberger (2004)

Village of Northport
Deirdre M. Butterfield (1998)

Village of Quogue
Kittric D. Motz (1991)

Village of Patchogue
Barbara K. Howie (1999)
Kerri N. Lechtrecker (2004)

Village of Poquott
Gigi Spelman (2003)

Village of Saltaire
Rhonda Kirschner (2001)
Hillary Richard (2004)

***Suffolk County Family Court
Support Magistrates***

**Family Court
Hearing Examiners
(1985-2003)**

Isabel E. Buse (1985)

Carol Casher (1985)

Lois Weinstein (1985)

Cheryl Zimmer (1990)

Madeline Fitzgibbon (1993)

Barbara Lynaugh (1993)

Elaine Crosson (1995)

Aletha Fields-Ferarro (1997)

Denise Livrieri (1999)

Jill Plosky (2000)

Valerie Sherman (2001)

Jennifer Buetow (2002)

**Family Court
Support Magistrates
(Enacted 2003)**

Jennifer Buetow (2003)

Isabel E. Buse (2003)

Aletha Fields-Ferraro (2003)

Denise Livrieri (2003)

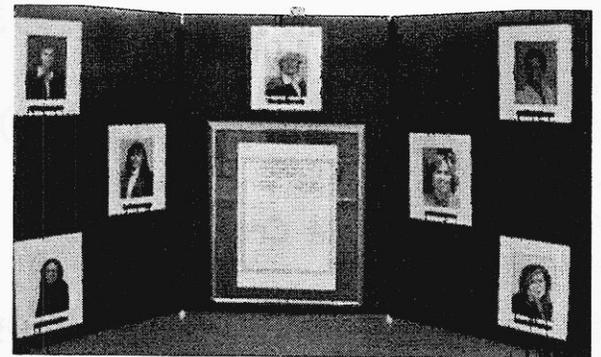
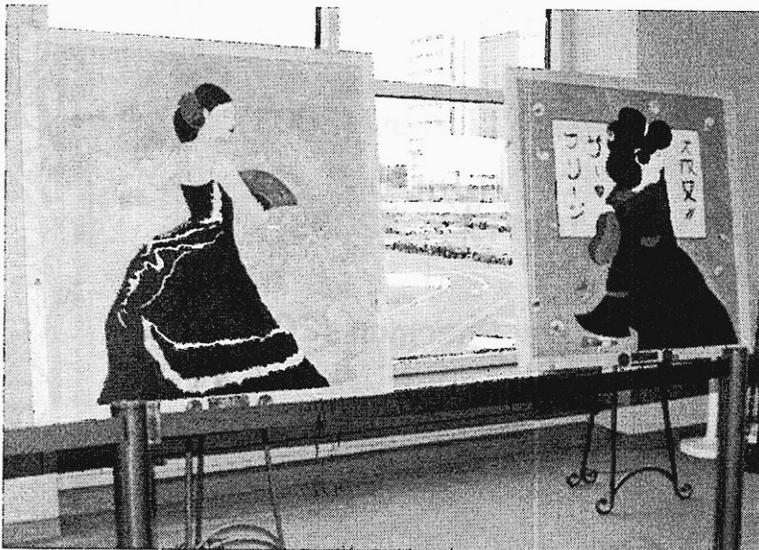
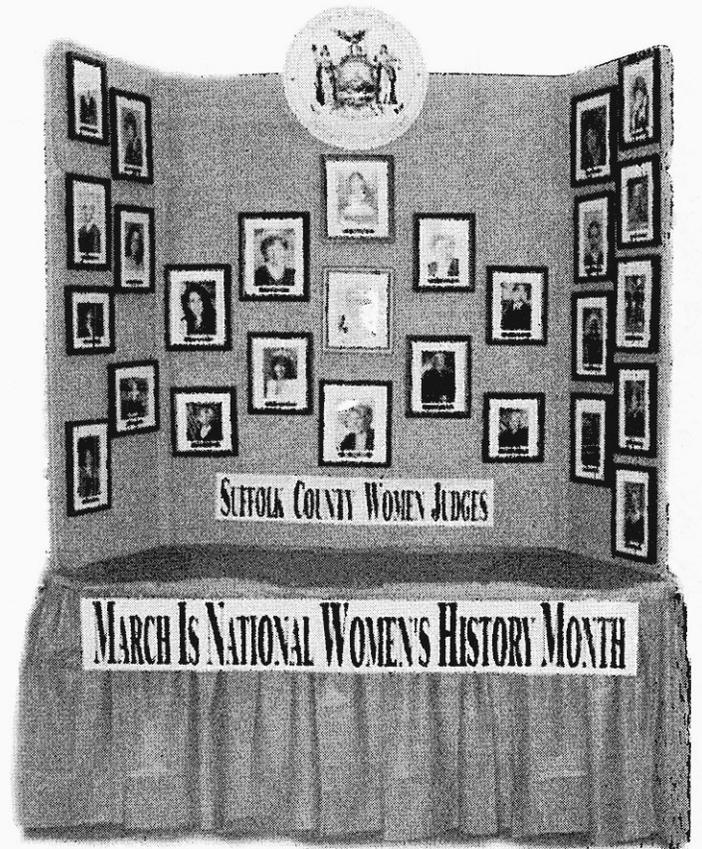
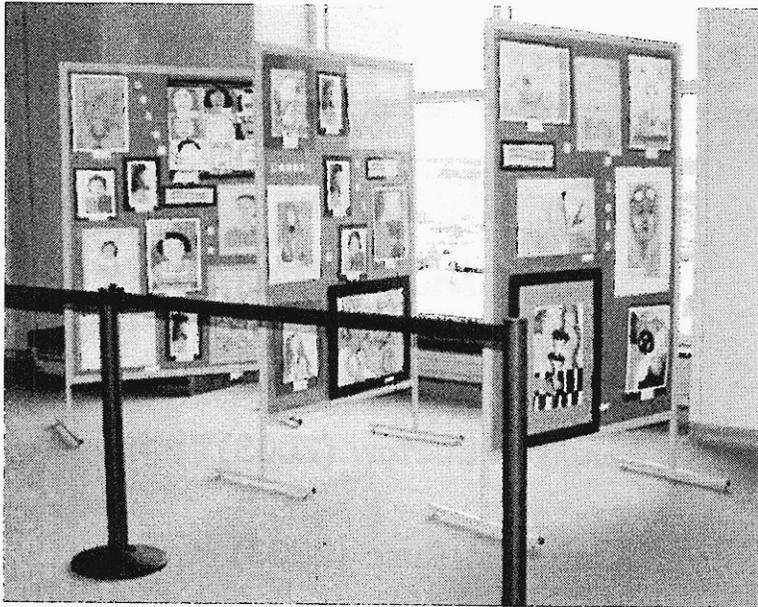
Jill Plosky (2003)

Valerie Sherman (2003)

Rosann O. Orlando (2004)

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2006

"Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams"





1

LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2005-2006

Name of the Committee JUSTICE ON WHEELS

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair

HELEN C. STURM (646) 366-5119 - T/C
(212) 374-2663 (FAX)

No. Members 5 No. of Meetings 2 Average Attendance Use of Video Conferencing? No

Composition of the Committee (Judges, administrators, advocates, etc.)

2 Judges; CT. ATTY; REP;
ADVL. ASST.

Please include names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005

Activities for Women's History Month 2005 or planned for 2006

Administrative
+ LOGISTIC
management
issues relevant
to employment
program.

Other Activities in the Past Year

COORDINATION of Program with

2

MEMBERS OF STAFF + WITH COMMUNITY BASED
PUBLIC + PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

Plans for Next Year:

GO OUT SCHOOL BASED DISCUSSION CONCERNING
GENDER RELATED ISSUES IN THE CONTEXT OF
CUSTODY/UNFITNESS + DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ISSUES
IN FAMILY COURT CONTEXT.

This year marks the 20th year since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts reported that, "Gender Bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is a pervasive problem with grave consequences. Women are often denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity."

What do you think have been the greatest advances for women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts in the past 20 years? How is access to justice, treatment or opportunity more equal?

JUST IMPASSIBLE TO ANSWER

3

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts?

Balancing all RESPONSIBILITIES of PROFESSIONAL & PERSONAL LIFE

Please return this form by March 15, 2006, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, New York 10004
212-428-2793 (Fax)
jgoodman@courts.state.ny.us



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2005

Name of the Committee:

Gender Fairness Committee of the Criminal Court of the City of New York

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair:

Hon. Deborah Kaplan
Civil Court of the City of New York
111 Centre Street
New York, New York 10013
tel: 646-386-5566
fax: 212-374-6321
dkaplan@courts.state.ny.us

No. Members: 11 No. of Meetings: 4 Average Attendance: varies
Use of Video Conferencing? no

Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.):

The Committee is currently comprised of judges, court attorneys, administrators, defense and prosecution attorneys.

Please include names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness:

In September 2005, the Criminal Court sponsored a program with the Brooklyn Bar Association which centered on the newly established Brooklyn Youthful Domestic Violence Part. This part is designed to focus attention on domestic violence matters in which the defendant is youthful offender eligible. The program also discussed various evidentiary issues pertaining to domestic violence cases. The lecture was designed to educate attorneys, domestic violence advocates as well as members of the general public on the types of offenses and issues currently being litigated in this special domestic violence part.

Also in September 2005, Beth Havericak, Criminal Court's new Domestic Violence Resource Coordinator made a presentation to members of the Kings County District Attorney's Office on program options available through the court as part of the case resolution process.

In December 2005, the Brooklyn Criminal Court Domestic Violence Awareness Committee held its 8th Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Program, which was entitled *Children and Domestic Violence: Prevalence, Effects and Responses*. The audience included judicial and non judicial court staff as well as attorneys, advocates and members of the general public.

In October 2005, the Hon. Deborah Stevens Modica, Supervising Judge and the Hon. William Harrington, presiding Judge of the Queens Criminal Court Domestic Violence Court, sponsored a lecture *Domestic Violence Issues and their Implications on Immigrants*. Speakers included Dorchen Leidholdt, Legal Director and Beth Silverman Yam, Clinical Director of Sanctuary for Families.

As discussed in our 2004 report to this Committee, the Criminal Court has long recognized the need to focus on prostitution and related offenses. As such, the Midtown Community Court has expanded its jurisdiction over prostitution matters. The Court now handles all prostitution matters where the defendant is at liberty from arraignment to final resolution of the matter. This expansion promotes judicial economy and ensures defendants are not only held accountable, but are also linked with services and educational programming designed to end their involvement in prostitution.

Over time, prostitution activity in the Times Square, Chelsea and Clinton neighborhoods of Manhattan has changed with street-level prostitution moving into commercial spaces. Human trafficking of young women has also become a growing concern, and Midtown has applied for funding to develop programs to support the victims of trafficking.

In addition to its current health education programs, and long-term alternative to prostitution mandate, the Court has also developed additional programming aimed at hard-core offenders. The emphasis remains on financial literacy and responsibility as well as the development of life skills to ensure that women wishing to leave prostitution will have the tools necessary to enter the workforce. Young women under the age of 21 are referred to the Girls Educational & Mentoring Services (GEMS) program, which provides additional support services and focuses on the problems encountered by teenagers on the street.

The prostitution trial calendar is heard on Tuesday afternoons. Defendants are screened by the resource coordinator and clinic staff and receive meaningful sentences. Since last September, Midtown has arraigned 149 Loitering for Prostitution cases (P.L.§240.37), with 101 resulting in pleas, and 367 cases for Prostitution (P.L.§230.00), resulting in 219 pleas.

Other Committee Activities:

This year the Committee will once again sponsor an essay contest to be held in the Fall. As the Committee is seeking to encourage more entries, we are planning to expand this from high school/junior high school students to even younger students, reach out to community groups and offer an award, perhaps in the form of a gift certificate to a book store, in addition to a day with a judge and publication of the best essays in *Second Call*, the NYC Criminal Court newsletter. Proposed topics are "girls, gangs & violence" and "the image of girls and women in today's music - lyrics and videos."

The Committee is once again working on preparing a Continuing Legal Education Seminar to be offered in one of the local criminal court buildings. A proposed topic was inspired by the very tragic Nixzmary Brown case - where a defendant parent, often the mother, is also the victim of domestic violence. Since our very successful lunchtime program last year, concerning Human Trafficking, was in Manhattan, we hope to present the program in a different venue broadening our audience.

Finally, the Committee is considering working with the local chapters of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York to conduct a city-wide clothing drive for women returning to or entering the workforce. The donations would benefit a local Domestic Violence shelter or other worthy organization. We hope to initiate this effort this spring.



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2005-2006

Name of the Committee Gender Fairness, N.Y. Co. Supreme Ct., Criminal Term

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair

Hon. Bonnie G. Wittner, 100 Centre St., N.Y., N.Y. 10013
bgwittner@courts.state.ny.us

No. Members 18 No. of Meetings 6 Average Attendance 8-10 Use of Video Conferencing? No

Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.) 3 Judges, 2 Principal Court Clerks, 4 Court Attorneys, 2 S.C.O.'S, 1 Interpreter, 3 A.D.A.'S, 2 Defense Counsel

Please include names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005 Co-sponsored with N.Y. Co. Supreme Ct., Civil Term: "Domestic Violence in Time of Crisis: Katrina, Rita and 9/11" on October 28, 2005

Activities for Women's History Month 2005 or planned for 2006 Panel and Reception co-sponsored with N.Y. County Lawyers' Assoc.: "Pioneering Women in the Judiciary - United States and South Africa" March 15, 2006 (see attached flier).

Other Activities in the Past Year Collected women's and children's toiletries and sent to Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence for distribution to domestic violence shelters in Louisiana following the hurricane devastation.

Plans for Next Year: Possible panel on hate crimes

This year marks the 20th year since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts reported that, "Gender Bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is a pervasive problem with grave consequences. Women are often denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity."

What do you think have been the greatest advances for women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts in the past 20 years? How is access to justice, treatment or opportunity more equal?

The advances are the huge increase in women judges and lawyers as well as more women court personnel in managerial positions. In addition, the law and culture pertaining to victims of domestic and/or sexually violent crimes has been transformed to give victims a fairer hearing in Court. (See.e.g. the Rape Shield Law, the elimination of the corroboration requirement for sex crimes). Women lawyers are more often treated professionally and with respect by all parties involved in the Criminal Justice System.

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts?

There are areas in which women attorneys continue to be underrepresented, such as privately retained defense counsel in major narcotics and complex white collar crime cases.

The causes are hard to isolate; whether by design, practice or culture, women are discouraged from significant participation in these fields. One of the greatest challenges facing the legal profession is increasing the representation of women in the more lucrative areas of law.

Similarly, women are still underrepresented in the higher (and better paid) positions for court clerks and S.C.O.'s.

Please return this form by **March 15, 2006**, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, New York 10004
212-428-2793 (Fax)
jgoodman@courts.state.ny.us

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

5:30 pm

100 Centre Street, Central Jury Room, 15th Floor

PIONEERING WOMEN IN THE COURTS: SOUTH AFRICA AND THE UNITED STATES

GUEST SPEAKERS

PROFESSOR RUTH COWAN

*Scholar in Residence, School of Public Affairs,
American University*

HON. BETTY W. ELLERIN

*Chair, NY State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
Retired Justice, NY Supreme Court, Appellate Division*

Sponsored by

Gender Fairness Committee

NY County Supreme Court, Criminal Term

Hon. Bonnie Wittner, Chair

and

Women's Rights Committee

New York County Lawyers Association

Hon. Eileen Rakower, Co-Chair

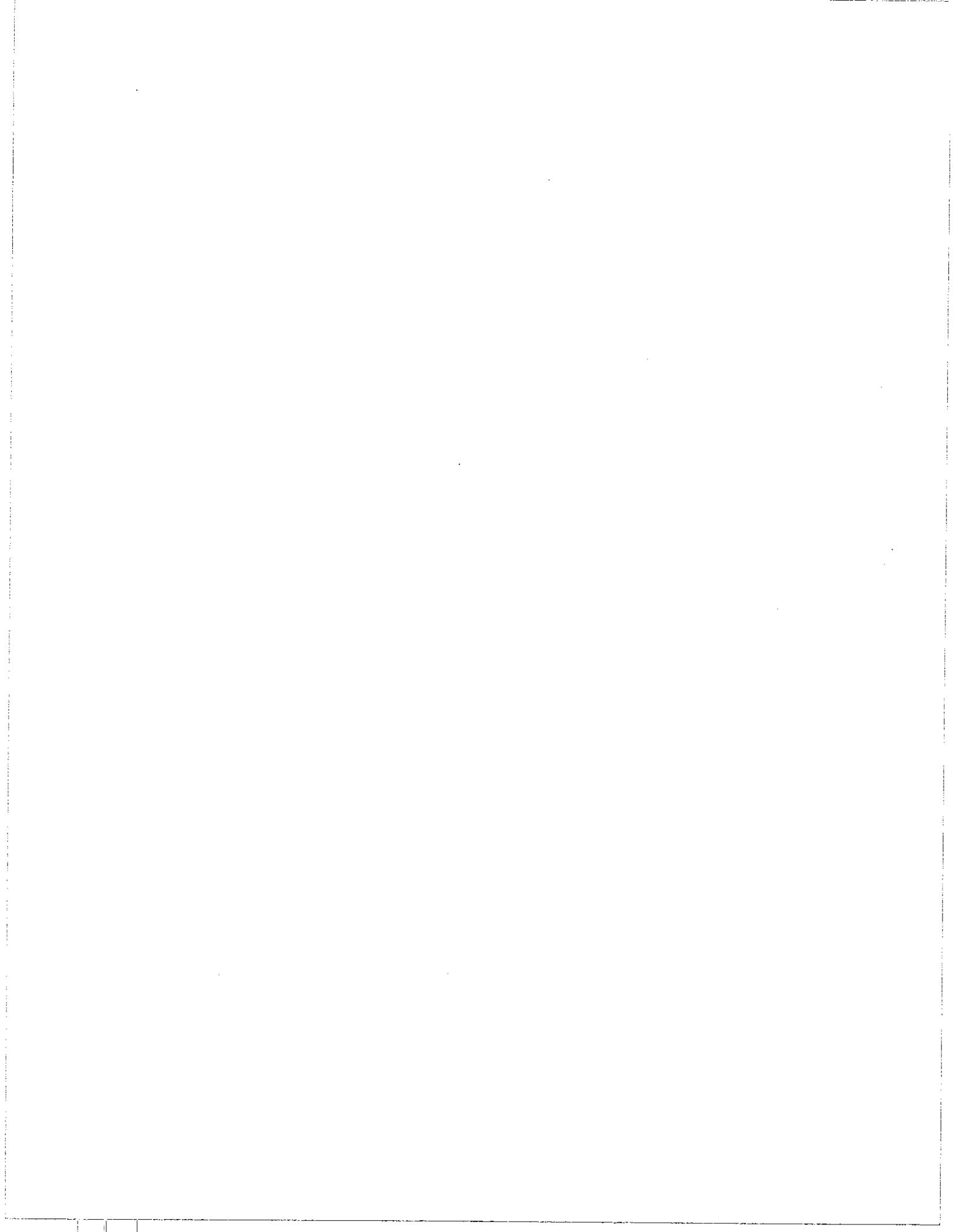
Marcia Goffin, Esq., Co-Chair

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

*Anti-Bias Committee, New York County,
Supreme Court, Civil Term*

Hon. John E. H. Stackhouse
Justice, Supreme Court
80 Centre Street
New York, NY 10013
646-386-3751

Ross Upshaw
Chief Court Reporter
Supreme Court
60 Centre Street, R.308
New York, NY 10013
646-386-3052



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2005-2006

Name of the Committee Anti Bias Committee Suplt. NYC Civil

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair^{Co.}s:

John Stackhouse, 80 Centre St. N.Y. N.Y. 10013 646-386-3751

Ross Upshaw, 60 Centre St., N.Y. N.Y. 10013 646-386-3052

No. Members 56 No. of Meetings 20 Average Attendance 30 Use of Video Conferencing? No

Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.) Judges, Secretaries,
Court officers, clerks, court attorneys,

Please include names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005 _____

Domestic Violence in Times of Crisis:

Katrina, Rita, 9/11 and other disasters.

See attached:

Activities for Women's History Month 2005 or planned for 2006 _____

Life in the Law - Trail blazers: Pioneering

Women in the Law. See attached:

Other Activities in the Past Year Black History Month. Future

Leaders Achievement Awards; An Informal

Presentation of the Art of Dance, The Dance

Theatre of Harlem. Take your Children To

Work, The Cultural Diversity Gala.

See attached:

Plans for Next Year: Visit to Tolerance Center of New York
8th Annual Future Leaders program, 3rd Diversity
Celebration, Womens History Month. Domestic Violence Program

This year marks the 20th year since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts reported that, "Gender Bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is a pervasive problem with grave consequences. Women are often denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity."

What do you think have been the greatest advances for women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts in the past 20 years? How is access to justice, treatment or opportunity more equal?

I believe women have made great strides.
The Majority of the Court of Appeals are Women. The
Majority of the Supreme Court 1st Department are
Women. These are historic firsts. Women play a
very important role in our Courts on every level.
We are the most integrated system in the world.

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts?

To achieve economic parity with males
in all levels of society. To be recognized
as equals.

Please return this form by March 15, 2006, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, New York 10004
212-428-2793 (Fax)

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

***“Domestic Violence in Times of Crisis:
Katrina, Rita, 9/11 and Other Disasters”***

*Friday, October 28, 2005
Supreme Court, Civil Branch,
60 Centre Street - New York County
12:45 p.m. - Central Jury Room 452*

Guest Speakers

Jane Corbett

*Executive Deputy Commissioner for Policy & Program Development for the City of New York's
Human Resources Administration (HRA)*

Jill E. Daino, LCSW

Private Psychotherapy Practice

Light Dessert Refreshments

Sponsored by:

**The Anti-Bias Committee, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County
Jackie Glass and Anna Rumberg, Co-chairs**

and

The New York County Clerk's Office

and

The Gender Fairness Committee, Supreme Court, Criminal Term, New York County

In Honor of Black History Month

Join Us for

"An Informal Presentation on the Art of Dance"

Hosted by
Arthur Mitchell, Artistic Director

Featuring

The Dance Theatre of Harlem School

Thursday, February 9, 2006

12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

60 Centre Street, Rotunda

Co-Sponsors

Dance Theatre of Harlem

Arthur Mitchell, Artistic Director

Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County

Hon. Jacqueline W. Silbermann, Administrative Judge

Anti-Bias Committee, Co-Chairs,

Hon. John E. H. Stackhouse

Ross Upshaw

Program Subcommittee, Co-Chairs

Pearl Hampton

P. J. Garone

The Office of the New York County Clerk

Hon. Norman Goodman, County Clerk

THE NEW YORK STATE SUPREME COURT ANTI-BIAS COMMITTEE
SUPREME COURT, NEW YORK COUNTY
BLACK HISTORY MONTH
COMMEMORATION PROGRAM
February 16, 2006

Speakers:

WELCOME

*Introduction of Ross Upshaw
Co-Chair of the Anti-bias Committee*

Hon. Sheila Abdus-Salaam

BLACK NATIONAL ANTHEM

Audience Participation, lead by Thurgood Marshall Academy

INTRODUCTION

*Introduction of Hon. Juanita Bing Newton,
Administrative Judge, Civil Courts of the City of New York,
as Mistress of Ceremonies*

Ross Upshaw

**THURGOOD MARSHALL ACADEMY FOR LEARNING AND SOCIAL CHANGE
FUTURE LEADERS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS PRESENTATION**

EDUCATION AWARD

*Introduction of Hon. William C. Thompson
Award Presentation to Student*

Lamar Saunders

*Hon. Ira Gammerman
Hon. William C. Thompson*

LITERATURE AWARD

*Introduction of Herb Boyd
Award Presentation to Student*

Nicolette Keller

*Hon. Debra James
Herb Boyd*

LAW/POLITICAL SCIENCE AWARD

*Introduction of Paul Williams, Esq.
Award Presentation to Student*

Natalie Francis

*Hon. Sheila Abdus-Salaam
Paul Williams, Esq.*

SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY AWARD

*Introduction of Bert Petersen, Jr., MD
Award Presentation to Student*

Kendon Smith Holder

*Hon. Norman Goodman
Bert Petersen, Jr., MD*

BUSINESS AWARD

*Introduction of Carla Harris
Award Presentation to Student*

Karina Altagracia Peralta

*Ta-Tanisha James, Esq.
Carla Harris*

POETRY PRESENTATION

Students of Thurgood Marshall Academy

SOCIAL ACTIVISM AWARD

*Introduction of Debra Fraser-Howze
Award Presentation to Student*

Lanee' Herb

*Hon. Debra James
Debra Fraser-Howze*

SPORTS AWARD

*Introduction of Leonard Elmore, Esq.
Award Presentation to Student*

Sean Corley

*Hon. John Stackhouse
Leonard Elmore, Esq.*

PERFORMING ARTS AWARD

*Introduction of Leslie Uggams
Award Presentation to Student*

Brandy Robinson

*Hon. Fern Fisher
Leslie Uggams*

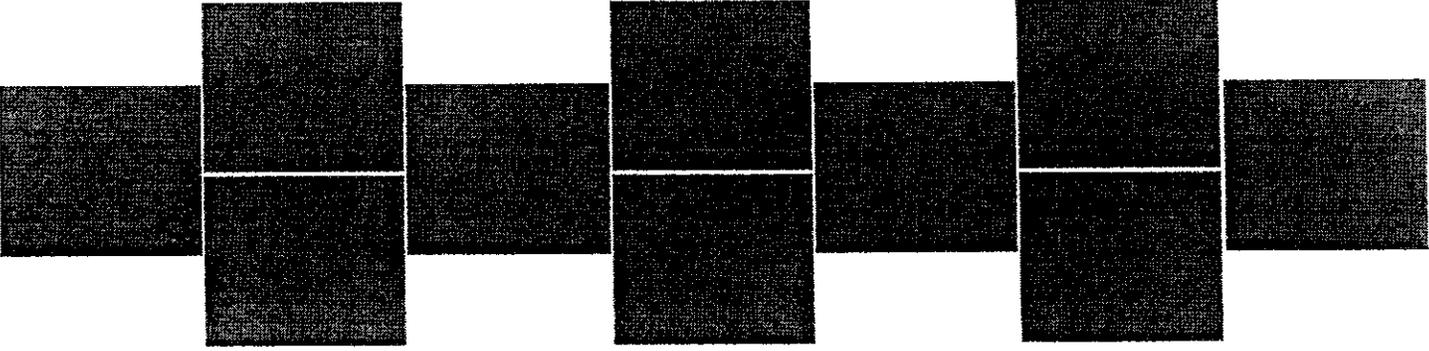
MUSICAL PRESENTATION

Students of Thurgood Marshall Academy

CLOSING REMARKS

Hon. Juanita Bing Newton

REFRESHMENTS SERVED



Women's History Month Celebration

**Thursday, March 16, 2006 - 12:45 p.m.
60 Centre Street, Room 300**

Welcome

Honorable Jacqueline W. Silbermann

Film

Trailblazers: Pioneering Women in New York Law
**A 20 minute documentary directed by Maia Wechsler, including a tribute to
Honorable Constance Baker Motley**

Honorable Judith S. Kaye, Chief Judge of the N.Y. Court of Appeals

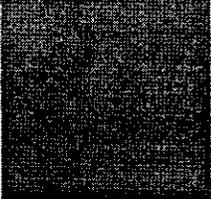
Distinguished Service award presented to Esther Bandel

Introduction of Principal Speaker

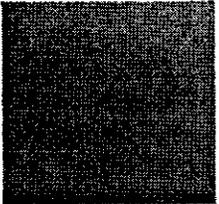
**Honorable Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick, Assoc. Judge, N.Y. Court of Appeals
Address: Life in the Law**

Light refreshments will be served

Please join us. All are welcome to attend.



Sponsored by:
The Anti-Bias Committee, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County
Hon. John E. H. Stackhouse and Ross Upshaw, Chairs
New York County Clerk's Office, Hon. Norman Goodman, County Clerk



8th Annual
Future Leaders Achievement Awards
in honor of
Black History Month



Thursday, February 16, 2006 - 4:30 p.m.
Supreme Court Civil Branch
60 Centre Street - Room 300

Mistress of Ceremonies

Hon. Juanita Bing Newton

Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives

Administrative Judge of the Criminal Court of the City of New York

Role Models Presenting Awards to Students of
Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning and Social Change

Sports Award

Leonard J. Elmore, Esq.

*Former NBA Basketball Player
ESPN, ABC & CBS Sports Analyst*

Law Award

Paul T. Williams, Esq.

*Partner, Bryan Cave LLP
Pres. Emeritus 100 Black Men, Inc.*

Science/Technology Award

Bert Petersen, Jr., MD

Surgical Oncologist

Performing Arts Award

Leslie Uggams

*Singer & Actress
Recipient of Tony Award for Best Actress*

Social Change Award

Debra Fraser-Howze

*Pres. & CEO of National Black
Leadership Commission on AIDS*

Literature Award

Herb Boyd

Author, Journalist & Editor

Education Award

Hon. William C. Thompson, Jr.

*New York City Comptroller
Former Pres. of the NYC Bd. of Education*

Business Award

Carla Harris

*Managing Director of Morgan
Stanley Global Capital Markets*

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

PLEASE JOIN US ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sponsored by:

The Anti-Bias Committee, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County

Hon. John E.H. Stackhouse and Ross Upshaw, Chairs

Hon. Sheila Abdus-Salaam and Hon. Robert Lippmann, Co-Chairs

New York County Clerk's Office, Hon. Norman Goodman, County Clerk





GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
For the TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE
Chair

M E M O R A N D U M

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS
HON. BARRY SALMAN
Administrative Judges

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tania Antero
Josephine M. Bastone
Lucille M. Barbato
Hon. Peggy Bernheim
J. Mark Bodde
Sherry Callwood
Phyllis Cherebin
Hon. Darcel Clark
Steven B. Clark
Helen Corporan
Maria Cortese
Pat Cupples
Hon. Tandra Dawson
Donna Dodds
Hon. Marian Doherty
Hon. Laura Douglas
Darlene Dove
Sheila Feinerman
Brett Figlewski
Hon. Anita Florio
Raymond Franklin
Damon Garrison
Earnestine Glover
Hon. Wilma Guzman
Hon. Arlene H. Hahn
Saundra Jefferson
Esther Kelly
Hon. Sallie Manzanet
Hon. La Tia W. Martin
Susan McPartland
Deidra Moore
John E. Murray
Hon. Barbara Newman
Justine Olderman
Bernadette O'Rourke
Tracy Pardo
Charlene Pulskos
Maria Rivero
Hon. Gayle P. Roberts
Anthony Robinson
Hon. Norma Ruiz
Karen Saab-Dominguez
Emily Sanchez
Bonnie Schnapper
Michelle A.K. Smith
Hon. Alison Y. Tuitt
Ann Wilson

TO: HON. BETTY WEINBERG ELLERIN
Chair, New York State Judicial Committee
on Women in the Courts

FROM: HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE
Chair, Gender Fairness Committee
For the Twelfth Judicial District 

SUBJECT: LOCAL COMMITTEES' REPORTS 2005-2006

DATE: MARCH 20, 2006

I enclose herewith our Annual Report and all the appropriate attachments. I believe that the Courts continue to meet the challenge to eliminate gender bias and create an atmosphere that is fair to all.

I look forward to our "Chairs" meeting on Wednesday, April 26th, 2006 in Albany. Since the meeting is at the Bar Center perhaps I could bring an additional member or two.

RLP:bms

cc: Hon. John P. Collins
Hon. Barry Salman
Administrative Judges

LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2005-2006

Name of the Committee: Gender Fairness Committee for the Twelfth Judicial District

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair:

Justice Richard Lee Price
851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York 10451
Tel. # 718-590-3590
Fax # 718-590-4824
e-mail: rprice@courts.state.ny.us

No. Members 50 **No. of Meetings** 10 **Average Attendance** 20 **Use of Video Conferencing?**
None

Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.): The composition of the Committee includes: Judges, Court Attorneys, Court Clerks, Court Officers, Court Reporters, Stenographers, custodial employees, and other personnel from the various courts in the Bronx, as well as the County Clerk's Office, Borough President's Office, Bronx Bar Association, the Bronx District Attorney's Office, The Legal Aid Society, The Bronx Defenders, social services advocates, local shelters and The Inspector General's Office.

Please include names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005: a) *National Domestic Violence Awareness Month - "Work Place Education Day" (October 27, 2005): "Patterns of Abuse: Links to Recovery."*

The event was co-sponsored by: Association of Black Women Attorneys, Black Bar Association of Bronx County, Bronx County Bar Association, Bronx Borough President, Bronx County Clerk, Bronx Women's Bar Association, Hispanic Court Officers Society, Law-Related Education Committee, New York County Lawyers' Association, Metropolitan Women's Bar Association, Puerto Rican Bar Association, Women's Rights Committee, New York County Lawyers' Association, Bronx Civil Court, Bronx Criminal Court, Bronx Family Court, Bronx Surrogate's Court, Tribune Society. More than 125 people attended this program. Three panelists and a moderator (below) presented the range of reactions and resources of the Bronx criminal justice system. We had substantial audience participation.

Moderator: A.D.A. Karen Saab-Dominguez
Panelists: A.D.A. Mimi Mairs, Supervisor, Domestic Violence Bureau
Det. Lydia Martinez, N.Y.P.D., Special Victims Liaison Unit
Ms. Catherine Shugrue Dos Santos, M.S.W. Assistant Clinical
Director, Sanctuary for Families

The following media were contacted: The New York Daily News, New York Post, New York Times, New York Law Journal, The Bronx News, Bronx Times Reporter, NY1, and News Channel 12.

See flyer annexed hereto.

Activities for Women's History Month 2005 or planned for 2006:

The 2005 event was co-sponsored by the Black Bar Association of Bronx County, Bronx Borough President, Bronx County Bar Association, Bronx County Clerk, Bronx Women's Bar Association, The Columbia Society, Concourse Card Shop, Court Discount, The Cervantes Society, Inc., Crown Donuts, D&J Variety Store, Feeding Tree Restaurant, Leff Prescription Center, Loria Corporation, New York State Court Clerks Association, New York State Court Officers' Association, New York State Supreme Court Officers' Association, New York State Trial Lawyers Association, Puerto Rican Bar Association, The Tribune Society, Women's Rights Committee, NYCLA, Yankee Tavern, and the 161st Street Merchants Association. Approximately 125 people attended the program.

Women's History Month Program April 7, 2005

Honourees:

- Hon. Joan B. Carey, Chief Administrative Judge, New York City Courts
- Hon. Carol Robles-Roman, Deputy Mayor for Legal Affairs, Counsel to Mayor Michael Bloomberg
- Rev. Michel White-Haynes, Greater Faith Temple Church

"ComMENDable," Persons Awards:

- Andrew A. Wiznia, M.D., Director of Pediatric Allergy/Immunology, Director of HIV Services, Jacobi Medical Center/North BronxHealthcare Network & Frank Palombo of the Bronx Borough President's Office.

-"Women of Distinction" certificates were given to 10 court/building employees

A press release of the event was forwarded to The New York Daily News, New York Post, New York Times, New York Law Journal, The Bronx News, Bronx Times Reporter, NY1, and News Channel 12.

See press release and flyer annexed hereto.

Women's History Month Program April 6, 2006

Honourees:

- Hon. Catherine O'Hagen-Wolfe, Clerk of Court, Appellate Division First Dept.
- Hon. Fern Fisher, Administrative Judge of the Civil Court of the City of New York
- Lillian Roberts, Executive Director, D.C. 37

"ComMENdable," Persons Awards:

- Hon. Robert Johnson,
- Hon. Jonathan Lippman

"Evolve Award" - *New award for outstanding female middle and high school students who have demonstrated a unique ability to rise above daunting circumstances in their young lives.

"Women of Distinction" certificates will be given to approximately 10 court/building employees.

A press release of the event will be forwarded to The New York Daily News, New York Post, New York Times, New York Law Journal, The Bronx News, Bronx Times Reporter, NY1, and News Channel 12.

See flyer annexed hereto.

Other Activities in the Past Year:

Food and Clothing Drive:

- THERESA'S HAVEN: This organization is a transitional housing facility, providing housing, education, and other needed assistance.

See flyer annexed hereto.

-GENDER FAIRNESS ON FILM SERIES: Last year we kicked off our first series on March 23, 2005. The films were CNN Presents: Beneath the Veil, I Love Lucy: Job Switching, Slaying the Dragon, I Like It Like That, and And Still I Rise, all of which drew on the common theme of how people of different ethnicities have been portrayed in society and at the workplace. Each film presentation was lead by a moderator and in some cases included a guest speaker, followed by audience discussion

See flyers annexed hereto.

-MEET THE AUTHOR: Our planned event with Mary Higgins Clark did not occur last year because she had an accident. It has now been rescheduled for May 23rd, 2006. This program will be kicked off with a talk and book signing by the highly acclaimed Bronxite. Ms. Higgins-Clark will relate to us how it was to become a woman writer beginning in the '50's and she will also weave in information from another new book, due out in April or May.

Plans for Next Year:

Our *tentative plans for next year* include: food & clothing drives, The Women's History Month Program expanding on our new Evolve Awards, dedicated to outstanding young women students; Domestic Violence Programs, Women in the Court Programs; a program on Elder Abuse; Exercise and Health for Women; Women's Financial Stability in the Face of Domestic Violence; Single Parents; a fashion show for women in need of clothing from our clothing drives, for getting back into the workforce; a discussion on ethical issues raised in movies and on television shows; plus guest speakers on other appropriate topics.

This year marks the 20th year since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts reported that, **"Gender Bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is a pervasive problem with grave consequences. Women are often denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity."**

What do you think have been the greatest advances for women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts in the past 20 years? How is access to justice, treatment or opportunity more equal?

One of the greatest advances for women in the courts in the last 20 years has been the selection of women in work titles that historically have been held by men. From Court Officer to Chief Clerk, we have seen huge strides in the placement of women in these respective titles. From the perspective of one of our committee members who holds the position of Deputy Chief Clerk, back in the 70's it was virtually unheard of for a woman to be in top Supreme Court positions such as Chief Clerk or First Deputy Chief Clerk. Today both of these are filled by women.

Second the perception of women by co-workers, judges and the community at large has changed enormously and OCA has done much to garner the respect of women in general. It is widely noted that the Chief Judge of the State of New York is a woman, and so are three of her Deputy Administrative Judges. It has also been observed that, we have a greater number of women attorneys and judges.

These strides have been deliberate. OCA has given mandatory seminars on issues such as gender fairness and sexual harassment, and the message is that discrimination will not be tolerated. It is generally felt that the way female litigants and attorneys are treated is also affected and the Inspector General's office has a very low tolerance for discriminatory practices. Committees have been established dealing with Domestic Violence and Women in the Courts, and the courts have recently established an Integrated Domestic Violence Part and a Drug Treatment Court.

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts?

One of the greatest challenges facing women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts is that by virtue of being placed in senior management positions women are held to a higher standard than perhaps men when in court. Women are continuously trying to overcome the subtle but pervasive attitude among judges and attorneys whereby women attorneys are treated as if they are not as competent because of their sex. It is also felt that if a woman in power makes a mistake it is blamed on the fact that she is a woman and not because of the difficult issue she may have been confronted with. Female attorneys feel that it is a challenge to make judges and male attorneys aware that they are constructively excluding women attorneys from their "all boys network" when they are observed engaging in inside jokes and conversations at the bench. They should be more aware of language used when referring to or speaking to women attorneys, and refrain from referring to women as being "overly sensitive."



**BRONX SURROGATE'S COURT
851 GRAND CONCOURSE
BRONX, NEW YORK 10451**

LEE L. HOLZMAN
Surrogate

DIANA M. CRUZ
Chief Clerk

EARNESTINE GLOVER
Deputy Chief Clerk

TO-----HON. RICHARD L. PRICE
CHAIR GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
12th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

FROM -----EARNESTINE GLOVER
CHAIR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM

SUBJECT-----DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2005

The Domestic Violence program this year was educational and enjoyable for each and everyone who attended and for the individuals who participated. We included two poems which were perfect for our program. The first one, "Betty's Fred," talked about the power of trying to please someone who was totally immune to your feelings. The second "The Right Time" spoke of getting over and getting out of the relationship. The poems were taken from "Blues Ain't Nothing But a Tonic" by Mr. Revish Windham. Mr. Windham is the husband of one of our own the Hon. Janice Bowman Justice of the Supreme Court. The Moderator was ADA Karen Saab - Dominguez.

The panelists were ADA Mimi Mairs, Supervisor, Domestic Violence Bureau of the Bronx District Attorney's Office. Ms. Mairs brought a perspective of the prosecutor point of view. She also gave the statistics of cases that were returned as second and third offenders.

An overall view of the policies and the law with incidents of Domestic Violence in the NYC Police Department from start to finish was given to us by a very knowledgeable person who has worked with the Domestic Violence Unit within the New York City Police Dept. for several years. Detective. Lydia Martinez.

The third panelist was Ms. Catherine Shugrue Dos Santos, MSW. Ms. Dos Santos is also the Assistant Clinical Director at the Sanctuary for Families. She gave us the social ramification of the wide spread cancer of Domestic Violence on humanity. She also pointed out that it knows no culture, age or color.

The audiences were given questions to ask the panelists. The idea was that they would have to act out the questions as if this was an actual event in their lives. No one except the committee was aware which question were legitimate questions and which ones were honest events in a person's life. We felt this would take the pressure off of someone who was wary of exposing their problems in public. This was a very good idea because we had so many people standing to ask questions that we had to refer them to our panelists after the program, and the panelists were very gracious in giving their help. We also made our disclaimers at the beginning of the program by saying we gave roles to several people, so it would not be assumed who was involved in Domestic Violence and who was not. Closing remarks were given by our Chair, the Hon. Richard L Price, and lunch then was served .

Many thanks to the sub- committee: Josephine Bastone co- chair
Tania Atero Co- chair
Darlene Dove
Sherry Callwood
Emily Sanchez
Bonnie Schnapper
Helen Corporan
Maria Rivero
Susan McPhartland

Supreme Court
Of the
State of New York



HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE
Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tania Antero
Josephine M. Bastone
Lucille M. Barbato
Hon. Peggy Bernheim
J. Mark Bodde
Sherry Callwood
Phyllis Cherebin
Hon. Darcel Clark
Steven B. Clark
Helen Corporan
Maria Cortese
Pat Cupples
Hon. Tandra Dawson
Donna Dodds
Hon. Marian Doherty
Hon. Laura Douglas
Darlene Dove
Ruth Eichmiller
Sheila Feinerman
Brett Figlewski
Hon. Anita Florio
Raymond Franklin
Damon Garrison
Earnestine Glover
Hon. Wilma Guzman
Hon. Arlene H. Hahn
Saundra Jefferson
Esther Kelly
Hon. Sallie Manzanet
Hon. La Tia W. Martin
Susan McPartland
Hon. Donna M. Mills
Deidra Moore
John E. Murray
Hon. Barbara Newman
Justine Olderman
Bernadette O'Rourke
Tracy Pardo
Charlene Pulakos
Maria Rivero
Hon. Gayle P. Roberts
Anthony Robinson
Hon. Norma Ruiz
Karen Saab
Emily Sanchez
Bonnie Schnapper
Michelle A.K. Smith
Hon. Alison Y. Tuitt
Ann Wilson

**GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
For the TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451**

In recognition of

**NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH**

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS
Administrative Judge

The Gender Fairness Committee
presents its annual program for

"WORKPLACE EDUCATION DAY"

Patterns of Abuse: "Links to Recovery"

Thursday, October 27, 2005

12:30 to 2:00 P.M.

Courtroom 711

Panelists

A.D.A. Mimi Mairs
Supervisor, Domestic Violence Bureau
Office of the Bronx District Attorney

Det. Lydia Martinez
Special Victims Liaison Unit

Ms. Catherine Shugrue dos Santos, M.S.W.
Assistant Clinical Director
Sanctuary for Families

Lunch Will Be Served

If you plan to attend, please R.S.V.P to:
Earnestine Glover @718-590-3961 or Josephine M. Bastone @718-590-3758



GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
For the TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451

In recognition of

**NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH**

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE
Chair

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS
Administrative Judge

THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
presents its annual program for

"Work Place Education Day"

Tuesday, October 27, 2005
12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
Courtroom 711

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tania Antero
Josephine M. Bastone
Lucille M. Barbato
Hon. Peggy Bernheim
J. Mark Bodde
Sherry Callwood
Phyllis Cherebin
Hon. Darcel Clark
Steven B. Clark
Helen Corporan
Maria Cortese
Pat Cupples
Hon. Tandra Dawson
Donna Dodds
Hon. Marian Doherty
Hon. Laura Douglas
Darlene Dove
Ruth Eichmiller
Sheila Feinerman
Brett Figlewski
Hon. Anita Florio
Raymond Franklin
Damon Garrison
Earnestine Glover
Hon. Wilma Guzman
Hon. Arlene H. Hahn
Saundra Jefferson
Esther Kelly
Hon. Sallie Manzanet
Hon. La Tia W. Martin
Susan McPartland
Hon. Donna M. Mills
Deidra Moore
John E. Murray
Hon. Barbara Newman
Justine Olderman
Bernadette O'Rourke
Fraci Pardo
Charlene Pulakos
Maria Rivero
Hon. Gayle P. Roberts
Anthony Robinson
Hon. Norma Ruiz
Karen Saab-Dominguez
Emily Sanchez
Bonnie Schnapper
Michelle A.K. Smith
Hon. Anson Y. Tuitt
Ann Wilson

Program Dedication MS. TANIA ANTERO

This program is dedicated to the memory of Ms. Barbara Remington and
the Rev. Hermes Caballero

Welcome & Opening Remarks HON. JOHN P. COLLINS,
Administrative Judge

"Betty's Fred" a poem from Blues Ain't Nothing But A Tonic, by Revish
Windham, read by the Hon. Helen Corporan

Patterns of Abuse: "Links to Recovery"

Moderator: A.D.A. Karen Saab-Dominguez

Panelists: * A.D.A. MIMI MAIRS, Supervisor, Domestic Violence Bureau
* DET. LYDIA MARTINEZ, N.Y.P.D., Special Victims Liaison Unit
* MS. CATHERINE SHUGRUE DOS SANTOS, M.S.W., Assistant
Clinical Director, Sanctuary For Families

"The Right Time" a poem from Blues Ain't Nothing But A Tonic, by Revish
Windham, read by Brett Figlewski, Esq.

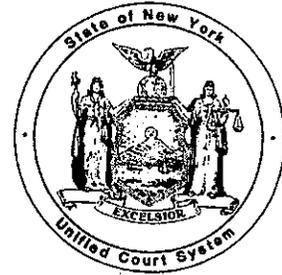
Closing Remarks HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, J.S.C.

Program Co-Sponsors

Association of Black Women Attorneys * Black Bar Association of Bronx County * Bronx County Bar
Association * Bronx Borough President * Bronx County Clerk * Bronx Women's Bar Association *
Hispanic Court Officers' Society * Law-Related Education Committee, New York County Lawyers'
Association * Metropolitan Women's Bar Association * Puerto Rican Bar Association * Women's Right
Committee, New York County Lawyers' Association * Bronx Civil Court * Bronx Criminal Court *
Bronx Family Court * Bronx Surrogate's Court * Tribune Society

**THE BRONX COUNTY
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE**

**HONORABLE JOHN P. COLLINS,
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, CRIMINAL DIVISION
HONORABLE GERALD V. ESPOSITO,
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, CIVIL TERM
HONORABLE RICHARD LEE PRICE, CHAIR**



- presents the annual program for -

Women's History Month

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2005

12:30 TO 2:30 P.M.

VETERANS' MEMORIAL HALL, BRONX SUPREME COURT

Honorees

HON. JOAN B. CAREY

Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York City Courts
New York State Unified Court System

HON. CAROL ROBLES-ROMAN

Deputy Mayor for Legal Affairs and Counsel to the Mayor
New York City

PASTOR MICHEL WHITE-HAYNES

Pastor
Greater Faith Temple Church of the Living God

Com-MEN-dable Persons

FRANK PALOMBO

Graphic Artist
Office of the Bronx Borough President

ANDREW A. WIZNIA, M.D.

Director, Pediatric and Adult HIV Services
North Bronx Healthcare Network

&

"Women Of Distinction" Certificates will be presented to notable women

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

If you plan to attend, please R.S.V.P. to
Earnestine Glover (718) 590-3961, or Josephine M. Bastone (718) 590-3758, or Barbara Remington (718) 590-3710



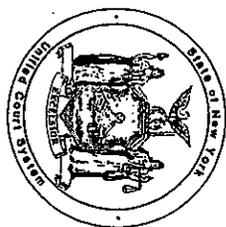
Women's History Month Program Committee Members

HON. EARNESTINE GLOVER, CHAIR
JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE, ESQ., CO-CHAIR
MS. BARBARA REMINGTON, CO-CHAIR

MS. TANIA ANTERO
MS. SHERRY CALLWOOD
HON. HELEN CORPORAN
HON. LAURA G. DOUGLAS
HON. WIIMA GUZMAN
HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE
HON. GAYLE P. ROBERTS
MS. EMILY SANCHEZ
MS. BONNIE SCHNAPPER
MARIA RIVERO, ESQ.

PROGRAM CO-SPONSORS

• Black Bar Association of Bronx County • Bronx
Borough President • Bronx County Bar Association •
Bronx County Clerk • Bronx Women's Bar
Association • The Columbia Society • Concourse Card
Shop • Court Discount • The Cervantes Society, Inc. •
Crown Donuts • D & J Variety Store • Feeding Tree
Restaurant • Leff Prescription Center • Loria
Corporation • New York State Court Clerks
Association • New York State Court Officers'
Association • New York State Supreme Court Officers'
Association • New York State Trial Lawyers
Association • Puerto Rican Bar Association • The
Tribune Society • Women's Rights Committee,
N.Y.C.I.A. • Yankee Tavern • 161st Street Merchants
Association



THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE FOR THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

HONORABLE JOHN P. COLLINS,
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, CRIMINAL DIVISION
HONORABLE GERALD V. ESPOSITO,
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, CIVIL TERM
HONORABLE RICHARD LEE PRICE,
CHAIR

In Cooperation with

The Bronx Women's Bar Association
Katherine Burns, President

proudly presents the annual

Women's History Month Celebration

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2005 - 12:30 TO 2:30 P.M.
VETERANS' MEMORIAL HALL, BRONX SUPREME COURT
851 GRAND CONCOURSE
BRONX, NEW YORK 10451

2005 Program

INVOCATION

Rev. Ruben Diaz
N.Y.S. Senate, 32nd Senatorial District

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Frank Palombo

GREETINGS

Hon. Adolfo Carrión, Jr.

OPENING REMARKS

Hon. John P. Collins
Hon. Gerald V. Esposito

REMARKS OF MODERATOR

Susan McPartland

Com-MEN-dable Person Awards

MR. FRANK PALOMBO

Creative Artist
Office of the Bronx Borough President

DR. ANDREW A. WIZNIA
Director, Pediatric & Adult HIV Services
North Bronx Healthcare Network

MUSICAL SELECTION

Miss Tyrajah Legions
Patricia F. Robinson School of Music

2005 Honorees

HON. JOAN B. CAREY

Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York City Courts
New York State Unified Court System

HON. CAROL ROBLES-ROMAN

Deputy Mayor for Legal Affairs and Counsel to the Mayor
New York City

PASTOR MICHEL WHITE-HAYNES

Pastor
Greater Faith Temple Church of the Living God

Presentation of "Women Of Distinction"

Certificates

Sherry Callwood
Catherine Goldsmith
Evadne Kinear
Delores Lloyd
Susan Rosenthal

Eunicia U. Den
Marilyn Israel
Edna Krause
Ines Otero
Victoria Weddington

CLOSING REMARKS

Hon. Richard Lee Price

SURROGATE'S COURT
BRONX COUNTY-STATE OF NEW YORK
851 GRAND CONCOURSE
BRONX, NEW YORK 10451

LEE L. HOLZMAN
JUDGE



MICHAEL L. PRISCO
CHIEF CLERK
EARNESTINE GLOVER
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

TO----- Hon. Richard Lee Price/Chair, Gender Fairness Committee

FROM----- Earnestine Glover/Program Chair

SUBJECT- WHM, April 7, 2005
Twelfth Judicial District

The Gender Fairness Committee of the Twelfth Judicial District has achieved numerous goals in the past few years, under the leadership of our Chair, Justice Richard Lee Price. The most important of these goals is to present educational and entertaining programs to our court system employees and the community. This year's program met these standards and more. We created an event that we hoped would go above and beyond what we had done in the past by including entertainment by a 6 year old child. Ms. Tyrajah Legions, of the Patricia F. Robinson School of Music, brought the house down by singing a selection from the Broadway musical, *Annie*. According to her grandmother, Tyrajah started singing as soon as she was able to talk.

The honorees and the Com-MEN-dable Persons honored that day exemplified in their speeches why our committee selected them. Despite their successful positions in society, they have always made sure to look out for and to benefit all women.

This years honorees included the Hon. Joan B. Carey, Deputy Administrative Judge for the New York City Courts; the Hon. Carol Robles-Roman, Deputy Mayor for Legal Affairs and Counsel to the Mayor, and Pastor Michel White-Hayes, of the Greater Faith Temple Church. The Com-MEN-dable Person Awards went to Mr. Frank Palombo, Creative Artist of the Bronx Borough President's office and Dr. Andrew A. Wiznia, Director, Pediatric & Adult HIV Services, North Bronx Healthcare Network. The invocation was by the Rev. Ruben Diaz, N.Y.S. Senate, 32nd District.

Our programs are designed to represent a cross-section of our culture in the Bronx. We continuously reach new and higher levels with the quality of the Honorees and the people participating with the preparation of the programs. Committee members, courthouse maintenance staff and attendees from throughout the borough work side-by-side to present the program and serve food.

This year more than 200 people attended the event, and we continue to make an important impact on our employees and the community we serve.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts:

Earnestine Glover (718) 590-3961
Josephine M. Bastone (718) 590-3758
Barbara Remington (718) 590-3710



In recognition of **Women's History Month**, the Gender Fairness Committee for the Twelfth Judicial District will present its sixth annual awards program on Thursday, April 7, 2005 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the Rotunda of the Bronx County Supreme Court, at 161st Street and the Grand Concourse.

Being honored that day are **HON. JOAN B. CAREY**, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York City Courts, New York State Unified Court System; **HON. CAROL ROBLES-ROMAN**, Deputy Mayor for Legal Affairs and Counsel to the Mayor New York City; **PASTOR MICHEL WHITE-HAYNES**, Pastor, Greater Faith Temple Church of the Living God.

Just as last year, the "Com-MEN-dable" Persons Award will be presented annually to two men whose achievements have greatly benefitted women. This year's recipients are **FRANK PALOMBO**, of the Office of the Bronx Borough President, and **DR. ANDREW A. WIZNIA**, Director of Pediatric and Adult HIV Services for the North Bronx Healthcare Network.

In addition, a highlight of the afternoon is the awarding of certificates to approximately ten "Women of Distinction", individuals employed in the Unified Court System or the Supreme Court building who have impressed the Committee by their job performance, or because they have overcome odds with supreme grace.

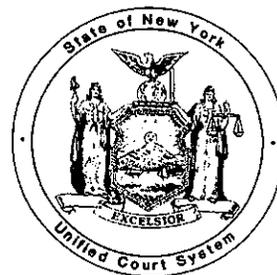
The Gender Fairness Committee for the Twelfth Judicial District draws its members from every level of the court community, including bar associations, advocacy and prosecution agencies which service or appear before the courts, the Bronx Borough President's Office, the County Clerk's Office, and each of the various courts in the Bronx. The Committee was created sixteen years ago in response to recommendations of the Chief Judge's Committee on Gender Bias. Chaired by Justice Richard Lee Price, the Bronx Committee helps implement those recommendations, and seeks to further address and correct issues of gender bias and unfair practices that offend members of the court house community.

Past honorees of the Women's History Month program have included: Hon. Judith S. Kaye, Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals; Hon. Sonia Sotomayor, Circuit Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit; Dr. Dolores M. Fernandez, President, Hostos Community College; Elinor Tatum, Publisher & Editor-in-Chief, Amsterdam News; Assemblywoman Aurelia Greene; Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin, Associate Justice, Appellate Division, First Department; Hon. Ann T. Pfau, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Management Support; Hon. Anita Florio, Associate Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department; Ms. Sana Q. Nasser, Principal, Truman High School; and Councilwoman Maria Baez; Ms. Gina Bolden-Rivera, Senior Vice-President and Chief Credit Officer for the Community Credit Bank, and President of the New York Women's Agenda; Ms. Frances Barbaccia Fusco, President of the Enrico Fermi Cultural Committee of the Belmont Library, President of Italian Big Sisters, and Assistant to the Bronx Borough President; Marjorie A. Lesch, Esq., Past President

of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York and the Bronx Women's Bar Association; Ms. Hannah M. Nelson, Chief of Staff for the North Bronx Healthcare Network; and the Hon. Juanita Bing Newton, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives for New York State

THE BRONX COUNTY
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

HONORABLE JOHN P. COLLINS,
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, CRIMINAL DIVISION
HONORABLE BARRY SALMAN,
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, CIVIL TERM
HONORABLE RICHARD LEE PRICE, CHAIR



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

Women's History Month

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2006

12:30 TO 2:30 P.M.

**VETERANS' MEMORIAL HALL, BRONX SUPREME
COURT**

Honorees

Com-MEN-dable Persons

*Evolve Award**

"Women Of Distinction"

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

*new award for outstanding women students



THE BRONX COUNTY GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, CHAIR

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS
HON. GERALD V. ESPOSITO
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES

PROUDLY PRESENTS

Women's History Month

The Gender Fairness on Film Series

The CNN Presentation of

“BENEATH THE VEIL”

Life Inside the Taliban's Afghanistan

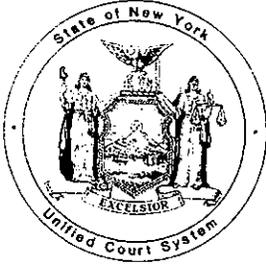
Following the screening there will be a discussion on the plight of Afghan Women, then & now.

Guest Speaker: Ms. Parvina Nadjibulla
Board Member, Women For Afghan Women

Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2005
Time: 12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Place: Bronx Supreme Court, Courtroom 621

(Bring your Lunch)

Program is only available to court personnel



THE BRONX COUNTY GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, CHAIR

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS
HON. GERALD V. ESPOSITO
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES

PROUDLY PRESENTS

The Gender Fairness on Film Series

The "I Love Lucy" Show

"Job Switching"

Following the screening there will be a discussion
on gender fairness, then & now.

Guest Speaker: Ms. Tammy Arnstein
Senior Educator, Museum of the Moving Image

Date: Wednesday, April 20, 2005
Time: 12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Place: Bronx Supreme Court, Courtroom 621

(Bring your Lunch)

Program is only available to court personnel



THE BRONX COUNTY GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, CHAIR

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS
HON. GERALD V. ESPOSITO
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES

PROUDLY PRESENTS

The Gender Fairness on Film Series

“Slaying the Dragon”

A Comprehensive Look at Media Stereotypes of Asian and Asian/American Women Since the Silent Era.

Following the screening there will be a discussion on gender fairness, then & now.

Guest Speaker: Ms. Stacy Wu
Former Educator, Museum of the Moving Image

Date: Wednesday, May 18, 2005
Time: 12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Place: Bronx Supreme Court, Courtroom 621

(Court Employees Only – Bring your Lunch)



THE BRONX COUNTY GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, CHAIR

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS
HON. GERALD V. ESPOSITO

ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES

and

THE CERVANTES SOCIETY

Present

In Honor of Hispanic Heritage Month

The Gender Fairness on Film Series

“I Like It Like That”

A Feature Film Portraying
Love, Family, and a Young Woman's Coming of Age in The Bronx

Wednesday, September 21, 2005 (Part 1)
12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 22, 2005 (Part 2)
12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Bronx Supreme Court, Courtroom 621

Following the Thursday September 22, 2005 screening, there will be a discussion led by
Ms. Tammy Arnstein, former Educator, Museum of the Moving Image

(Feel free to bring your lunch)



The Bronx County Gender Fairness Committee

Hon. Richard Lee Price, Chair

Hon. John P. Collins
Hon. Barry Salmon
Administrative Judges

and

The Black History Month Committee 2006

Present

In Honor of Black History Month

The Gender Fairness on Film Series

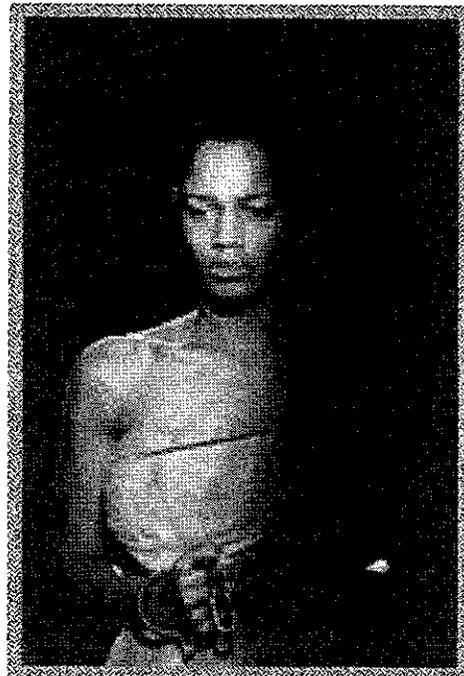
'AND STILL I RISE'

Wednesday

February 22, 2006

12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Room 621



Come for the film, stay for the panel discussion

This Event is Free

Open to the Public

Inspired by a poem by Maya Angelou, this powerful film explores images of Black women in the media, focusing on the myths surrounding Black women's sexuality. A combination of fear and fascination produces a stereotypical representation which in turn impacts on the real lives of Black women. "And Still I Rise" intercuts historical and media images with hard-hitting contemporary views of women of African heritage as they struggle to create a new and empowered perspective.

Bring your own snacks

The 80th Anniversary of the first official celebration of Black History!





THE BRONX COUNTY GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, CHAIR

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS
HON. BARRY SALMAN
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES

PROUDLY PRESENTS

Women's History Month

The Gender Fairness on Film Series

The CNN Presentation of

"The Unholy War"

Life Inside Afghanistan after the Taliban. The Director of "Beneath the Veil" shows how the changed international situation has affected the country.

Following the screening there will be a discussion on the plight of the Afghan people.

Guest Speakers

Esther Hyneman & Humeira Faiz
from the organization
Women For Afghan Women

Date: Wednesday, March 8, 2006
Time: 12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Place: Bronx Supreme Court, Courtroom 621

(Bring your Lunch)

**GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
OF THE 12TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

The Gender Fairness Issues on Film Series '06 (Season II)

Film

Presentation Date

The Unholy War - CNN

March 8 (Wed.)

The Day My God Died

March 21 (Tues.)

Mad, Hot, Ballroom

April 11 (Tues.)

April 12 (Wed.)

Women's Place

April 25 (Tues.)

Iron Jawed Angels

May 10 (Wed.)

Events

Mary Higgins Clark

May 23 (Tues.)



THE BRONX COUNTY GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, CHAIR

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS
HON. BARRY SALMON
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES

PROUDLY PRESENTS

Women's History Month

The Gender Fairness on Film Series

"The Day My God Died"

*A Heart-Wrenching Documentary on the International Sex
Trafficking of Young Women and Children*

Following the screening there will be a discussion.

Guest Speaker: Denise Scotto, Esq.
Vice-Chair, N.G.O. Committee on the Status of Women

Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2006
Time: 12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Place: Bronx Supreme Court, Courtroom 621

(Bring your Lunch)



**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451**

March 14, 2006

TO: Sub-Committee on Women's History Month

FROM: Emily Sanchez

RE: Minutes of Tuesday, March 7, 2006

PRESENT: Hon. Earnestine Glover, Chair, Darlene Dove, Hon. Wilma Guzman, Hon. Richard Lee Price, Emily Sanchez, Bonnie Schnapper

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

Nominees for honorees for this year's program are: Justice Fern Fisher, Administrative Judge of the New York City Civil Court, First Judicial District; Lillian Roberts, Executive Director of DC37; and Catherine O'Hagen Wolfe, Chief Clerk of the Appellate Division, First Department.

Nominees for the Com-MEN-dable Persons Award are: Hon. Robert Johnson, Bronx County District Attorney; and Hon. Jonathan Lippman, Chief Administrative Judge of the Courts.

Nominees for the EVOLVE Award are: Mercedes Olena Andrews, University Heights High School; Kalea Davis, Honor House, Lehman High School; Geneva Johnson, Health Professions and Human Services High School in Manhattan; Kimberly Luna, Hostos-Lincoln Academy of Science; Violet Richardson, Harry S. Truman High School.

Nominees for the Women of Distinction Award are: Ruth Bowen, court officer; Juanita Cepero, court assistant; Roselyn Johnson, secretary to Judge Salman; Marisol Lebron, senior court office assistant; Faye Yelardy, assistant district attorney. Further nominations (for a total of no more than ten) will be solicited from other Committee members.

As Judge Collins is scheduled to be out on the day of the program, honorees will be welcomed by Judge Salman in his Chambers.

An appointment is to be made with Steve Clark and Tracy Pardo to discuss the ordering of food.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 14.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Sanchez

**GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
OF THE 12TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

The Gender Fairness Issues on Film Series

Subcommittee Meeting Agenda

March 3, 2006 - 1:00 P.M. (Courtroom #621)

(1) Planning of next "brown bag lunch" programs plus others...

(2) Next film:

"The Unholy War" - March 8, 2006, 12:45 PM

(3) For the new series*:

-Confirmed films:, The Day My God Died (trafficking of women), Mad, Hot Ballroom, Women on Death Row (excerpts), Women's Place (non-traditional careers)...[excerpts], Iron Jawed Angels (Women's Suffrage)

*Go over dates again...some adjustments.

(4) *getting the word out -

Flyer circulation

Print a schedule to be circulated at the screening.

Audience questionnaire ...any changes from last screening???

(4) Mary Higgins Clark - update

**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451**

March 7, 2006

TO: Sub-Committee on Women's History Month

FROM: Emily Sanchez

RE: Minutes of Tuesday, March 2, 2006

PRESENT: Hon. Richard Lee Price, Sherry Caldwell, Darlene Dove, Earnestine Glover,
Hon. Wilma Guzman, Emily Sanchez, Bonnie Schnapper

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

Bonnie Schnapper announced that Peggy Marshall will not be available as one of the honorees for the program. To date, we have Lillian Roberts, Executive Director of DC37 and Catherine O'Hagen Wolfe, Chief Clerk of the Appellate Division, First Department. A further nomination: Hon. Fern Fisher.

Regarding the exceptional young ladies segment, Sherry Caldwell submitted three additional nominees: Geneva Johnson from Health Professions and Human Services High School in Manhattan, Mercedes Olena Andrews from University Heights High School, and Kalea Davis from Honor House, Lehman High School. Emily Sanchez submitted one from Truman High School: Violet Richardson. With Kimberly Luna, from Hostos-Lincoln Academy of Science, submitted previously by Sherry, we have five nominees. The Committee voted to honor all five young ladies.

The naming of this category is still pending.

The award, utilizing the pneumonic EVOLVE (Exceptional, Visionary, Optimism, Leadership, Volunteerism and Education) was discussed. A mini plaque with EVOLVE is being considered. Darlene Dove suggested a medal on a ribbon as an alternative. This would be accompanied by a certificate that the recipient could frame.

Regarding the co-sponsors, Josephine Bastone and Emily will make the usual contacts within the court system; and Darlene and Emily will visit the sponsors in the surrounding neighborhood. Bonnie will contact the 161st Street Merchants Association.

Chair Earnestine Glover and Judge Price will take care of the plaques.

Nominations for the Women of Distinction are to be made next week.

We'll discuss the ordering of the food next week.

The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday, March 7.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Sanchez

**GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
OF THE 12TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

The Gender Fairness Issues on Film Series

Subcommittee Meeting Agenda

February 17, 2006 - 1:00 P.M. (Courtroom #621)

(1) Planning of next "brown bag lunch" programs plus others...

(2) Next film:

"And Still I Rise" - February 22, 2006, 12:45 PM (present during Black History Month) - Panel identified and report if confirmed. Once again our moderator will be Tammy Arnstein.

(3) For the new series:

-Confirmed films: The Unholy War (CNN), The Day My God Died (trafficking of women), Mad, Hot Ballroom, Women on Death Row (excerpts), Women's Place (non-traditional careers)...[excerpts], Iron Jawed Angels (Women's Suffrage).

-Volunteer of subcommittee moderators for each film.

**getting the word out -*

Flyer - put purpose of the series

Print a schedule

Create an audience feedback questionnaire to be created and edited by subcommittee.

(4) Misc.

GENDER FAIRNESS

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2006**

DATE TO BE HELD-----APRIL 6th 2006

(1) HONOREES:

(A) SELECTIONS

(B) COMMENDABLE

HONOREES—SELECTIONS

(C) WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

(2) CO- SPONSORS

(3) FOOD

(4) PROGRAM

A - ORDER OF EVENTS

B -FLYERS

GENDER FAIRNESS

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 7, 2006**

DATE TO BE HELD-----APRIL 6th 2006

(1) HONOREES:

(A) SELECTIONS

*Penny Marshall (Tania Antero)
Jill Roberts (S. Callwood)*

(B) COMMENDABLE HONOREES—SELECTIONS

(C) WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

(d) working on outstanding student(s)

(2) CO- SPONSORS

(3) FOOD

(4) PROGRAM

A - ORDER OF EVENTS

B - FLYERS - *wants save the date flyer
end of Feb.*

**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451**

February 7, 2006

TO: Sub-Committee on Women's History Month

FROM: Emily Sanchez

RE: Minutes of Tuesday, January 31, 2006

PRESENT: Tanya Antero, Josephine Bastone, Sherry Callwood, Earnestine Glover,
Emily Sanchez, Bonnie Schnapper

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

The date for the Women's History Month Program was set for Thursday, April 6, 2006. The location: The Rotunda.

We resolved to send a letter to Borough President Adolfo Carrion, with copy to each of the chief judges.

We began to discuss possible honorees. Sherry Callwood proposed Lillian Roberts, Executive Director of union Local D.C. 37. Josephine Bastone said she had two names to propose which she had left in her office, one of which is one of the first women chemists. Tanya Antero proposed Penny Marshall, an actor and director, and a Bronx native.

We also discussed the possibility of honoring Ralph Lauren as a Com-MEN-dable Person.

Regarding our search for exceptional young ladies - - adolescents to college students - - who go above and beyond and/or are making their mark, the following sources were earmarked: Sherry would ask the education liaison in the Borough President's office; Emily Sanchez would ask Liz Taylor, who's in charge of the annual Thurgood Marshall Moot Court Competition for a middle school student and Sana

Nasser, Principal of Truman High School in the Bronx, for a high school student.

Bonnie Schnapper said that the MS Foundation organizes the "Take Your Daughter/Son to Work" day. She was to ask them for their criteria for honoring young achievers.

Regarding the idea of making videos of the honorees, Tanya Antero reported that she had a person who had taken some time off and is willing to do the taping. Actually, all he would need is for us to supply him with blank DVDs. Bonnie Schnapper was to investigate whether the video equipment we have can be used to play the mini disks in question.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 7.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Sanchez

THE BRONX COUNTY GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

- ANNOUNCES -

**A FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE
TO BENEFIT THERESA'S HAVEN**

DATES: OCT. 31, AND NOV. 1, 2, 3, AND 4, 2005

**DROP OFF SITES: SUPREME COURT - ('A' ELEVATOR) 6M DESK
CRIMINAL COURT - ROOM 111
FAMILY COURT - ROOM 8-10
HOUSING COURT - 7TH FLOOR STAFF LOUNGE
DA'S OFFICE, 198 E. 161 ST., RM 941(RECEPTION AREA)**

**WHAT: CANNED FOOD GOODS, INCLUDING BABY FOOD
(CLEAN) USED OR NEW ADULT CLOTHING
(INCLUDING WOMEN'S BUSINESS ATTIRE)
(CLEAN) USED OR NEW CHILDREN'S CLOTHING
CHILDREN'S TOYS, BOOKS, DISPOSABLE DIAPERS
HOUSEHOLD GOODS, LINEN**

**WHO: THERESA'S HAVEN is a transitional housing facility, providing
housing, education, and other needed assistance.**

**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.
FOR INFORMATION IN EACH BUILDING, CONTACT:**

SUPREME COURT:	JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE, ESQ.	(718) 590 - 3758
CRIMINAL COURT:	CATHY HARLEY	(718) 590 - 2858
FAMILY COURT:	RHONDA YOUNG	(718) 590 - 3336
DISTRICT ATTORNEY BLDG.:	MARIA RIVERO, ESQ.	(718) 590 - 2258
HOUSING COURT:	GLADYS MALDONADO	(718) 466 - 3022

TO: HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE
CHAIR, GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

FROM: JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE, ESQ. 
CHAIR, FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE SUB-COMMITTEE

RE: OCTOBER 2005 DRIVE

The October 2005 Food and Clothing Drive, held from October 31st through November 4th, 2005, was for the benefit of Theresa's Haven.

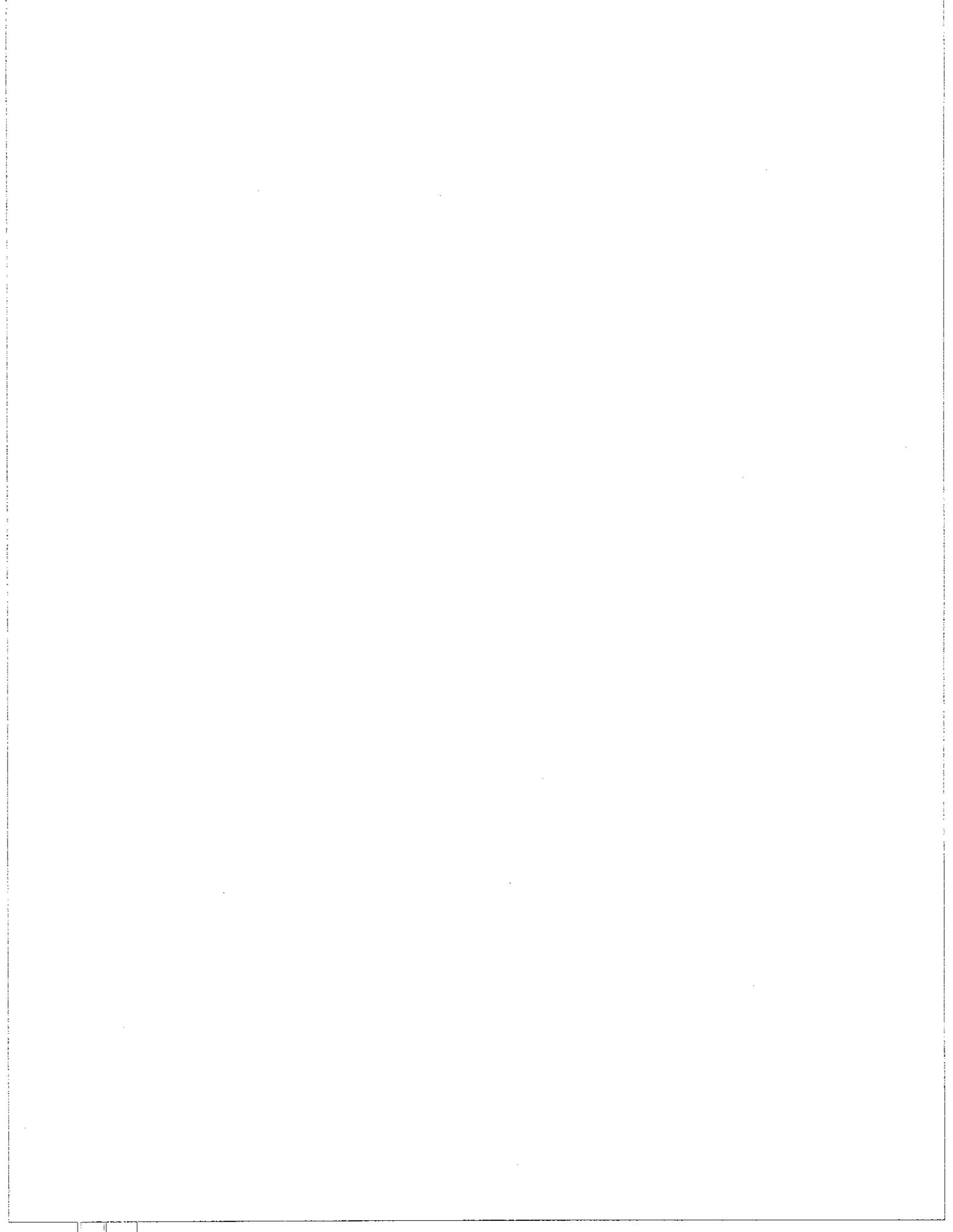
We collected approximately 55 bags and boxes of items, at collection points set up in the Supreme Court, Criminal Court, Family Court, Housing Court, and Bronx District Attorney's Office buildings. The majority of items donated were clothing, although food and baby items were also given.

As always, the members of the Food and Clothing Drive Sub-Committee worked hard to ensure the success of the Drive. The Sub-Committee is composed of: Josephine M. Bastone, Chair; Earnestine Glover, Gladys Maldonado, and Maria Rivero. Cathy Harley and Rhonda Young served as the contact persons in, respectively, Criminal and Family Courts. A great deal of help in dealing with the storage and pickup of items in the Supreme Court building, where the majority of the donations are stored, came from SCO Chris Barros, and court aides Mario Malave, Jason Philbert, and Ron Smith.

The Sub-Committee thanks Hon. John P. Collins, Steven B. Clark, and Tracy Pardo for their general assistance in the Supreme Court building, and for arranging for the use of a jury bus to transport the donations to Theresa's Haven.

Queens County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

Hon. Sheri S. Roman
Justice, Supreme Court
125-01 Queens Blvd.
Kew Gardens, NY 11415
718-520-3501



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2005-2006

Name of the Committee: New York State Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee

Name, Address, Telephone and Fax Numbers and E-mail Address of the Chair

Hon. Sheri S. Roman, NYS Supreme Court, 125-01 Queens Boulevard, Kew Gardens, NY 11415

718-520-3501; Fax: 718-520-8247; sroman@courts.state.ny.us

No. Members 21 No. of Meetings 4 Average Attendance 10 Use of Video Conferencing? no

Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc .) Judges, Law Secretaries, Court Officers, Secretaries, Clerks, Court Reporter, Private Attorney (see attachment 1)

Please include names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005

A reference table with resource materials was displayed in each of the three Queens Supreme Courthouses throughout the month of October. The pamphlets contained information and statistical data on domestic violence. We tried to collect a variety of pamphlets in different languages to reflect our diverse borough.

On October 6, 2005, we hosted a complimentary lunchtime program with guest speaker Hon. Esther M. Morgenstern, presiding Judge of the Intergrated Domestic Violence Court (IDV) in Queens County, who addressed the effectiveness of the IDV Court since its onset in Queens County in 2003, including any new legal updates and procedures. Continuing Legal Education credit (Area of Professional Practice: 1 credit hour Transitional and Non-transitional) was offered for attorneys. We also provided transportation to and from each of the other courthouses, making it available to all Queens courthouse employees. The audience included attorneys employed in the court system as well as private attorneys, legal aid and assistant district attorneys, employees from the courthouse, including staff from judges' chambers, and members of the general public.

Activities for Women's History Month 2005 or planned for 2006

Two complimentary luncheon programs were held in conjunction with National Women's History Month; Wednesday, March 16, 2005 at the Kew Gardens Courthouse, and Wednesday, March 23, 2005 at the Jamaica Courthouse.

Activities for Women's History Month 2005 or planned for 2006 (continued)

The program scheduled for Wednesday March 16th included Steven Hans, Esq., who discussed '*Gender Discrimination in the Workplace*.' This session focused on gender discrimination laws, state and federal, disparate treatment of individuals in employment situations, systemic disparate treatment in the workplace, sexual harassment, recent cases illustrating trends in gender discrimination such as the Morgan- Stanley, Merrill-Lynch and Wal-Mart Stores lawsuits, and recommendations for employers and employees to avoid discrimination claims.

The program on March 23, 2005 featured Prof. Margaret Turano, Esq., of St. John's University School of Law, who discussed '*Inheritance Rights of Women; Past and Present*' through literature and law, including discussions of Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights*.

Again, the audience included attorneys employed in the court system as well as private attorneys, legal aid and assistant district attorneys, employees from the courthouse, including staff from judges' chambers, and members of the general public.

Continuing Legal Education credit was offered for each program session (1 credit hour each program session in the area of professional practice). We also provided transportation to and from each of the other courthouses, making it available to all Queens courthouse employees.

Other Activities in the Past Year :

In April we coordinated the 2-day activity for "Take Your Daughters to Work /Take Your Sons to Work programs. Youngsters are invited to partake in a continental breakfast as they listen to court representatives discuss careers in the courts. They are then taken on building tour, after which they participate in a mock trial competition.

Have you worked in partnership with other groups? _____

Bar Associations? A three-day Womens Clothing Drive with the Queens County Women's Bar Association was held November 28 through November 30, 2005. Clothing was collected for donation to the DRESS FOR SUCCESS organization, Queens, NY.

Plans for Next Year: The NYS Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee is sponsoring a High School Writing Competition in recognition of Women's History Month. Four first place winners will each receive a cash prize of \$50.00 (that was donated by the Court Attorney's Union), have their winning essay or poem published in the Queens County Bar Association Bar Bulletin or at least one official court newsletter, and will be invited to sit on the bench with a Supreme Court Justice and observe courtroom proceedings. Each winner will be presented with an Award Certificate at a Women's History program in the Supreme Court. (See Attachment 2). Next year we plan to address the issue of finding sources of funding for minimal awards for students.

This year marks the 20th year since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts reported that, **“Gender Bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is a pervasive problem with grave consequences. Women are often denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity.”** **What do you think have been the greatest advances for women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts in the past 20 years? How is access to justice, treatment or opportunity more equal?**

The issue of equal access has become a more transparent process. As women in the courts and legal profession have lobbied for true equal access, the result has generated a more educated court system acknowledging the validity of these demands. Consequently, improvements have flowed forward. The following is an example. The accommodations for litigants finding themselves in the judicial system have been most encouraging to all of us in the courts, and we have seen great progress in the last twenty years; starting with the availability of changing rooms for infants, and playrooms for children, and the pro se ombudsman.

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts?

The road ahead still presents challenges in terms of the application of the rule of law equally to all. The fact that all exemptions have been removed from jury service still impacts heavily on single parents, and needs to be rethought.

Please return this form by **March 15, 2006**, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, New York 10004
212-428-2793 (Fax)
jgoodman@courts.state.ny.us

Attachment 1



NYS Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee
Hon. Sheri S. Roman, Chairperson

2005-2006 Committee Members

SUSAN BEBERFALL, ESQ.	Associate Court Attorney
MAUREEN CRESCIMANNO	Secretary to Judge
SHARON DAVIDSON	Secretary to Judge
JAMES DOLLIN, ESQ.	Principal Law Clerk to Judge
HON. PHYLLIS ORLIKOFF FLUG	Supreme Court Justice
LT. LYNNE FRANZONE	Lietutenant, Security Operations
DELORES HAYNES	Secretary to Judge
SCO SGT. DIXON KIM	Sergeant, Security Operations
DENNIS LEBWOHL, ESQ.	Principal Law Clerk to Judge
LEONARD LIVOTE, ESQ.	Principal Law Clerk to Judge
LT. THOMAS McELLIGOTT	Lietutenant, Security Operations
M .J. MEZZINA, ESQ.	Associate Court Attorney
SCO DENISE MIKAELIAN	Supreme Court Officer
LESLIE NIZIN, ESQ.	Attorney, Private Practice
O. RUSS RODRIGUEZ	Court Clerk Specialist
HON. SHERI S. ROMAN	Supreme Court Justice, Committee Chair
HON. PATRICIA SATTERFIELD	Supreme Court Justice
THERESA SILKIE	Principal Court Reporter
FRANCES TAYLOR	Court Clerk Specialist
KATHLEEN S. WARD, ESQ.	Principal Law Clerk to Judge
THERESA WILSON	Secretary to Judge



The NYS Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee is pleased to announce that it is sponsoring a High School Writing Competition in recognition of Women's History Month. Four first place winners will each receive a cash prize of \$50.00, have their winning piece published in the Queens County Bar Association Bar Bulletin or at least one official court newsletter, and will be invited to sit on the bench with a Supreme Court Justice and observe courtroom proceedings. Each winner will be presented with an Award Certificate at a Women's History program in the Supreme Court. The contest is open to all high school students who attend school in Queens County.

TOPIC: A FAMOUS FEMALE LAWYER YOU WOULD LIKE TO MEET AND WHO HAS INSPIRED YOU

Entries will be judged on:

- *Adherence to topic**
- *Appropriateness of subject matter**
- *Creative approach**
- *Effectiveness of organization**
- *Clarity of expression**
- *Grammar, punctuation, and spelling**

All entries must be typed or neatly written in black or blue ink. All entries must include a cover sheet that includes the student's name, name of school, contact telephone number at school, grade level, and teacher's name. The maximum length is 500 words, and all entries must be submitted no later than March 14, 2006 and sent to NYS Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee, Attention: Susan Beberfall, Esq. 88-11 Sutphin Blvd. Jamaica, NY 11435.

Winner's will be notified of the date and place of the award ceremony.



*NYS Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee
In recognition of
Women's History Month*

"Gender Discrimination in the Workplace"

Wednesday March 16, 2005 1:00-2:00PM

Kew Gardens Courthouse 125-01 Queens Blvd., 8th Floor Conference Room

PRESENTER:

Stephan Hans, Esq.

1.0 Hour of Continuing Legal Education credit will be offered for this session.

(transitional & non-transitional)

The cost of this program is \$5.00 for those who wish CLE credit.

It is FREE for those who do not wish CLE Credit

The NYS Queens County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee
has been certified by the NYS Continuing Legal Education Board as an accredited CLE Provider.

Transportation Available: from Jamaica & L.I.C. Courthouses

LUNCH PROVIDED - ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

RSVP : REQUIRED

**For information and
TO REGISTER, CALL (718) 520-4416
(chambers of Hon. Sheri S. Roman)**

RSVP NECESSARY BY MARCH 14th

Presents : PROFESSOR MARGARET V. TURANO, ESQ.

ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

**Topic: "Inheritance Rights of Women in Literature & Law-
Past and Present"**

When: Wednesday, MARCH 23, 2005 from 1:00 TO 2:00 P.M.

Where: 88-11 Sutphin Blvd. 5th Floor Conference Room

- * LUNCH: available for those who REGISTER BY MARCH 21th
- * TRANSPORTATION: available from Kew Gardens & LIC Courthouses
- * CLE CREDIT: 1.0 Hour of Continuing Legal Education credit will be offered for this session.
The cost of this program is \$5.00 for those who wish CLE credit.

It is FREE for those who do not wish CLE Credit

The NYS Queens County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee has been certified by the NYS Continuing Legal Education Board as an accredited CLE Provider.

* **RSVP: REQUIRED** For info. and to REGISTER, **CALL (718) 520-4416** (chambers of Hon. Sheri S. Roman)

RSVP NECESSARY by MONDAY MARCH 21st

All are welcome!!!

*NYS Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee
Domestic Violence Awareness Month Program:*

“Integrated Domestic Violence Court- Easing the Process for D.V. Victims”

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2005, 1:00-2:00PM

Kew Gardens Courthouse 125-01 Queens Blvd.

8th Floor Conference Room (832)

PRESENTER:

HON. ESTHER M. MORGENSTERN

Presiding Judge, Integrated Domestic Violence Court

1.0 Hour of Continuing Legal Education credit will be offered for this session (approval pending)
(transitional & non-transitional)

The cost of this program is \$5.00 for those who wish CLE credit.

It is FREE for those who do not wish CLE Credit

The NYS Queens County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee
has been certified by the NYS Continuing Legal Education Board as an accredited CLE Provider.

Transportation Available: from JAMAICA AND L.I.C. Courthouses

LUNCH PROVIDED... ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

For information and

TO REGISTER, CALL (718) 520-4416

(chambers of Hon. Sheri S. Roman)

RSVP NECESSARY BY OCT. 3rd

LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2005-2006

Name of the Committee: BROOKLYN SUPREME COURT GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

Chair:

Name: Honorable Matthew J. D'Emic
Address: Brooklyn Supreme Court
320 Jay Street, Room 25.77, Brooklyn, NY 11201
Phone #: 347-296-1031
Fax #: 347-296-1337
Email: mdemic@courts.state.ny.us

Members 25 # Meetings 6 Avg Attendance 7 Video Conferencing No

Composition of the Committee:

Judges	<u>7</u>
Administrators	<u>18</u>
Advocates	<u>0</u>

Please include names of co-sponsors, size of attendance and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005

On October 20, 2005, Kathryn Ford, a Domestic Violence associate at the Center for Court Innovation, presented a training workshop on Sexual Assault in Intimate Relationships: Prevalence, Characteristics and Effects. Approximately 50 people attended.

Activities for Women's History Month 2005

On April 7, 2005, we again bestowed the Honorable Ruth Moskowitz Award (the "Ruthie") to four honorees in recognition of this year's theme, "Women Change America." The recipients were: Hon. Carolyn Demarest for her work with the Women in Prison Program; Hon. yvonne lewis for her active involvement in various local and state committees; Lucille Jackson, LCSW, for her work in setting up the Brooklyn Mental Health Court; and retired SCO Kevin Carroll for his 27 years of service to Judge Moskowitz as her personal officer. The ceremony is very popular and was well attended.

Activities for Women's History Month Planned for 2006:

The program is scheduled to take place on Monday, March 20, 2006. This year's theme, Women: Builder's of Communities and Dreams, honors women for bringing communities together and restoring hope in the face of impossible odds. The event is in the planning stages.

OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST YEAR:

Bring Your Child To Work Day

April 29, 2005, was the date chosen. Since that day fell on a Friday this caused attendance to be higher than usual (approximately 100 children participated). Court personnel volunteered their time to help out. Each child was given a t-shirt to wear while they went on a tour, were fingerprinted and acted in a mock trial. Parents were offered an opportunity to have their child photographed in a judge's robe. King Henry VIII entertained the children with his magic tricks. There was also a raffle and each child won a small prize. The program concluded at 1 PM.

Women's Health Month

On May 18, 2005, psychiatrist Dr. Nancy Needell presented a lunchtime lecture on Gender and Mental Health: Women are not just female versions of men. Approximately 30 people attended.

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:

March - Women's History Month (scheduled for March 20, 2006)

April - Bring Your Child to Work Day

May - Women's Health Month

October - Domestic Violence Awareness Month

This year marks the 20th year since the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts reported that "**Gender Bias against women litigants, attorneys and court employees is a pervasive problem with grave consequences. Women are often denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity.**"

What do you think have been the greatest advances for women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts in the past 20 years? How is access to justice, treatment or opportunity more equal?

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing women litigants, attorneys or employees in the courts?

Please return this form by **March 15, 2006**, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, NY 10004
212-428-2793 - FAX
jgoodman@courts.state.ny.us

In Celebration Of
Women's History Month



National Women's
History Project

The Gender Fairness Committee
proudly presents
The Ruth E. Moskowitz Award

to

Justice Carolyn E. Demarest
Justice yvonne lewis
Lucille Jackson, LCSW
SCO Kevin Carroll

Thursday, April 7, 2005, 1 PM - 2 PM
360 Adams Street, Room 224
Brooklyn, NY

~~~~~

Hon. Neil J. Firetog, Administrative Judge  
Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic, Chair



*~ Program ~*

*Welcome & Introductions*

*Hon. Neil J. Firetog*

*History/Remarks*

*Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic*

*Presentation of Award:*

*Hon. Priscilla Hall*

*Justice Carolyn E. Demarest*

*Presentation of Award:*

*Hon. Priscilla Hall*

*Justice yvonne lewis*

*Presentation of Award:*

*Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic*

*Lucille Jackson*

*Presentation of Award:*

*Robert Sershon, Esq.*

*SGO Kevin Carroll*

*Joel Sershon*

*Ann Lyons*

*Presentation of Proclamations*

*Mary Ann Cino*

*Concluding Remarks*

*Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic*

*~ Light reception to follow in Room 319 ~*

*In Celebration Of*  
**Women's History Month**



National Women's  
History Project

The Gender Fairness Committee  
proudly presents  
The Ruth E. Moskowitz Award  
to

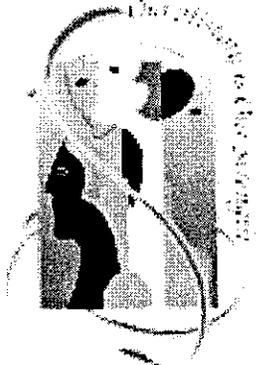
Justice Carolyn E. Demarest  
Justice yvonne lewis  
Lucille Jackson, LCSW  
SCO Kevin Carroll

Thursday, April 7, 2005, 1 PM - 2 PM  
360 Adams Street, Room 224  
Brooklyn, NY

~~~~~

Hon. Neil J. Firetog, Administrative Judge
Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic, Chair

In Celebration Of
Women's History Month



National Women's
History Project

The Gender Fairness Committee
proudly presents

The Ruth E. Moskowitz Award
to

Justice Carolyn E. Demarest
Justice yvonne lewis
Lucille Jackson, LCSW
SCO Kevin Carroll

Thursday, April 7, 2005.

1:00 PM to 2:00PM

360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY

**** Everyone Welcome - Light Reception to Follow ****

Sponsored by:

Hon. Neil J. Firetog, Administrative Judge

Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic, Chair, Gender Fairness Committee



Justice Yvonne Lewis



Justice Carolyn Demarest

Corporation Counsel's office where she became Assistant Chief Corporation Counsel for NYC, then served as law secretary to New York Civil Court Judge Stanley Danzig and went on to serve on the civil bench by appointment and the Family Court before being elected to the Supreme Court in 1990

The author of a well-received NYLJ article, "Civility in the Courtroom from a Judge's Perspective," Justice Demarest once taught at Bernard Baruch College and is active with the State and City Bar associations, the Association of Supreme Court Justices Association and the National Association of Women Judges, among others.

★ ★ ★



Justice Matthew D'Emic

County Civil Bench in 1986, she was the first African-American woman to sit in that court. She was elected to the Supreme Court in 1991.

Among her many current activities, she serves on the Franklin Williams Judicial Commission on Minorities, is president of the Judicial Friends, Judicial Council of the National Bar Association, and sits on the Board of Directors of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Early Childhood Development Center.

Justice Lewis has also coordinated several panel and workshop discussions on the issues of race and racism for the New York State Judicial Seminars and the Winter Roundtable at Teacher's College, and has hosted numerous presentations by 100 Blacks in Law Enforcement Who Care.

Justice Demarest started her legal career at Skadden, Arps, went to the

★ ★ ★
Justices Lewis & Demarest Earn their 'Ruthies'

Two leading Brooklyn jurists — Justices Yvonne Lewis and Carolyn Demarest — have been appropriately cited for their service in the Kings County Mental Health Court headed by Justice Matt D'Emic. Along with court coordinator Lucille Jackson, they were accorded the "Ruthie" awards named for the late Justice Ruth Moskowitz.

Both jurists have impressive backgrounds. Justice Lewis actually started out as a teacher and social worker in Buffalo while earning her J.D. at the University of Buffalo. She came to Brooklyn after winning the Reginald Heber Smith Fellowship serving with Legal Services, where she worked her way up to Director of Litigation and Managing Attorney.

When she was elected to the Kings

Court's Gender Fairness Committee Hands Out Annual 'Ruthie' Awards

Honorees at Luncheon 'Women's History Month' Ceremony Recall Jurist Ruth E. Moskowitz



Brooklyn Supreme Court Chief Administrative Judge Neil Firetog presided over the awards ceremony honoring Women's History Month.



Supreme Court Justice Carolyn E. Demarest, above, received the Ruth Moskowitz award Thursday from the Gender Fairness Committee for outstanding contributions to the judiciary.



Supreme Court Justice Matthew D'Emic, presiding justice at Brooklyn Mental Health Court, a pioneering court addressing special-needs defendants.



Honorable Priscilla Hall, president of the New York State Women Judges Association, presented two "Ruthies" at the Thursday ceremony at Brooklyn Supreme Court.



Honorable Yvonne Lewis, Supreme Court Justice, a recipient of the Ruth Moskowitz Award.

By Charles Sweeney
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

ADAMS STREET — The memory of one of the court's most outspoken and pioneering justices was invoked time and again at the awards ceremony at Kings County Supreme Court Thursday afternoon as two women justices accepted the honor named for the late judge.

Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Carolyn Demarest, Supreme Court Justice Yvonne Lewis, and social worker and mental health advocate Lucille Jackson were among the honorees at the annual ceremony organized by the Gender Fairness Committee.

Chief Administrative Judge Neil Firetog, Justice Matthew D'Emic and



Lucille Jackson, Licensed Certified Social Worker and chief architect of the Mental Illness Court, was among this year's honorees at the Gender Fairness Committee's "Ruth Moskowitz Awards" at Brooklyn Supreme Court Thursday.

Justice Priscilla Hall presided over the ceremony honoring outstanding contributions to the judiciary.

Firetog's opening remarks to the assembled group of lawyers, justices and court personnel sketched the history of women's accomplishments within the judiciary, highlighting Moskowitz's tenure on the bench as a watershed period.

"Really, women are running a lot

of things," Firetog said. "I know they're running my life. And I must say it's for the better."

Firetog's remarks elicited a knowing laughter, but also highlighted the recent assimilation into the courts of influential women judges, not the least of which was Ruth Moskowitz herself.

"Ruth Moskowitz was a pioneer in civil rights and women's rights," D'Emic said. It was through her example that the court would "continue to make our society more just and equal."

Justice Hall opened the presentation portion of the ceremony. As the president of the New York State Women's Judges Association, Hall praised Demarest for her involvement in a program called the Women in Prison Committee.

As the chairperson for the committee, Demarest's efforts to reach out to inmates in the prison system have earned her the recognition and praise of jurists around the state. Hall detailed Demarest's efforts at advocating for the mentally ill, her visits to inmates at several jails around the state to ensure that conditions of incarceration were consistent with the principles of justice and a special program Demarest spearheaded that collects toys for children.

The toys are collected and given to inmates to give to their children. This is an effort by the committee to help restore and preserve the dignity of incarcerated mothers, as well as an acknowledgement of the importance of preserving and strengthening the familial bonds necessary to maintain healthy families.

Demarest briefly thanked the committee for the honor, taking the opportunity to call to attention Moskowitz's trailblazing career. He called her "a great friend" and a "woman of great

character, courage and commitment."

Hall then presented a "Ruthie" to Justice Yvonne Lewis, president of Judicial Friends. Hall called Lewis "a woman of personality and character" with "a talent for ideas."

Lewis, visibly emotional as she accepted the award, said "It brings Ruth Moskowitz back into my life in a way that hasn't happened in a lot of years."

Lucille Jackson received a "Ruthie" for her work in setting up Brooklyn Supreme Court's Mental Illness Court, a trailblazing court over which D'Emic presides. D'Emic introduced Jackson as a chief architect of the court, telling the audience how Jackson has "dedicated her life to making the lives of people with mental illness better."

For her part, Jackson said she was "overwhelmed" by the award and the company in which she found herself. "This is a huge privilege to me," she said.

In the time Moskowitz was on the bench, her chief court officer was a man named Kevin Carroll, who for 27 years saw to the safety and security of her courtroom. The two shared a close bond, as was evidenced by the presentation to Carroll by Moskowitz's surviving sons.

Robert Gershon and Joel Gershon both gave touching tributes to the human connection that their mother and Carroll shared in their years together in the court.

Carroll was not present to accept the award, so Moskowitz's sons accepted the honor in his name, joking to D'Emic, "You should have subpoenaed him (Carroll)."

With perfect timing amid knowing laughter, D'Emic replied "That would have been a good idea."

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2005



Recipients of this year's "Ruthie" awards, presented at Kings County Supreme Court in honor of the late Justice Ruth Moskowitz, in recognition of outstanding contributions to the judiciary: (left to right) Justice Yvonne Lewis, Justice Carolyn Demarest and Lucille Jackson, certified social worker and coordinator of Mental Illness Court. *See additional photo, page 10.*

Eagle photo by Mario Belluomo



Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Matthew D'Emic is seen with Ruth E. Moskowitz Award recipient Lucille Jackson at yesterday's reception for award winners. As coordinator of D'Emic's Mental Health Court, Jackson has been a tireless advocate for defendants with mental health issues. Jackson is a certified social worker and was a key participant in the founding of the ground-breaking mental illness court.

Eagle photo by Mario Belluomo



STATE OF NEW YORK
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT, SUPREME COURT
360 ADAMS STREET
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201
(718) 643-7086

JONATHAN LIPPMAN
Chief Administrative Judge

ANN T. PFAU
First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge

JOAN B. CAREY
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
New York City Courts

NEIL JON FIRETOG
Administrative Judge
Second Judicial District Supreme Court

file

Memo

To: All Security Personnel
From: James Imperatrice, Chief Clerk Criminal Term
Edward Volpe, Chief Clerk Civil Term *a*
Re: Bring Your Child to Work Day Program-Friday, April 29, 2005
Date: April 28, 2005

As many of you know, we will be sponsoring the annual Bring Your Child to Work Day Program on Friday, April 29, 2005. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Surrogate's Courtroom 319 (Justice Tomei). We will also be using Courtrooms 329 (Justice Harkavy), Hearing Room 315 and Jury Room 309 for mock trial preparation and proceedings. The program will officially begin at 10 a.m. and will end at approximately 1 p.m. I have attached a copy of the flyer containing the details about the program. Should you require any additional information that day, please contact the coordinator of this year's program, Jeanette Mercedes, Esq. who can be reached by cellular phone at 718-614-1645.

For security purposes, each child participating in the program will be provided with a colored identification card and a "Bring Your Child to Work Day" t-shirt (white with blue lettering). There are approximately 85 children registered for the program. Since our colleagues may also bring in children that are not participating in the program, we are expecting many children to be in the courthouse on Friday. I am asking each of you to pay special attention to any unusual activity that may take place. We want to provide the most secure environment possible for our employees and their children. Thank you.

cc: Hon. Neil Jon Firetog
Hon. Matthew D'Emic
Hon. Albert Tomei
Major Eric Long
Major John Morin
Captain Michael Magliano
Captain John Smalley
Jeanette Mercedes, Esq.



OFFICE OF THE BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

April 29, 2005

Dear Young Brooklynite,

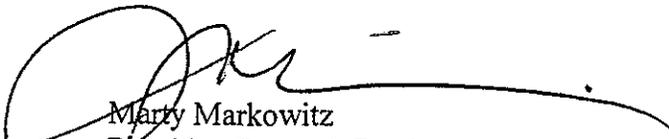
Thank you for taking part in Bring Your Child to Work Day 2005 in Brooklyn USA. Whether you've already made up your mind about a career or if you're thinking about it for the first time, I hope this day opens new doors to your future.

Brooklyn today is America tomorrow. Young people like you growing up here will become the future leaders of our nation and our world, whether on the basketball court or in the courthouse, in a house of worship or in the White House.

When I was your age, I was lucky enough to already know what I wanted to be when I grew up — Brooklyn Borough President. As it turns out, I was also lucky enough to achieve my childhood dream. But whether or not you know what career you will pursue as an adult, I encourage you to stay in school, follow your dreams, and stay hopeful, happy and focused. That's what I call the Brooklyn Attitude, and if you use it as your guide to selecting a career, there's no way you can go wrong!

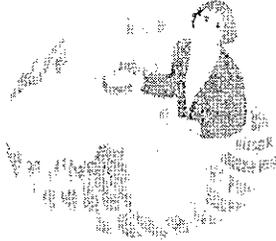
Being from Brooklyn will be an asset you will never lose throughout your life, which is why you should take every opportunity that comes up to give back to Brooklyn — as a volunteer, through public service, or even as borough president. Because no matter where you end up in life, never forget: Once a Brooklynite, always a Brooklynite!

Sincerely,



Marty Markowitz
Brooklyn Borough President

May is
Women's Health Month



The Gender Fairness Committee
presents a lecture on

***Gender and Mental Health:
Women are not just FEMALE versions of MEN.***

By Nationally Renowned Psychiatrist

Dr. Nancy Needell

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

1:00 PM to 2:00PM

360 Adams Street, Room 774

Brooklyn, NY

*** * * Everyone Welcome * * ***

Sponsored by:

Hon. Neil J. Firetog, Administrative Judge

Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic, Chair, Gender Fairness Committee

DR. NANCY NEEDELL

Dr. Needell holds degrees from Colgate University, Columbia University, the University of Michigan and Hahnemann University. She is board certified in General and Forensic Psychiatry and has provided clinical care at Kirby Psychiatric Center and Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, and has published and lectured on a wide range of psychiatric issues.



women's
Mental Health

Women's Mental Health

As we move through different stages in our lives, we enjoy and cherish happy times as well as face challenges. In fact, many of the things that bring us great joy and fulfillment, such as close relationships, a promotion, having a baby, or buying a home, also can cause stress on our mental health. At some point we also have to cope with traumatic life events such as dealing with a loved one's serious illness or death, a loss of a job, domestic violence or sexual assault. Changes in our physical health also affect our mental health. Changes in the body's hormone levels from pregnancy and childbirth, or from menopause, can cause depression, anxiety, irritability, and tearfulness. Depression also comes along with many illnesses such as cancer, heart disease, stroke, HIV, or autoimmune diseases.

We all feel worried, anxious or sad from time to time. But, a true mental health disorder makes it hard for a woman to function normally. Women suffer twice as often as men by most forms of depression and anxiety disorders, and nine times as often by eating disorders. While there are different mental health disorders, they all are real illnesses that can't be willed or wished away. You aren't at fault if you have one, and you should not suffer in silence. Be patient with yourself and reach out to others for help. These illnesses can be treated successfully so that you can get back to enjoying life - not only for yourself, but for your family too.

Please join the
Brooklyn Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee
in support of .

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Thursday, October 20, 2005
1 PM to 2 PM

Brooklyn Supreme Court
320 Jay Street, Room 15.21

SEXUAL ASSAULT IN INTIMATE RELATIONSHIPS: PREVALENCE, CHARACTERISTICS & EFFECTS

~ A TRAINING WORKSHOP~

1. Understanding the role of sexual abuse and coercion in violent relationships.
2. Overview of the cultural, social and legal history of intimate partner sexual assault.
3. Best practices for intervention by advocates, courts, prosecutors and law enforcement.
4. Question and answer/discussion period.

- presentation by Kathryn Ford, LMSW, Center for Court Innovation

Sponsored by:
Administrative Judge Neil J. Firetog
Gender Fairness Committee, Judge Matthew J. D'Emic, Chair

Bio - KATHRYN FORD

As a Domestic Violence Associate at the Center for Court Innovation, Kathryn Ford addresses the issues of intimate partner sexual assault and children's exposure to family violence through needs assessment research, dissemination of best practices, and the provision of training and technical assistance. Prior to joining the Center, Ms. Ford was a social worker in Safe Horizon's Supervised Visitation Program in the Bronx and an intern in the Kings County District Attorney's Office Counseling Services Unit. She has experience working with both children and adults in a variety of settings on issues relating to trauma and violence.

Upcoming Events in the Legal Community

Thurs. Oct. 20, New York City Family Justice Center, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Open house and tour. Free and open to the public every Tuesday and Thursday in October. RSVP required. For information and to RSVP, contact Sandra Lyman: 718-250-3083.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Thurs. Oct. 20, Domestic Violence Awareness Program, 1 p.m.

Speaker: Kathryn Ford, LMSW, Center for Court Innovation. Held at the Brooklyn Criminal Court, 320 Jay Street, Room 15-21. Free and open to the public. Sponsored by Administrative Judge Neil J. Firetog and the Gender Fairness Committee. Justice Matthew D'Emic, chair. For information contact Justice D'Emic's chambers: 347-296-1031.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Sat. Oct. 22, 3rd Annual Brooklyn Peace Fair, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Workshops, music, arts activities, discussions, videos and performances by community, arts and religious groups, performers and elected officials. Featuring speaker Cindy Sheehan. Hosted and co-sponsored by the YWCA at 30 Third Ave. (at Atlantic Ave.), Emilia Engelberg, director of Brooklyn Parents for Peace: 718-624-5921; or 917-470-5414.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Sun. Oct. 23, Discussion: "Hurricane Katrina: A Great Awakening," 11-12:30 p.m.

On "the awakening of class and race." Nettie Paisley, Reiki Master, BBA in Behavioral Science; Management; Marsha Gallahue, president of The National Service Conference of The Amer-



ABOVE LEFT: Administrative Judge Neil J. Firetog, Kings County Supreme Court. ABOVE RIGHT: Justice Matthew D'Emic chairs the Gender Fairness Committee at Kings County Supreme Court.

ican Ethical Union. Held at Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West. Free and open to the public. For information, contact the Society: 718-768-2972; bsecOffice@aol.com; www.bsec.org/events/platform.

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Mon. Oct. 24, Red Mass, 5 p.m.

Most Reverend Nicholas A. DiMarzio, Ph.D., D.D., Bishop of Brooklyn, is the Celebrant. Held at St. Charles Borromeo, at Sidney Place and Aiken Place. For information, contact Kim Navarre, of the Catholic Lawyers Guild: 718-875-5199.

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Tues. Oct. 25, 2005 PRLDEF Annual Awards Gala

Honorees: Linda A. Willett, VP and deputy general counsel, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company; William Malpica, Esq. Held at the Hyatt in Manhattan. For information or to attend, contact Mary Lou Amaroza, of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund: 212-997-0100 or mamarosa@projeesplusinc.com.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Wed. Oct. 26, CLE: Effective Opening & Closing Arguments, 6-8 p.m.; Dinner, 5:15 p.m.

Speakers: Brooklyn Supreme Court Justices Michael Gary and Gustin Reichbach. Approved for (2) CLE credits toward Professional Practice. Sponsored by the Kings County Criminal Bar Association. Held at the Brooklyn Bar Association, 123 Remsen Street. For information, contact KCCBA President Andrew Rendeiro: 718-237-1900.

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Wed. Oct. 26, CLE: Bay Ridge Lawyers Membership Meeting, 6:30 p.m.; Dinner, 7 p.m.

Speaker: Justice Ellen Spodek. Topic: "Jury Trials." Approved for (1) credit toward Skills. Held at JT's Restaurant, 9203 Third Ave., Brooklyn. For information or to attend, contact Stephen D. Chrime, corresponding secretary: 718-238-6900.

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Wed. Oct. 26, Debate: NY's Budget Amendment, 6:30 p.m.

Moderator: Daniel Feldman, executive director, New York State Trial Lawyers Association; Gerald Benjamin, professor of Political Science, SUNY-New Paltz; Charles Brecher, Citizens Budget Commission; Megan Quattlebaum, New York Common Cause; Blair Horner, NYPIRG. Free and open to the public; registration encouraged. For information or to RSVP, contact Michael Silverstein: 212-382-6656.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Thurs. Oct. 27, Roundtable on Domestic Violence & Family Justice Center tour, 9 a.m.

Speakers: Administrative Judge Neil J. Firetog, Justice Cheryl Chambers; Deirdre Biallo-Padin, chief of Domestic Violence Bureau, Brooklyn District Attorney's Office; Family Justice Center and courts host Brooklyn religious leaders. Held at 320 Jay Street, 25th floor boardroom. For information, contact Audrey Ervin: 347-296-1040.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Thurs. Oct. 27, Domestic Violence Awareness Program, 1 p.m.

Held at the Brooklyn Criminal Court, 120 Schermerhorn Street, 8th floor. Free and open to the public.

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Thurs. Oct. 27, BWBA Judiciary Night, 6 p.m.

A social networking event for people to meet and greet the judges. For information or to attend, contact Brooklyn Women's Bar Association Treasurer Joanne D. Quinones: 646-386-5697 or BWBA President Theresa Cicco: 646-386-4678.

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Thurs. Oct. 27, Military Film Discussion, 7 p.m.

"Fires on the Plain" (1959), on the Japanese Army at the end of World War II (Japanese with English subtitles). Part of a series hosted by the Harbor Defense Museum of Fort Hamilton Army Base. Held in its lecture room at 101st Street and Fort Hamilton Parkway. Free and open to the public; seating limited. For information and reservations, contact Paul Morando: 718-630-4349; morandop@hamilton.army.mil.

To have events listed in the Daily Bulletin, please send them to the Brooklyn Daily Eagle, 30 Henry Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201, fax to (718) 358-4483, or e-mail to coun@brooklyneagle.net.