NORMAN PEARLSTINE L'67 SEeks to rejuvenate the Los Angeles Times
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Pressing On
Norman Pearlstine L’67 does not appear to have an off switch. At age 76, he continues to add to his journalistic legacy, taking on the challenge of reviving the fabled Los Angeles Times.

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Vote Penn Law
Six alumni savored victory on election night last year. Now the hard part starts as they address local and national issues.

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The Priestess of Privacy
When security is compromised, executives invariably turn to Lisa Sotto L’87 for help. And for good reason. She’s been on the front lines of privacy law for more than thirty years.
IT IS SAID THAT THERE ARE NO SECOND ACTS in American life. Norman Pearlstine ’67, the subject of our cover story, puts the lie to that notion. He is on at least his third act.

After an illustrious career at the Wall Street Journal and Time, at the age of 76 he is working assiduously, as executive editor, to revive the fortunes of the Los Angeles Times. He didn’t follow in his father’s footsteps and become a lawyer. Rather, he followed his dream and became one of the most important journalists of his generation. A man of insatiable curiosity, Pearlstine can speak knowledgeably about everything from medicine to music. And he’s been known to use his legal education to digest and dissect Supreme Court decisions, including the dissents, upon their release. Even though he didn’t become a lawyer, his legal training served him well.

Like Pearlstine, Lisa Sotto ’87 took her own counsel, entering the emerging field of privacy law. Coming out of law school Sotto had every intention of becoming a litigator but took a U-turn and turned herself into one of the preeminent experts in her chosen field. She came along at just the right time, in the relatively early years of the internet, when rules were being promulgated. Assembling a top-notch privacy and cybersecurity team at Hunton, Sotto was ready when Yahoo, victims of the largest data breach in history at the time, reached out to her for help. Charged with the legal response to the hack, she worked around the clock to create a regime to notify affected users and handled claims and settlements with her customary aplomb and determination. Her labors for Yahoo and for countless other companies in this arena have earned her the title “High Priestess of Privacy.”

Turning from private practice to government service, we celebrate the midterm victories of six Penn Law alumni — three were elected to Congress and three won statewide office in Colorado, Pennsylvania, and Texas. One of these state legislators, Eric Johnson ’03, went on last month to become mayor of Dallas after a landslide victory. Congratulations to these dedicated public servants, some of whom will no doubt spend some of their time grappling with serious cybersecurity and privacy issues.

Sincerely,

Theodore Ruger
Dean and Bernard G. Segal Professor of Law
Prof. Claire Finkelstein comments on whether or not Julian Assange should be tried depending on his press status.

“If [Assange] does have press status, then it would not be appropriate to try him for mere publication of the emails, but it would still be appropriate to try him if he was in any way involved with encouraging or facilitating the hacking. Freedom of the press doesn’t cover criminal activities.”

CHAIR FINKELSTEIN
Director of the Center for Ethics and the Rule of Law
Penn Law Students Learn the Difficulties and Nuances of Real-Time Diplomacy

With heightened tensions in the South China Sea over territory and maritime access threatening regional peace, more than 75 Penn Law students gathered at the Law School over two days to defuse a brewing international crisis.

It was all part of a high-stakes diplomatic exercise staged by the U.S. Army War College (AWC) in collaboration with Penn Law to simulate an emergency United Nations meeting.

The students, who represented eight nations, engaged in a series of ad hoc and bilateral negotiations and delivered opening and closing statements. Students were required
to write papers after the exercise in order to receive course credit. While students were unable to reach a resolution, they found the exercise stimulating and enlightening.

“I’ve done negotiating classes before … but the Army War College simulation was so different from any of the others, either real-life negotiations or negotiation exercises, because it was just so much more complicated,” said Catherine Shaw L’19, WG’19. Shaw, a JD/MBA student who served as a key leader of the Japanese delegation, said she learned that when there are no immediate solutions to a problem, as is often the case, it is prudent to take intermediate steps in order to make progress.

Gaurav Sen L’19, WG’19, also a JD/MBA student, said he learned the difference between hard power and soft power, and appreciated the relative realism of the exercise. “One thing that really appealed to me was getting people who were outside the academic world to lead these negotiations,” said Sen, a member of the Brunei delegation. “We often don’t get that real-world perspective.”

This was the first time the Army War College partnered with a law school to run a strategic crisis negotiation exercise, according to the organizers. The exercise tracked with Penn Law’s emphasis on experiential learning, giving students a window into international law and international decision-making and a platform to develop leadership and negotiation skills.

The partnership between Penn Law and the Army War College, located in Carlisle, Pa., took shape last spring when more than 40 JD/MBA students visited the AWC to learn about its mission. (They were also given a special tour of the Gettysburg battlefield.) By invitation from then-Colonel Paul McKenney, Michael Knoll, Penn Law’s Theodore K. Warner Professor of Law Professor of Real Estate and co-director of the Center for Tax Law and Policy, later traveled to the War College to lecture officers on the global implications of U.S. tax policy.

During the exercise, Penn Law faculty worked in coordination with one active and one retired U.S. Ambassador and Army War College faculty members to structure the course, provide confidential instructions to each team and mentor, and evaluate students throughout this dynamic scenario.

The countries involved in the UN-mandated conference were China, the Philippines, Vietnam, Japan, Brunei, India, the United States and host country—Indonesia. For two days the students studied regional maps and debated strategy, listing non-negotiable and negotiable demands on white boards. They also shuttled between rooms to resolve differences.

Ultimately, the countries refused face-to-face negotiations, but agreed to future talks. Nonetheless, there was palpable progress, evidenced by a multilateral trade pact, an agreement by two countries to submit to arbitration over disputed land, and a broad call to maintain freedom of navigation in the waterway.

There was also a call to repeat the exercise next year.
**Penn Law Appoints Praveen Kosuri to Lead Clinical Programs**

Practice Professor of Law Praveen Kosuri has been named associate dean for clinical education. In his new role, Kosuri will assume responsibility for the oversight and development of Penn Law’s long-standing clinical program, the Gittis Center for Clinical Legal Studies, as it enters its fifth decade.

Kosuri, currently the director of the Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic, will be instrumental in advancing Penn Law’s experiential education in light of its increasingly significant role in preparing students for practice.

Kosuri officially took on the clinic leadership role in November and will also continue to serve in his preexisting roles as director of the Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic and practice professor of law. He has long been involved in the national clinical community as a scholar, speaker, and advocate. He currently serves on the executive committee of the Clinical Legal Education Association, which represents over a thousand clinical legal educators and is involved in conversations around accreditation and standard-setting at the national and state bar levels.

Kosuri succeeds Lou Rulli, who had led the clinic since 2008. Under Rulli, who will remain a practice professor of law, the clinic expanded and offered new opportunities to students. He led the recruitment and hiring of new practice professors who have become national leaders in their fields of expertise, along with an impressive team of clinical lecturers and supervisors, adjunct faculty, and administrative staff.

He also managed the expansion of Penn Law’s externship program in terms of both numbers and reach, fostering new opportunities for experiential learning with premier government and nonprofit organizations. Along the way, Rulli led the Civil Practice Clinic to national distinction, with special recognition of the clinic’s leading civil forfeiture advocacy, and has led one of the nation’s few Legislative Clinics, establishing a strong foothold on Capitol Hill for Penn Law students.

Kosuri began his career as a public defender in Chicago representing indigent defendants in the full range of criminal proceedings. After returning to school to study business, he developed valuable insights into the intersection of law and business through his professional experience in both arenas, having worked as an investment banker and also having represented businesses as a corporate attorney and commercial litigator. During his 13 years as a clinical professor, 11 as director of the Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic, he drew upon that cross-disciplinary experience to educate students while working with clients ranging from inner-city small business owners to non-profit organizations to technology ventures.

Kosuri came to Penn Law in 2007 from the University of Chicago Law School, where he served as a lecturer in law and the assistant director of the Institute for Justice Clinic on Entrepreneurship. He received an AB from Duke University, a JD from Washington University School of Law, and an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

The Gittis Center, Penn Law’s in-house teaching law firm, offers students client experience in nine clinics that cover a range of practice areas including child advocacy, intellectual property, immigration and human rights, civil litigation, mediation, legislation, entrepreneurship, appellate advocacy, and criminal defense. He will also help oversee Penn Law’s externship offerings, which send students off-campus to observe and participate in more than 20 on-the-ground lawyering opportunities in government agencies, non-profits, and other public interest and private settings.
Penn Law’s Center for Tax Law & Policy performed an analysis of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA). Co-directors are professors Michael Knoll, Chris Sanchirico, and Reed Shuldiner. Here are a few conclusions:

- Reduction in tax rate for business income not earned through a corporation.

$985,000,000,000

The projected deficit for fiscal 2019, the first full year for which the TCJA is in effect.

7 in 8

Number of people expected to take the standard deduction, up from 4 in 8.
YOU WOULD THINK THAT BEING AN ERISA attorney at Morgan Lewis & Bockius in Philadelphia would be demanding enough for one person. But no, Callie Kim L’16 is also owner/instructor of three barre and yoga studios in Philadelphia—a job that requires her to wake in the wee hours of the morning to teach yoga and a demanding exercise routine known as barre, which could break a Marine recruit. Barre incorporates a handrail and derives from ballet. Much of the work centers on core and cardio. How does Kim manage to rinse and repeat this weekly schedule? She attributes it to her own Holy Trinity: She goes to bed early, eats a relatively healthy diet, and practices barre and yoga religiously.

Passing the Barre
Rulli Receives Father Robert Drinan Award from American Association of Law Schools

Louis S. Rulli, practice professor of law and the former director of the Gittis Center for Clinical Legal Studies at Penn Law, has received the prestigious Father Robert Drinan Award of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities in recognition of his long and distinguished career in pro bono legal service.

Each year, the award honors a law school staff or faculty member for their work in advancing the ethic of pro bono service through program design or management, or through their own personal service.

During his time at Penn Law, and throughout his career, Rulli has made a lasting and measurable impact on students, clients, and the public service community at large through his teaching, mentoring, scholarship, and law practice. He joined Penn Law in 1995 as a clinical law professor, and over the years has worked alongside students and guided them in the development of their practice skills and an ethos of public service. Rulli has taught an array of courses at the Law School, including the Civil Practice and Legislative clinics, all unified by his dedication to serving local communities’ needs for legal representation and fostering students’ commitment to pro bono public service.

Rulli became director of Penn Law’s Gittis Center for Clinical Legal Studies in 2008. During his tenure, he successfully expanded clinic and externship programs to provide increasingly robust and varied experiential learning opportunities for students. He has repeatedly been honored for his work, receiving the University-wide Provost’s Award for Distinguished Teaching in 2006, Penn Law’s Beacon Award for exemplary faculty commitment to pro bono service in 2012, and Villanova University’s Praxis Award in Professional Ethics in 2015.

Earlier this year, Rulli stepped down as director of clinical programs. He will continue his work as a practice professor in the clinic.

Outside of the clinical programs, Rulli has collaborated extensively with colleagues in Penn Law’s Toll Public Interest Center (TPIC) by helping to shape the Mobile TEAMS (Trained Educators and Advocates Mobilized for Service) program, which sends students to provide pro bono representation in remote and underserved areas of Pennsylvania. He has also advised and mentored Toll Public Interest Scholars and generations of other students interested in public service careers, and has served as the chair of the Faculty Public Service Committee.

The scope of Rulli’s impact has extended beyond Penn Law and out into Philadelphia, and throughout the state. He began his legal career at Community Legal Services, Philadelphia’s nationally-recognized legal aid office, starting as a staff attorney and ultimately rising to become the executive director. In that role, which he held for nearly ten years, he was responsible for the delivery of legal services to approximately 30,000 clients each year, along with the supervision of 130 employees. Even after stepping away from the position to join the clinical faculty at Penn Law, he remained active as a member of the board of trustees of CLS and Philadelphia Legal Assistance and continues to be a preeminent member of Pennsylvania’s legal services community.

Nationally, through his scholarship and advocacy, Rulli has also worked to bring attention to access to justice issues, with a particular focus on the civil Gideon movement and civil asset forfeiture. On both subjects, which concern significant inequities that affect low-income individuals, Rulli has successfully worked to educate attorneys, judges, students, and the wider community, all with the aim of bringing about necessary change.
Mitchell Bach W’68, L’71 has always been a loyal viewer of 60 Minutes.

But the show on April 13, 2008 was more than a typical episode. “I was mesmerized by it, and it really had an amazing effect on me,” Bach recalls.

It showcased the success of a large-scale project in Venezuela called El Sistema, which teaches impoverished children how to play musical instruments as a means of social change — improving education, combating poverty and reducing crime. The story featured Gustavo Dudamel, the renowned conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic who is an alumnus of the program.

“I was energized by what I had seen,” said Bach. “It resonated with me in an amazing way. I could relate to it perhaps, but mostly I believed what they were saying was possible. And if it was possible, I wanted to be a part of it. What better way to help kids trapped in a cycle of poverty?”

Brimming with inspiration, he worked with Curtis Institute graduate Stanford Thompson and Carole Haas Gravagno to form what is today Play On, Philly!, a nonprofit that teaches city kids of all ages how to play classical music. Play On, Philly! instructs 325 students from three parochial schools and a charter school. They engage in an intensive, 15-hour-per-week after-school program.

“The kids are really enthusiastic, and they’ve become very proud of what they’re accomplishing,” said Bach, who sits on the organization’s board. “I get the sense they’ve never experienced that self-pride before.”

Play On, Philly! has compiled data that points to its success. Since its establishment in 2011, its leaders have been diligent in working with independent consultants to test the students and track their development and academic improvement.
The studies show students score 10 points higher on standardized tests than their peers, score higher on English and math tests, exhibit more determination and demonstrate better studying skills.

“It’s kind of like re-wiring their brains — they’ve become far more disciplined, far more focused, and have become more attuned to what teachers are trying to teach during the day in academic classes,” Bach said.

He said he’d like to see the program reach more students in Philadelphia public schools, but that the most pressing goal is working to keep the current program going.

Bach, a member at Eckert Seamans who focuses on commercial litigation, dispute resolution and mediation, grew up in the suburbs of New York but came to understand the plight of the poor while living in West Philadelphia as an undergraduate. During that period, he taught bookkeeping and got close to inmates at the Eastern State Penitentiary. Troubled by what he perceived as inequities in the criminal justice system, he decided to forgo a career in accounting in favor of law school.

“This is a really big problem, this cycle of poverty,” Bach said. “Kids get into trouble after school and have nowhere to go, and it’s like a cycle that can’t be broken.”

Until you start teaching them how to play classical music.

In awe that an idea sparked from 60 Minutes came to fruition in Philadelphia, Bach said he’s proud of what Play On, Philly!’s dedicated teachers and leaders have accomplished. He’s also proud of the kids, who have performed multiple times at the Kimmel Center with the Philadelphia Orchestra.

“They’re being introduced to all forms of classical music, and they seem to love it,” Bach said. “Most of them had no exposure to it at all. It is pretty amazing, isn’t it?”
Students Promote Philadelphia as a Post-Graduate Destination

No matter how unfair, the City of Brotherly Love can get a bad rap.

Recent Penn Law graduate Bradie Williams L'19, a small-town Wisconsin native, confessed he had some reservations about moving to Philadelphia for law school. “I was picturing I was going to have rowdy Eagles and Flyers fans to deal with — but it's not really like that,” Williams said. “The city won me over.”

Philadelphia captured his heart to such an extent that this past year he and another enthusiastic Philly transplant, Gena Yoo L’19, who hails from South Korea, together led the student group, Penn Law for Philly, a nascent student-led effort to keep alumni in the city post-graduation.

The pair both have jobs lined up at Philadelphia firm Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, where a founding member of the student group, Benjamin Stango L'17, WG'17, also works. “It’s cool for me and Gena to... have a bond within our practice, and it’s something we want to try to grow within the city,” Williams said.

Penn Law for Philly’s aim is threefold: To inform students that Philadelphia is a great post-grad option, to build a network of local Penn Law alumni, and to show city firms and organizations that Penn Law students are interested in staying.

“It’s really an amazing, diverse city with so many interesting things going on.”

Bradie Williams L’19
merits of working and living in Philadelphia. Opportunities, Yoo said, range from big law to medium-sized firms to boutiques and nonprofits. “We wanted to focus on helping students understand that Philly has a lot to offer,” she said. “I’ve met a lot of students saying, ‘I’m really undecided with where I want to go after law school, and I don’t know a lot about Philadelphia.’”

The city, Williams said, checked all the boxes for him. “It’s a large city that has all the social and cultural things I wanted, the legal professional opportunities I wanted, and it has a great NBA basketball team I can start to cheer for.” Affordability, he added, is also a plus.

Abby Tootell, a rising 3L from Burlington Township in southern New Jersey, knew when she was applying to law schools that she wanted a career in Philadelphia. A large part of Penn Law’s appeal, she said, was that a group like Penn Law for Philly existed. She now sits on its board, which runs about 10 students deep.

This spring, the board focused on organizing field trips to different firms along with networking events and a discussion panel of young Philadelphia legal professionals.

Yoo said she has been excited to lead a student group focusing on Philadelphia, because often the spotlight is on New York and Washington, D.C. As a result, she said, there is a perception among some Philadelphia firms that Penn Law students are applying for local jobs as a safety net and, assuming a lack of interest, don’t accept them. “This has disadvantaged some students who were genuinely interested in staying in Philadelphia,” she said, adding that it was hard when a friend of hers experienced Philadelphia rejection.

Tootell, who will be a summer associate at Morgan Lewis, said most of her peers are preoccupied with getting a job in New York, and she’d like to change some of their minds. While fall plans for Penn Law for Philly have yet to be solidified, Tootell said the group will continue efforts to grow its student membership and connect local professionals with students.

“We’re looking to get in contact with some of the judges in Philadelphia to see what we can do with internships and clerkships and build those relationships,” she said. “We’ll definitely be continuing these things, getting people involved and letting them know New York isn’t their only option after law school.”

Alumni interested in connecting with Penn Law for Philly can send an email to pennlaw4philly@gmail.com.

PHOTO: ALEX WONG / GETTY

Penn Law Distinguished Policy Fellow Richard Cordray Drives Home Importance of Consumer Financial Protection

Richard Cordray, the inaugural director of the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) from 2012 to 2017, delivered a major lecture at Penn Law on how the law can protect consumers when they make major financial decisions. Cordray is a Distinguished Policy Fellow at Penn Law and his lecture was part of a week-long engagement with Penn Law students and faculty.

Penn Law’s Dean and Bernard G. Segal Professor of Law and Professor of Political Science and Director of the Penn Program on Regulation, introduced Cordray.

Before his tenure as the inaugural head of the CFPB, Cordray served as Ohio’s Attorney General, Treasurer, and Solicitor General and as a member of the Ohio House of Representatives. In 2018, he was the Democratic Party’s gubernatorial candidate in the state.

In his lecture, Cordray placed current legal battles over consumer protection into historical context, describing how the consumer experience has evolved over time. In the era before mass consumption became the norm, people engaged very little with markets because they primarily consumed only what
In survey research we conducted at the CFPB, we found that people were quite distracted, and eventually exhausted, with the simultaneous process of shopping for a home or a car, and eventually exhausted while also shopping for a mortgage or auto loan,” said Cordray. Those processes have often led to consumers making credit-related decisions they later regret. That is where the need for consumer protection arises.

Even as legal protections for consumers have increased in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis, the United States still has far to go in terms of informing and protecting consumers, Cordray argued. Although consumer credit products have become more complex, “nobody would claim that this country is suddenly doing a better job of educating consumers about their obligations,” he said. “This is a task we need to take much more seriously than we now do or have done.”

At the same time, however, “the CFPB has added needed heft to prior consumer protection efforts at the federal and state level,” Cordray said. But consumer protection need not depend on a single federal agency — it can be expanded by other agencies and by state and local officials, he noted.

During Cordray’s week on campus, he enriched students’ learning experiences in many ways beyond his lecture. He also served as a guest speaker in classes on administrative law, consumer finance regulation, and state constitutional law. He met one-on-one with Penn Law students interested in learning more about public service careers, and he delivered a lunchtime talk on his government service career path.

Cordray will return to Penn Law again in the fall for another weeklong visit.

Former Florida Governor Jeb Bush went deep on policy during a wide-ranging discussion on The Future of Federalism sponsored by the Penn Federalist Society. As the keynote speaker at the group’s annual symposium, Gov. Bush spoke about bipartisanship and compromise; judicial and federal government overreach; executive power; and the need for more diversity in government. Penn Law Dean Ted Ruger moderated the discussion. Gov. Bush is a Penn Presidential Professor of Practice.
Anita L. Allen, Penn Law’s Henry R. Silverman Professor of Law, Professor of Philosophy, and the Vice Provost of Penn, and Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein, the Perry World House Spring 2019 Distinguished Global Leader-in-Residence who also co-teaches a Penn Law course on human rights, were among the three Penn faculty newly elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Allen is a major figure in the fields of bioethics, philosophy, feminism, race relations, and jurisprudence. She has contributed to what is widely considered the clearest and most authoritative justification for women’s privacy rights in existence, leading the way in outlining how women’s rights have been denigrated in the public and private spheres. She understands privacy as a broad concept involving personal inaccessibility and covering areas such as anonymity, confidentiality, and secrecy. Her conceptualization has been highly influential in broader debates about women’s rights, both in the public and family context.

Among numerous other honors, Allen is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and the American Law Institute, and recipient of the Electronic Privacy Information Center Lifetime Achievement Award.

Al Hussein, a former Jordanian diplomat, served as ambassador to the United States and then the United Nations in New York before being selected as the sixth High Commissioner for Human Rights, a position he served in from 2014 to 2018. During a tenure that saw human rights abuses in Syria, Myanmar, and elsewhere, he earned a reputation for being courageous and outspoken.

Penn Law professors Herbert Hovenkamp and Beth Simmons have also been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Founded in 1780, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences honors exceptional scholars, leaders, artists, and innovators and engages them in sharing knowledge and addressing challenges facing the world.

The new members of the Academy will be inducted at a ceremony in October 2019 in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Portions of this announcement were written by the Penn Office of Communications.
The Future of the Affordable Care Act

Penn Law professor Allison K. Hoffman is a frequently-cited expert on health care law and policy. Her work examines some of the most important legal and social issues of our times, including the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Penn Law’s Office of Communications spoke with Professor Hoffman about the current legal challenges to various provisions of the ACA, and the embattled health care legislation’s future prospects.

Now that the Affordable Care Act’s (ACA) individual mandate penalty has been reduced to zero by the Republicans’ tax bill, what kind of impact do you anticipate on the health insurance landscape?

The zeroed-out penalty goes into effect this year, so we don’t yet know what the effect is going to be. It could potentially mean that fewer people buy health insurance, but I’m not sure how much of an impact it will actually have. For it to have an impact, people would have to have been buying insurance because of the mandate and not for other reasons. But if you think about what the picture of people buying insurance looks like, 83 percent of them are getting subsidies—meaning they’re getting health insurance, something that people presumably want, and they’re receiving government dollars to help them do that. So, while economists have predicted that [the lack of a penalty] is going to have some impact, it’s unlikely to destroy the exchanges.

How would you describe the current status of the Affordable Care Act—relatively stable, endangered, or something else?

I think it’s going through a rough patch. When you say the ACA, there are many pieces of it, and the piece I think you’re referring to the exchanges where people buy individual health insurance. That’s the piece that has been the primary, or at least the first, target of the Trump Administration. [The individual market] was on shaky ground already and could have been made better if a president had come along who wanted to try to bolster it, but instead we’re seeing lots of efforts to weaken it. Will it be weakened? Yes. But still, this year 11 million people bought health insurance on the exchanges, so it’s not crumbling. If somebody else comes along in a couple of years who wants to revive the exchanges, there will be the potential to do so.

Another piece of the story of the ACA and one of the places where some great insurance gains have been made is through Medicaid. Those gains have not yet been eroded by the current administration. However, the administration is also making changes there, including for the first time ever allowing states to do demonstration programs to experiment with requiring enrollees to work or do community engagement for their benefits. If that policy survives legal challenge, it could fundamentally transform the nature of the Medicaid program, and in my opinion that would be much more detrimental than whatever happens with the exchanges.

Shifting gears, last year there was a lot of work being done in Congress concerning the ACA’s protection of people with preexisting conditions. During that time, Republicans put forward many proposals that they claimed protected preexisting conditions, but which you’ve argued actually left many loopholes for insurers. Where are we with those kinds of proposals?

I think those proposals are dead now that we’ve seen Congress change in composition. Some of the proposals that Republicans were putting forward were in response to the Texas v. Azar civil suit [challenging the ACA], saying, “If this Texas lawsuit strikes down the ACA’s protections, here’s what we’ll put in place instead.” But Republicans put forward a bunch of proposals that were just inadequate, and that didn’t actually create the kind of protection that the ACA had created. I think that was as much campaign rhetoric as anything else, because how could you run a campaign at a moment in time when health care is the top issue that people are paying attention to by saying, “We’re going to take health care away from people who are sick?” They had no option other than to say we’re going to preserve your access to medical care if you’re sick, whether those promises were genuine or not.
McMaster: U.S. Can Defeat Russian Disinformation with More Democracy

“The world’s democracies are in the crosshairs of determined, capable adversaries,” U.S. Army Lieutenant General H.R. McMaster declared during his Paul G. Haaga, Jr. Lecture in Law, Government, and Public Policy. McMaster identified Russia, as well as China, as major players in sustained campaigns of misinformation.

President Trump’s former national security advisor quoted a recent RAND study that characterized Russia’s new generation warfare as a “firehouse of falsehood that spreads rapid, constant and repetitive misinformation.” The motive behind this “warfare” is to “disrupt, divide and weaken” American democracy, said McMaster, a Philadelphia native who is a Perry World House Distinguished Visiting Fellow at Penn, as well as a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution and a visiting fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute at Stanford University.

McMaster offered strategies that the United States can employ to counteract attempts to destabilize democracy.

In doing so, he drew on his 34 years as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army, and his command positions in Afghanistan and Iraq, where he led assessments of military strategy and stabilization efforts.

McMaster proposed deepening the country’s ties to like-minded democracies to “isolate Russia from the sources of strength it uses to undermine free and open societies,” and suggested strategic partnerships to help the United States resist military aggression and propaganda.

He highlighted the “toxicity” of the Russian brand and advanced the argument that “Putin acts against the U.S. even when it’s not in the best interest of the Russian people.” McMaster recommended imposing costs on Russia to emphasize the benefits that can emerge from acting in accordance with United States interests.

McMaster advocated for galvanizing the features of democratic societies, such as freedom of the press and open communication. By bolstering these aspects of democracy, he said he believes “democratic ideals will prevail.”
McMaster argued that the United States should invest in cyberinfrastructure to protect data against espionage, sabotage and threat. He associated political polarization with identity politics and the phenomenon of people becoming more connected electronically, but less connected socially. He shared his conviction that we “need to regain confidence in our common identity as Americans.”

“Strategic confidence is the fountainhead of protecting American democracy from Russian new generation warfare,” he said.

Following McMaster’s lecture, Penn Law professor and director of the Penn Law Center for Ethics and the Rule of Law (CERL) Claire Finkelstein moderated a question and answer session during which he discussed the role of social media in spreading Russian influence and creating fractures in American democracy.

Professor Finkelstein posed a final question to McMaster: “Will American democracy survive and recover from these foreign threats?”

“Absolutely,” McMaster replied. “We all have a responsibility for bringing our society together and engaging in an informed discussion about the future of American democracy.”

**Paul George, Who Led Biddle Law Library for 17 Years, Praised for His ‘Laser-Like Focus on Service’**

Years ago, former Penn Law Dean Mike Fitts was in Biddle Law Library when he overheard a librarian explain to a visitor that this is the library and over there is the Law School.

Fitts said he remembers being taken aback by the comment.

During 17 years as head librarian for Biddle Law Library, Paul George changed that perception by addressing the isolation of the library from the rest of the law school campus.

“I give Paul full credit for integrating Biddle Law Library wholesale into the cloth of the Penn Law community,” said Jo-Ann Verrier L’83, GED’10, vice dean of administrative services, noting that the library today contains offices, classrooms, and space for various academic projects.

George, who retired at the end of June as associate dean for curriculum development and director of Biddle Law Library, is also credited by his colleagues and administrators for service and innovation. Among his accomplishments, he encouraged collaboration by working with librarians to develop expertise in areas related to the law in order to assist faculty and students with interdisciplinary research, employing a level of service that is rare at law schools.

To that end, he established one of the largest legal scholarship depositories in the country, one that has seen nearly five million downloads in the last several years.

He also increased the number of librarians teaching legal research and moved more of the collection from print to digital. Separately, George expanded the adjunct faculty and course offerings within the law school curriculum.

“It is difficult to see a corner of the enterprise that has not been touched by Paul’s commitment to excellence in legal education and his laser-like focus on service,” said Ted Ruger, Penn Law Dean and Bernard G. Segal Professor of Law. “His creative approach will leave a lasting impression at Penn Law.”

Verrier sounded a similar note about George’s service ethos, explaining that he instituted a system in which all faculty members had a librarian assigned to them. The notion of service went well beyond that, she said, extending to departments such as Career Planning &
Continued from Page 19

Professionalism, for which the library provided market research.

George was so successful recreating the library that then-Dean Fitts appointed him, in 2011, to revitalize and bring coherence to the curriculum, which had been overseen by a changing cast of deputy deans every two years.

“Putting the curriculum together (requires) logic, control, luck and good humor,” said Fitts, now president of Tulane University. “And Paul had all the skills. Making that work is very, very complicated.”

But, as with everything else, George ran with it, establishing new courses on trade wars and white-collar crime and diversifying the adjunct faculty.

Becoming a librarian was not on George’s mind when he graduated from Duke Law School. After graduation he joined the Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation in central Illinois. Over time he found he enjoyed supervising interns and figured he could translate his legal background and interest in working with students into a new job: law school librarian.

He earned a master’s degree in library and information science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and became a librarian at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law, with subsequent positions of ascending responsibility at the Harvard Law Library and Biddle Law Library at Penn Law School.

George is a librarian to his core. Even in his office he conducts himself as if he is out in the stacks. He speaks so softly you can hear a pin drop. The soul of modesty, he talks about his achievements with reluctance.

The closest George comes to a boast is his declaration that the library provides a faculty scholarship service in which the staff checks the citations in all new faculty articles prior to publication — a service rendered, to his knowledge, by no other law school in the country. In May, the American Association of Law Libraries took note of George’s long, productive career and recognized him with its Hall of Fame Award.

Jeff Grillo, associate director for resource management and access services, said George was a pioneer. “A lot of our counterparts at other peer schools have not gone wholesale into eBooks,” he said. “We’ve been ahead of the curve in experimenting with them and moving material from print to digital.” At last count, Biddle contains more than a million volumes and databases.
N 1978, CHINA’S DENG XIAOPING launched the economic reforms that have resulted in one of history’s most dramatic and profound national transformations. The reforms, which have evolved and expanded during the ensuing four decades, removed institutional and policy obstacles to economic growth, tapped China’s immense reserves of labor and entrepreneurial talent, and opened the country to foreign capital and investment. China has developed a more high-tech and service-based economy — currently the world’s second-largest — and it now sends companies and capital abroad in keeping with its new status as a leading force in international trade and investment.

But China also faces daunting challenges in sustaining growth, continuing the unfinished agenda of economic transformation, addressing the adverse consequences of economic success, and dealing with mounting pressure and suspicion from the United States and other long-standing trade and investment partners. China also confronts uncertainties and risks stemming from the project to expand its influence across the globe, the so-called Belt and Road Initiative. In all these matters, China’s current leader, Xi Jinping, seems determined to make his own lasting mark on the country and on the country’s effort to become a leading global power.

In this book, leading experts offer insights into the many difficult issues China now faces, including development of its rural economy, urban industrial policy, public finance, and international trade and investment. The authors — drawing on perspectives from economics, political science, and policy analysis — provide historical context, drawing lessons from four decades of reform in China, and they analyze the difficulties for China’s economy as the reform era moves into its fifth decade.
Norman Pearlstine L’67 never seems to run out of challenges during a career in which he has run some of the most storied news franchises in the world. He’s now seeking to rejuvenate the Los Angeles Times, a venerable newspaper that had fallen on hard times.

By Aisha Labi L’96

FORGET FOR A MOMENT THE IMPRESSIVE roster of publications that Norman Pearlstine L’67 has led over the past several decades. Put aside the titles, which include some of the most fabled names in American journalism, such as the Wall Street Journal, Forbes, and Time magazine. Never mind that, at the age of 76, no one would begrudge him an easy retirement resting on the laurels he has amassed. Focus instead on the excited pitch in his voice, as he talks about the challenges of his latest gig and the dynamism of life of his new home state. To hear Pearlstine enthuse about the post he has held since last June as executive editor of the Los Angeles Times, you’d be forgiven for mistaking him for an eager young reporter embarking on his first big assignment, rather than a grizzled veteran of the publishing industry. “At this stage of my life, to get a job like this was a dream come true,” he says.

A native East Coaster who grew up in the Philadelphia suburbs, Pearlstine had two previous stints in Los Angeles, the dates of which he summons with effortless recall: September of 1971 until February of 1973 with the Wall Street Journal, then again for two years from mid-1978, when he was at Forbes. As top editor of Time Inc. from 1995 to 2005, when the magazines he oversaw included such entertainment industry-focused titles as People and InStyle, he made it out to the city almost monthly. But until last year he had not lived full-time in California in decades, and the cultural immersion — by his count he has spent just 6 days back East in the past year — has shifted his worldview. The Los Angeles of 2019 is a different incarnation than the city of decades before, throbbing with a multicultural twenty-first century vitality that has been spurred by the tech boom and recent waves of immigration. Compared to the more-staid Eastern Seaboard, with its historic orientation toward trans-Atlantic relationships, California is “a much more optimistic place, much more cutting edge in terms of technology,” says Pearlstine. Immigration and seismic
After medical school, Soon-Shiong emigrated to Vancouver, British Columbia, for his residency and from there made his way to California, where he became a pioneering pancreatic transplant surgeon at UCLA. Combining his skill at scientific innovation and an unquenchable entrepreneurial drive, he has made some $9 billion over the past decade or so from the sale of two biotechnology firms he founded. He has continued to work in the biotech field, with a focus on treating cancer, and more recently, has also turned his focus to the development of a solar battery that runs on zinc instead of lithium. “I’ve worked for a number of fascinating people, but Patrick is really extraordinary,” says Pearlstine. “What I find amazing about him is the range of his intellect. He is a true polymath.”

The two men first met in 2013 when Pearlstine, who had returned to Time Inc. after five years as chief content officer for Bloomberg, initiated a meeting to learn more about some artificial intelligence applications Soon-Shiong had been looking into. They got to know each other over “a conversation about virtual reality and the use of smart phones for purchasing things out of magazines,” Pearlstine recalls. The idea never got off the ground, but when Soon-Shiong announced his intention to buy the Los Angeles Times and the San Diego Union-Tribune, Pearlstine got in touch again to offer his expertise. He initially signed on as a consultant, tasked with helping Soon-Shiong assemble a new leadership team and identify key hires, and by the time Soon-Shiong completed the $500 million purchase last June, Pearlstine had ended up agreeing to take the top job at the Los Angeles Times himself.

The career trajectory that has brought Pearlstine here began during his undergraduate days at Haverford College, where he was involved with the school newspaper and harbored dreams of a career as a reporter. He hoped to attend Columbia Journalism School, but “my father was a lawyer in Norristown in a 20-man firm that included six of my relatives, so the pressure from family to go to law school was pretty intense,” he

"I’ve worked for a number of fascinating people, but Patrick is really extraordinary. What I find amazing about him is the range of his intellect. He is a true polymath.

Norman Pearlstine"
says. The closest he came to practicing law was writing an appellate brief for Anthony Amsterdam, the legendary death penalty crusader, when he was still on the Penn Law faculty.

After a fleeting stint as a copy boy at the New York Times—he was nearly fired when he showed up drunk for work after learning earlier in the day that he had passed the Pennsylvania bar exam—Pearlstine ended up at the Wall Street Journal. He spent more than 23 years there, working as a reporter in Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles, and Tokyo before being named to several masthead-topping positions, including the first managing editor of The Asian Wall Street Journal, founding editor and publisher of The Wall Street Journal/ Europe, and managing editor and executive editor at The Wall Street Journal in New York. He left in 1992 to take the top editorial job at Time Warner Inc., reporting to CEO Gerald M. Levin L’63. He spent more than a decade there and then at its Time Inc. subsidiary—the first outsider at a famously insular company to hold that post. He returned to a similar role there after five years as chief content officer at Bloomberg, a position that was created for him. There have also been forays into finance: In the early 90s he formed a short-lived media investment company with Barry Diller among the stakeholders, and before taking the job at Bloomberg he was a senior advisor for the Carlyle Group, the global private equity firm.

Along the way, his circles have expanded to encompass an eclectic mix of power brokers, spanning the worlds of entertainment, media, finance, and politics. As long ago as 1988, for example, the guests at his Rainbow Room wedding to the late writer Nancy Friday, included Donald Trump. “Norm is a congenital collector of people, he makes relationships,” says Paul Steiger, who has been friends with Pearlstine since they were both editors in Los Angeles in the 1970s and succeeded him as managing editor of the Wall Street Journal.

This interest in people and knack for cultivating them extend to those who work for him and have served him well in spotting and hiring talented journalists. Stephen J. Adler, the current editor-in-chief of Reuters, recalls how, when he was at American Lawyer and applied for a job at the Wall Street Journal in 1988, Pearlstine told him that he was familiar with his work and didn’t need to bother sending any clips. “It was incredibly flattering, that he knew me from a hole in the wall,” says Adler.

Adler and others echo the encomiums that Pearlstine uses to describe his own new boss, relating anecdotes that reflect his boundless energy and wide-ranging interests. “He is totally a renaissance mind,” says Steiger. “He doesn’t sleep, he’s reading stuff that nobody else would look at at four in the morning. He would come into news meetings at the Journal having read something in some obscure magazine that he thought we should have, and people would just kind of look at each other and say, holy sh--.”

Pearlstine’s interests are catholic. “On just about any subject you could think...
of, he probably knows someone and he’s certainly read something about it,” says Steiger, who has stayed in relatively close touch, offering hiring suggestions as Pearlstine has assembled a new team in Los Angeles. “For someone who is in journalism, that’s a real asset because it’s helpful that he can spot a story in medicine or in horse racing or in music.”

Adler, who graduated from Harvard Law and was an editor at American Lawyer before Pearlstine hired him, says that attribute could sometimes be “quite intellectually intimidating, because he read everything and it made you feel as though you had to read everything.” In the pre-internet era, Pearlstine would often have read Supreme Court decisions and be eager to discuss them soon after their release. “He had already read the dissents,” Adler says, still marveling at how “voracious and fast” a reader Pearlstine was.

Despite his formidable intellect, he was also a supportive boss. When Adler was covering the Drexel Burnham Lambert prosecution by then U.S. Attorney Rudolph Giuliani, he prematurely wrote that the firm had received a target letter and was about to be indicted. Michael Milken, a key executive, had received such a letter, but the firm itself had not yet. Expecting to be fired over the goof, Adler vaulted down the stairs to Pearlstine’s office after fielding an irate early morning call from Drexel Burnham’s PR rep. Pearlstine was already in, of course, and instead of erupting in anger, voiced nothing but calm support, saying “everybody makes a big mistake sometime in their career.” Thirty years later, Adler is still impressed by the generosity of that reaction.

PEARLSTINE JOKES THAT HIS HIRING AT THE Los Angeles Times was long overdue. He had applied to work at the paper twice before, the first time back in 1972 when he was covering entertainment for the Wall Street Journal “and pretty regularly beating the Los Angeles Times on entertainment stories,” he says with lingering satisfaction. “Better late than never,” he adds. One of his closest friends from his undergraduate days at Haverford,
precipitously, for example. In the late 1990s, the Orange County edition of the Los Angeles Times had about 200 reporters and today has fewer than five, according to Pearlstine. The San Jose Mercury News is about a fifth as big as it was 20 years ago. “Lots of people are spending lots of time on their phones, but I don’t think they’re reading the kinds of things that the Mercury was covering,” he observes.

As the rules have changed and legacy publications have scrambled to adapt, the media landscape has reconfigured. With his purchase of the paper, Patrick Soon-Shiong joins an exclusive club of new proprietors that includes Jeff Bezos of the Washington Post and Marc Benioff of Time magazine (Benioff is founder of Salesforce.com.) It is a small and powerful group, whose stewardship is a source of both anxiety and optimism for media observers. Unlike Wall Street Journal owner Rupert Murdoch, who jokes that he has printer’s ink running through his veins and whose father was a journalist and media executive in Australia, where Murdoch laid the foundations for his own media empire before expanding into Britain and later the U.S., these newer owners are media outsiders. It is still too early to tell how that formula will play out in the long term.

According to Pearlstine, Patrick Soon-Shiong is determined to maintain the paper’s “absolute commitment to public service journalism and accountability journalism” and, although he wants to run the paper as a business, will not be guided by bottom-line decisions. The paper has hemorrhaged talent in recent years and Pearlstine’s chief mandate is to rebuild the staff and lay the foundations for long-term success. “I asked him, ‘how many people do you want?’ and he said, ‘that’s the wrong question.’ He said, ‘tell me what the project is, and if it makes sense, I’ll fund it,’” and that’s pretty much how we operate.”

Pearlstine has embarked on something of a hiring spree, an approach he deployed to great success in the past at the Journal, when he was looking to expand the paper and quickly buy expertise. The strategy has already yielded a Pulitzer prize, awarded in April, for the paper’s investigation into a former University of Southern California gynecologist accused of sexually abusing students over three decades. He hired Sewell Chan, an international editor at the New York Times, Julia Turner, editor-in-chief at Slate, and Shani O. Hilton, executive editor at BuzzFeed News. Stuart Emmrich, who spent the past 16 years as an editor at the New York Times, is among the new additions. He knows Pearlstine from when they worked together on the launch of SmartMoney magazine in the early 90s and ran into him again last November at a dinner in New York for the Committee to Protect Journalists. Emmrich was happily ensconced in New York and resisted Pearlstine’s initial supplications to think about joining him in L.A. “I don’t even drive,” he protested. Emmrich succumbed after an exploratory trip out West and was on the payroll at the Los Angeles Times within a month of that initial chance encounter. “I’d forgotten what it was like to work for someone who immediately fills you with enthusiasm for your job,” he says. “Norm is incredibly engaged on any number of subjects, so we could talk about politics, or climate change or pop culture or fashion in Paris, and he probably knows something about each of those topics that you don’t know.”

Emmrich’s enthusiasm is clearly shared, and Pearlstine is enjoying this phase of the job and the fun of assembling a top-flight team of journalists. He has also continued to flex his own reporting muscles, with his byline appearing at the top of a recent in-depth piece on the founder of Huawei, the Chinese telecom giant that the U.S. government views as a front for the Chinese government and a global security threat. “I think once a year it’s useful to do a big enterprise piece with some fellow reporters,” he says. The exercise was a reminder of how hard it is to do good reporting and write long pieces, he observes. Still, he notes, with obvious pride in the result: “There’s never been a better time to be a reporter, unless you want to get paid.™

To me, this is not so much about new technologies replacing old technologies... but rather the fact that they are able to present themselves as not being content organizations and not being responsible for whatever it is they choose to put up.

Norman Pearlstine

Aisha Labi is a New York-based freelance journalist and a former writer for Time magazine.
Penn Law has a long history as the Public Service law school. It lived up to that label in the midterms with the election and re-election of three alumni to Congress. It was a good night as well for alumni seeking office in Colorado, Pennsylvania, and Texas.
WHAT ARE YOUR TOP THREE POLICY PRIORITIES?

Improve the lot of the working people in my district. The economy has been bumping along in my district as it tries to deal with the loss of much of its manufacturing base. The blame lies with NAFTA, which caused businesses to shutter operations and move to Mexico. Consequently, workers had to take lower paying jobs. I’ll continue to review President Trump’s trade deal with Mexico and Canada but suspect that more work is necessary. For instance, the deal calls for an increase in the minimum wage to $16 for auto workers in Mexico, but there aren’t many auto workers in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Why not extend the minimum wage increase to other manufacturing jobs? We need ideas on job creation from the private sector. I also want to bring passenger rail service back to the region. Connecting Northeastern Pennsylvania to New York through better transportation would be a big leg up.

Address climate change. We must put a price on carbon and make the use of carbon more expensive than renewable resources. It’s an existential issue—the only people who don’t think so are inextricably entwined with the fossil fuel industry. Coal is dead in my district, but we have former coal miners who are aged and infirm. I am an ardent advocate of the Black Lung program and for funding of miners’ pension benefits.

Protection of the middle class. The middle class is shrinking. We’re turning into a country of really, really wealthy people and really, really poor people. We have to fight for the middle class—fight for Pell Grants; fight for cheaper student loans; fight for Head Start funding; fight for a tax code that is not just a giveaway to the ultra-wealthy who have outsized influence.

IF YOU COULD DO ANYTHING TO MAKE WASHINGTON FUNCTION BETTER, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Restore civility. Civility starts at home. I’m willing to look past policy differences to make friends with people and find common ground. I work at forging relationships with Republicans. In the last six years I have introduced more Republican co-sponsored bills than any Democrat in the House.

YOU WERE A HISTORY MAJOR IN COLLEGE. WHAT WILL THE HISTORY BOOKS SAY ABOUT OUR TIME?

The temptation is to say that we have become way too partisan, way too political. But I’m not sure I buy that, and I’m not sure that historians would support that conclusion. In colonial times politicians weren’t yelling at each other on cable news like we are now—they were having duels with each other at dawn. To say that our times are the worst ever is incorrect.
WHAT ARE YOUR TOP THREE POLICY PRIORITIES?

Social Security. I introduced a bill that would protect Social Security and raise people's benefits in the short term. I have a pretty elderly district so it's something that people care about. Social Security is not in any immediate danger and can be bolstered with a couple of fixes including eliminating the wage cap for people who earn more than $400,000 a year who don't pay anything into Social Security after their first $130,000 of income. I would change that and increase costs for younger people by 50 cents a week. That would provide enough money to protect Social Security into the next century.

Responding to the opioid epidemic. The biggest piece is continuing to expand people's access to rehabilitation and health insurance. Preserving and strengthening the Medicaid system is vitally important. We should also continue to help veterans who have been prescribed painkillers and should crack down on pharmaceutical companies.

Clean Energy. We have a long way to go to develop clean energy that is affordable and that can be produced at an industrial scale. Right now, we're at risk of China spending more on R&D than us, and I don't want that to happen because I want to win the future on this issue.

IF YOU COULD DO ANYTHING TO MAKE WASHINGTON FUNCTION BETTER, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

I think the biggest thing would be to pursue legislation with the goal of always attracting some support from the other side. We're not producing budgets, we're not producing legislation on the important issues of our time. The way to do that is to build personal relationships and actually listen to people on the other side.

HOW HAS YOUR MILITARY SERVICE INFORMED YOUR WORK AND LIFE?

Once a Marine, always a Marine. Our core values are honor, courage and commitment, and I always feel that I'm trying to live up to those principles. Speaking of commitment, I'm always going to be extremely careful about what mission we ask our troops to go on.

WHAT ARE THE JOBS OF THE FUTURE FOR COAL MINERS AND STEELWORKERS?

For steelworkers, the job of the future is to make steel. We need a domestic steel industry for our national security and for industrial development. If we win the race on clean and renewable energy, we can dominate the world steel industry again. So, I'm pretty optimistic about that. When it comes to coal, we're going to be digging coal for a long time. We need to make sure that coal miners are well-protected and especially that their pensions are guaranteed. But the biggest thing that we can offer coal producing regions are options, such as access to manufacturing jobs. They might want to work in the natural gas industry, they might want to try a different industry altogether. We need to offer training and diversification in their own economy so that people can stay in the town where they grew up and love, and offer something different for their future.
WHAT ARE YOUR TOP THREE POLICY PRIORITIES?

Families and children. For the last 35 years, I have advocated on behalf of low-income families and children. We must work to bridge the opportunity gap that holds far too many children and families back. We do this by making education a national priority, by ensuring the full funding of public education and programs like the IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Act), making college more affordable and preserving important programs like public service loan forgiveness, and increasing funding for vocational education programs. We can continue to support middle class families through our commitment to protecting the rights of workers and labor unions, and by working to protect access to affordable healthcare.

Good government. I support legislation in the House that strengthens government ethics provisions, reforms campaign financing laws and calls for the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act, which was gutted by the Supreme Court’s Shelby decision, leading many states to take measures to suppress the vote. I also support efforts to make it easier to vote through extended voting hours and same day registration. In addition, I favor more public financing of campaigns, which increases the diversity of the candidate pool and seeks ethics reform through, among other things, a law that mandates the release of candidate tax returns.

Common sense gun regulation. I am in favor of strengthening background checks. Doing so would create no new restrictions but would close loopholes so that people who shouldn’t own guns don’t have them. There has been a shift in the popular will on this issue—witness Pennsylvania’s passage of the first gun violence prevention law in a decade.

AS A NEW MEMBER, ARE THERE TRADITIONS IN CONGRESS THAT YOU’D LIKE TO RETIRE?

Actually, I guess I’d prefer to get back to some of the traditions of Congress: policymaking and hearings on policy issues where you discuss the issues and make decisions based upon facts rather than on rigid ideological stances. That said, there has been more bipartisan work than I expected.

WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE TO BE PART OF SUCH A LARGE CLASS OF WOMEN?

It’s a little disappointing that we have to celebrate the fact that a quarter of Congress is female when over half the population is female. But it is great to be with such a large group. It recognizes the power that we all have to bring different perspectives to the table. And I think we will bring new approaches to getting things done. There has been a good deal of research done that shows when you have more women in a legislative body different issues get addressed, such as those involving family, human rights and welfare.
Lisa Sotto L’87 has been responding to data breaches since the infancy of the internet. She has the experience and the know-how to deal with an ever-evolving foe. That’s why corporations turn to her again and again and again.

By Andy Maynard
et al.: Penn Law Journal: Norman Pearlstine L’67 Seeks to Rejuvenate the
In 2013 and 2014 two data breaches, or the unauthorized acquisition of personal information by malicious parties, occurred at Yahoo. Over time, hackers (including state-sponsored intruders) were able to gather user account information on a scale never before seen in the short lifespan of the World Wide Web. Not info on thousands of users, not hundreds of thousands, nor even millions — more than three billion user accounts were affected. That is almost half the world’s population. By the time the events were detected and made public in 2016 and 2017, the consequences were far-reaching — $350 million was knocked off of Yahoo’s sale price to Verizon, lawsuits were brought against Yahoo, and policymakers rushed to review suddenly-outdated privacy laws.
In the middle of that maelstrom calmly stood Lisa Sotto L’87, who, drawing on years of experience in the arena, was brought in to quell the mounting crisis. Working nonstop, she provided advice on the mammoth task of contacting affected users and on handling the inevitable legal complexities.

While it was far from another day in the office, it was vintage Sotto, who heads the global privacy and cybersecurity practice at Hunton Andrews Kurth and serves as managing partner of the firm’s New York office.

To hear her clients tell it, no one is better at putting out these kinds of five-alarm fires than Sotto.

“You can’t practice in this area and not know Lisa.”

“At the very top of experts in the field.”

“Unquestionably the industry’s leading professional.”

And, finally:

“The high priestess of privacy.”

So how did Lisa Sotto find herself in such rarified air, at the very top of the data privacy field? It all started at Penn Law, where as a 3L student in 1986–87, she had different plans. “I did [have a plan], but it didn’t work out that way. I was a dyed-in-the-wool litigator, and absolutely planned to be a trial attorney,” Sotto says. She graduated from Penn Law in 1987 and became an associate at Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft in New York City. At the time, the firm had a rotation program for young lawyers that acclimated them to various aspects of the firm. She spent her first year splitting time between the litigation and corporate groups. It was during this program that Lisa discovered a new interest in environmental law.

Shifting gears, she quickly got up to speed on regulatory rules, and it was as an environmental lawyer at Hunton & Williams (now Hunton Andrews Kurth) where she would discover something that would change her life forever—that many of the same rules and best practices of environmental law applied to the still embryonic field of data privacy. “It required a very short transition period,” Sotto says. “If you think about the two areas, they’re actually very similar. They are areas of regulatory law, so you deal with regulatory compliance. You’re tangling with executive agencies like the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and FTC (Federal Trade Commission). We talk in the privacy world about data breaches, or data leaks—not so different from hazardous substance leaks.”

Back then, the notion of data privacy was far different than how we view it today. Computers and connectivity were still in their infancy, and the idea of privacy law was quite different. “We didn’t have any shared sense of what privacy law was,” said Keith Enright, chief privacy officer for Google. “When I took a class on privacy law in law school, they were focusing on Roe v. Wade and a woman’s right to choose. They were not thinking about data protection in the way that we think about it now.”

“It was a wide-open field when I started in it,” says Sotto. When she expressed interest in privacy law, she got the approval of the head of the Technology group of the firm. “He sent me the entire compendium of U.S. privacy law at the time, which was probably 1/16th of an inch. It was very light — there was nothing there. It was easy to become an ‘expert’ after a couple of hours of reading.”

By the end of the twentieth century, however, two major technological trends were converging — computers were becoming faster and more powerful, while more and more people were connecting to the internet. Meanwhile, privacy laws were lagging behind these developments, and very few individuals grasped the relationship between technology and data privacy. But one of those people was Lisa Sotto, who had switched from environmental law to data privacy law at Hunton. Before long, she had thrown the 1/16th inch rulebook out the window in favor of her own.


BRITTANY BACON • Hunton Andrews Kurth
Since then, Sotto has meticulously built her practice from scratch. Her clients have included six of the ten largest corporations in the country, among them companies that have suffered data breaches as well as those who are preparing for the worst. Mock data breaches and tabletop exercises (wherein you simulate an attack and develop a response) are conducted so that organizations will know what to do in case of a data security emergency.

Data breaches are typically carried out by nation-states capable of sustained, advanced attacks; “traditional” hackers interested in finding something to sell on the dark web (the unindexed part of the web that is difficult to find); and hacker activists, or “hacktivists,” who attempt to bring down a website or steal information in order to embarrass a company or promote a cause. One of these groups will find a way to exploit a weakness or unintended aspect of a program, a backdoor into a network, or use “phishing” techniques to gain access to an otherwise secure system. Once inside, they can stay hidden for days, weeks, or even months. In about half of all data breaches, the company itself does not detect the breach, but is notified by a research company, the media, or the FBI.

Once a breach is detected, companies must decide quickly how to act. “The first 24–36 hours are critical,” says Brittany Bacon, a partner on Sotto’s team at Hunton. “Often when [Lisa] gets the call from the general counsel, the chief information security officer (CISO), or the chief privacy officer, very little is known about the nature and scope of the incident.” For companies operating under the new data privacy law in Europe, the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), they have 72 hours to issue breach notifications to regulators, even though the company itself is still stuck in a fog of uncertainty and confusion. “You have an organization that has often times suffered an adverse event, and is investigating, gathering facts, trying to make sure that they understand precisely what happened. They’re also trying to make sure that they’ve addressed whatever vulnerability may have existed and been exploited. That’s creating urgency and drawing people’s time and attention. In parallel, you’re trying to make sure that you’re doing the right things to satisfy all of your legal obligations and mitigate legal risk to your clients,” details Enright. And that’s where Sotto comes in.

Hunton has contacts with external forensic investigators that they can bring in to attempt to identify what was done, by whom, and for how long. “We’re seeking to understand the facts as we’re uncovering them. It could mean we need to conduct a legal analysis of laws around the world. If a big database is compromised, we will reach out to local counsel in various countries where people are impacted,” says Sotto. This worldwide response often requires many individual steps — gathering evidence, notifications to regulators and affected individuals, press releases, employee talking points, business partner talking points. Sotto knows many of the relevant regulators and will liaise with them on behalf of her client. She also works with PR firms before media outlets get word of the breach. And then, after all of the above, the lawsuits start. On average, the entire process can last two to three years.

“She brings an extraordinary blend of competence and confidence,” says Tom Vandevoort, senior VP and deputy general counsel at Under Armour. “When she walks into a boardroom to brief the board, she owns the room. There’s no question that she knows what she’s doing. She just has that gravitas about her.”

Google’s Keith Enright agrees: “Lisa’s even-handed, balanced, measured approach to giving risk-calibrated advice not only allows a client to meet their
legal obligations but also reassures them that, upon following legal advice, they’re doing the right thing. They’re going to make it through the current crisis intact. A sort of quiet confidence that she brings to her practice that I think is extremely reassuring to her clients — that is a large measure of her success.”

Sotto has assembled a top-notch team at Hunton. It includes 35 people across the globe and a privacy think-tank called the “Center for Information Policy Leadership.” This handpicked group — many of them young lawyers — has a wealth of experience in the various aspects of data privacy law and at local, national and global levels.

Many of them joined the team as young lawyers, gradually gaining experience in tense, high-risk situations. According to Vandevoort, “Those lawyers won the professional lottery by ending up on her team. I would go and work for her. I’ve been at this for almost 30 years, and I would go and work for her.

“She’s trained her team in such a way that they have the same type of pragmatism to what they do, and it’s not all lockstep or by-the-book because there’s so much risk and judgment applied in a moment like that. To impart that risk-taking to younger associates, to younger lawyers, is a real talent.”

However, one talent that the newcomers to Lisa’s team might not be able to match is her legendary energy level and ability to take calls at all hours of the day. “This is a 24/7 job, sometimes a 25/8 type of job,” according to Bacon. “Yet Lisa is the first one to jump when work needs to be done and a client’s needs need to be addressed.”

“I’m convinced that Lisa doesn’t sleep most nights,” says Vandevoort. “I don’t know when that woman rests. I know how busy we kept her!”

For Sotto, this comprehensiveness, this responsiveness, this global outlook on the industry — all of these are key parts of the job. “One of the biggest challenges in the practice is that you can never rest on prior experience because the field evolves so quickly. We need to stay right at the forefront and keep learning because not only are the threat actors evolving quickly, but also issues involving data and the law are changing at warp speed. Constantly. It is a 24/7 endeavor to try to keep up, and it’s global. Data is like water, it does not respect state or country boundaries. We can never just think about the U.S., we have to think globally.”

In light of the massive numbers involved in data breaches, can anyone be truly safe from having their information stolen? Given enough time, will a hack or a breach happen to anyone? “To the extent that you have a persistent adversary, absolutely. You just try to be a needle in a haystack, and particularly that needle that nobody’s interested in,” Sotto explains. “There’s no industry sector that’s exempt, nor any individuals, short of those who live off the grid. Remember also that we’re not just talking about the internet, we’re also talking now about the internet of things. Connected security cameras, connected TVs, connected refrigerators. Just about everything now is hackable.”

Companies and individuals can take measures to make themselves that uninteresting needle. A good incident response plan is key — letting people know what they should do in the event of a crisis, their roles and responsibilities. Tabletop exercises and breach drills are very important to build up what Sotto calls “muscle memory.” Security policies and processes should be changed frequently to keep up with evolving threats. Individuals and employees must be aware of the dangers of phishing and watch that they don’t inadvertently give away vital security information.

As we’ve seen time and time again through history, however, when under constant threat even the most secure fortress cannot repel all invaders. All it takes is one mistake for the strongest walls to come down — even electronic firewalls. When that happens, there’s Sotto. She and her team are a necessity in an age where personal information is transmitted and stored countless times per day. When Yahoo had to face the aftermath of its data breaches, she was the first one upper management called.

“I don’t know of any other lawyer or firm who has had more significant experience in [data breaches], or dealt with [these] types of high-profile breaches,” says Dan Tepstein, head of litigation, copyright, and media law for Verizon Media, and who was at Yahoo when the breaches occurred. “You’re dealing with people who know what they’re doing, who have dealt with this in a crisis mode before and can provide the company with the type of leadership and advice that shouldn’t be second-guessed.”

“The Yahoo matter was probably the pinnacle of my career,” says Sotto. “And I say that knowing there could well be something else to follow.”

To reach that pinnacle, Sotto has taken a few unexpected turns in her career, going from litigator to environmental lawyer to pioneering leader in cybersecurity, ultimately transforming the once-unknown field of data privacy. She looks back at Penn Law as a formative experience in shaping her life. “Penn didn’t have classes on [data privacy],” she says. “But Penn certainly taught me how to be a flexible and practical lawyer. What I’ve learned is that you have to be nimble as a lawyer, and you shouldn’t get fixated on a particular area. Careers change and practice areas morph, and Penn prepared me well for that.”

Andy Maynard works for the Development & Alumni Relations office at Penn Law. He has fond childhood memories of green monochromatic monitors, loud hard drives, and the noise of a 56k modem.
It’s probable that Jonathan Petts’ C’02, L’07 first pro bono case as a BigLaw attorney in New York changed the trajectory of his life. His client, Linda, had accumulated $40,000 in debt after a car accident. Petts helped her file for bankruptcy. A year later, she called him back with good news: She had a job, was debt-free, and her credit score was 100 points higher. She told him that without his assistance, she would have been trapped in debt because she didn’t have the money for a bankruptcy lawyer.

“That made me realize people who need access to a fresh start are the ones who are least able to afford it,” Petts said.

Inspired to help more people in need, he teamed up with Rohan Pavuluri, then a Harvard sophomore, to create the online service Upsolve, which is the first national legal aid organization for bankruptcy. Upsolve’s services are now available in every state except Alabama and North Carolina. Upsolve was started in 2016.

People can find Upsolve online and answer a questionnaire to see if they qualify for free chapter 7 bankruptcy filing assistance. Once people qualify, the process resembles “a TurboTax-type workflow,” according to Petts, where users answer questions about how much money they make and spend, after which Upsolve’s software creates a draft of the necessary bankruptcy forms. After users complete them, one of three in-house lawyers review the documents. “Because of how automated and streamlined the process is, the review can be done in a fraction of the time that an attorney would typically need to spend on a case,” Petts said. Then clients take a brief financial literacy lesson online and file pro se. Upsolve can track the progress of cases once they’re filed with automated docket tracking.
Last year, Upsolve processed 410 filings with a 98 percent discharge rate, Petts said, noting that the national average is 96 percent. This year, he and Pavuluri hope to process 2,000 filings with the same success rate.

Petts said there’s a lot of stigma with bankruptcy, and he hopes to change that perception. “I understand why people think bankruptcy is about depression or hard times, but that’s in the past,” he said. “It’s the one area of consumer law that can have the most transformative effect on someone’s life.” And research shows, he said, that people’s credit scores improve within three quarters of filing.

Upsolve is funded through both federal and private grants, and high-brow organizations including Schmidt Futures, the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, Khosla Ventures and the Robin Hood Foundation are supporting the organization.

Taking the leap from a comfortable legal career — he was an attorney with Morrison & Foerster — to an uncertain entrepreneurial venture was scary, Petts admitted.

“That was really hard,” he said, adding that law and entrepreneurship are often antithetical disciplines. “My lawyering skills taught me to be highly risk-averse, and that can be harmful to starting a new venture, so getting that part of my brain to shut up is a big challenge.”

Petts said Penn Law’s interdisciplinary and pro bono emphases had a strong influence on his new career in which he has combined technology and public interest law. Today, he leads a team of five at Upsolve and is excited about going full steam ahead in helping solve a problem for the poor.

“It gives us a lot of satisfaction because we wake up every day and think we’re working on something that’s changing the world,” Petts said, “not just in terms of users, but in terms of creating a new precedent for how legal services should be delivered to low-income people and raising the bar for saying we need to be more efficient, we need to use technology, and we need to be helping a lot more people than we currently are.”

Penn Law received a group of gifts totaling $5.7 million in support of the school’s commitments to expanding access to legal education and fostering innovative scholarship and teaching by renowned legal academics. These generous gifts have come in the midst of the Law School’s “Power of Penn Law: Advocates for a New Era” Campaign, which aims to build upon the Law School’s strengths by broadening access for students and alleviating burdensome debt, adding faculty who are at the forefront of law’s newest frontiers, investing in the school’s academic centers and experiential learning opportunities, and redoubling efforts to launch public-interest careers.

Osgenie Imasogie GL’85 and Losenge Imasogie have pledged $3 million to create the “Imasogie Professorship in Law & Technology,” which will be open to cross-disciplinary scholars whose work bridges the interconnected fields of law and technology. Osgenie Imasogie is senior managing partner at PIPV Capital. A dedicated supporter of Penn Law and active member of the alumni community, he is also the co-chair of the Advocates for a New Era campaign.

The three additional significant gifts to the Law School provide increased funding for student scholarships. Mark Solomons L’70 has made an estate bequest of $1 million to establish a scholarship that will be open to all Penn Law students, regardless of need. Solomons is a shareholder at Greenberg Traurig and co-chair of the firm’s National Appellate Practice. He is based in Washington, D.C.

Together, The Joseph H. Flom Foundation and Eric Friedman L’89 have donated over $1 million to establish the Penn Law Youth Advocacy Scholars Program at Penn Law, which will provide full scholarships to exceptional entering students who intend to dedicate their careers to advocating for young people. Friedman is the executive partner of Mergers and Acquisitions at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. The Flom Foundation provides grants to various causes related to youth and education.

Finally, Cary M. Schwartz W’66, L’69 and Elaine Schwartz CW’67 have given $700,000 to create a need-based scholarship fund at the Law School. Longtime supporters of Penn Law, the Schwartzes have previously funded two other scholarships which remain open to all students, irrespective of need.

“These generous gifts will enable the Law School to continue to make a world-class legal education accessible for the best students and to support the groundbreaking work of leading legal scholars,” said Ted Ruger, Bernard G. Segal Professor of Law and Dean of Penn Law. “As Penn Law expands our commitment to supporting students academically, financially, and professionally, this funding will allow us to make great strides toward the future.”
David Marion W’60, L’63 received the Best Lawyers 2019 Legal Malpractice Law—Defendants “Lawyer of the Year” award in Philadelphia. He is senior counsel at White and Williams, where he concentrates his practice on business litigation, antitrust and securities class actions, professional liability and communications law and alternate dispute resolution. Marion serves as the National Chancellor of the Tau Epsilon Rho Law Society and
on the Anti-Defamation League board of directors. He was named one of The Philadelphia Inquirer’s 2018 Influencers of Law in the area of Litigation and Dispute.

Bob Levin L’67 and his wife, Adele, co-authored I Will Keep You Alive: A Cardiorenal Romance (Spruce Hill Press). American spiritual teacher Ram Dass called it “an inspiring story of a journey through illness toward love, compassion and being.”

Howard Shecter L’68 joined Holland & Knight as of counsel in the firm’s Philadelphia and New York offices. He most recently practiced at Reed Smith. Shecter focuses on a variety of domestic and international business transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and strategic alliances, as well as corporate governance issues and the negotiated resolution of business disputes. He lectures regularly at leading global conferences on issues related to M&A, corporate law and governance.

The Hon. Steven Perskie L’69 was inducted into the Gaming Hall of Fame at the annual Global Gaming Expo in Las Vegas. In the 1970s, Perskie reworked the state’s regulatory structure and authored and sponsored the Casino Control Act, which was signed into effect in 1977. He also represented Atlantic City in both the New Jersey Senate and Assembly, and was chairman of the Casino Control Commission from 1990 to 1994. He then became vice president and general counsel of Players International. Perskie also served as an Atlantic County Superior Court Judge and as chief of staff for former Gov. James Florio. In 2010, he joined the Linwood-based law firm of Perskie, Mairone, Brog & Baylinson.

Richard Stone L’70 joined the board of trustees as treasurer for the Cape Rep Theatre in Brewster, Mass. The former tax attorney has had a lifelong passion for theater, having studied theatre arts at Lafayette College and as a previous board member of the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company.

Jane Leslie Dalton L’71 was recognized by Continental Who’s Who for her high standards of ethics in the field of law. She is of counsel at Duane Morris, where she practices before trial and appellate courts and administrative agencies in the areas of employment discrimination and personnel management, unfair competition and constitutional litigation and other administrative litigation. She has also held various leadership roles within the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Metropolitan Bar Caucus of the National Conference of Bar Presidents.

George Stohner L’71 was named a 2019 Southern California Super Lawyer. He is senior counsel at Faegre Baker Daniels, where he leads defense of complex employment-related litigation and labor negotiations. Stohner specializes in defending class/systemic discrimination and class/collective wage and hour claims. Over his 40-year career, he has helped clients succeed in many high-profile litigation and labor matters. Furthermore, Stohner has been instrumental in helping the law firm expand its national capacities in California.

Joe Roda L’74 published a book titled Abraham Lincoln and Making a Case, The Story of a Master (AuthorHouse). The book focuses on Lincoln’s singular ability to persuade. It first traces Lincoln’s success in speeches and writings, starting with his youth, and then examines what made him so good. The book is available on Amazon.

Victoria Traube L’74 was honored with the “Mr. Abbott” Award at the Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation’s annual “Mr. Abbott” Award gala. She was recognized for her lifetime of dedication in support of artists, including directors, choreographers, composers, lyricists and performers. She is senior vice president of business affairs and general counsel of Concord Music.

Michael Malloy L’76 participated in the plenary sessions of the Committee for Housing and Land Management, U.N. Economic Commission for Europe. He is a member of the Real Estate Markets Advisory Group. During two days of deliberations at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, the Committee reviewed and approved the revised version of the Policy Framework for Sustainable Real Estate Markets, on which Malloy and his REM colleagues have been working for the past two years. It will be published as an official U.N. document, in English and Russian, in both print and digital versions. In early 2019, law publisher Wolters Kluwer released the first supplement of the year for Malloy’s three-volume treatise, Banking Law and Regulation. Malloy offers up-to-date coverage of current developments in the regulation of depository institutions, including a discussion of SEC-proposed amendments to rules implementing its whistleblower program under the Dodd-Frank Act; recent administration efforts to limit the effect of Dodd-Frank reforms; and, updates on the new Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act.

Gordon Goodman C’74, L’77 was elected a justice on the First Court of Appeals in Texas. The First Judicial District covers 10 counties with a
population of more than 5.4 million people. Goodman and his wife also celebrated their 40th anniversary in September, followed by the wedding of their third daughter in October.

Marvin Benton L’78 was selected to serve on the Harvard Kennedy School Admissions Committee for the incoming class of 2019–2020. He earned his Master’s in public administration from the school, where he was a prestigious Lucius N. Littauer Fellow. He currently serves as president of its Black Alumni Association. Additionally, Benton received an Alumni Achievement Award during the school’s Annual Black Policy Conference in April in recognition of his career accomplishments and his contributions to the Harvard Kennedy School over the past 30 years.

Edward Ryan C’75, L’78 was appointed to the board of directors for MDU Resources Group, Inc., which services businesses and provides regulated energy delivery and construction materials. He retired at the end of 2017 from his position as executive vice president and general counsel at Marriott International Inc., where he had worked since 1996. He served as advisor to the CEO of Marriott through the end of 2018. Ryan will also serve on MDU Resources Group’s audit committee and the nominating and governance committee.

Isis Carbajal De Garcia L’79 joined MDO Partners, a boutique law firm in Miami, as compliance practice leader of the firm’s new higher education compliance practice. In her new role, she represents colleges and universities on legal and compliance issues, including academic matters, ethics, and employment and administrative law. She also assists higher education clients with compliance programs, including policies, training and internal investigations. Carbajal De Garcia has more than 35 years’ experience in the Florida State University System. She was previously a founding member of the Florida International University General Counsel’s Office, where she served as a senior attorney for more than 20 years.

The Hon. Garrett Wong L’79 was elected by the San Francisco Superior Court Bench to serve as presiding judge of the court. He has been a member of the San Francisco bench since 2005 and has a long background in civil and criminal assignments in courts of domestic violence, asbestos, behavioral health, mental health and more. Judge Wong has also served in numerous leadership roles on the court, including supervising judge of the criminal division and member of the court’s executive committee. Additionally, he is a member of the statewide Judicial Council’s Workload Assessment Advisory Committee, which advises the judicial council on branch performance measures and court administration.

Steven Cousins L’80 was appointed to the advisory board of the Hutchins Center for African & African American Research at Harvard University. The Hutchins Center is the preeminent research center on the history and culture of people of African descent, and often sponsors visiting fellows, art exhibitions, publications, research projects, archives, readings, conferences and new media initiatives to drive engagement and awareness of this field of study. Cousins is a partner at Armstrong Teasdale in St. Louis.

Joanne Costello Franzel L’80 was recognized as a 2018 Law360 MVP for counseling real estate investment and management firm Jamestown LP in its $2.4 billion sale of Manhattan’s Chelsea Market to Google earlier this year. She is a partner in Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP’s Real Estate Practice Group.

Francine Friedman Griesing L’81 was named the 2018 National Woman Business Owner of the Year by National Association of Women Business Owners and Bank of America. The award recognizes entrepreneurs who excel at strategy, operations, finances, problem solving, overcoming adversity and giving back to their community. Griesing also won the 2018 Small Business Person of the Year from The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia. The award acknowledges those who have shown exemplary leadership in the civic community and demonstrated a positive social or economic impact on the Greater Philadelphia region while running an independently owned and operated business.

Lisa Scottoline C’76, L’81 received the University of Pennsylvania’s 2018 Creative Spirit Award at the annual Alumni Award of Merit Gala in November. She was recognized for her lifelong commitment to and excellence in the arts. Scottoline is an award-winning, best-selling novelist. She has penned 31 novels, a series of humorous memoirs and a weekly Philadelphia Inquirer column. She won mystery fiction’s highest honor, the Edgar Award, with her second novel, Final Appeal, and she has been named a “Fun Fearless Female” by Cosmopolitan and a “PW Innovator” by Publisher’s Weekly. She has previously won other awards from Penn, including a 2009 adjunct teaching award for her course on “Justice and Fiction” at Penn Law. Scottoline has also served as a Law School Reunion committee member and a Law School overseer.

Lary Stromfeld L’81 was named a Financial Times Top 10 Legal Innovator for North America. As a partner at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, LLP, he...
advises leading financial institutions and other participants in the global capital markets on transactions, disputes and advisory matters involving a wide variety of financial products and complex financings. He was chosen for his 35 years of work on challenging and industry-changing cases, including his representation of the Federal Reserve’s Alternative Reference Rates Committee in developing the standards for all cash products in the $200 trillion post-LIBOR world. Shortly after Dodd-Frank was enacted, Stromfeld was retained by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association to devise a suite of documents to comply with the regulatory overhaul of the global derivatives markets. He also co-heads the Cadwalader team representing the largest creditor in Puerto Rico’s bankruptcy, with over $55 billion of exposure. Additionally, Stromfeld founded Justice Served three years ago, which is a six-week annual campaign within the New York City legal community to support the Food Bank For New York City. So far, the effort has funded more than 1.5 million meals for the hungry.

Philippe Girard-Foley GL’83 was granted full registration as a Registered Foreign Lawyer before the Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC), which gives him the right to give advice, represent, appear and plead for any party in any relevant proceedings at SICC or in its Court of Appeal.

Edward Rock L’83, Martin Lipton Professor of Law at NYU, has been appointed the reporter for the new ALI Restatement of Corporate Governance.

Thomas Sabatino, Jr. L’83 joined the Humane Society of the United States’ board of directors. He is actively engaged in local animal rescue both in Florida and New England. Sabatino is executive vice president and general counsel at Aetna.

The Hon. Michele Tuck-Ponder L’83 was appointed executive director of Destination Imagination, a nonprofit dedicated to teaching students the creative process through hands-on science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) and social entrepreneurship challenges. She had been named interim CEO in December 2017 and was working closely with the board of trustees and staff on a strategic plan for sustainable growth and impact. Tuck-Ponder, a former mayor of Princeton Township, was most recently the associate director, Career Education, Diversity and Pre Law Programs at Princeton University.

Christopher Dunn L’85 was appointed legal director of the New York Civil Liberties Union. In his new role, he supervises the litigation program and related advocacy of the NYCLU’s legal department and manages the department’s staff of more than 20 people. Dunn joined the NYCLU in 1996 and served as its associate legal director from 2001 until January 2019.

John Grady L’85 received the Alternative & Direct Investment Securities Association (ADISA) President’s Award at the organization’s annual 2018 conference. The award recognizes those who are committed to excellence and service to the industry and adhere to the highest ethical standards and quality performance in the industry. Grady, a partner at DLA Piper’s Philadelphia office, is a former ADISA president. He has more than 30 years of investment management experience, and works with mutual funds, interval funds, commodity pools, private funds and business development companies, among other investment vehicles, and counsels investment advisers, broker-dealers, transfer agents and commodity pool operators on a range of issues. He currently serves as chairman of ADISA’s conference planning committee and is a member of its executive committee.

Richard Horowitz W’82, L’85 received the Lawyers Alliance for New York’s 2018 Cornerstone Award, which recognizes outstanding pro bono work done by business and transactional attorneys throughout New York City. Horowitz is a partner and co-head of Dechert LLP’s Permanent Capital practice. Through the Lawyers Alliance for New York, he has counseled clients on contract, structuring, and real estate matters. Since joining the Alliance in 2009, he has helped organizations including Ietayo Cultural Arts Academy, the Church Avenue Business Improvement District and Explore Empower Charter School, and in that time, he has also encouraged many Dechert colleagues to volunteer.

Philip Kabler L’85 was interviewed and quoted in a Jan. 14, 2019, article in the U.S. News and World Report titled “How Long Is Law School and What Is It Like?” As an adjunct professor at the University of Florida Levin College of Law, he discussed how law schools increasingly value a work-life balance and foster a more collegial and cooperative attitude between students. He additionally mentions law schools’ many experiential learning opportunities, including clinics, internships and externships. Kabler is also an adjunct professor at the University of Florida Warrington College of Business, a partner in the Gainesville office of Bogin, Munns & Munns, P.A., and the president-elect of the Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association.

Michael Osterman L’85 joined Norris McLaughlin, PA, as a member of the firm’s Real Estate and Finance group. In addition to a range of transactions, he focuses on the effect of and compliance with federal, state and local land use and environmental statutes and regulations. He also represents clients before planning boards, boards of adjustment, and other municipal, county and state bodies across the
How to Revive and Retrofit Rust Belt Cities

With the recent release of his book, Stronger Than Steel—Forging a Rust Belt Renaissance, Bethlehem, Pa.-native Jeffrey Parks L’73 has a message for communities struggling in a post-steel economy.

“Former industrial cities need to grab themselves by their bootstraps and pull themselves up because what ‘was’ is not anymore,” he said. “They need to figure out what they can be in the future, and that’s easier said than done, but I do think there’s potential there.”

Proof of that conviction lies in the success that Bethlehem, a former steel town, has seen in recent years—largely due to Parks’ efforts. In 1983, he began the town’s now popular Musikfest, as well as created ArtsQuest, a nonprofit organization that developed SteelStacks, a 10-acre arts, education and performance campus at the heart of the former Bethlehem Steel plant. The town is also known as Christmas City for its Yuletide celebrations; Parks said its robust Christkindlmarkt attracted about 90,000 tourists in 2018.

His book chronicles how residents of Bethlehem recovered from the loss of the steel industry and banded together—particularly around the arts—to make the community vibrant once again.

That transition was largely guided by social entrepreneurship, or the idea of using startup companies and local businesses to help solve a community’s issues. In the ’80s, the label “social entrepreneurship” didn’t exist, but that’s how Parks launched Musikfest.

As a local lawyer who focused on business and tax law, he represented dozens of local businesses. “I used the business techniques that to me were readily apparent, but to others were unheard of,” he said. “I understood sponsorship usually is a transactional activity, and that to generate the revenue you need for a free music festival, you need to work with businesses who will receive something for sponsorships.”

Throughout the decades, Parks has worked with Bethlehem’s many local businesses to make economic impacts. As he recounts in his book, the results have been impressive. “People get here and they’re amazed,” he said. “I try not to drink my own Kool-Aid, but I brought my son’s (business) team in from London and California, and they were blown away by the town.”

He sold his law practice in 2002 and retired from ArtsQuest in 2015, leaving Musikfest—which attracts upwards of one million attendees annually—and SteelStacks in the hands of the next generation of leaders. He’s now involved in the development of a new apartment complex adjacent to Bethlehem’s Moravian National Historic District. He’s also working to help transform other Pennsylvania towns as chair of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

The big idea is to convince legislators that public funding for the arts is vital to economic success.

“Arts, which are important to attracting and retaining creative residents, should be at the table when economic development is being discussed,” Parks said. “People are more interested in a lifestyle that includes experiences these days, and the arts are at the top of the list.”

The Council conducted focus groups throughout the state with art groups, local officials, chambers of commerce and transportation organizations about how arts could contribute to community development.

“From that data, we’re now in the process of moving forward with proposals for changing the way in which we look at how we’re going to do arts grants in the future,” he said. “Creativity is an economic engine that drives many industries from food to clothing to technology, design, accounting, architecture—we need to encourage creativity in all Pennsylvania communities. Our communities have great potential. Creativity is the pathway to achieving that potential.”
State of New Jersey in connection with development applications for various commercial and residential projects and other land use matters. Osterman was previously a partner at Kennedys CMK.

Sharon Estreicher Underberg L’85 is the new head of the legal team at Idexx, a company focused on veterinary diagnostics and practice software, along with water microbiology testing. She had been the corporate vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary at Kodak.

U.S. Rep. Matthew Cartwright L’86 delivered the keynote address at the Upper Delaware Council’s 31st Annual Awards Ceremony in April. He has served in Congress since 2013.

Amy De Shong L’86 made a presentation on education and family law topics at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s 2018 Exceptional Children Conference, where she focused on custody in special education. De Shong is a partner at Wisler Pearlstine, LLP, and a fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. She has also been included in U.S. News and World Report’s The Best Lawyers in America list for the past six years.

Daniel Guadalupe L’86 co-presented a three-part webinar series on important legal issues for food and beverage businesses, manufacturers, distributors, supermarkets, and restaurants. He is a member of the law firm Norris McLaughlin PA, where he provides “outside” general counsel advice and representation to two large food manufacturers located in New Jersey and New York City. He is also a litigator and the co-chair of Norris McLaughlin’s Litigation practice group.

Ferrier Stillman L’87 was named a Maryland Super Lawyer in the field of family law. She is a partner at Tydings & Rosenberg, LLP and is a co-chair of the firm’s Family Law practice group.

Lauren Greenspoon C’86, L’89 joined Carlton Fields’ Hartford, Conn., office as senior counsel. She is a member of the firm’s Mass Tort and Product Liability practice group. Greenspoon, who has nearly 20 years of experience as a product liability and commercial litigation attorney, most recently held a clerkship with the Hon. Donna Martinez of the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut. She is also a James W. Cooper Fellow of the Connecticut Bar Foundation and an elector of the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art.

Charles Marion C’86, W’86, L’89 was appointed co-chair of the Franchise Law Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Business Law section. The committee focuses on current and emerging issues and topics of interest to the franchise and business communities, along with the legal implications and trends facing franchisors, franchisees, and those desiring to develop franchise or distribution system, as well as those looking to invest in franchise systems. In his role as co-chair, Marion will facilitate the exchange of views and information on these topics and areas of concern by helping to provide high-quality educational programs and publications on the legal aspects of franchise law. He is a partner at Blank Rome, where he focuses his practice in the areas of franchise litigation, complex business litigation, intellectual property litigation and website accessibility and other litigation brought under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Grant Palmer L’89 became managing partner and chief executive officer at Blank Rome LLP. He was most recently the firm’s litigation department chair. Palmer joined Blank Rome in 1990 and has since become a nationally-recognized trial lawyer. He has served in several leadership roles at Blank Rome over the years, including the executive committee, partner board, lateral recruiting committee, and as the group leader of the commercial litigation practice. Palmer also founded and has chaired the firm’s pro bono committee, and in 2014, implemented mandatory pro bono requirements, which resulted in record-breaking participation and hours. He additionally commits significant time to numerous professional and community organizations.

Janine Pollack L’89 joined the Manhattan office of The Sultzter Law Group as a partner. She focuses on tackling unfair and deceptive practices such as false advertising and has experience in taking on disputes involving False Claims Act allegations, civil rights claims and deceptive products. She was previously a partner at Wolf Haldenstein Adler Freeman & Herz LLP. Pollack was also appointed a member of Law360’s 2019 Product Liability Editorial Advisory Board, which was created to get feedback on Law360’s coverage and to gain insight from experts in the field on how best to shape future coverage.

Donna Lady Alpi L’90 was named a member of the board of trustees at Easton, Maryland’s Academy Art Museum. She previously practiced tax law in Washington, D.C. Alpi is also on the board of directors of the Arlington Free Clinic.

L. Frank Cordero L’90 joined Greenberg Traurig’s tax practice as a shareholder in the firm’s Miami office. He focuses his work on mergers and acquisitions involving domestic and foreign
public and private companies and private equity funds, corporate and partnership tax, business structuring and executive compensation, and he advises buyers and sellers on taxable and tax-free acquisitions, golden parachute issues, establishment of profits interest arrangements in partnership entities and public and private offerings of equity and debt securities. He also advises multinational businesses with respect to investments and activities in the U.S. and abroad. Cordero was most recently chair of Akerman’s federal tax practice.

Wifredo Ferrer L’90 was promoted to executive partner of Holland & Knight’s Miami office. He is head of the firm’s global compliance and investigations teams, and in his new role oversees day-to-day management of the office while continuing his defense, corporate compliance and internal investigations practice. Before joining Holland & Knight in 2017, Ferrer had been the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida.

Brian Slater GL’90 joined Pierce Bainbridge as a partner and the head of the firm’s Life Sciences practice in New York, where he defends companies against Hatch-Waxman Act litigation in addition to advising on and protecting intellectual property. He was previously chair of Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP’s Life Sciences practice.

Joseph Manko, Jr. C’87, L’91 was appointed independent director to the boards of Directors of Safeguard Scientifics, Inc. He is the senior principal of The Horton Fund and a joint owner of Sierra Capital Investments, LP and its affiliates. Manko also serves on the board of directors of RMS Medical Products Inc., and Creative Realities, Inc.

Douglas Henkin L’92 joined Dentons’ Litigation and Dispute Resolution practice as a partner in New York. His national litigation practice includes trial, arbitration, regulatory and appellate work on federal and state court securities and complex commercial litigation.

David Richter ENG’87, W’87, L’92 was appointed to serve as an observer to Hill International’s board of directors. The company manages construction risk. He worked at Hill from 1995 to 2017, holding the titles of general counsel, group president, COO and CEO. Richter was also a member of the board of directors from 1998 to 2017.

Steven Spielvogel C’89, L’92 gave a lecture at Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and also sat on a panel at the School.

Craig Lipsay L’93, WG’93 was named an adviser to the board and management of Ventura Cannabis and Wellness Corp. He is a senior investment banker and former managing director at Morgan Stanley and Merrill Lynch in New York City.

Nancy Bedel Barnes L’94, a partner in the Cleveland office of Thompson Hine LLP, was included in The Best Lawyers in America 2018 for her work in the area of labor and employment law. She was recently appointed the head of her firm’s Labor and Employment Law practice group and also serves on its Diversity & Inclusion and Women’s initiatives. Barnes focuses her practice on a wide variety of employment-related topics as well as strategic and proactive planning to avoid litigation and disputes. In addition to defending employers in class-action and individual claims, she is a frequent speaker on cutting-edge developments in employment law.

Jennifer Fox Crisp L’94 was appointed global director, talent management at Baker McKenzie. She leads the firm’s talent management professionals and is responsible for developing and delivering the talent management business partnering service across all regions. She joined Baker McKenzie in 2012 and was previously director of talent management for North America, where she was responsible for the implementation of recruiting, professional development, performance management and human resources strategic initiatives across 14 offices.

Stefanie Fogel W’90, L’95, a partner at DLA Piper, helped the firm gain Gold Standard Certification from the Women in Law Empowerment Forum for the sixth consecutive year. She is a co-founder and co-chair of DLA Piper’s LAW (Leadership Alliance for Women). To qualify for Gold Standard Certification, large American law firms must demonstrate that women are represented in a significant percentage of the equity partnership and the highest leadership positions. The program also focuses on the extent to which women have been promoted to equity partnership, integrated into the firm’s governance structure and recognized as major contributors through upper-tier compensation, as well as the level of meaningful diversity amongst women equity partners.

Shawn Baldwin L’96 was appointed general counsel and corporate secretary of Select Interior Concepts, Inc., a diversified building products and service company. In addition to managing the legal functions of the company, he also provides senior management with comprehensive advice for overall strategies. Baldwin was previously senior vice president at Equifax, where he supported its global merger and acquisition efforts and directed Equifax’s international legal function.
Dionne Broadus L’97 became vice president of development and external relations at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. She was previously the chief development and external affairs officer at Case Western Reserve University’s Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences.

Giles Cohen L’97 was named acting chief counsel, Office of the Chief Accountant, at the Securities and Exchange Commission. He joined the SEC in 2005 as senior counsel in the Division of Enforcement, and later served as counsel in the Office of Commissioner Luis Aguilar. Cohen had served as the Office of the Chief Accountant’s deputy chief counsel since May 2016.

Robert Frucht L’97 joined Freeborn & Peters LLP’s Corporate practice group as a partner at the firm’s New York office. He focuses his practice on domestic and international transaction-based corporate and securities law, including debt and equity financings involving both public offerings and private placements, negotiated mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, financing transactions and general corporate counseling. Frucht was previously a partner at Riker Danzig Scherer Hyland & Perretti LLP.

Priscilla “Sally” Mattison L’97, who is of counsel to Bernard M. Resnick, Esq., PC, co-presented a Continuing Legal Education webinar hosted by The TASA Group titled “Pitfalls for Contestants in Reality Competition Shows.” She also recently gave a “2018 Update on USA Concert Touring Issues” to students of entertainment law at the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, and provided “A Quick Overview of Intellectual Property Law” to entrepreneurial engineering students at Temple University’s College of Engineering.

Michael Gold L’98 was appointed a representative member of the NASA Advisory Council, where he chairs the newly-formed Regulatory and Policy Committee. As a member, Gold is part of a group that advises NASA’s leadership on critical issues. He is vice president of regulatory and policy at Maxar Technologies Ltd., a global technology innovator powering the new space economy, and is also the chair of the Federal Aviation Administration’s Commercial Space Transportation Advisory Committee.

Ruchika Kumar GL’98 was featured in an American Healthcare Leader article titled “Ruchika Kumar Sticks to Her Principles.” The story covered how her upbringing in India influenced her life, including her legal career and interest in community service. Kumar is assistant general counsel at Genentech.

Bruce Merenstein L’98 was selected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers. AAAL advances the administration of justice and promotes the highest standards of professionalism and advocacy in appellate courts. Merenstein is chair of the Appellate practice group for Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP.

Adrienne Brown, L’99, married Damon Mosley in a ceremony near Dallas, Texas. She has changed her name to Adrienne Mosley.

Daniel Horwood L’99 was appointed general counsel of Ra Medical Systems, Inc., which is a commercial-stage medical device company. He previously served as corporate and transactions counsel at Teradata Corporation, where he was responsible for advising on securities compliance issues and mergers and acquisitions.

David Kerstein C’96, L’99 joined Validity Finance, a litigation funder, as chief risk officer. He was previously a senior investment manager and legal counsel at Bentham IMF.

Brian Gurman L’00 joined Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP’s real estate, land use and environmental practice group in New York as a partner. He was previously a partner at Venable LLP and has nearly 20 years of experience in the New York City real estate market.

Tehmina Jaffer L’00 joined Disney+ as senior vice president of business affairs. In her new role, she is helping launch and run Disney+, a streaming service expected to compete with Netflix that will feature original content from Disney, Pixar, Marvel and Lucasfilm and will also exclusively stream Walt Disney Studios films. At Disney+, Jaffer leads all aspects of business affairs strategy, policy and procedure for the Disney+ content and marketing team, and she also works closely with Disney-ABC Television. She was previously an executive at Netflix, where she was director of original series and helped develop business strategies for shows including 13 Reasons Why, Narcos and Maniac.

Gera Peoples L’00 joined Akerman LLP’s Miami office as a partner. He focuses on fraud and recovery work. He was previously counsel to the U.S. Attorney in the Southern District of Florida.

Joyce Rogers L’00 was appointed chief government affairs officer of Advocate Aurora Health. In her new role, she leads the strategic direction of Advocate Aurora’s federal and state advocacy efforts to advance policy and legislation as a member of the
executive leadership team. Rogers was most recently senior vice president of government affairs at AARP, where she led federal and state advocacy for the organization, including regulatory and litigation matters involving appropriations, budget, health care, financial and tax issues. Rogers oversaw multi-year advocacy efforts related to drug costs, Medicare and Medicaid.

Michael Winograd L’00 joined Pierce Bainbridge Beck Price & Hecht LLP as a partner in the firm’s New York office. He focuses his practice on regulatory and policy advocacy related to government, health care, and intellectual property issues. He previously served as senior vice president of government affairs at AARP, where he counsels corporations and alternative entities formed under Delaware law, and handles corporate governance and complex commercial litigation matters involving fiduciary duty claims, contract disputes, mergers and acquisitions challenges, and summary proceedings in the Delaware Court of Chancery and the Delaware Supreme Court.

Jason Abel L’03 was elected partner at Steptoe & Johnson LLP’s Washington, D.C., office. He leads the firm’s political law and campaign finance practice and advises clients on a range of government affairs issues, including legislative strategy and process. Abel has also been named to The Hill’s “Top Lobbyists” list for the past three years.

David Albert L’03 was elected to the board of directors for National Disease Research Interchange, a Philadelphia-based nonprofit that serves as the nation’s leading source of human cells, organs and tissues for research. He was elected to a three-year term. As director of the Strategy, Emerging Technologies and Public Policy group at Cozen O’Connor, Albert advises companies of all sizes on a range of issues, including those related to the creation, maintenance and protection of their intellectual property assets. He is also a member of the International Trademark Association and the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations and serves on the executive committee of the board of The Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians.

Maria Gonzalez Calvet C’97, L’03 joined Ropes & Gray’s Washington office as a partner on the firm’s anti-corruption and international risk team. She counsels clients doing business and investing in the Latin American region to identify and avoid corruption-related risks, and she focuses on running internal investigations, advising companies on working with regulators and devising meaningful compliance programs. She was previously in-house counsel at General Electric.

Eric Klinger-Wilensky L’03 presented at a Strafford Live CLE Webinar called “M&A Engagement Letters: Strategies for Buyers, Sellers, Investment Banks and Their Counsel.” He is a partner at Morris, Nichols, Arst & Tunnell LLP, where he counsels corporations and special committees in the context of potential transactions, aids corporations and investors in structuring capital investments, and advises generally on corporate governance issues. He also provides corporate-related advice in the context of transaction and governance litigation, and has been involved in a number of key M&A and other corporate opinions issued by the Delaware courts over the past decade.

Eszter Kutas GL’03 was named the director of the Philadelphia Holocaust Remembrance Foundation, where she had previously done consulting work. The appointment coincided with the opening of the newly-expanded Philadelphia Holocaust Memorial Plaza on Benjamin Franklin Parkway. Kutas is responsible for activating it as an educational site and building community engagement in addition to managing the Foundation’s fundraising campaign.

Nathanael “Nathan” Hartland L’04 joined Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP as a partner in the firm’s Baltimore office. He represents public and private entities in a range of matters related to contracting with the federal and state government, including export control laws, U.S. trade sanctions, regulatory compliance, importing, government leasing and other matters relating to domestic and international commerce. His government contracts and grants

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Setting an Example for People with Disabilities as Assistant U.S. Attorney

Last fall, Assistant U.S. Attorney Lauren DeBruicker L’98 poured her energies into planning her first argument before the Third Circuit. She was defending the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in a challenge to the agency’s decision not to renew the federal firearms license of a dealer who had been implicated in a conspiracy to trade illegal machine guns.

But DeBruicker, as in all her cases, had to do additional planning that most litigation lawyers never consider. “It’s not just preparing for your argument,” she admitted.

That’s because DeBruicker uses a wheelchair. For the ATF case, she had to ask the clerk of court about arguing from the counsel table instead of the podium, and if the panel of judges would be able to see her from there. She had to figure out if she could see the colored lights on the podium telling her how much time he had, and if she needed a microphone. “And is that table high enough to roll under?” she asked.

All this preparation is the result of a car accident during a cross-country road-trip that DeBruicker took to start her sophomore year at Stanford University. The accident left her paralyzed. This life-changing event would eventually transform her into an advocate for herself and others.

It led to her deep involvement with Inglis, which offers both community services and housing to Philadelphians with disabilities. DeBruicker chaired the organization from 2013 to 2017, and was the first person with a disability to do so in its 140-year history. Under her leadership, Inglis focused on building affordable wheelchair-accessible housing and using technology to promote independence. She is also a member of the Mayor’s Commission on People with Disabilities in Philadelphia. On April 11, Acting Without Boundaries, an organization that runs a theater program for teenagers and young adults with physical disabilities, honored DeBruicker with the 2019 AWB Hero Award. It recognizes a community leader who displays remarkable efforts to overcome adversity, enhance awareness, reduce stigma and increase community access for disabled individuals.

DeBruicker believes that better integration of disabled people into an able-bodied world rests with a change in societal attitudes. “The greatest barriers are the ones in attitude. I can see a step and fix it by putting in a ramp. But can I get you to hire someone with a disability?”

The strongest impact, DeBruicker said, comes when people with disabilities are visibly contributing to society along with everyone else. She chose private practice, rather than a career in disability rights, for just that reason.

“All I felt I could make as much of an impact doing something else and being an example of someone pursuing a career and being successful at it,” she said. “I felt the more people see people with disabilities as a regular part of their communities—as schoolmates, neighbors, colleagues—hopefully less of a stigma comes with it.”

But after a successful career at Duane Morris, where she was a partner in the trial group, she felt the need to make a more direct impact.

So, two years ago, she took the plunge to become a more visible and hands-on advocate at the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Philadelphia. She’s in court often, and part of her work is enforcing the Americans with Disabilities Act. “Now, when I see something and say, ‘someone ought to do something about that,’ I can actually be that person. I have the tools and resources to bring about change.”

As a member of the office’s Civil Division, she also prosecutes companies accused of defrauding the government, and defends the United States, its agencies, and employees in court.

“I love the diversity of the practice,” DeBruicker said. “It’s fun to be both on the affirmative side and defensive side of cases.” Best of all, she says, is that her job is now “to make a difference and be sure that justice is done. It’s a great feeling.”
clients include major multinational organizations, national and regional enterprises, small businesses and nonprofits.

Elizabeth Jaffe C’99, L’04 was elected partner at Latham & Watkins LLP. She is a member of the Capital Markets practice in the Corporate department who represents corporate and institutional clients in the structuring, negotiation, and execution of complex OTC and capital markets derivative products.

Catherine Lee L’04 was elected to partnership at Latham & Watkins LLP. She is a member of the Capital Markets practice in the Corporate Department who represents corporate and institutional clients on the structuring, negotiation, and execution of complex OTC and capital markets derivative products.

Craig Bridwell L’05 joined Fox Rothschild as a partner in family law after the firm absorbed the San Francisco boutique firm of Apex Family Law, where he had been practicing. He litigates cases related to the dissolution of marriages and domestic partnerships, custody, child and spousal support, asset division and transactional work on premarital, post-marital and co-habitation agreements. He frequently handles domestic violence restraining orders and Marvin actions.

Jason Meltzer C’02, L’05 was elected partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP. He has experience in a wide range of complex commercial litigation, with an emphasis on securities and consumer products class action defense. He also has extensive experience representing clients in antitrust, mass tort, breach of contract, commercial fraud, insurance and merger-related litigation.

Sandra Millor L’05 was promoted to partner at Akerman LLP, where she is a litigation attorney in the firm’s Miami office. Her practice focuses on cross-border commercial disputes and international litigation and arbitration, as well as class action matters. She has extensive experience navigating a variety of cases, including claims pertaining to the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO), the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), labeling disputes, employment and real estate matters and matters involving the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Megan Noh L’05 joined Pryor Cashman’s New York office as a partner. She was previously a partner at former boutique art law firm Cahill, Cosset, Noh & Robinson LLP. She has nearly 15 years of combined transactional and litigation experience in private practice, in-house positions and the auction world, having previously served as vice president, senior counsel at Bonhams and with Christie’s estates, appraisals and valuations department. Her clients include auction houses, individual collectors, galleries, individual artists, estates and non-profits, whom she advises on a multitude of transactional and litigation matters. She is co-chair of the New York County Lawyers Association’s Art Law Committee, a member of the New York City Bar Association’s Art Law Committee, a board member of Professional Advisors to the International Art Market, and a member of Authentication in Art’s Working Group on Art & Law.

Evan Davis L’06 received the Philadelphia Business Journal’s 2017 “Best of the Bar” award and was named by Emerging Leaders of Gaming and Global Gaming Business magazine to their 2018 list of “40 Under 40.” Davis is vice president and general counsel of SugarHouse Casino in Philadelphia, where he oversees all legal matters for the company. He is a member of the casino’s executive team and works directly with all department leaders at the property. As an on-site resource, Davis has developed workplace policies and procedures to secure a positive impact on all levels of business operations. He also serves on the board of directors of the Ed Snider Youth Hockey Foundation.

Ramy Hanna L’06 joined King Spalding’s New York office as a partner in the firm’s trial and global disputes practice group. He was previously a partner and an intellectual property litigation lawyer with Foley & Lardner LLP.

Brian Miller L’06 was elected to partnership at Latham & Watkins LLP. He is a member of the public company representation and capitals markets practices in the Corporate department who advises public company and private equity fund clients on complex issues arising under U.S. securities laws. He has significant experience in public and private securities offerings, as well as general company representation and securities matters, including reporting issues under Section 13 and Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

Harris Mufson C’03, L’06 was promoted to partner at Proskauer’s New York office. He focuses on employment issues and represents employers in disputes regarding discrimination and retaliation, whistleblowing, sexual harassment, wrongful discharge, defamation, breach of contract, wage and hour and restrictive covenants.

Morgan Taylor Zurn GR’06, L’06 was sworn in as a vice chancellor on the Delaware Court of Chancery in October. Prior to confirmation, she served
the Court as a Master in Chancery for several years, adjudicating disputes in the areas of trusts, estates and guardianships. She noted her gratitude for the encouragement and support of her husband, John Zurn L'06.

**Justin Danilewitz CGS’03, L’07** was elected a member to Lankenau Medical Center’s Foundation Board of Trustees. Lankenau Medical Center is part of Main Line Health. Danilewitz is a partner in the White Collar and Government Litigation practice at Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr, LLP. Previously, he served for five years as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Department of Justice.

**Issa Moe L’07** joined ACA International in Minneapolis as vice president and general counsel. He was previously general counsel and chief compliance officer for First National Collection Bureau, Inc., an ACA member company in Reno, Nev.

**Raghav Bajaj ENG’05, L’08** was promoted to partner at Haynes and Boone, LLP. He is a member of the firm’s intellectual property practice group at the Austin office, where he focuses on patent office trials before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board. Bajaj also prepares and prosecutes patent applications for clients in various industries and technologies.

**Siobhan Cole L’08** was elected partner at White and Williams’ Philadelphia office. She represents individuals and commercial clients in a variety of complex areas arising from business disputes. She has handled defamation cases, product liability cases, employment matters, breach of fiduciary duty cases, and all manner of contract disputes.

**Brian Schenker L’08** was promoted to partner at Reed Smith LLP in the firm’s Philadelphia office. He was previously an associate. Schenker is a member of the Financial Industry group who practices in the areas of finance, restructuring and insolvency.

**Nicholas Wille L’08** was elected partner at Ulmer & Berne LLP. He is a commercial litigator at the firm’s Cleveland office and represents clients in complex business matters throughout the country. Wille has been named to the Ohio Super Lawyers Rising Stars list for the last three years.

**Bora Bozkurt L’09** was elected partner at Latham & Watkins LLP. He is a member of the tax department and specializes in U.S. federal income taxation in connection with various transactions, with a particular emphasis on international and corporate tax. His practice encompasses a range of cross-border and domestic transactions, including financing transactions, derivatives, private and registered securities offerings, cross-border tax planning and restructuring and other structured finance transactions.

**Victoria Mazgalev L’09** was promoted to special counsel at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP’s New York office. She is a member of the firm’s Corporate department and Asset Management practice.

**Shane Segarra L’09** was elected partner at Holland & Knight LLP, where he is a member of the firm’s business section in Miami. He focuses his practice on corporate law, including capital markets and securities matters, mergers and acquisitions, and corporate governance.

**Linda Shi L’09** was recently profiled by Vanguard Law Magazine for her work as the general counsel of Red Spark and of her startup company, Kapsul. Coincidentally, after the article was finalized for publication, she accepted a new position with the financial services firm, The Vanguard Group (which is of no relation to the magazine). In her new role, she supports the company’s new Innovation Studio in Philadelphia.

**Erin Valentine L’09** was promoted from associate to counsel at Chaffetz Lindsey’s New York office. She was also named head of client development, a new role at the firm, where she is responsible for developing client and intermediary relationships and creating new business opportunities. Since joining Chaffetz Lindsey in 2010, Valentine has handled a variety of international arbitration, complex commercial litigation, and insurance coverage disputes.

**Veena Viswanatha L’09** was promoted from counsel to partner at Buckley LLP. She represents corporate and individual clients in complex litigation and government investigations. Her work spans a wide variety of high-stakes litigation and investigations, including matters on alleged securities fraud, breaches of fiduciary duty and other shareholder disputes, and violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.

**Zoë Wilhelm L’09** was elected partner at Drinker, Biddle & Reath, LLP’s Los Angeles office. She has a diverse litigation practice with a focus on class actions, accounting and valuation litigation, and general business disputes.
When he arrived at Penn Law, Karan Kalia GL’16 wasn’t particularly familiar with using technology in a legal or educational setting. After working with the top lawyer and jurist of India, Ram Jethmalani, he had learned the conventional way of researching through books. “I was not at all tech-savvy,” he said, adding that initially he refused to use a computer to take exams because he was more comfortable using a pen and paper. “Coming from India, I had this preconceived notion that lawyers should only read from books and always write by hand,” he said.

But he was inspired to dive into the world of legal technology after learning of India’s shortcomings in comparison to countries like the United States. Today, Kalia is revolutionizing legal research technology in India with an eye toward eventually taking his AI-powered search engine, LegitQuest, on a global scale.

LegitQuest is an Indian caselaw search engine that forgoes the use of headnotes. LegitQuest’s popular and most distinguished feature, called the iDRAF (Decision, Reasoning, Arguments and Findings), highlights the multiple issues, pertinent facts, the petitioner and respondent’s arguments, the reasoning and findings, and the judge’s decision. iDRAF effectively assists in pulling out paragraphs which have precedent value and can be cited in a court of law. “It helps make work more efficient for lawyers,” Kalia said.

He said there are a few major pitfalls in relying too heavily on headnotes. “The biggest issue is that headnotes are the publishers’ interpretation of case law,” he said. “It’s subjective.” Furthermore, he said, after reading the headnote, a lawyer still reads the paragraph that the headnote is referring to as headnotes can’t be officially cited.

Enter LegitQuest, which not only highlights the most pertinent information directly from the case, but also offers a graphing tool that visualizes a treatment of a case as being approved, overruled, cited, distinguished or referred.

From 1950 to today, about four million cases and counting are on file in India’s court records. In August 2016, Kalia began his enterprise by reading about 70,000 cases over eight months. To date, that number is closer to half a million, and that’s with the help of a legal and tech team he’s assembled. The team, in addition to building the LegitQuest search engine website, has added artificial intelligence to the mix. The algorithm they’ve developed reads Kalia’s caselaw data and aims to independently highlight a case’s salient information.

When they first tried the algorithm with data from 500 cases, the technology yielded analytical information on five percent of the cases, he said. Then the team added 10,000 more, and with a few adjustments, the rate jumped to 20 percent. “Every time we feed more data to the algorithm, it becomes better,” Kalia said, adding he’s hoping for an 80 percent success rate in the coming years. It’s complex work, he said, because with judges’ different writing styles, there isn’t a simple pattern to follow.

The long-term plan is to master the algorithm to correctly analyze cases and produce an AI-based judgment, and then Kalia, with an eye on U.S. and U.K. markets, can adapt LegitQuest to other countries’ legal systems.

Thus far, LegitQuest has been successful largely through word of mouth, Kalia said. He’s had some challenges convincing attorneys to embrace new technology, but LegitQuest has been widely lauded in India’s legal community: The Supreme Court Bar Association, law firms, senior advocates and national law schools are using it.

Kalia said he is excited about what the future holds for LegitQuest, particularly once the artificial intelligence algorithm is perfected. “Really, the real work has been to train the system to sit down and make it understand,” he said. “It’s based on judgments, not a dream.”
Patel is corporate counsel at Brinker International, Inc., which owns the Chili’s and Maggiano’s brands. He is also on the board of directors of the Richardson Rotary Club and chairs the Pro Bono Association of the Human Rights Initiative.

Mohamed Sabur L’10 joined Faegre Baker Daniels as an associate in the Corporate practice group in the firm’s Minneapolis office. He was previously an associate at Adler & Colvin.

Jennifer Ying L’10 was elected a partner at Morris, Nichols, Arsh & Tunnell LLP. She focuses her practice on patent, trademark and trade secret disputes in federal and state court. Her experience encompasses all aspects of litigation from outset to trial and through appeal, and she has represented clients in various appellate courts across the country. Ying also serves on the Merit Selection Panel for the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware.

Jessica Birnbaum L’11 was elected to partner in Schiff Hardin LLP’s Chicago office. She focuses her practice on private clients, trusts and estates.

Remy Nshimiyanma LPS’08, L’11 was promoted to counsel at Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP. He is based in the firm’s Philadelphia office and advises clients on corporate and securities matters, including mergers and acquisitions, securities laws compliance, corporate governance, and commercial contracts. A significant part of his practice involves international corporate transactions.

John Rolecki GR’11, L’11 was elected to partner at Varnum LLP, where he is based in Grand Rapids, Mich. He is a member of the firm’s litigation team and represents clients in complex commercial litigation. Rolecki provides counsel on matters including regulatory compliance, licensing and insurance coverage.

Anne Rollins L’12 was promoted to partner in Reed Smith LLP’s Philadelphia office. She is a member of the firm’s complex litigation group and concentrates on a range of commercial litigation disputes, including financial services, contracts, business torts, and class actions.

Meera Chandramouli L’13 was appointed director and senior counsel at MG Capital, a real estate private equity investment manager specializing in Manhattan luxury residential properties. She joined the Fund Management Team at MG Capital’s headquarters in New York and is responsible for all legal matters surrounding the company’s transactions and firm operations. Her responsibilities include contributing to business operations as well as negotiating, structuring and documenting a variety of transactions. In addition, Chandramouli serves as the primary liaison with outside legal counsel. She also manages general compliance and risk-management within business operations. She was previously at Arent Fox LLP, where she worked on white collar investigations and commercial litigation.

Eric Lorber L’13 was named leader of the Center on Economic and Financial Power, a new program within the Center on Economic and Financial Power, a new program within the Center on Economic and Financial Power, a new program within the Center on Economic and Financial Power, a new program within the Center on Economic and Financial Power, a new program within the Center on Economic and Financial Power. He was previously at Arent Fox LLP, where she worked on white collar investigations and commercial litigation.

Kaytlin Roholt GR’14, L’14 was awarded a year-long public policy fellowship with The Fund for American Studies. During the fellowship, she will participate in academic discussion sessions in Washington, D.C., with public policy experts, academics and political leaders on topics fundamental to understanding how to effect change in our political system. She currently works as a litigation and government regulation associate at Jones Day; additionally, she is a board member of the Federalist Society’s Young Lawyers Chapter and the Thomas More Society of America. She is also a Leonine Fellow, a James Wilson Fellow, a John Marshall Fellow, and a Blackstone Legal Fellow.

Meredith Mill L’17 joined Blank Rome as an associate in the firm’s Corporate, M&A and Securities group. She concentrates her practice on general business and corporate matters. Mill was previously an assistant district attorney in the appellate unit of the Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office.

Bobby Hampton L’18 joined Fish & Richardson’s Boston office as an associate in its Intellectual Property litigation group. He was previously a summer associate with the firm and recently completed the International and Comparative Business Law Program at the Bucerius Law School in Germany.

Emilie Raber L’19 will join Building One Community — The Center for Immigrant Opportunity (B1C) in September as a full-time attorney for the organization’s immigration legal services team. She was previously a fellow at Immigrant Justice Corps’ Fellowship program, which in February partnered with B1C. Raber has experience in tenant and consumer rights, and while in law school, she was involved in expunging criminal records, supporting war crimes litigation, and representing asylum-seekers.
Mr. Brener is survived by his wife, Evelyn; children Stephen and Roberta; grandchildren Jennifer and Thomas; and great-granddaughter Melanie.

Stephen Korn C’45, L’50, a senior partner at Dilworth Paxson and World War II veteran, died March 1. He was 94.

Mr. Korn enrolled at the University of Pennsylvania in 1941 on a four-year Philadelphia Mayor’s Scholarship. He interrupted his studies to serve as a bombardier in the Army Air Force from 1943 to 1945. He flew missions on B-24 bombers out of Italy during the war and was honorably discharged with the rank of first lieutenant.

He returned to Penn and completed his bachelor’s degree, and then earned his law degree at Penn Law in 1950. He began his law career as an associate at the Philadelphia firm of Blanc, Steinberg & Balder and then worked at Fox, Rothschild, O’Brien & Frankel. He specialized in corporate, real estate and healthcare law.

In 1959, he co-founded the Korn & Cohan law firm, which in 1966 merged with Dilworth, Paxson, Kalish & Levy. For almost 30 years, Mr. Korn was on the firm’s executive committee and chaired the corporate and real estate departments. He retired in the 1990s.

Colleagues remembered him for his terrific work as a lawyer, particularly...
for his precise grammar skills, and
for being a consummate gentleman.

Mr. Korn was also active in his
community. In 1976, he became an Ein-
stein Medical Center trustee, and he
expanded the role in 1990 to become
chairman of the boards of the Einstein
Healthcare Foundation and Einstein
Medical Center. He was additionally
a trustee or board member for the
Wistar Institute, Delaware Valley Hos-
pital Council, Jewish Federation of
Greater Philadelphia, Willowcrest
Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Cen-
ter and the Philadelphia College of
Performing Arts.

He loved opera, tennis and golf,
and as an amateur geologist, enjoyed
keeping many half-slices of rock sam-
pies around his law office.

Mr. Korn is preceded in death by
a sister. He is survived by children
Peter Korn c’72 and Margaret; three
grandchildren; a brother; and long-
time companion Hinda.

Christopher Branda, Jr. L’51, a long-
time Philadelphia tax lawyer, died
Sept. 24. He was 92.

Mr. Branda, who grew up in Trooper,
Pa., graduated from Swarthmore Col-
lege in 1945. After graduating from
Penn Law in 1951, he joined the Phil-
adelphialaw firm of Dechert Price &
Rhoads, now Dechert.

He practiced tax law as a partner
there from 1951 to 1991, serving in
the military service from 1952 to 1953.
At Dechert, Mr. Branda held several
leadership positions, including chair-
man of the tax department, managing
partner, chairman of the finance and
professional resource committees and
policy committee member.

Upon his retirement from Dechert,
Mr. Branda was a professor of law and
a director of the graduate tax program
at Temple University Law school until
1994, when he became an adjunct law
professor for four more years.

In 1998, Mr. Branda moved to
Naples, Fla., but enjoyed spending
the summer months in Avalon, NJ. He
was a competitive tennis and bridge
player and loved sailing his 27-foot
boat, Sea Bee, on the New Jersey coast.
Mr. Branda also delighted in his daily
martini and a good limerick.

He is survived by his wife, Leslie;
daughters Charlotte Bowie CW’75 and
Dudley Schipper; stepchildren E. Jon
and Alexandra Wagner; five grand-
children and two great-grandsons.

Samuel Dennis W’51, L’54, a former
managing partner at Fox Rothschild,
died Nov. 12. He was 89.

In addition to his time at Fox Roth-
schild, Mr. Dennis was also a partner
at Meltzer and Schifferin. He was a
founding member and past president
of Temple Beth Hillel, and a past pres-
ident of Squires Golf Club.

Mr. Dennis is preceded in death by
his first wife, Patricia. He is survived
by his wife, Mary Ann, children Judy,
Ellen and Mike; and grandchildren
Russell, Brian and Andrew.

Seymour “Sy” Kurland L’57, who
had a distinguished career within the
Philadelphia legal community, died
Nov. 23. He was 88.

Mr. Kurland began his career at
Wolf Block. As a young associate, he
convinced the U.S. Supreme Court to
review a lower court’s decision that
had ruled in his opponent’s favor.
Later, he helped shape antitrust law
precedent as lead counsel in several
national cases, and he also helped
write Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of
Civil Procedure, which outlines the
parameters of class-action lawsuits.

Mr. Kurland was the first attor-
ney from a large Philadelphia firm
to represent plaintiffs in antitrust
class actions, and he organized a
litigation department at Wolf Block
that became nationally acclaimed.
He was a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyer and a founder of the Historical Society of the United States Courts for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Mr. Kurland served as chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association in 1987.

From 1988 to 1990, he was the Philadelphia city solicitor, where he was known for his high ethical standards, including refusal to accept season tickets for the Philadelphia Phillies that previous city solicitors had enjoyed. At the conclusion of his term, he joined Dechert LLP until his retirement in 1999.

Then the late U.S. District Judge Norma Shapiro L’51 asked him to conduct hearings as a special master in a case filed by tenants protesting poor living conditions in Chester Housing Authority buildings. The case resulted in improved conditions, and for the past decade, the housing has had a waiting list.

Mr. Kurland, who enjoyed travel, completed Outward Bound wilderness training at the age of 48. His exploits included climbing Mount Kilimanjaro and running with the bulls in Pamplona.

In addition to his strong moral compass, Mr. Kurland was remembered as a mentor and friend to many attorneys.

He is preceded in death by a son, Frederick, and a sister. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Shirley; children Amy, Laura and Daniel; a brother and sister; and nine grandchildren.

Richard Cantor C’56, L’59, a longtime Philadelphia-area attorney, died March 18. He was 84.

Mr. Cantor was a veteran of the U.S. Army.

For a few decades he was partner at Lentz Cantor Kilgore Massey, which in 1997 became Lentz, Cantor & Massey, Ltd. Mr. Cantor, based in Malvern, Pa., specialized in estate planning, and the law areas of family, real estate, insurance and personal injury. He retired from the firm in 2011.

Mr. Cantor enjoyed rowing, sailing, golfing and spending time with family.

He is survived by children L. Michael Cantor C’84 and Jill; and grandsons James, Matthew and Colton.

Mr. Kopp also had several political appointments throughout his career. In 1980, Pennsylvania Gov. Dick Thornburgh appointed Mr. Kopp to his Special State Tax Commission. Two years later, Philadelphia Mayor William Green III named him co-chair of the Philadelphia Tax Committee.


It was also in 2009 that Mr. Kopp left Wolf Block and joined Cozen O’Connor, where he was senior counsel and a member of the tax department. Two years later, Gov. Tom Corbett tapped him to serve as chairman of the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority. As chairman, he advocated for the dredging of the Port of Philadelphia.

Mr. Kopp was a powerful adviser to Republican politicians, including Bob Dole, Mitt Romney, John McCain and Arlen Specter, and served on Pennsylvania’s 51st Electoral College.

Charles Kopp L’60

Mr. Kopp was a noted Philadelphia tax attorney and influential political adviser and fundraiser who was widely respected by members of both parties, died Feb. 6. He was 86.

Mr. Kopp began his legal career at Wolf Block in 1960, where he remained for many decades and eventually chaired the firm’s tax department and became chairman and co-chairman of the firm.

Charles Kopp L’60
Mr. Kopp was a powerful adviser to Republican politicians, including Bob Dole, Mitt Romney, John McCain and Arlen Specter. He was known as a gifted fundraiser for the GOP, having raised millions for the party over the years, which many credited to his reputation as a true gentleman and man of great consideration. He served on Pennsylvania’s 51st Electoral College.

Democrats also respected him. Former Philadelphia Mayor Ed Rendell was known to call Mr. Kopp when the state legislature was going to vote on bills affecting the city, as Mr. Kopp, a champion of Philadelphia, had the ear of Republican state lawmakers.

In addition to his law practice and political involvement, Mr. Kopp served on the Thomas Jefferson University board of trustees; the Rothman Orthopaedic Institute board; the Resolution Trust Corporation Region I advisory board; the Provident National Bank board of directors; and the PNC Philadelphia advisory board. In 1988, he received the Pop Warner Gold Football Award, a national recognition for a distinguished record or service to youth, community and humanity. He enjoyed spending time in Ventnor, N.J., and taking long walks.

Mr. Kopp was known as an excellent tax lawyer on federal, state and local levels and an expert in corporate acquisitions and mergers, but he was immensely well-regarded for his thoughtfulness, kindness, sage advice, love of humor and being a trusted friend and mentor to many.

Ronald Scott L’60, a retired U.S. Naval Captain and Philadelphia trial attorney, died Sept. 6. He was 88.

Mr. Scott was born in Merion, Pa. To pay for his degree at Penn Law, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, where he was trained as a fighter pilot. On active duty, he flew off the USS Bennington and the USS Antietam, which were Essex Class aircraft carriers. Later, in the Navy Reserves, he rose to rank of captain before retiring from Naval duty in 1990.

Mr. Scott specialized in aircraft accidents as a trial attorney in Philadelphia, and his work took him all around the world. He was also a life-long member of the Union League of Philadelphia. He sang with the Union League Glee Club and Narberth’s New Horizons Glee Club and regularly toured with the groups to serenade Philadelphia-area nursing home residents.

He was also an avid aviator and sailor throughout his life, which led him to retire in the southwest Florida sailboat community of Punta Gorda Isles.

Mr. Scott was preceded in death by his youngest son, William. He is survived by two sons Ronald, Jr., and Alexander, and five grandchildren.

Edward Jones, Jr. C’57, L’61, a former stockbroker who led AAA Mid-Atlantic for 20 years, died Dec. 17 after injuries from a fall at the Union League of Philadelphia. He was 82.

Mr. Jones was a Philadelphia native. As an undergraduate at Penn, he was a member of St. Anthony Hall and the Mask and Wig Club. After graduating from Penn Law in 1961, he joined the law firm of Walter Gibbons and also a member of the Philadelphia, Merion Golf and Gulph Mills Golf clubs; in Tucson, Ariz., where he had a vacation home, he was a member of the Ventana Canyon Golf and Racquet and the Mountain Oyster clubs. He also enjoyed a vacation home in Stone Harbor, N.J.

He was remembered for his devotion to his family.

In addition to his son, Mr. Jones is survived by his wife, Meredith Smith Jones C’58; daughter Julie; and eight grandchildren.

George Decas L’62, a Massachusetts attorney who was civically active in his native town of Wareham, died Feb. 19. He was 81.

In the mid-1960s, he was associated with the late Allan Hale, who later became the first chief justice of the Massachusetts Appeals Court. In the early 1970s, he formed the firm Decas, Murray and Decas with his brother William and Daniel Murray. He maintained law offices in Wareham and Middleboro until his retirement in 2003.

Mr. Decas was also the Middleboro Town Counsel for 36 years. He was a member of the City Solicitors and Town Counsel Association, and
the Massachusetts and Plymouth County bar associations, where he served in various leadership roles, including president in 1982. Governors William Weld and Paul Cellucci appointed him to the Judicial Nominating Council, where he served from 1991 to 2000. He was active in many Wareham-related organizations and at various times chaired its planning Board, charter commission, historical district commission and 250th Anniversary Committee.

Mr. Decas was additionally involved in local historical restoration and preservation. He helped restore the Captain John Kendrick Museum as chairman of the Wareham Historical Society. He and his sister preserved the Alden Besse House, and he restored the Col. Peter H. Peirce House, where he kept his law office. After 26 years of research, Mr. Decas wrote the book, Col. Peter H. Peirce (1788–1861) — A Plymouth County Life. He also collected art by Cephas Thompson, Cephas Giovanni Thompson and Marietta Thompson.

Mr. Decas was a former trustee of the Pilgrim Society and member of Historic New England and the New England Historic Genealogical Society.

For several years, he was a member of the Massachusetts Republican State Committee and was elected a delegate for the 1980 and 1984 Republican National Conventions. He was a presidential elector in Ronald Reagan’s first-term election.

Mr. Decas was also a lifelong member and former trustee of St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Dartmouth, Mass., and he was a trustee, secretary and president of the Alpha Omega Council of Boston. He traveled often to Athens, Greece, where he also kept a residence.

Mr. Decas is survived by siblings John, William and Katharina.

Pasco Schiavo L’62


He wrote a book called Betrayal and Deliverance of a Community, which argued that residents in the Hazleton Area School District should be united in its own county instead of being divided among three. Additionally, he wrote several legal articles published in the American Bar Association Journal, The Pennsylvania Lawyer Magazine, and the Pennsylvania Bar Association Journal.
IN MEMORIAM

with the school spanned 50 years, during which he was a member and president of the campus advisory board and an adjunct professor. The campus administration building was named Pasco L. Schiavo Hall in honor of his generosity.

He was a member and president of several local organizations. Honors included the Boy Scouts of America’s Distinguished Citizen of the Year award; the Luzerne County Bar Association’s recognition for years of distinguished law practice; and an Outstanding Italian-American award from the Knights of Columbus and UNICO Club of Hazleton. At Penn Law, he chaired his reunion committee and made generous gifts to the school.

Mr. Schiavo was remembered for his pride in family, community, state and country, and for his dedication to justice and service.

He is survived by siblings Linda, Louis and Judith.

Thomas Cunnane L’63, a Philadelphia tax attorney, died Feb. 15. He was 82.

Mr. Cunnane began his career as a certified public accountant at Arthur Anderson. He later joined the law firm of White & Williams, where he was a partner practicing tax law until his retirement in 2001.

Mr. Cunnane loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren, and enjoyed summers at the beach in Ocean City, NJ.

He is preceded in death by his brother, Dick. He is survived by his wife, Mary; children Mary Beth, Megan and Patrick; brothers James, Joseph and William; and grandchildren Nathaniel, Sophia, Luke, Madeline and Ryan.

The Hon. Stewart Dalzell W’65, L’69, a retired U.S. District Judge who served 25 years in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, died Feb. 18. He was 75.

Judge Dalzell was appointed to the federal bench in 1991 by President George H.W. Bush, and he remained there until his retirement in 2016.

He worked as a financial consultant at NBC in New York City before returning to Philadelphia to attend Penn Law.

Judge Dalzell worked for John Heinz as general counsel and campaign treasurer in Heinz’s successful 1975 U.S. Senate bid. Years later in 1990, Heinz sponsored Judge Dalzell when an opening became available on the federal bench.

The Hon. Stewart Dalzell W’65, L’69

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As a lawyer, Judge Dalzell worked on notable litigation including the Penn Central bankruptcy case and the Lumberman’s asbestos-related cases.

On the bench, Judge Dalzell, known as a no-nonsense, efficient,
and well-prepared judge, enjoyed solving problems and seeing the humanity in cases, even in small matters. One such case was a First Amendment issue where he overturned a misdemeanor disorderly conduct charge against a petty officer. The officer had aimed a curse word at military police after they apprehended him from sleeping in his car outside the noncommissioned officers’ club at the Willow Grove Naval Air Station. Judge Dalzell later learned the officer had previously worried the charge would destroy chances of applying to another branch of the military.

Outside the courtroom, Judge Dalzell was president of the standing committee for the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania. He was a member of St. Mark’s Church, where he served on the vestry and sang bass in the choir.

He was also a movie buff and often referenced films in his opinions. He and his wife, Kathleen Regan Dalzell CW’67, were annual subscribers to the Philadelphia Orchestra. Judge Dalzell loved literature, history, and spending time with family, who remembered him for his brilliance, curiosity and great conversational skills.

Judge Dalzell is survived by his wife, Kathleen; children Rebecca Dalzell C’05 and Andrew Dalzell C’07; and one granddaughter.

Carroll Cavanagh, Jr L’70, a former attorney in the arts, died July 18, 2018. He was 74.

Mr. Cavanagh served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy and Naval Reserve until 1970. Following his service, Mr. Cavanagh attended Trinity College and University College Dublin in Ireland, where he also restored Georgian houses.

Mr. Cavanagh began his legal career in New York City at Sullivan & Cromwell. In 1980, he moved to Washington, D.C., and was elected secretary and general counsel to the National Gallery of Art. He later served as personal counsel to Paul Mellon, an American philanthropist and owner/breeder of thoroughbred racehorses who was an heir to the Mellon Bank fortune.

Back in the United States, he received a fellowship to the Academy of International Law in The Hague, the Netherlands, while a student at Penn Law.

Following his graduation, Mr. Cavanagh began his legal career in New York City at Sullivan & Cromwell. In 1980, he moved to Washington, D.C., and was elected secretary and general counsel to the National Gallery of Art. He later served as personal counsel to Paul Mellon, an American philanthropist and owner/breeder of thoroughbred racehorses who was an heir to the Mellon Bank fortune.

Mr. Cavanagh served on several boards, including the Trustees Council at the National Gallery of Art, Mellon Bank, Andrew F. Mellon Foundation, Irish Georgian Society, and the Belvedere Foundation.

Carroll Cavanagh, Jr. L’70

Mr. Cavanagh served on several boards, including the Trustees Council at the National Gallery of Art, Mellon Bank, Andrew F. Mellon Foundation, Irish Georgian Society, and the Belvedere Foundation.

Peter Dranginis, Jr. L’74, a longtime insurance lawyer, died Feb. 5. He was 74.

He, who studied at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in Monterey, Calif., spent four years in the Army, primarily stationed as an intelligence officer in Germany.

Mr. Dranginis practiced law for 40 years, spending the majority of his career in corporate practice in the
insurance industry until his retirement in 2015. He was most recently vice president and associate general counsel for USI Insurance Services, LLC.

Mr. Dranginis was an avid golfer who frequently played in the Wednesday Night League at the Millbrook Golf & Tennis Club and won several tournaments at Millbrook and the Litchfield and Torrington country clubs with his three brothers and friends.

He was also an amateur gardener and for decades worked more than an acre’s worth of lawn into flower beds and fruit trees. He loved to cook and was remembered for his improvisational culinary flair.

His family remembered him for his care, consideration, thoughtful advice and for instilling his value of education in his four sons.

Mr. Dranginis was preceded in death by his brother, William. His is survived by his wife of almost 47 years, Eileen Dranginis L’75, whom he met in college. The two married just before graduating and then attended law school together. His family noted his deep devotion to her, and his ability to surprise her with unexpected gifts until the very end. He is also survived by his sons Luke, Seth, Andrew and Paul; and brothers Daniel and David.

Upon graduating in 1981, she joined the New York firm of Epstein, Becker, Borsky and Green as a labor lawyer. In Manhattan, she was able to indulge her passions for vocal music, musical theater and Bruce Springsteen songs.

In the early 1990s, Ms. Oberman joined the labor and employee benefits section of the New York telephone company that eventually became Verizon. She was known for her deft handling of multiple negotiations and lawsuits when regional labor contracts expired simultaneously; for her precision in practice; and for her persuading the company to respect employee policies including parental leave. After her daughter, Peri, was born, she continued to work at Verizon as a single mother.

In 2014, Ms. Oberman was diagnosed with a rare condition typically fatal within months, but with new experimental treatments, battled her illness for five years. She is survived by her daughter, sister Caryl, brother-in-law Kenneth Gelburd L’80 and nephew Michael.

Mark W. Lipschutz L’85, a prominent real estate executive and longtime lawyer, died on March 12. He was 59.

Mr. Lipschutz was a founding partner and the chief executive officer of the Caribbean Property Group, a New York-based investment firm which owns and operates hotels, office buildings, warehouses, and shopping centers in Puerto Rico. Previously, Mr. Lipschutz was a partner, head of the Real Estate department and member of the executive committee at the law firm of Kronish Lieb Weiner & Hellman LLP. In that position, he was involved in many high-profile transactions including the MetLife building, One Madison Avenue, the Warner Brothers building, and the portfolio sale of 5.5 million square feet of shopping centers in Puerto Rico.

He and his wife, Rachel Buchman Lipschutz L’85, established the Lipschutz Endowed Scholarship Fund to benefit high-performing Penn Law students with financial need.

Mr. Lipschutz is survived by his wife and three children, Jessica S. Lipschutz APP’10, Danielle Lipschutz, and Jason R. Lipschutz W’13. □
ADJOURNED

PROFESSOR KERMIT ROOSEVELT goes well beyond the Socratic Method in his role as faculty advisor to Penn Law’s Circus Club. As a member of the club put it, Roosevelt has been integral to our upward trajectory. Question is, do Roosevelt and the students have a good personal injury lawyer?
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