

THE DAILY RECORD

WESTERN NEW YORK'S SOURCE FOR LAW, REAL ESTATE, FINANCE AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE SINCE 1908

Pro Bono SPOTLIGHT

Soho comes to the Four Corners for fundraiser

Join your friends at VLSP for a little bit of Soho, right here at Rochester's Four Corners. The biennial Art of Lawyering silent auction fundraiser kicks off with a reception at VLSP's offices on Oct. 6 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

In addition to great art, enjoy live music and upscale refreshments at this fun and festive event, which is free and open to all.

There is something for everyone at "Gallery VLSP," with a vast array of art created by judges, attorneys, paralegals, legal secretaries and others in the legal industry, and friends and family members of legal professionals. Our diverse offerings will include paintings, photography, pottery, fiber art, quilts, jewelry, wood sculpture, metal sculpture and more. Proceeds benefit VLSP.

Attended by over 100 judges, attorneys, legal professionals and members of the community, VLSP's Art of Lawyering reception is the place to see and be seen. Special Counsel, a jazz quartet comprised mainly of attorney-musicians, will set the mood. The anticipated line-up for the evening will include Anthony Piazza, Jonathan Feldman, Thomas Hampson and Timothy Sullivan.

But if you can't make the reception, don't despair. All items will remain on display and available for purchase in the silent auction ending on Nov. 17, the last day of the annual Campaign for Justice phonathon. Those interested in viewing the art on display — and potentially bidding — are welcome to visit VLSP's offices during regular business hours.

Donating again this year are such talented attorney-artists as jewelers Sarah Feingold and Candace Curran, potter Eileen Buholtz, photographers Lou Ryen, Carla Palumbo and Paloma Capanna, quilters Karen Ellmore and Jean McCreary, painter Sharon Stiller, fiber artist Karla Wilsey, and metal sculptor John Wilson. Judge Gerard Alonzo, an accomplished wood sculptor, has already delivered his striking piece entitled "Justice is ..."

Painter Bea Wolford, wife of VLSP board member Mike Wolford, is among the friends and family members of legal professionals who have donated pieces for the Art of Lawyering.

This year, VLSP has expanded the silent auction offerings to include a getaway weekend at VLSP board member Michael Schnittman's lovely vacation home in the Adirondacks, a gourmet dinner party for six prepared by Jessica Murray, a group photography workshop lead by prominent photographer Larry

Merrill, and a commissioned drawing or painting by up-and-coming artist TJ Cronmiller, son of Thomas Cronmiller.

As in 2009, this year's event will feature art and jewelry created at the Art of Lawyering workshop. The workshop was held last month at Studio 34 Creative Arts Center in Rochester's Neighborhood of the Arts. Studio owner Marilynne Lipshutz and her volunteer instructors provided expert guidance for 35 workshop attendees as they created over 50 pieces of art, including fused glass pendants and ornaments, and beaded necklaces, bracelets and earrings.

Materials for the workshop were obtained through VLSP's jewelry drive. Many members of Rochester's legal community — and their friends and family — graciously responded to VLSP's request for donations. Anne Marie Short, a legal secretary at Woods Oviatt, single-handedly cleaned and sorted the donated jewelry over the course of several weeks.

In addition to our wonderful artists, donors and volunteers, many others work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the silent auction's success. A wide array of logistics were tackled by the 2011 Art of Lawyering committee co-chairs Karen Ellmore and Margaret Sánchez, and committee members the Hon. Thomas M. Van Strydonck, Barbara Amering, Robert Hauser, Nora Jones, Carolyn Nussbaum, M. Aileen Shina-man, Sharon Stiller, David Tennant and Karla Wilsey.

Of course, sponsorship is essential to the success of any fundraiser. Janice Iati has generously provided sponsorship to cover the cost of the upscale refreshments served at the Art of Lawyering reception. As in years past, the sushi, tenderloin, shrimp, crab and other delicacies served will be prepared by chefs at Wegmans' Pittsford location.

Other attorneys as well as judges, firms and corporations have demonstrated their support for *pro bono* legal services in our community by becoming sponsors of the Art of Lawyering.

VLSP gratefully acknowledges \$100 sponsorship donations from the following: Boylan Brown; Canandaigua National Bank; Gary Cohen; Flor Colon; Counsel Press; D4; *The Daily Record*;

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By **LINDA KOSTIN**

Daily Record
Columnist



Sánchez

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Continued ...

Karen Ellmore; Alan Harris; Bryan Hetherington; Harold Kurland; Mary Loewenguth; Elizabeth McDonald; the Hon. Thomas Rainbow Morse; Frank Novak; Ed Novak; Anthony Piazza; Paul Richardson; Margaret Sanchez; Stephanie Schaeffer; Steven Schwartz; Laura Smalley; David Tennant; Thomson Reuters; Elizabeth Wolford; Woods Oviatt Gilman.

VLSP also is fortunate to have the support of several generous in-kind sponsors for the Art of Lawyering, including Constellation Brands, Wegmans, Christopher's Restaurant, Classy Cookie, The Gate House Café, Studio 34 Creative Arts Center, Yoga with Estelle and Bead Breakout.

Those wishing to donate art or make a sponsorship donation still have time to do so. Contact me.

In addition to the Art of Lawyering, VLSP is currently planning a wills and standby guardianship CLE for Sept. 30 from 12:15 to 2 p.m. Margaret Lavery, court attorney to the Hon. Edmund A. Calvaruso, Monroe County Surrogate, will present, as well as John Garrett and Adam Brunner of Nixon Peabody and R. Thompson Gilman of Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP. Those wishing to register may contact me to do so.

VLSP thanks the Art of Lawyering artists, musicians, donors and sponsors, the Art of Lawyering Committee, those who donated to VLSP's jewelry drive and the members of the legal community who stepped up last month to help low-income clients with a wide range of issues including bankruptcies, wills, tax, name changes, unemployment insurance benefits denials, grandparent/non-parent child custody disputes and divorces.

August 2011 Honor Roll

Judges: Gerard Alonzo (Retired); Patricia Marks (Retired).



PALOMA CAPANNA

A VLSP workshop participant makes a glass pendant for the Art of Lawyering fundraiser.

Solo Practitioners: Ann Blaise; Michael Calarco; Christopher Ciaccio; Tina de Souza; Mark Drexler; Tracy Jong; Victoria Lagoe; Francis Mahan; Ella Marshall; Marla Pilaroschia; Robert Schwartz; Raja Sekharan; Gary Van Graafeiland; Paul Watkins; Laura Taylor.

Attorneys and paralegals at firms: Sharon Stiller (Abrams Fensterman); Steven Carling (Burns & Schultz); Fatimat Reid (Davidson Fink); paralegal Elsa Trotto (Faraci Lange); Robert Mullin (Ferr & Mullin); Diana Holl, Thomas Tuori (Harter Secrest & Emery); Terrence Emmens (Lacy Katzen); Margaret Clemens (Littler Mendelson); Richard Doe (Nacca & Capizzi); Ashley Baker, Dana K. Campbell, Barry Carrigan, Penny Dentinger, Thomas Farace, Stacy Lawkowski, Gregory Nearpass, Meghan Schubmehl (Nixon Peabody); Hope Olsson (Olsson & Feder); Jeffrey Wilkens (Osborn Reed); Robert O'Connell (Petralia Webb & O'Connell); paralegal Megan Lochner (Office of Bankruptcy Trustee George Reiber); Eric

Dolan (Trevett Cristo); Harry Messina, legal secretary Anne Marie Short (Woods Oviatt).

Corporate attorney: Kelly McCarthy (Xerox Corporation).

Government attorneys: Patrick Chamberlain, Sanjeev Devabhakthuni, Tim Fox, Colleen Laughran, Craig Peterson; Maureen Polen (Appellate Division, Fourth Department).

University attorneys: Karen Rabinowitz, M. Aileen Shinaman (University of Rochester).

Mediator: Robert Hauser (Center for Dispute Settlement).

Students: Margaret Ding (Stanford University College of Law); Allison Kittelberger (Michigan State University College of Law); Franck Dorcelly (Greece Athena High School); Sam Menchel (Victor High School); Dai Smith (School Without Walls).

Linda Kostin is the pro bono coordinator at Volunteer Legal Services Project of Monroe County Inc. Contact her at lkostin@wnylc.com or (585) 295-5703.