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WINTER 2015

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ATTORNEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Several Schmidt Kramer attorneys have recently been recognized for their achievements in the legal profession.

Attorneys **Chuck Schmidt, Gerry Kramer, Scott Cooper, Joe Chapman, Mike Kosik, Daryl Christopher, Dennis Kergick,** and **Jessica Kurtz** have been named 2014 "Select Lawyers" by *Susquehanna Style* magazine. Select Lawyers is a listing of outstanding Central Pennsylvania lawyers who have attained a high degree of peer recognition for their achievements. The attorneys were nominated after an extensive survey process that asked area lawyers the following: "If you had to refer a family member or friend to another lawyer, who among your colleagues would you recommend?" The results of the poll were compiled by the Polk-Lepson Research Group in York, Pa., and appeared in the December 2014 issue of *Susquehanna Style*.

Attorneys **Chuck Schmidt, Gerry Kramer, Scott Cooper, Mike Kosik, Daryl Christopher,** and **Terry Hyman** have also been selected by their peers and named in the *Central Penn Business Journal's* 2015 Best Lawyers edition.

Additionally, Schmidt Kramer has been named one of the 2015 Best Law Firms in personal injury litigation by *U.S. News & World Report*. Rankings are based on peer reviews from other attorneys, as well as evaluations from clients. The ranking appeared in a special legal issue released by *U.S. News & World Report* in December 2014.



We take your family's safety and security personally.

ATTORNEY NEWS

■ Partner **Scott Cooper** participated as a guest speaker at the following events: 2014 Tort Talk Expo (“Auto Insurance Bad Faith and Koken Issues Update”); Pennsylvania Association for Justice’s Fall Annual Auto Update of the Law; Thomas M. Holmes, Esq., Lackawanna County Bench Bar Conference (“Auto Law Update with Emphasis on Insurance Issues”); Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s Auto Law 2014 (“Koken and Related Issues”); Pennsylvania Association for Justice’s Personal Injury Liens and Subrogation Program (“ERISA Lien Negotiations in the Post-McCutchen World”); Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s UM/UMI Issues Program (“The Plaintiff’s Perspective”).

■ Partner **Scott Cooper** has been nominated by Governor Tom Wolf as a Transition Review head, a position in which he will work with the outgoing administration to better understand the issues and challenges that face the executive branch. Scott was honored with the privilege and task of co-chairing the Department of State/Commonwealth Committee.

■ Attorney **Daryl Christopher** participated as a featured speaker at the annual meeting of the Professional Coders of Central Pennsylvania, an organization of medical billing specialists. He spoke on choosing the right auto insurance, as well as the payment and adjustment of medical bills.

STAFF CORNER

Schmidt Kramer would like to welcome **Sarah Marie Dick** to the firm. She is working as a paralegal in our Social Security and workers’ compensation departments, and working closely with attorneys Jessica Kurtz, Dennis Kergick, and Chuck Schmidt. Sarah has received an associate degree in paralegal studies from Central Pennsylvania College and will earn her bachelor’s degree in May 2015. She is also president of the Central Pennsylvania College Honor Society, Gamma Beta Phi. In her free time, she enjoys cheering for the Steelers and spoiling her dog, Cassie.



Schmidt Kramer would like to welcome our new receptionist, **Kate Acie**, to the firm. Kate has received a bachelor’s degree in legal studies and an associate degree in marketing from Central Pennsylvania College. Kate also serves as a residential realtor in the local community. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, physical fitness activities, and volunteering with her alumni.



Jersey Day

Friendly rivalries were displayed when Schmidt Kramer staff donned their favorite teams’ jerseys at work.

RECIPE CORNER

Thanks to Trisha Robison, paralegal to attorney Gerry Kramer, for sharing her delicious sweet potato pie recipe with us!

Sweet Potato Pie

8 Servings Prep time: 30 minutes Bake time: 1 hour, 50 minutes
Ready in: 2 hours, 20 minutes

Ingredients

1 (1 pound) sweet potato	1/2 cup milk	1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 cup butter, softened	2 eggs	1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup white sugar	1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg	1 (9 inch) unbaked pie crust

Directions

1. Boil sweet potato whole in skin for 40 to 50 minutes, or until done. Run cold water over the sweet potato, and remove the skin.
2. Break apart sweet potato in a bowl. Add butter and mix well with mixer. Stir in sugar, milk, eggs, nutmeg, cinnamon, and vanilla. Beat on medium speed until mixture is smooth. Pour filling into an unbaked pie crust.
3. Bake at 350 °F (175 °C) for 55 to 60 minutes, or until knife inserted in center comes out clean. Pie will puff up like a soufflé, and then will sink down as it cools.



EVENTS

Walk to End Alzheimer's



Attorney **Jessica Kurtz** and her family participated in the 2014 Walk to End Alzheimer's. Not only does the event help raise disease awareness, it is also the Alzheimer's Association's largest nationwide fundraising event. Jessica walked on behalf of her 90-year-old grandmother, Jean, who is currently suffering from the disease.



MS City to Shore Ride

Attorneys **Gerry Kramer** and **Mike Kosik** participated in the 34th Annual Bike MS: City to Shore Ride on September 27 and 28, 2014, as part of the Penn Medicine team—the largest fundraising team. The 2014 ride celebrates another record-breaking year—raising \$6.5 million in support of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. The ride starts in Cherry Hill, N.J., and winds up in Ocean City, N.J. This year the team rode beyond Ocean City and completed a century, pedaling over 100 miles. Schmidt Kramer has had members riding since 2002. Gerry and Mike have been riding for more than 10 years; other attorneys at Schmidt Kramer, including attorneys **Chuck Schmidt** and **Daryl Christopher**, have ridden in past years. Members of the Schmidt Kramer cycling team also participate in charity bicycle rides closer to home throughout the year.

Lee National Denim Day

On Friday, Oct. 3, 2014, the staff of Schmidt Kramer participated in Lee National Denim Day. The staff put on their favorite jeans and made a donation to help raise funds for the fight against breast cancer. The beneficiary for Lee National Denim Day® is the American Cancer Society®, the largest voluntary health organization in the United States, which is passionately committed to saving lives from cancer. Donations will help the American Cancer Society support lifesaving screenings in communities nationwide, give hope and care to those traveling for cancer treatment, and provide investments in groundbreaking cancer research.

Bethesda Mission

Schmidt Kramer collected donations for the Bethesda Mission. Attorney Jessica Kurtz and Sherrie Mehring delivered the donated items to the Bethesda Mission. The Bethesda Mission of Harrisburg is a nonprofit rescue mission that extends a helping hand to individuals by providing them with food, shelter, clothing, fellowship, and counseling. Schmidt Kramer PC continues to support organizations that help our community.



Toys for Tots

The staff of Schmidt Kramer once again participated in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots by donating new toys to help children experience the joy of Christmas. The mission of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November, and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community. Each year over 100,000 toys are collected and distributed to children during the holiday season.



Happy Birthday!

The following staff members had birthdays since our last newsletter:

- Sarah Dick** (October 5)
- Tiffany Herb** (October 24)
- Kate Acie** (October 26)
- Maureen Sullivan-Maddaloni** (December 27)

Happy birthday to everyone!

STAFF CORNER

Attorney Gerry Kramer's son, **Gerard P. Kramer**, attended the Forbes Under 30 Summit in Philadelphia, Pa. Gerard is part of the LifeShel team that was introducing a new product called the Whistl. The Whistl is a cell phone case that is designed to prevent assault by incorporating a system that notifies police and others in the area as well as setting off an alarm and disorienting light. It was picked as one of five finalists out of over 100 submissions to win the \$400,000 Best New Product Challenge. Gerard is a senior at Carnegie Mellon University.



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PET CORNER

Gunner Wertz is a 1-year-old lab/boxer mix owned by **Trisha Robison** (paralegal to attorney Gerry Kramer) and her fiancé, **Cole Wertz**. Gunner loves to spend time outside playing and digging holes in the yard. He also loves to play fetch, swim in the lake, go for long runs, and play with his cat brother, Oreo. His parents sure do have their hands full with this energetic puppy!



Gunner relaxes in the backyard.



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