



YOUNG LAWYER CORNER



By Michael J. Dennin

The Young Lawyer Committee's 3rd Annual Lobster Bake will take place on Saturday, September 8th. Our "Bake" was created by my predecessor, Michael Madden, two years ago. Bill Cook and the committee and foundation donated \$8,000 to the Larc School last year. While our physical goals are monetary, our personal goals are to provide a tangible benefit for the moderately to severely disabled children and young adults at the LARC school. At the same time, we are fortunate enough to be able to socialize, relax and enjoy a great meal with our peers.

LARC is a non-profit special education school serving disabled individuals ranging from ages 3 to 21. The services are provided at no cost to families. Because of federal and state funding restraints, a significant portion of the cost to fund LARC is through charity and fundraising. A large void in funding is for students who have graduated and are now adults. After a person turns 21 often there are limited if any resources provided by the government. This continuing education and service sets LARC apart. Having had the opportunity to tour LARC last year with my peers and LARC Executive Director, Susan Weiner, I was able to witness beauty firsthand. Have you ever seen a sunset, or a rainbow, or a child's first play? We felt that same love when touring LARC. What sets it apart is the warm and family-like atmosphere. Small class size, with student to teacher ratios of 3:1, allows individualized educational programs that focus on each student's capabilities. The school is truly wonderful.

LARC is the reason the Lobster Bake exists. People like Susan and the staff at LARC allow parents of disabled children and adults to rest assured knowing that they are leaving their children or loved ones in good hands. Being a father of two small children, it is difficult enough for me to leave them each day. I cannot imagine leaving such wonderful and vulnerable little ones with such disabilities out of my sight. The amenities the school provides make you feel like you are on a campus of a prestigious university.

LARC School: "Where success takes flight"

Our bake provides an outlet where fellow attorneys, Judges, friends and families can get together after such a long hot summer. We indulge in fresh lobster, shrimp, and clams with corn on the cob, of course. Appetizers are delicious as is dessert. Beverages are tasted, and the music and atmosphere creates a "shore" feeling, although Labor Day has passed. The Tap Room provides a perfect venue, and it is surely worth the cost for 5 plus hours of entertainment and conversation. A silent question remains: Why are we all there? Why are we all together? We are there because of LARC. The children and adults need us there, although we probably do not know it. Susan Weiner needs us there, as does her staff. This silent question was truly answered by us when we became members of the Camden County Bar Association, and the Young Lawyer Committee. It was answered when we were sworn in as attorneys. We are there to better the public, to better the less fortunate. In all we do, human nature is to better ourselves.

The Lobster Bake enables us to contribute to those who need our help. It is an honor to carry on a tradition so rightly started by my peers. On behalf of the Young Lawyer Committee and LARC, we ask that you join us on September 8th and we look forward to seeing you there.

Use the Lobster Bake Reservation flyer in this month's inserts to reserve your place for this very special event.



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John E. Wallace, Jr. is a retired Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court. He was appointed to the Superior Court of New Jersey in 1984 and was elevated to the Appellate Division in 1992. He was confirmed to the Supreme Court of New Jersey in 2003.

Justice Wallace served the Superior Court through the Civil Division handling all types of matters. He was admired and respected by both sides of the aisle. The *New York Times* described him as "a sound jurist and a political moderate." Mr. Wallace is counsel to the firm of Brown & Connery, LLP. Justice Wallace has received many awards including the William J. Brennan Citation, the Lawyer of the Year Award from the New Jersey Commission on Professionalism in the Law and the Judge John Gerry Award from the Camden County Bar Association.

Mr. Wallace is a Trustee of the Board of Legal Services of New Jersey and a Board Member of Kennedy University Hospital. He is a member of the University of Delaware Wall of Fame and a member of its Board of Trustees. He has coached youth baseball and football teams for decades.

Justice Wallace served in the United States Army from 1968-1970 earning the rank of captain. Mr. Wallace received his Bachelors Degree from the University of Delaware in 1964 and received his law degree from Harvard Law School in 1967.

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