

THE DAILY RECORD

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

Paralegal PERSPECTIVES

PAR celebrates 2016, looks to 2017

The Paralegal Association of Rochester, Inc. ("PAR") celebrated 2016 with a holiday luncheon on Dec. 14, enjoying pizza, wings, holiday goodies and fellowship with its members and sponsors.

While the holidays are certainly a joyful time for many, for some, it is a time of hardship. To help make this Christmas merry and bright, PAR adopted a family from Willow Domestic Violence Center (f/k/a Alternatives for Battered Women) by providing a mom and her three children with gifts for all. Without PAR's generosity, this family may not have experienced a Christmas at all.

In addition, PAR is again collecting books and/or gift cards to benefit the United Through Reading Program, which gives a deployed parent the opportunity to read a book to their child/children at home. The parent is video-recorded while reading, and the video is then sent to their child/children back home. What a beautiful way for parents and children to reconnect while being separated during deployment. For more information on the United Through Reading Program, or to donate, please contact PAR representative Debbi King at debbi16@rochester.rr.com.

Looking for a gift idea? PAR is excited to have partnered with Casa Larga this holiday season. A percentage of all wine, personalized labeled wine, merchandise, festival tickets, patio party tickets, cabin fever tickets, paint-



By **SANDEE CIACCIA**
Daily Record
Columnist

ing party tickets, Bella Vista Room Rental Rates, Tours and Tastings, and individual purchases will go to PAR. For information, or to place an order, contact PAR's Director at Large, Bobbi Ahearn, at parcasalarga@gmail.com.

Other fundraising efforts for the upcoming year may include a second annual Par for PAR event, and a 5K fundraiser. Stay tuned

for more information on both as details unfold.

Looking Ahead

As we kick off 2017, one of the more fascinating events coming up in January is PAR's annual tour of the Monroe County Crime Lab, which collects and analyzes evidence. This tour is always very well attended. Flyers for this event have already been distributed. If this interests you, RSVP is required as space is limited.

PAR also looks forward to several educational seminars to enhance the interest of our profession, including topics such as, "Paralegal Profession: Where We Are Headed" in January, "Medicaid/Long-Term Planning" in February, and "Social Media and Its Use in the

Investigative/Discovery Phase of a Case" in March. We will forward registration for these seminars as the dates draw near. If you have a suggestion for a seminar topic, or are interested in presenting a seminar, please contact PAR's Education/Program Representative Jill Warner at jillannwarner@gmail.com.

With all of the instructive and informative seminars slated for 2017, we want to also include two very special social events. One is a happy hour to take place in March to welcome and recognize PAR's new members; and a Sponsor Appreciation evening to be held in late summer to thank our sponsors: Stewart Title, D4, Counsel Press, Avalon, WebTitle, First American Title, Broom Clean Estate Services, Legal Med, Appeal Tech, Batavia Legal Printing, Employee Relations Associates, ProSelect Staff, and All New York Process Servers.

The success of our organization is due to the many members that join year after year, and the amazing sponsors that support our mission. Together, you make it possible for PAR to provide useful and fun events that enhance our professional development. To all, we say thank you.

PAR wishes everyone a warm, happy season of joy and peace.

Sandee Ciaccia is a paralegal at Boylan Code, and is PAR's VP of Public Relations.