

## New Hanover County Bar Association

# Bar Briefs

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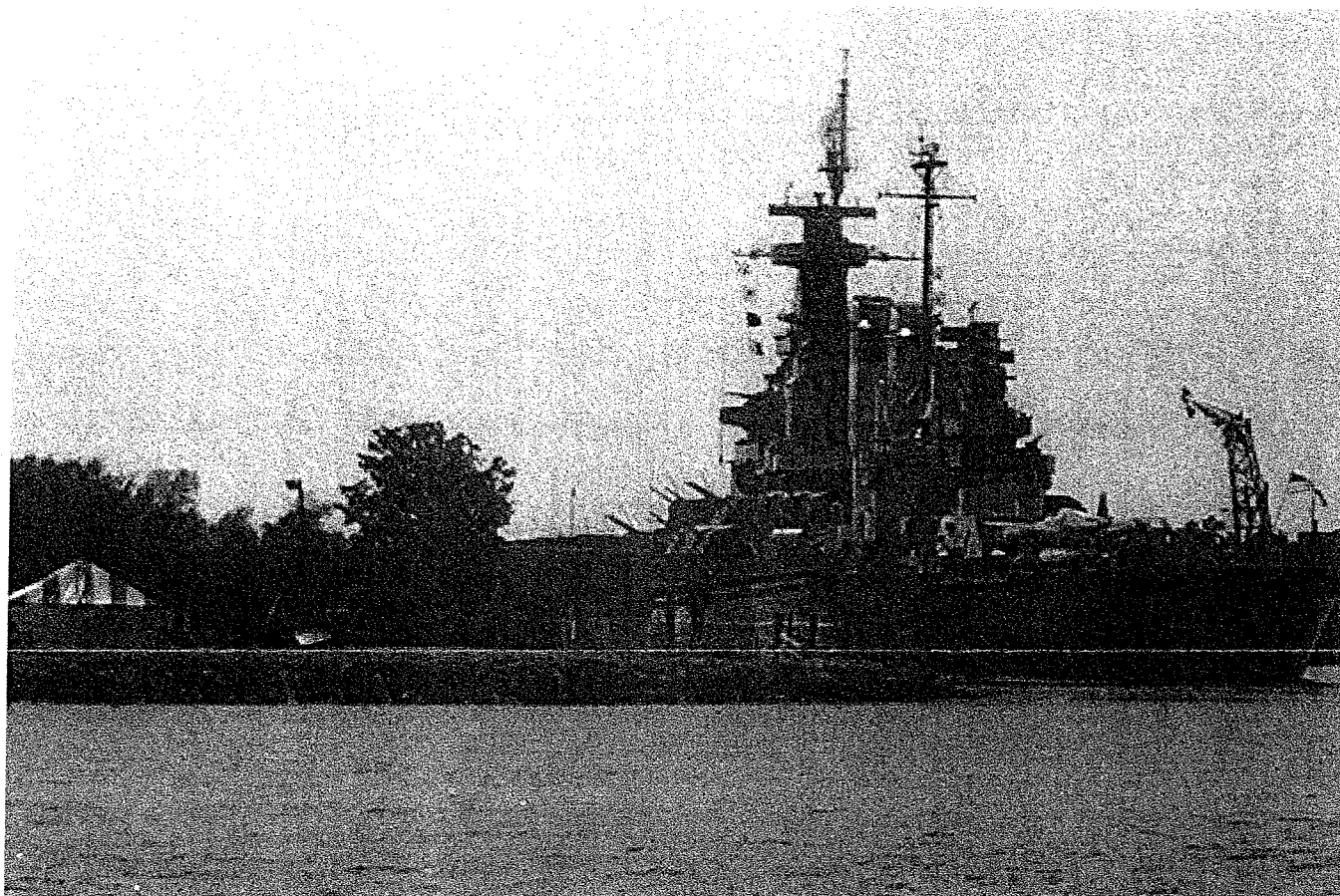


Photo by Kelly Burns

The Bar Association's fall picnic will be held at the Battleship Park, the grassy area shown on the left.

## Get Ready for the Fall Picnic

*Who:* New Hanover County Bar Association members and families

*What:* Fall picnic and annual meeting.

*When:* Saturday, September 28, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

*Where:* Battleship Park, USS North Carolina

*Why?* Food, amber beverages, family fun, good company,  
pony rides, face painting.

An invitation will be mailed to each member.

Admission to the Battleship itself will be \$4.50 for adults and \$2.25 for children.

**Mark those calendars for the Holiday Party at the City Club, December 7.**

# Lawyers Honored for Pro Bono Work

**By Roselle E. Margolis**

Lawyers who volunteer time and effort to the public good were recognized by the New Hanover County Bar Association and Legal Aid of North Carolina-Wilmington Office at the annual Pro Bono Luncheon on July 9.

Keynote speaker for the event was N.C. First Lady Mary P. Easley, who talked about her memories of practicing law in New Hanover and Brunswick Counties and her current experience as law professor at N.C. Central Law School.

Ms. Easley said that pro bono work is vital to lawyers' professional pride, to community respect for lawyers and to meeting the needs of those who cannot afford essential legal services.

Each of the New Hanover County honorees received a Pro Bono Publico plaque.

The Addison Hewlett Award was presented to Randall G. Rusch. This award is named for the late Addison Hewlett, who was known for his dedication to the public good. Mr. Rusch was cited for his countless hours of pro bono representation in domestic violence and child custody cases.

The award is memorialized by a plaque in the lobby of the New Hanover County Judicial Building.

Robin Wicks Robinson of Ryals, Robinson and Saffo was honored with a Pro Bono Award for her significant time and efforts in family-law cases.

The firm of Murchison, Taylor and Gibson was recognized for its pro bono assistance in consumer, contract and estate cases.

The New Hanover County Bar Association has a goal of at least 20 hours a year of pro bono legal services by every practicing attorney.

## *Law Library Observing New Rules, Operating Hours*

**By Layne McNeill Smith**

Budget cuts have forced the law library to shorten its hours of operation.

Currently, the New Hanover County Law Library is open to the public from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday.

Law Librarian Kathleen Gehron (341-4328) will be available during those hours for assistance.

Lawyers may use the law library at other times.

From 8 a.m. until 9 a.m. and from noon until 5 p.m., attorneys can go to the civil clerk's office and request entrance to the law library.

After the attorney signs a form acknowledging responsibility for the law library, a clerk will unlock the door. When finished, the attorney needs to notify the clerk's office so that the door can be locked again.

After 5 p.m., attorneys can get a key to the library from the magistrate's office in the basement of the New Hanover County Sheriff's Department.

The law library is expected to move to the new annex before the end of 2002.

The new law library will be on the ground floor of the annex

behind the criminal clerk's offices. Once the move is complete, arrangements for access to the library will be announced.

Because the law library is moving to a smaller location, the Federal Reporters and the Federal Supplements are not being moved.

They will be available at the new library via Westlaw but only during times the law librarian is on site.

The Federal Reporters and Supplements are for sale and the law library is taking offers. If interested, call Kathleen at 341-4328 or slip a note under the door.

## Attorney Coordinator Speaks at Equal Justice Conference

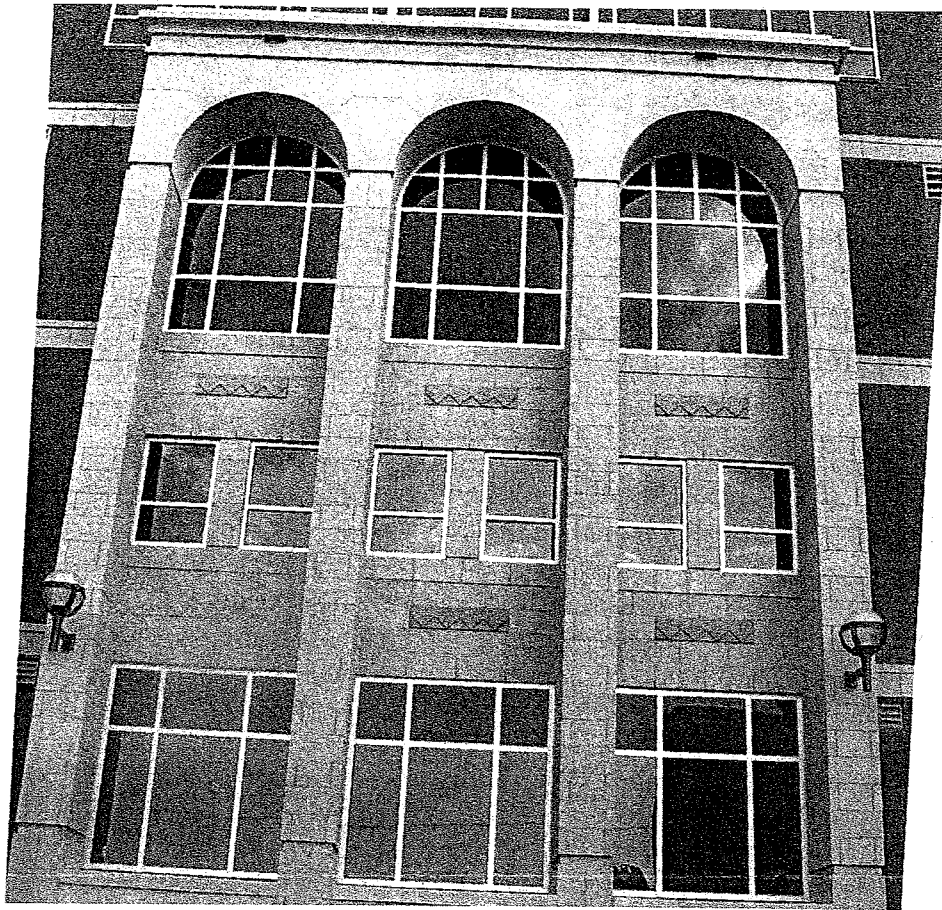
Roselle E. Margolis, who is Private Attorney Involvement (PAI) Coordinator/Paralegal with Legal Aid of NC-Wilmington Office, was a panel presenter at the national "2002 Equal Justice Conference" in Cleveland, Ohio, on April 20.

The Equal Justice Conference is held annually by the American Bar Association and the National Legal Aid and Defender Association.

Ms. Margolis appeared at the "Family Dilemma" session of the conference.

The standing-room-only session prompted the American Bar Association to initiate a study of pro bono programs' difficulties in referring family law cases to private attorneys.

This was Ms. Margolis' third invitation to speak at the national conference.



## New Hanover Courthouse Annex to Open Soon

*Tentative date for moving in is November 1*

### Announcements

Peter Bynum and his wife Stephanie became the parents of a baby girl, Molly Myers Bynum, on July 22.

Monica Rathke Savidge, a staff attorney at Legal Aid of NC-Wilmington Office, and her husband, Trent, became the parents of Hannah Olivia Savidge, born July 3, 2002.

Bar Briefs needs your news. Send items of interest to [Barbriefs@aol.com](mailto:Barbriefs@aol.com). Or fax to John Burns at 343-8832.

### *Superior Court Calendars Posted to Web*

**By David Michael  
Trial Court Administrator**

Superior Court Civil Calendars have been posted to the Web. The September calendars for both New Hanover and Pender counties can be viewed and printed at: [www1.aoc.state.nc.us](http://www1.aoc.state.nc.us).

Several changes have been made to the statewide master schedule of Superior Courts. The most current version of this calendar of courts is at: [www.nccourts.org/Courts/CRS/Calendars/Sessions.asp](http://www.nccourts.org/Courts/CRS/Calendars/Sessions.asp)

The Chief Justice is contemplating suspending rotation for the first 6 months of next year. At this time Judges Ragan, Braswell, and Alford are scheduled to be here "Spring 2003".

Please continue to send in your e-mail address to Kimberly Robinson, I am making use of this medium of communication and I hope you find it convenient. We currently have about 230 email addresses.

The telephone number in New Hanover is 341-4366 and in Pender is 259-1229, ext. 238.



**New Hanover County Bar Association**  
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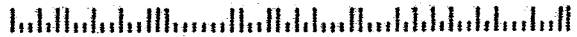
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## Young Lawyers to Sponsor 'Bridge the Gap'

**By Peter Bynum**

On the afternoon of September 27, 2002, the Young Lawyers Division of the New Hanover County Bar Association will be sponsoring its first "Bridge the Gap" program.

The program will be held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the chambers of the New Hanover County Commission (on the second floor of the old County Courthouse Building).

The purpose of this event is to introduce young lawyers in New Hanover County to court personnel and other county government officials with whom they will likely be working from time to time.

Each official will be given a few minutes for a brief presentation on his or her official duties, after which we hope to open the floor to questions.

Chicago Title Insurance Company has graciously agreed to provide light refreshments.

Although the Bridge the Gap event is primarily designed to benefit lawyers who are new to the practice of law or new to our area, all New Hanover County attorneys are cordially invited and encouraged to attend.

Please contact Peter Bynum (at 763-2426), Chris Behm (at 763-2727) or Robert Jones (at 763-3404) if you have questions about this program.

### Announcements

The firm of Nunalee & Nunalee, L.L.P., has moved to new offices at Oleander Oaks, 5725 Oleander Drive, Suite D-1, Wilmington 28403. Telephone 799-5539 and fax 799-0266.

Trial Court Administrator David Michael was recently invited to be a guest lecturer for the UNC-W Environmental Law class. Any group needing a court-system speaker may contact the TCA at 341-4366.

Sofie Hosford of Hosford & Hosford, P.L.L.C., has changed the focus of her practice to appellate matters, both civil and criminal, and welcomes any referrals of family law cases on appeal.