

W I N T E R 2 0 1 4

WATERBURY BAR ASSOCIATION

The Yellow Pad



Happy Holidays!

As always, the WBA Holiday Party was the perfect opportunity to enjoy good cheer and spread goodwill. Over 100 attended and we collected over 75 toys for the Waterbury Probate Court children's program! Thank you to all who attended the party, and to all who generously donated.

Happy New Year!

We wish you and your families a joyful, peaceful, healthy, and prosperous 2014! We've had a great year with many well-attended CLE's, and social events. Our members have participated in charitable projects, such as:

- The WBA Young Lawyers co-sponsored a Professionals Networking Event with Women@Carmody in November. It was well attended by over 30 professionals from the area...and more than 60 books were collected in support of the United Way's Reach Out and Read, and Home Visiting Programs.
- Joe Foti and Matt Lucarelli who grew goatees in honor of Movember
- The WBA Young Lawyers who collected over 371 pounds of food for the Connecticut Food Bank.

The WBA looks forward to more great events this year...plans are in the works for a charitable event...and believe it or not, it's been 10 years since our last "WBA picture" for the Waterbury Courthouse. Details for a 2014 photo shoot to come!



WBA Tidbits

Brown Bag Lunch with a Judge

Join us for a casual, brown bag lunch with one of our Judges. What a great opportunity to ask questions, and provide feedback! Details to come!

Bench Bar Luncheon

Our annual Bench Bar Luncheon will be in April, 2014

Waterbury's pride

Rick Mastracchio made a recent spacewalk to conduct repairs on the International Space Station. Rick was born and raised in Waterbury, graduating from Crosby HS in 1978.

Announcements and Community News

Attorneys Vance and Harris join local firm

Furey, Donovan, Tracy & Daly, P.C. is pleased to announce the additions of Attorneys J. Paul Vance, Jr. and Jonathan A. Harris to its law practice as of counsel.

Attorney Vance is a 1996 undergraduate of Villanova University, a 1999 graduate of the Seton Hall School of Law, and a 2005 graduate of Columbia University. Prior to joining Furey, Donovan, Tracy & Daly, P.C., Attorney Vance was the former President of the Waterbury Board of Alderman and was an associate at the Law Offices of Jack Genovese. He was appointed by Governor Malloy as Claims Commissioner for the State of Connecticut in 2011.

Attorney Harris graduated from Brandeis University and earned his law degree from New York University. In addition to practicing law since 1990, Attorney Harris was the Mayor of West Hartford, a State Senator from Connecticut's 5th district (2005-2011), and served as Deputy Treasurer of the State of Connecticut (2011-2012). He is currently Executive Director of the Connecticut Democratic Party.

Furey, Donovan, Tracy & Daly, P.C. is a general practice law firm with offices in Bristol and West Hartford that has been representing the legal needs of individuals and small businesses in central Connecticut since 1907.

Habitat for Humanity Annual Fundraising Gala

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Waterbury will be holding its annual gala "Hardhats & High Heels" on March 1, 2014 at Aria Banquet Facility in Prospect, CT. Please join us for a night of Mardi Gras celebrations. Proceeds will support the home build planned for Spring 2014. Tickets are \$55 per person/\$100 per couple. For information on tickets, advertising and/or sponsorship opportunities...contact Isa Squicciarini at 203-575-2688 or isquicciarini@carmodylaw.com.

Carmody & Torrance Joins With Sandak Hennessey & Greco

Carmody & Torrance LLP and Sandak Hennessey & Greco LLP (SHG), two prominent law firms in Connecticut, announced recently that they have combined. With the addition of the 15 attorneys from SHG, the combined 77-attorney firm will have regional experience and reach throughout Connecticut and the Northeast.

On January 1, 2014, the firm began operating as Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey LLP. The combination was led by Carmody & Torrance's Managing Partner, Brian T. Henebry, who will continue to serve as the firm's Managing Partner, and Jay H. Sandak, the Founding Partner of Sandak Hennessey & Greco (SHG).

The combined firm will expand the geographic reach and practice areas of both firms. "SHG's extensive experience in Commercial Real Estate, Zoning and Land Use, and Litigation together with its relationships throughout Fairfield County, makes it a natural fit for Carmody & Torrance," said Brian Henebry, "our firm has been looking for the right match within Fairfield County, and we knew this was it. Both firms share the same focus: achieving the clients' objectives, getting results and doing so efficiently at a reasonable cost." Carmody & Torrance, founded more than a century ago in Waterbury, and with deep roots in New Haven County, has long enjoyed a great reputation for its outstanding Litigation, Intellectual Property, Labor and Employment, Business and Transactional Representation, Energy and Utility, Healthcare, Municipal Law, Trust and Estates, White Collar Defense, Environmental and Alternative Dispute Resolution practices. Kevin Greco of SHG will lead the combined firm's Personal Injury practice area, continuing to serve clients statewide.

Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey LLP has offices in New Haven, Stamford, Waterbury, and Southbury.

Member Spotlight ~ Joseph Foti

Over the years, Joseph Foti, partner of Moore, O'Brien, Yelenak & Foti, has handled many cases involving animals. In the past, he successfully handled a case involving a horseback rider injured by a motor vehicle; he also handled a case in which a horse broke free from its paddock and crashed into a vehicle, ultimately killing the driver and horse.

It is only appropriate that Attorney Foti finds himself handling cases involving animals because in his personal life, he has been the owner of numerous animals ranging from cat and dog rescues, to birds, horses and even a spider monkey. Currently, Attorney Foti is the lead trial counsel on the Vendrella case pending in the Supreme Court. Despite defense counsel's decision to characterize this case as claiming all horses are vicious in order to establish liability, it is Attorney Foti's position that it is a premises case, requiring warnings that the natural propensities of a horse can be dangerous, in order to prevent injuries.

In his spare time, Attorney Foti enjoys spending time with his wife Shalin, daughter Brooke, son Chris, four dogs, four horses and his newest addition a sun conure parrot.

~Submitted by Erica Pilicy-Ryan

