

The SUMMATION

August 2022

The Monthly Newsletter of the Evansville Bar Association

915 Main Street, Suite 108
Evansville, IN 47708

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: **Joe Langerak**

BE KIND. NO CRINKLES.

My daughter, Martha Mae, is 11. We have a close relationship and she is without a doubt a "daddy's girl." When we see each other after I return from work she always greets me with a big smile and a warm hug. It's a highlight for me each day. She is very bright, and especially keen on picking up on my mood— she can tell how things are going with me. Oh yeah, she also happens to have Down syndrome.



Martha Mae Langerak

A few months ago, I was having a really tough day. I was stressed and anxious. I always give Martha Mae a hug and a kiss before she goes to sleep. That night, I bent over her bed to tuck her in, give her a hug and kiss, but before I could she put both hands on my face, looked me dead in the eyes, and said "be kind, no crinkles." As she said, "no crinkles," she pointed to my forehead in between my eyebrows. She then kissed me, and I left her room. I melted. She knew, she somehow knew I was having a rough day and she was reminding me to simply be kind to all, and don't get too frustrated, daddy. I asked my wife Julia about it and neither of

us had seen it before and had no idea where it came from. She has done this every single night since it started, unprompted. I adore it.

I hadn't really told anyone about this beyond family, but in passing I told my friend and future partner Mike "Gabo" Gabovitch during dinner a few weeks back. He appreciated the story and I thought nothing else of it. Well, on July 5, when he and I celebrated our firms merging, he made the most wonderful toast during dinner. In part of it, he brought up Martha Mae and her phrase - "be kind, no crinkles." He went on to tell me how he and many folks at his former firm – Katz Korin Cunningham – had embraced the mantra and how it touched them. He then presented me and the other 13



Mike "Gabo" Gabovitch

dinner guests with a rambler cup with "Be kind. No crinkles. – Martha Langerak" written on it. At this point, I was trying to hold my composure during dinner because someone saw the wisdom in my 11-year old daughter that I thought only my family sees, and then they shared that wisdom with others in their law firm. I will never forget the kindness of Gabo's words that night, and his gesture.



When I reflect on that dinner, and what Gabo said, I realize what Martha is saying is so very wise, and so needed right now, and others outside my family should take note of her wisdom. We are coming out of a pandemic that has impacted us all, our country is divided on too many issues to count, and horrific displays of mass violence seem more prevalent than ever. But, as we carry on in our professional and personal lives, I suggest we take to heart the words of an 11-year old from Evansville, Indiana who just happens to have Down syndrome, named Martha Mae, because I think she is on to something.

Be kind. No crinkles.

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with ice cream from
JB's Barnyard

Have you heard the scoop?
**OUR CLERK AND COURT STAFF
ARE THE CREAM OF THE CROP!**

Hosted by the EBA for the Vanderburgh County and US Federal Courts

EBA members are invited to join us for a
Clerk and Court Staff Appreciation Day!

Friday, August 19, 2022

11:30am-1:30pm

LOCATION: Fenced lot at Sycamore and 9th

Enter from the courtyard between the Courts Building and Civic Center

For more information or to sponsor the event,
contact Julie Moore Holtz at julie@evvbar.org

VLP News

By: Senior Judge Corcoran and Susan Vollmer

As we wrote in each of the last two months, VLP and its parent entity Pro Bono Indiana (both headquartered here in Evansville) are in the process of adding additional staff positions to expand the availability of civil legal aid services in the Evansville metropolitan area. We are pleased to announce that we have filled one of the two available positions. Attorney Max Happe has joined the VLP staff and will be working in the area of eviction prevention and housing stability. To reach Max, contact him at max.happe@probonoindiana.org.

In addition to this expansion, VLP has grant funding to support the placement of certain eviction-related matters in exchange for limited judicare funding throughout the area. Volunteers can be paid up to \$100 per hour for up to 6.25 hours of service representing low-income tenants. To learn more about this opportunity, contact Max Happe at max.happe@probonoindiana.org. As always, thank you for assisting VLP clients.

Spotlight on Equity and Access

*Are you interested in improving
access to justice?*

The Access to Justice Committee and
Diversity and Inclusion Committee would
love to have you!

To be included in future meetings and
projects for access to justice or diversity
and inclusion, contact Julie@evvbar.org or
at (812) 463-3201.

Join us for the

Women In Law Section Social

Thurs. | 25 | August

Drop-in anytime 4-6pm
Mo's House | 1114 Parrett St | 47713



Jimmy Gentry
President

In September 2021, the Evansville Bar Foundation (EBF) granted a total of \$28,588.20 to eleven community organizations to either maintain or initiate programs and services “promoting justice and improving lives through the law”, which is the EBF’s Statement of Purpose. Those funds were made possible in part by 87 separate donations from judges, attorneys, paralegals, law firms, court reporting services, and community individuals. Their generosity and willingness to financially contribute to the EBF’s mission is certainly noted and greatly appreciated.

Beneficiaries of the 2021 monies were:

- * Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Southwestern Indiana
- * Boys and Girls Club of Evansville, Inc.
- * EBA Access to Justice Committee
- * Evansville Rescue Mission
- * HOPE of Evansville, Inc.
- * Vanderburgh County CASA
- * Vanderburgh Law Library Foundation
- * Volunteer Lawyer Program - Talk to a Lawyer
- * YMCA of Southwestern IN
- * YR of Southwestern Indiana, Inc. - Teen Court
- * YWCA Evansville

Thanks to 92 donors for the 2022 campaign year, the EBF will have \$31,737.45 available to be awarded in September 2022 to applicants striving to better our community.

Whether you are seasonal donor or considering donating for the first time, the EBF appreciates you and your financial support.

To donate to the Foundation, mail a check to 915 Main Street, Suite 108, Evansville, 47708 or go to <https://evvbar.org/foundation.aspx> by clicking the DONATE button below.

Donate

LIBRARIAN'S CORNER: CONFERENCE PRESENTATION AT AALL

On July 17, Scott Wylie and I gave a presentation at the American Association of Law Librarians (AALL) Annual Meeting and Conference in Denver, Colorado entitled “All Boats Rise: Court Navigation Using Law Libraries.” The conference theme was “Advancing Justice for All,” which is something we try to do each day with the help desk and law clinics in the law library. In our presentation, we described how our two organizations work in partnership to better serve self-represented litigants navigating the court system in our community.

As always, I welcome your questions, comments, and suggestions. Please feel free to call me, Kathleen Weston, at (812) 435-5175 or send me an email (kweston@vanderburghgov.org).



Annual Campaign Donors*

Legacy of Leadership

Randall K. and Rebecca Craig Family Foundation, Inc.

Senior Partner

Steve Hoar
Javier Lugo and Sarah Woods
David Shaw
Stewart Richardson Deposition Services

Lead Counsel

Marc Fine	Andy Ozete
Foster, O’Daniel, Hambidge & Lynch	Robert John & Associates
Jimmy Gentry	Stone & Stratman
Gary and Paula Gerling Foundation	Tuley Law Office

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Jim Casey	Carrie Roelle
Kathryn Kornblum	Mark Samila
Michael Land	Stephen H. Thomas
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Ole Olsen, Jr.	John Whinrey

Attorney of Record

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Gayle Gerling Pettinga	Lori Underwood
Kevin Gibson	Keith Vonderahe
Groves Law	Keith Wallace
David Harris	Scott Wylie
Hon. Bill Hussmann	

New Attorney (0-3 Years)

Jordan Buechler

Law Student

Heather Migdon

Paralegal

Jeana Goebel
Lauren Hawes
Michelle Motta

Friends of the Foundation

Julie Moore Holtz
Kathleen Weston

* 2022 Campaign donations received November 1, 2021 - July 31, 2022

You can find an up-to-date listing of CLE on the EBA website at evvbar.org

Registration and pre-payment are required by phone at (812) 463-3201, email at Ashley@evvbar.org or online at evvbar.org.

Registrations received less than 24 hours prior to the start of the course cannot be guaranteed. Registrations received two hours prior to start of course will be charged an additional \$5.

Credit will not be reported to the Indiana Supreme Court Commission on Continuing Legal Education (CLE Commission) until payment for the course has been received in full.

COMMERCIAL COURT UPDATE

1 CLE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

NOON

EBA OFFICE

HON. TOM MASSEY, VANDERBURGH SUPERIOR COURT
JIM CASEY, ZIEMER, STAYMAN, WEITZEL & SHOULDERS
JIM JOHNSON, JACKSON KELLY

Commercial Law Section Member \$25

Member \$30

Non-member \$50

To register call (812) 463-3201, email
ashley@evvbar.org or go to evvbar.org.

SEALING EVICTION CASES AND AVOIDING EVICTIONS

1 CLE

MONDAY, AUGUST 15

NOON

EBA OFFICE

ANDREW THOMAS, MPA, JD
HOUSING LAW CENTER DIRECTOR (INTERIM), ILS

Member \$30

Non-member \$50

To register call (812) 463-3201, email
ashley@evvbar.org or go to evvbar.org.

INDIANA'S RED FLAG LAW; PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

1 CLE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

NOON

EBA OFFICE

GREG FREYBERGER, BARBER & BAUER

Member \$30

Non-member \$50

To register call (812) 463-3201, email
ashley@evvbar.org or go to evvbar.org.

LET'S SET THE PACE TOGETHER

*in conjunction with the Henderson County
and Daviess County Bar Associations*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26
ELLIS PARK GARDENIA ROOM

8:30am – Light breakfast

9-10am CLE

10:15-11:15am Ethics

Followed by race tips with Dennis Brinkmeyer,
lunch and live racing!

11:30am Lunch

To register call (812) 463-3201, email
ashley@evvbar.org or go to evvbar.org.

WHO'S DOING WHAT?

CONGRATULATIONS..

...to the following EBA members recognized by Indiana Business Journal Media as just a few of the Most Influential Business Leaders in Indiana:

Joshua Claybourn, Jackson Kelly; **Michael Schopmeyer**, KDDK; **Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard (ret.)**, Indiana Court of Appeals; and, **Pat Shoulders**, Ziemer, Stayman, Weitzel & Shoulders.

YOUNG LAYWER GIVE BACK

"Everyone can be great because everyone can serve."

~ Martin Luther King Jr.

On July 21, members of the EBA served dinner to families staying at the Ronald McDonald House on Washington Avenue. The feast included grilled pork chops and sausage with sides of potato salad, broccoli, baked beans, and cookies.

Thank you to YLS vice-chair **Mark Abell** and chair **Jordan Saner** for organizing this give back opportunity for the EBA.



Dinner is served thanks to (L to R) Jackson Kelly summer associates Chandler Lacy and CJ Donegan, and EBA members **Kristen Koewler-Campbell**, **Hon. Elaine Brown**, **Hannah Dill**, and **Jordan Buechler**. Not pictured is our photographer **Hon. Bill Hussmann**.



Jordan Saner and **Mark Abell** grillin' and chillin' for the families staying at RMHC.



Bar Updates:

Please make the following additions and updates to your contacts:

Spencer Tanner Gutwein Law

20 NW Third Street, Suite 830
Evansville, Indiana 47708
(812) 901-1742

spencer.tanner@gutweinlaw.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

For more information, go to evvbar.org, click the MEMBERS tab.

Gibson County Prosecutor's Office has an opening for a full time IVD Deputy Prosecutor.

The Evansville, Indiana office of **Jackson Kelly PLLC** has an opening in our litigation practice for an attorney looking for the opportunity to work with great clients on challenging matters.

The Law Offices of Steven K. Deig, LLC is seeking a trial attorney primarily in the area of domestic relations.

Terrell, Born, Sullivan & Fiester is looking to add one or more attorneys to its team!

Volunteer Lawyer Program is hiring a Legal Navigator for the southwest region.

Law Office of Jonathan M. Young seeks and experienced paralegal.

Medical Consultant

Doctor with 40 years of experience in cardiology and internal medicine available to assist attorneys with the medical aspects of their case. I have worked with lawyers and Administrative Law judges for 20 plus years in medical record analysis and case preparation.

I can provide advice and evaluation of the medical record for claims, injuries, treatments, prognosis and future care needs. I can also educate you and your team to understand the medical issues and terms presented.

I do not offer depositions nor court testimony.

Ralph Millsaps MD FACC
Bytheriver5@outlook.com
812-483-8785

WE ARE THE EBA



Jennifer Helfert, Corporate Paralegal, Berry Global, Inc.

Corporate Paralegal for 26 years; 5 years at Berry Global, Inc. on the Commercial Legal Team and 21 years at Mattingly, Rudolph, Fine & Porter/Rudolph, Fine, Porter & Johnson/Jackson Kelly

Why did you become a paralegal? I took a few elective legal courses in college and liked them better than the accounting courses I was taking. So, I switched majors but didn't want to go to law school.

What is the most valuable asset the EBA has to offer? Why? Networking/Members. It is important to feel a connection to the legal community and meet people like you that you can connect with and reach out to and the EBA provides that opportunity.

What are your hobbies? Traveling, reading, learning photography and participating in antique tractor pulls.

What always makes you laugh? The movie White Chicks.

What was your first job? Holiday World – I made funnel cakes.

Tell me a bit about your immediate family. My husband, Richard, is an engineer and has worked at Gibbs Die Casting for over 28 years. He and I met on a blind date over 30 years ago that was set up by his brother, my classmate. We will be married for 27 years in August.

When you're not working, what are you most likely to be doing? Reading, watching movies or playing board games.

What is something on your bucket list you've completed? What do you still want to do? I have been on an African safari in the Serengeti. I would like to: Go to the Galapagos Islands; see polar bears in the wild; go on an Alaskan land and sea cruise.

If you could not work for 1 year, what would you do? We bought some property several years ago, I would concentrate on getting a house built and move.



Carrie Lynn, Senior Staff Attorney, Indiana Legal Services—Evansville

15 years of experience, poverty law-specifically family law, expungements and housing

Why did you become an attorney? I became an attorney because I wanted to help people and improve the lives of those who are under-resourced.

Why is it important to be a member of the EBA? I think it is important to become a member of the EBA to connect and build relationships with other Evansville attorneys.

What's the best piece of advice you've ever been given? No matter what, just keep going.

What always makes you laugh? I "nervous laugh" when things get awkward.

What was your first job? Cashier at Colonial Garden Center

Tell me a bit about your immediate family. My husband Charles and I have been married for two years, and I have a 6-year-old stepdaughter named Ainsley.

What's your favorite family tradition? When my husband and I travel, we had our own postcards made so we could mail them from all of our favorite destinations. We now have an entire book of postcards with stamps and postmarks from all of the places we've been.

What is one thing you will never do again? Take a math class.

When you're not working, what are you most likely to be doing? I love traveling, trying new restaurants, and going to concerts.

What is something on your bucket list you've completed? What do you still want to do? I went on safari in Kenya. I still want to see the pyramids in Egypt and Machu Picchu in Peru, among a 100 other things.

Who inspires you? I worked with some attorneys in Rwanda who were starting the first ever free legal clinic in their country. Their resilience and commitment to helping others is something I think about often when I'm working with my own clients.



Spencer Tanner, Gutwein Law

Seven years in practice in Commercial Litigation and Creditors' Rights

Why did you become an attorney? I was young and naïve; no, I always had the general sense that being a lawyer would fit the cross-section of my personality, interests, and abilities in a way no other profession could. I honestly do not know what I would be doing if I didn't practice law.

Why is it important to be a member of the EBA? The EBA provides a great opportunity for camaraderie and resources to local attorneys. Without the connections that the EBA provides, you're not going to be successful in this market.

What's the best piece of advice you've ever been given? I was once told I needed to "use my effing brain" which I didn't understand at the time but now appreciate. The best advice I have received,

however, is to stay humble.

What always makes you laugh? My kids. They're ridiculous.

Tell me a bit about your immediate family. Married 8 years to my beautiful wife Paige and have two sons, ages 4 and 2.

What celebrity would you like most to meet for a cup of coffee? Barack Obama if he counts.

What's your favorite item in your office and why? Pictures of my wife and kids. Just kidding, definitely my turntable. Something about the tangible nature of the sound.

If you could share a meal with four individuals, living or dead, who would they be? Frank Sinatra, Teddy Roosevelt, Shakira, and Winston Churchill. Interesting crowd.

If you were to describe yourself by a music genre, what would you be and why? Soul. Great rhythm, deep lyrics, but easy listening.

Who inspires you? My mother, she's extremely hard working and dedicated.

AUGUST 2022 CALENDAR

- 08/02 **EBA Family Law Section Meeting**—Noon, EBA Office
- 08/03 **EBA Solo Small Firm Section Meeting**—Noon, EBA Office
- 08/04 **Talk to a Lawyer**—4:30-6:00pm, EBA Office
- 08/10 **CLE—Commercial Court Update** (1 CLE)—Noon, EBA Office; Zoom by request only—[REGISTER](#)
- 08/11 **EBA Board of Directors Meeting**—Lunch at 11:45am, Meeting at Noon, EBA Office
- 08/12 **EBA Access to Justice Committee Meeting**—Noon, EBA Office
- 08/15 **CLE—Sealing Eviction Cases and Avoiding Eviction** (1 CLE) - Noon, EBA Office; Zoom by request only—[REGISTER](#)
- 08/16 **Talk to a Lawyer**—11:30am-1:00pm, EBA Office
- 08/17 **CLE—Indiana's Red Flag Law; Practical Considerations** (1 CLE) - Noon, EBA Office—[REGISTER](#)
- 08/18 **EBF Board of Directors Meeting**—Noon, EBA Office
- 08/19 **EBA hosts Clerk and Court Staff Appreciation Day**—11:30am-1:30pm, Fenced lot at Sycamore and 9th—enter through gate between Civic Center and Courts entrance on the courtyard side
- 08/24 **EBA CLE Committee Meeting**—Noon, EBA Office
- 08/25 **EBA Editorial Board Meeting**—Noon, EBA Office or Video Conference
EBA Young Lawyers Section Lunch & Learn—Noon, EBA Office
EBA Women In Law Section Social—Mo's House at 1114 Parrett Street, 4:00-6:00pm
- 08/26 **CLE—Let's Set the Pace Together** (2 CLE—Indiana and Kentucky) - at Ellis Park with our colleagues in Henderson and Owensboro! Light breakfast at 8:30am, CLE 9:00-11:15am followed by race tips with Dennis Brinkmeyer, lunch and live racing! - [REGISTER](#)

SAVE-THE-DATE

- Shepard Lecture Series: An Evening with the Appellate Judges**—Tuesday, September 20, 5:30pm; Old Courthouse—Shepard Courtroom
- Memorial Service for Michael Keating**—Friday, September 23, Noon; Old Courthouse—Shepard Courtroom
- Federal Jury Trial Simulation** (PENDING: 6 CLE) with Judge Richard Young—Wednesday, September 28, 8:00am-5:00pm; Federal Court Building
- Trivia Night LIVE!**—Thursday, October 13, Doors open at 5:30pm with trivia at 6:00pm; The Ballroom at Sauced
- 33rd Annual EBA Estate & Business Planning Institute**—Friday, November 4, 8:30am-4:00pm; DoubleTree
- New Lawyer Welcome hosted by EBA Young Lawyer Section**—Thursday, November 10, 5:00-7:00pm; location TBD



EBA
EVANSVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION

Paralegal Section
SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

The Paralegal Section is collecting supplies to deliver to a low-income/priority school with EVSC.

Items requested:

- Pencils
- Crayons
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Scissors
- Folders
- Glue
- Copy paper
- Notebooks/composition books
- Colored/construction paper
- Dry-erase markers
- Paintbrushes and paint
- Ziplock bags
- Kleenex
- Disinfecting and baby wipes

Items may be dropped off at the EBA Office, M-F, 9am-4pm through August 12.

QUESTIONS?
Contact Kelsey@evvlegal.com

SHEPARD LECTURE SERIES
THE EVANSVILLE BAR ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION
PRESENT

An Evening with the Appellate Judges

Tuesday, September 20, 2022
Old Courthouse—Shepard Courtroom
Doors open at 5:00pm
Presentation at 5:30pm
Reception to follow

