NEW YORK STATE WINTER 2002

JURY POOL NEWS

A New York State Unified Court System publication highlighting the latest court initiatives and related news

Jurors Get Star Treatment at Special Tribute

"These folks are here because they're celebrities. I'm here to prove old folks can serve too," joked former New York City Mayor David Dinkins, speaking at a star studded tribute to jurors held in Manhattan Supreme Court this past November. Although this wasn't the first time high profile jurors were invited to the courthouse to talk about the importance of our jury system and discuss their own jury experiences the first of these annual celebrity events took place in November this year's tribute, coming only two months after the tragic events of September , took on a particularly patriotic tone.

Calling jury service "the first threat to any totalitarian government," TV star Maury Povich said, "It's a little known fact, but a very powerful one. When Hitler came to power in the s in Nazi Germany, the first thing he did was abolish the jury system." "It's an absolute honor and privilege to serve," commented newspaper columnist author Pete Hamill. "I say this as the son of immigrants who came from a place where there were no juries." Nicholas Scoppetta, former commissioner of New York City's Administration for Children's Services who was recently appointed commissioner of the city's fire department, referred to every jury trial as a "small, daily miracle of democracy," while radio personality Bruce Morrow

Wynton Marsalis entertains guests at tribute to jurors held in Manhattan this past November

Cousin Brucie to fans said that since September he truly understands what a responsibility, and a privilege, jury service is. "It's not a free ride. We have to earn the privilege, the right, to be American," he said with great feeling.

Starting off the ceremony, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Ann Pfau, whose job includes overseeing state wide court operations, discussed the impact the September tragedy had on the courts. "We lost three court officers... and over court families lost brothers,

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Court's Special Office Strives to Ensure Equal Justice For All

"FOR A FAMILY SEEKING PROTECTION FROM EVICTION, for an elderly person confused by the social services bureaucracy or for a battered woman fleeing domestic violence, having access to adequate legal services can be critical to their safety and well-being. Yet only a small percentage of impoverished New Yorkers—perhaps 15 percent—stand a reasonable chance of getting a lawyer when they desperately need one," Chief Judge Judith Kaye told participants at the state's first Access to Justice Conference, held in Albany last September. The two-day summit, which brought together judges, court administrators, bar leaders and others to share their expertise on eliminating barriers to justice, was organized by the courts' Office for Justice Initiatives, established in July 1999 to help ensure equal access to justice for all New Yorkers.

Funding Crisis Requires Immediate Action

During the summit Chief Judge Kaye announced the creation of the New York State Access to Justice Center, a court-sponsored entity that will serve as the central vehicle for securing long-term funding for civil legal services for

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Jurors Do Civic Duty, Find True Love

Karen and Donald Lustig give new meaning to the word "courtship." The two, happily married and the parents of a one-year-old named Lily Jane, first truly took notice of each other in a New York City jury assembly room in the spring of 1994, when both were summoned for jury duty in lower Manhattan.

"One morning they were calling out the names for attendance," says Karen, recalling the events that led to her initial conversation with Donald. "Donald's name sounded familiar to me. Later that day, when I turned around to glance at the clock in the assembly room, I noticed Donald sitting right near me. I told him he looked vaguely familiar; he said I looked familiar too. That's when both of us realized we'd attended Johns Hopkins University the same year."

It was Karen's sixth day on jury duty and Donald's first. She'd just finished off Dostoyevky's "Crime and Punishment," offering her copy of the Russian classic to Donald. The very next day, the two could be spotted enjoying lunch together at a nearby restaurant. A couple of days later, they had their first dinner date. "It was pretty much a done deal after that," laughs Karen.

A beaming Donald and Karen Lustig with little Lily Jane.

The couple tied the knot in August 1997. "They have so much in common. It's really extraordinary, their meeting on jury duty. They just connected. It's simply a pleasure watching them grow together. And now we have Lily Jane. We're so blessed," says Donald's mom, Barbara.

They both grew up in Manhattan but moved to Providence, Rhode Island, over a year ago when Donald landed a banking position in the area. Karen, a former meeting planner for a nonprofit organization in New York City, says she's truly enjoying her current status as a full- time mom.

Of jury service, the compatible duo say they consider it both a duty and a privilege. In fact, they're always encouraging people to serve, particularly those in search of a soul mate. "You never know what can happen," they joke. ◆

Classroom Handicrafts Enhance Broome County Courtrooms

THE BROOME COUNTY COURTS' JURY SELECTION BOXES—which jumble the names of jurors using a crank—were looking like they'd seen better days, so Commissioner of Jurors Christopher Esworthy came up with a plan. Why not contact the local high school's woodworking teacher and find out if students would be interested in crafting some new jury boxes and other accessories for the courthouse?

Binghamton High School teacher Greg Furch loved the idea, and one year later his students were being feted by jurists and court staffers alike for their outstanding craftsmanship. The tenth-graders used table saws, planes and other tools, all donated by a local Home Depot, in producing the items, which included gavels and a jury wheel.

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Teacher Greg Furch providing assistance to woodworking students as they put finishing touches on jury selection boxes

The project began with the class visiting the courthouse to examine the worn-out articles they'd be replacing as well as the different woods in each of the courtrooms. Working without a pattern, the sophomores created the articles in trial-and-error fashion.

"The best part was carving out the items," said one student, proud of the fact his class started out from scratch. "The students put together several prototypes, different styles and sizes, and I selected those that would best suit our four courtrooms and would be the most user-friendly for our clerks," explains Mr. Esworthy.

With the final designs chosen about six weeks later, the class was divided into four teams, each assigned to a different courtroom. It took another two months before the pieces were ready for staining, with Mr. Esworthy picking out the dark brown hues that blend so well with the woodwork in each courtroom. The finishing touches and hardware were added to the red oak, cherry and basswood items with only moments to spare for their unveiling last June.

"This was a great community project," says the jury commissioner, adding that along with judges and court clerks, thousands of jurors—about 18,000 jurors are summoned to serve in Broome County each year—will benefit from the Binghamton high-schoolers' handiwork.

"EQUAL JUSTICE FOR ALL"...Continued from Page 1

New Yorkers who need but can't afford an attorney. Under New York law, assigned counsel are appointed to represent indigent defendants in the criminal courts and indigent adults and children in certain Family Court proceedings, but there is no right to assigned counsel in civil matters.

With federal funding for civil legal services programs reduced by nearly 50 percent over the past two decades, service providers statewide are being forced to consolidate or close their doors altogether. "There is a crisis in legal services, and we must create a sense of urgency that action needs to be taken," says Wilhelm Joseph Jr., who held several positions with Legal Services for New York City before his appointment in 1996 to executive director of the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau. To illustrate the gravity of the situation, Mr. Joseph cites some very disturbing statistics: "In New York City, there is one lawyer for every 154 people, but if you're poor, it's one attorney per 10,000 or more." "It's a very serious issue. Legal services offices now operate like emergency rooms, serving only the most desperate clients," concurs Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Juanita Newton, who heads the Office for Justice Initiatives and will work closely with the newly launched Access to Justice Center.

Along with stabilizing funds for civil legal services for the poor, Judge Newton is working with legislators and others to secure an increase in the fees paid assigned counsel, which are set by the state and have remained stagnant since 1986. There have been serious delays in criminal prosecutions and sensitive Family Court proceedings because lawyers are dropping out of the assigned counsel panels in droves, as the current fees don't even cover their overhead expenses. Consequently, innocent defendants are stuck in jail, while children whose parents may have been wrongly accused of child abuse or neglect must spend more time in foster care.

Judge Juanita Newton at Access to Justice Conference held last fall.

In proposing a pay raise for assigned counsel, Judge Kaye has suggested using court-generated fees and surcharges—by law, every New Yorker convicted of an offense is required to pay a mandatory fee, ranging from $5 for a parking violation to $150 for a felony—to help foot the bill. "This would result in a steady funding stream without burdening localities," she explains. Currently, assigned counsel fees for both indigent criminal defendants and indigent adults in Family Court cases are paid for by local counties.

Enhancing Pro Bono Efforts, Services for the Self-Represented

Resolving the present crisis in the delivery of legal services will not only take better pay for assigned counsel and more stable funding for civil legal aid programs, but also a greater commitment to pro bono work among members of the legal profession as well as more comprehensive services for self-represented litigants.

On the pro bono front, Judge Newton has been reaching out to members of the legal profession to learn how the courts can aid in promoting pro bono service among lawyers. A study by the New York State Office of Court Administration found that among attorneys practicing in the state only 47 percent performed any pro bono work—and of that 47 percent, only 20 percent devoted 20 hours or more to pro bono service—with many citing a lack of time as the greatest impediment to their engaging in pro bono work.

In response, Judge Newton's office helped to advance new continuing legal education (CLE) rules permitting attorneys to earn CLE credit for pro bono work. Both new and experienced attorneys practicing in the state must fulfill New York's mandatory continuing legal education requirements.

Joseph Genova, an attorney with Milbank, Hadley & McCloy LLP, and a proponent of the new CLE rules, advises members of the legal community to effectively utilize the amended rules in both increasing the number of lawyers who do pro bono work and upping the average number of pro bono hours. "We've also got to involve the judiciary at the local level to help recruit lawyers," he adds.

And with more and more litigants taking a do-it-yourself approach these days, whether by choice or necessity, Judge Newton has made beefing up informational and other resources for this population a top priority. To this end, several help centers for the self-represented—staffed by trained personnel and volunteers who provide information about court services and procedures to the public—have opened in the past year, with more in the planning, including in rural areas where courts and law-related services are not that easily accessible. Future plans also include the creation of self-help sections within the public law libraries and a "virtual office for the self-represented," with user-friendly court forms and instructions as well as information on court services and litigants' rights available via the Internet.

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Offenders Face Community Residents at NYC's Midtown Community Court

In a busy, highly populated area like midtown Manhattan, there truly are no victimless crimes. That's the point locals are trying to get across to low-level offenders during Community Impact Panels—facilitated, face-to-face discussions between community members and violators—held monthly at Manhattan's Midtown Community Court. Offenders are mandated by the judge to participate on these panels, with local residents volunteering as community representatives.

Here's what some offenders and community representatives had to say about participating on a Community Impact Panel…

Comments from the offenders:

"I realized the effect [quality of life offenses] have on others."

"[I learned that] specific acts can have a ripple effect."

"I learned that brown-bagging beer is, in fact, illegal."

Thoughts from the community representatives

"The panel gave the community [members] good insight as to why these crimes occur and what we can do to prevent them."

"It offered a good airing of the issues and a chance for offenders to hear how their behaviors impact communities."

"It created a dialogue and definitely made me aware of issues I had not considered."

"People who live and work in this neighborhood tell us that petty crimes like public drinking, public urination and illegal posting are harmful to the fabric of the community," says the court's presiding judge, Eileen Koretz. "Courts all over the country are struggling with ways to address these issues, and Community Impact Panels are one of the responses we're experimenting with."

Both Sides Speak Frankly, Maintain their Civility

"Today, you'll sit across from four people who've been arraigned on low-level offenses," the court's coordinator, Julius Lang, tells today's locals during their orientation. "What we hear from offenders again and again is, 'No one got hurt. So what if I urinated on someone's stoop or drank in public?' You're here to tell them how these violations affect you personally."

The charges for today's defendants include sound pollution, and public urination and drinking, with the offenders ranging in age from a Chelsea resident in his twenties to a sixtyish Harlem man who at one point quips to the panel, "I'm no spring chicken, if you know what I mean." Patrick Ward, a local police officer, is on hand to field any questions violators or community members may have concerning police procedure and also to discuss how low-level offenses impact the community from the perspective of residents and merchants on his beat.

"Everyone, please introduce yourself by first name and tell us where you live and work," facilitator Bridget Regan announces, getting the panel started. After the initial introductions, each of

Midtown Community Court Coordinator Julius Lang talks with community volunteers before the start of a Community Impact Panel.

the four offenders recounts his story for the panel. The third to speak, Joseph*, a trim, gregarious man from Rockland County, tells them, "I stopped for a cold beer one evening, taking a few sips while rushing to catch my bus home when I was approached by an unmarked police car. I really didn't know that what I was doing was against the law." Ms. Regan clarifies that possessing an open container of alcohol in public is a violation of law throughout New York State. "For the past few years, there's been a much greater focus on quality of life crimes here in New York City, so enforcement is more stringent than before," she adds.

"So how do these situations affect where you live and work?" Ms. Regan queries the community members once each offender has had his say. With some reticence, Paul, who lives and works in the area, responds, "As a local resident, I'm exposed to all these types of crimes. Noise, public urination, it happens a lot here. I see a lot of people walking with open containers of beer. It's a huge degradation, a huge disrespect to the people I'm with. This is my home, and people come into my neighborhood, enjoy themselves and show disregard for those of us who live here." "How would you *Continued on Page 7*

** Name has been changed to protect privacy*

NY's Commercial Division Sets Trend for Other States

The New York State Supreme Court's Commercial Division, which started as an experiment in Manhattan and Rochester in 1995 and has since expanded to White Plains, Albany, Buffalo and Long Island, has won the acclaim of business leaders and commercial lawyers alike. Devoted exclusively to complex business litigation—from disputes over employment and construction contracts to commercial class actions—the Division has reduced the length of an average contract case by over 30 percent, leading an emerging national trend toward the creation of specialized business courts.

"Prior to the creation of the Commercial Division, many businesses went to the federal courts to settle disputes because cases used to languish in the state courts. Now, it's just the opposite," says Pablo Rivera, clerk-in-charge of Manhattan's Commercial Division, where over 6,000 cases are filed each year. Mr. Rivera says the Division, with its highly experienced judges and staff, early trial dates, state-of-the-art technology, and successful mediation and arbitration programs, among other features, is responsible for the turnaround. In fact, when there is a choice of jurisdiction, many companies are now writing it into their contracts to start their cases in the Commercial Division, Mr. Rivera adds.

"Prior to the creation of the Commercial Division, many businesses went to the federal courts to settle disputes because cases used to languish in the state courts. Now, it's just the opposite."

Pablo Rivera, clerk-in-charge of Manhattan's Commercial Division

Manhattan's Commercial Division also boasts a high-tech courtroom, dubbed Courtroom 2000, where evidentiary documents and exhibits can be displayed on computer monitors and viewed simultaneously by the judge, jurors, witnesses and counsel. "Jurors can view documents as they're being discussed during trial, increasing both their comprehension and retention of the facts," explains court reporter Brian DiGiovanna, the prime architect of Courtroom 2000.

Monroe County's Commercial Division may not yet have the equivalent of a Courtroom 2000, but its aggressive case management techniques, sophisticated computer tracking system and, in particular, the special expertise of its judge and staffers, have earned this Rochester court a reputation equal to its Manhattan counterpart. Of the Rochester Commercial Division's 1,500 annual filings, some 20 percent are referred for mediation, with upwards of 80 percent of these cases reaching a settlement.

"When you're doing contractual and other commercial cases over and over, you've got the expertise to jump in with both feet to assist the parties in a quick resolution of the matter," says Thomas Stander, the presiding judge of Rochester's Commercial Division and a former partner at a law firm specializing in commercial litigation. "We're able to resolve cases because of our hands-on management approach and because we're specialists."

To illustrate his point, Judge Stander gives the example of a Commercial Division case, pitting two lawyers against their former employer, that was settled quickly and rather amicably. The two attorneys had left their firm to start a legal practice of their own, taking several clients—whose cases they'd been working on—with them. The firm responded by obtaining a temporary restraining order to prevent the duo from opening their own practice. The court aided the two sides in working out a fee-split arrangement, with the attorneys sharing the fees they earned from the firm's old clients and the firm allowing the pair to retain the clients' files. "The firm probably couldn't handle the work, and the two attorneys, having just set up their own practice, couldn't afford to give the clients' files back. With the fee-split arrangement, both sides basically lived happily ever after," Judge Stander comments.

"The advent of the Commercial Division has streamlined the adjudication of business and commercial disputes in my practice," says Rochester attorney Warren Rosenbaum. "Judge Stander's familiarity with the types of issues that come up in these cases has allowed him to decide matters more efficiently. The Division has also made for the creation of a body of case law to which practitioners can look for guidance on the likely outcome of their disputes."

The Commercial Division posts its most significant decisions on the New York State courts' Web site, www.courts.state.ny.us, also publishing a summary of its latest decisions in an online newsletter, The Commercial Division Law Report. Additionally, as part of a pilot program, the Manhattan and Rochester Commercial Divisions now allow lawsuits and follow-up papers to be filed by fax or e-mail, an innovation Judge Stander predicts will increase attorney productivity as well the court's efficiency. ◆

Legislator Gains Insight from Jury Service

Assemblyman Paul Tonko

For Assemblyman Paul Tonko, a lifelong resident of Amsterdam, New York, the world of politics and public life is second nature. Mr. Tonko joined several election campaigns after college and, before he knew it, was working on his own. At age 26 he became the youngest person in the history of New York's Montgomery County to serve on its Board of Supervisors.

In 1983, after taking a position with the State Department of Transportation followed by a job with the State Department of Public Service, Paul Tonko was elected to the New York State Assembly, where he's represented Montgomery County and part of Schenectady County for the past 18 years. Just before his 1998 reelection—Mr. Tonko was since reelected in November 2000—the assemblyman served as a first-time juror, an experience he says had a tremendous impact on both his public and private life.

Though he's drafted and pushed forth new laws on education, environmental and other issues, Mr. Tonko is not an attorney—he earned a degree in mechanical and industrial engineering from Clarkson University—and looked forward to jury service to put him in closer touch with the court system.

Describing jury service as a "vivid linkage to the judiciary," Assemblyman Tonko has this advice for first-time jurors: "Go in there, listen intently, and understand it's your civic responsibility. At the same time, brace yourself. The experience is going to open your eyes wide."

Mr. Tonko was selected as a grand juror and served in Montgomery County Court. Expecting the criminal caseload of this rural county to be smaller, he says, "Being a juror highlighted for me the social neglect and upheaval that's part of our local community." Addressing the problems of drug abuse, poverty and other social ills as a lawmaker is a much different process than sitting on a grand jury and watching segments of people's lives play out right in front of you, he emphasizes. "The social and moral decay I saw sat heavily on me," says the assemblyman.

Consequently, Assemblyman Tonko began to rethink his role as a legislator. "The jury experience has made me more driven to understand what can be done at the front end and to more aggressively pursue those reforms that will make us all a better community," he says.

And just how did the legislator, who sits on the Assembly's Education, Agriculture and Transportation Committees and chairs its Energy Committee, manage to squeeze jury service into his already hectic schedule? Being a juror while in the middle of a reelection campaign, and staying on top of all the legislative issues, was tough, he admits. But the court staff, by giving the jurors more than ample notice regarding case delays and other changes, made his balancing act somewhat easier, he adds.

In the end, though, it was all worth it. Says the legislator, "I see the Assembly as an arena in which to make a difference. Making a positive difference in people's lives is important. Being a juror helped me to understand even more vividly what changes are required out there." ◆

"STAR TREATMENT"...Continued from Page 1

Pete Hamill at Manhattan juror appreciation ceremony

sisters, husbands, wives and children. The devastating impact took its toll on our operations as well," she said. Despite court closings and disruptions in phone service and computer connections, among other difficulties, jurors showed up at courthouses throughout the city and state eager to serve, Judge Pfau told the group, adding, "You insisted on serving. You showed that New Yorkers are strong. What stronger message can we send to our fallen heroes?"

Other radiant moments included a sweetly delivered verse from "Give My Regards to Broadway," compliments of Broadway veteran Joel Grey, and a heart and soul trumpet solo of "Ain't Misbehavin'" from virtuoso Wynton Marsalis. The lower Manhattan celebration was one of numerous events held throughout the state last November paying homage to the , plus jurors who served in New York this past year. ◆

"EQUAL JUSTICE FOR ALL"...Continued from Page 3

Education, Public Outreach Play a Role

In educating self-represented litigants and the public in general about court procedures and our legal system overall, Judge Newton's office embarked on an ambitious outreach program two years ago, calling on courts across the state to host open houses, law-related seminars, town hall meetings and other educational, community-oriented events on an ongoing basis.

For instance, at a Senior Citizen Law Day held recently in Nassau County Supreme Court, a panel of experts discussed a range of topics, from planning one's estate to consumer fraud. "If I knew it was going to be this informative, I would have brought some of my friends along," commented one woman, who showed up at the seminar with questions pertaining to her recent retirement.

Additionally, Judge Newton's office has partnered with bar associations, educators and government officials in developing and implementing law-related education programs for youngsters, from elementary school students to collegians. These partnerships are already paying off, with accomplishments that include the introduction of a comprehensive law-related curriculum in 14 New York City public middle schools, an after-school program where judges informally meet with adolescents, and a college program giving students the opportunity to observe and report on various courtroom proceedings as part of their coursework.

An Ongoing Commitment

Though her office has been working at a whirlwind pace since its start-up, Judge Newton has no intention of slowing down. She comments, "We must continue our ongoing commitment to civil legal services for the poor and our efforts in the pro bono area. We've also got to educate the public about how the different types of courts work and establish additional offices to assist litigants in navigating the courts. And where we can, we must simplify and restructure if we truly are to serve the public better." ◆

"COMMUNITY COURT"...Continued from Page 1

feel if it were your home? How would you feel if someone urinated in front of your door? And noise, it disrupts people's lives. People have to work. They need to sleep," Officer Ward calmly points out to the violators. Mike, a young man who's lived in the midtown area for years, voices his disgust over the loud boom boxes and other forms of sound pollution that plague the neighborhood. "A lot of people tell me if I want quiet, I should move to the country. No, that's ridiculous. We should be able to live here and open our windows," he says.

Ending on A Pleasant Note

After further discussion about the adverse impact of low-level crime, and how such minor offenses could be prevented in the future (for example, the offenders and community members agree on the shortage of public bathroom facilities in the area), the hour-long meeting ends on a congenial note. By this time, Mike and Timothy*, the Harlem man, have gotten rather friendly and are engaged in a separate conversation. "This was very beneficial. Good ground rules," Joseph tells the panelists as the talk comes to a close. "I'm glad I came," comments Timothy on his way out. ◆

** Name has been changed to protect privacy*

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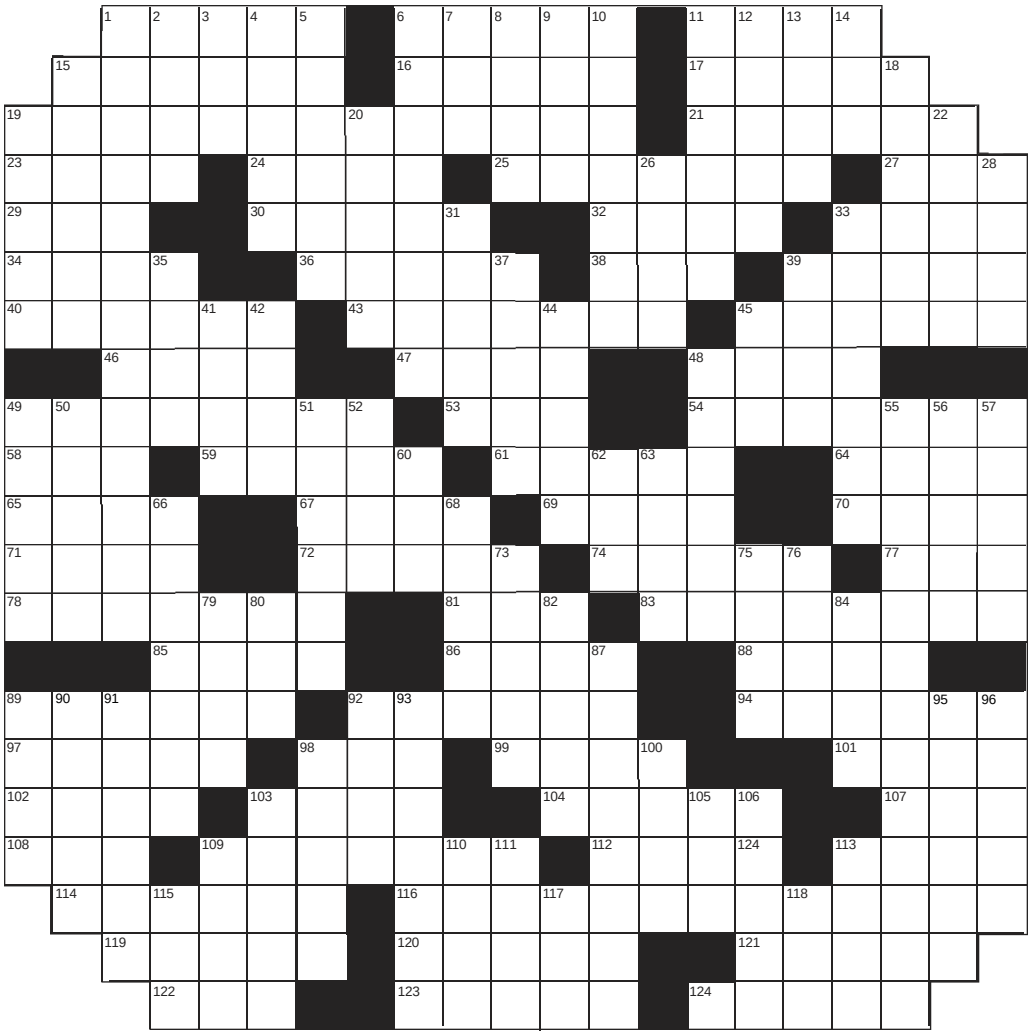

ACROSS

1. Susan Lucci role
6. Accumulate, as wealth
11. Porch, in ancient Greece
15. Flunked
16. Horse with white patches
17. Garbage
19. In civil cases, it rests with the plaintiff: 3 words
21. Stephen King, for one
23. Slippery ones
24. Elm or pine
25. Peruvian's native tongue
27. Legume
29. Town in England
30. Sultan's palace
32. Popular "Sesame Street" character
33. Formed, as a web
34. Close
36. Repairs, as socks
38. Curvy letter
39. Word with "treasure" or "war"
40. Sir Hillary, of Mount Everest fame
43. Stories handed down from the past
45. Coastal lands
46. Jacob's twin
47. Sandwich shop, for short
48. That was close!
49. Cocktail party orders, perhaps
53. Hillary Rodham Clinton's title, for short
54. Organizes, once again
58. Kimono sash
59. Ms. Horne and namesakes
61. Children await his arrival on Xmas
64. Draw tight, as a sail
65. What some expectant dads are known to do
67. Small vessel for storing liquids
69. It's below the knee
70. Name for a loyal pet, perhaps
71. Train-scheduler's concern: abbr. (plural)
72. __ ease, uncomfortable: 2 words
74. Shoe feature, maybe
77. Veteran actor Wallach
78. Tooth specialist
81. Tax-evader's nemesis: abbr.
83. Soldier assigned to guard a point of passage
85. Poker stake
86. Dead heats
88. Result of a fender-bender
89. Attractive
92. Name of an island group in the West Indies
94. Pressure
97. Event for a cowboy
98. Amusement
99. Posts:abbr.
101. Public exhibition, for short
102. Heron's cousin
103. Roman emperor
104. Eating utensil
107. The "P" in MPH
108. Encountered
109. Washington city
112. Window glass
113. Smell __, suspect that something's wrong: 2 words
114. Mia Hamm's sport
116. They're often part of a home-improvement team: 2 words
119. Highways
120. Mistake
121. The "G" in GNP
122. Avenues:abbr.
123. Public disorders
124. Pillow coverings

DOWN

1. Furniture style originating in the 13 colonies: 2 words
2. Relieves
3. __-de-France
4. Pennies
5. Was extremely fond of
6. Showed up, as for a court date
7. Russian spacecraft
8. Years, in 25-Across
9. Cut it out!
10. It may come in handy for a sleepover: 2 words
11. Steps
12. Believe
13. A witness must take one
14. Volcanic matter
15. Provided with energy
18. One that leaps
19. Geoffrey, of the fashion design world
20. Wild;undomesticated
22. Utilize a second time
26. Common suffix
28. Picnic pests
31. "Picnic" playwright and namesakes
33. Exhibitionist: hypenated word
35. Corrode
37. Monica, of tennis
39. The late Mr. Atkins
41. Finger part
42. Sand pile
44. Singer Simone and others
45. That woman
48. Strut
49. Lightweight motorbike
50. Lessen
51. Ask, as to a party
52. Travel by yacht
55. Christie best-seller, "Murder on the ___": 2 words
56. Soup kitchen item
57. Go bad, as food
60. The late Mr. Mineo
62. Association for fans of the NY Rangers: abbr.
63. Aunts, in Mexico
66. Matters for Surrogate's Court
68. Non-clergy
73. Does a gardener's work
75. Comes to a close
76. Proofreader's direction,maybe
79. Involved with
80. Filthy place
82. Performs an usher's job
84. Concerning: 2 words
87. Certain fishes
89. Proper
90. Jurists' garb
91. Publishing house employee
92. Brusque
93. One more
95. Pop star Britney
96. Types
98. Dreads
100. Bath need
103. Necessities
105. "__ Clear Day You Can See Forever": 2 words
106. Sound heard from16-Across
109. Sing a la Ella Fitzgerald
110. Actress-musician Singer
111. Prefix with "dollar"
113. Minute particle
115. __ Cob, Connecticut
117. Drunkard
118. Charlton Heston is affiliated with this group: abbr.