Canadian Supreme Court Justice Honors Jackson Legacy

The Jackson Center was honored to host Canadian Supreme Court Justice Rosalie Abella for the 14th annual Robert H. Jackson Supreme Court lecture at Chautauqua Institution on July 26. Justice Abella is renowned in Canada, in the United States, and beyond our continent as a great jurist, thinker, writer, and public figure in the law. Born in a displaced persons camp within Stuttgart in 1946, Justice Abella lived in the U.S. zone of military occupation in what had been Nazi Germany just one year before. At the age of four, she and her family moved to Canada as refugees. In 1964, she graduated from the Royal Conservatory of Music in classical piano and later attended the University of Toronto, earning a B.A. in 1967 and an LL.B. in 1970. Prime Minister Paul Martin appointed Abella to the Supreme Court of Canada in 2004 when she became the first Jewish woman to sit on the court.

Justice Abella opened her lecture by describing Justice Robert H. Jackson’s opinions as some of the best she had ever read, and which “reveal the intellectual textures of a wise philosopher, the cerebral interests of polymathic scholar and the heart of a compassionate statesman.” For Justice Abella, Jackson’s writings reflect a judge “whose passion is the search for a moral universe in which justice flourishes.” She chose that ideal as the theme for her lecture in honor of Justice Jackson. Over the course of the lecture, the audience savored, mused or knowingly reflected on her remarks, as she compared and contrasted the cultural differences that shape the way the United States and Canada view issues of civil liberty. When Justice Abella completed her lecture, the audience rose in appreciation for her stimulating remarks, which echoed the spirit of why she holds Justice Jackson in “inspirational awe.”

Members of the Jackson Society welcomed Justice Abella to their annual dinner for relaxation and fellowship on the evening before her lecture. The evening also provided an opportunity for Justice Abella to meet the Jackson Center’s summer interns and Justice Jackson’s grandchildren Thomas Loftus, III and Julia Craighill, who is a member of the Jackson Center board of directors. Justice Abella remarked that, as a grandmother, it means a great deal to her to see Jackson’s legacy survive in generations that follow. We were also pleased to have Arnie and Jill Bellowe and Rhoe Henderson join us for the evening. Both the Bellowe Family Foundation and Rhoe B. Henderson Insurance have supported the Jackson Center’s sponsorship of the Jackson Lecture at Chautauqua Institution for over seven years. It was a pleasure to welcome Justice Rosalie Abella and her husband, Dr. Irving Martin Abella, who was made a Member of the Order of Ontario in 2014 for his contribution to documenting the story of Jewish Canadians, and his commitment to the principles of social justice and tolerance.
Friends,

It is an honor to write to you as the new Chairman of the Board of the Robert H. Jackson Center. It is a very exciting time in the Center’s history as I take on this challenge. Your support over the past year has allowed us to present quality programming that has honored Robert Jackson’s legacy and beliefs.

In this and in future newsletters, you will find articles on many of the outstanding programs we have hosted, such as: Canadian Supreme Court Justice Rosalie Abella, the life and career of Charles Goodell and the International Humanitarian Law Dialogues. The list is diverse and long, and only can happen because of you and your contributions to the Center. Almost all of our programs are now available on the Robert H. Jackson Center YouTube channel.

We are currently working with local educators to bring more of Robert Jackson and his ideals into local classrooms in Chautauqua County, around the state and throughout the country. As more curriculum is put into lesson plan format, we will be able to give teachers the tools they need to help promote justice and the rule of law. We will continue to provide quality programming for students at the Center through programs like the Young Readers program and Living Voices.

I encourage you to take a moment to support the work that is being accomplished at the Center. Your contribution will make an immediate impact on what we will be able to do in the future. Your gift can be part of our annual fund or it can go toward the endowment fund. Either way, you are making a gift that allows the Jackson Center to help fulfill our vision of a global society where the universal principles of equality, fairness and justice prevail.

Whether you are in town or from far away, we look forward to seeing you at the Center on your next visit.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Schmidt
Chairman of the Board

A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

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The 12th annual International Humanitarian Law Dialogs (IHLD) opened with the traditional welcome dinner at the Jackson Center on Sunday, August 25. The theme for the IHLD this year was, “Is The Justice We Seek, The Justice They Want?” We were pleased to host current and former prosecutors from the International Criminal Court, Sierra Leone, and Cambodia, along with several professors and law school students from Case Western Reserve University and Washington University at St. Louis, Jackson Society members, and the sponsors for this year’s IHLD: The American Bar Association, The American Society of International Law, Case Western University School of Law, The Center for Victims of Torture, Impunity Watch, IntLawGrrls, New York University Center for Global Affairs, The Planethood Foundation, The Public International Law and Policy Group, Chautauqua Institution, and The Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute at Washington University in St. Louis, in Association with the Ferencz International Justice Initiative at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Following dinner, the public was welcomed to a program featuring the presentation of the Joshua Heintz Award for Humanitarian Achievement and a Conversation with Zainab Hawa Bangura, former United Nations Secretary-General’s Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict. Given annually, the Joshua Heintz Award for Humanitarian Achievement recognizes individuals who demonstrate compassion, vision, and dedication in pursuit of international humanitarian justice. This year’s award honored both Allyson Caison and Christina Cowger. Caison and Cowger are founding members of the grassroots network of human rights advocates, North Carolina Stop Torture Now. The organization worked to end America’s Rendition, Detention and Interrogation program and led an effort to stop flights from North Carolina that were used to transport suspects for torture to secret prisons in other countries. This award has been described by the EU Reporter as “one of the world’s most prestigious individual achievement prizes.” This was the first time the award was conferred on two individuals in the same year.

After the award presentation, Dr. Zainab Bangura was interviewed by Gregory Peterson, Phillips Lytle partner and co-founder of the Jackson Center. Over the past two decades, Bangura (a 2017 winner of the Heintz Award) has worked in the pursuit of justice for victims of war crimes and crimes against humanity, both in her native Sierra Leone and around the world. The public was invited to the IHLD seminars and lectures that were held on the grounds of Chautauqua Institution on Monday and Tuesday, August 27-28. Details about the 12th Annual International Humanitarian Law Dialogues and all previous IHLD are available our website. Our opening program was made possible through the generosity of our donors, and specifically Blackstone-NEY Ultrasonics, LaBella Associates and the Whitney R. Harris Lectureship Endowment Fund at the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation.
On November 8, the public learned about the remarkable story of Josiah DuBois, Jr., an American attorney at the U.S. Treasury Department who played a crucial role in exposing State Department obstruction efforts to provide American visas to Jewish people trying to escape Nazi Europe.

Josiah Dubois was born in Camden, New Jersey, and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania as an undergraduate and from the law school in 1934 before joining the Department of Treasury as special assistant in 1944. That year, he wrote the famous “Report to the Secretary on the Acquiescence of This Government in the Murder of the Jews,” which Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau, Jr., used to convince President Franklin Roosevelt to establish the War Refugee Board in 1944, a rescue agency. The document revealed a concerted effort by the State Department to interfere with rescue efforts and obstruct the flow of information to the U.S.

Jackson Center co-founder and board member, Gregory Peterson opened the program with introductory remarks about “The Legacy of Frank Farrell’s Hope’s Windows and Josiah DuBois, Jr.” Rob DuBois, grandson of Josiah Dubois, Jr., and Hope’s Vice President, moved to Jamestown following his marriage to Kelly Farrell, the daughter of Frank Farrell who was Hope’s CEO and President until the time of his passing in 2010.

“My father . . . told me that his father upon reflection of the trials (especially the outcome) that the importance of the trials was not in the verdict or punishments doled out but in the acknowledgment, in a court of law, that the atrocities carried out by the Nazi party actually occurred. He believed people would deny the holocaust actually happened and that having a legal record of it would help prevent that fact.”

Rob DuBois, grandson of Josiah DuBois, Jr.

Following an overview of the Hope’s/DuBois connection, Peterson paid tribute to Hope’s Windows for its significant support, during the early years of the Jackson Center, by installing steel cased windows that greatly reduced our energy expenses. Hope’s Board Chair, Kelly DuBois, shared her desire that the next generation will better appreciate the family’s history through the video recording of the evening’s program.

Rob Goldberg, Chief Executive Officer of the Buffalo Jewish Federation, shared his reflections on the power of being an “up stander,” like Josiah DuBois, rather than a bystander when staring down the face of evil. He noted that you do not have to fall within a victimized class to stand up for what is right.

In 1946, Telford Taylor asked DuBois to head the prosecution of the Nuremberg Trial against the twenty-four directors of I. G. Farben, the German chemical manufacturing conglomerate that used hundreds of thousands of Jewish slave laborers in its factories and supplied the Nazis with Zyklon B, the poison used in the gas chambers at the death camps.


Peterson concluded the program with an interview of Bob DuBois, son of Josiah DuBois, Jr. Bob was old enough to remember moving to Nuremberg to be with his father during the trial when he was seven years old. Later in life, he recalled his father’s frustrations that some of the defendants in the I.G. Farben trial did not receive sentences that fully reflected their involvement.

The program was made possible by the generosity of Robert H. Jackson Center donors, Hope’s Windows and in partnership with the Buffalo Jewish Federation.
A new exhibit opened this summer with a public reception on August 14 to view “A Model for Courage: The Life of Charles Goodell.” This year marks the 50th anniversary of Charles E. Goodell’s appointment to the U.S. Senate to fill the unexpired term of Robert F. Kennedy who was assassinated in June 1968. The exhibit explores the life of the Jamestown-born politician who ascended to the U.S. Senate in a time of crisis only to lose his seat for standing up for what he felt was right.

The son of a Jamestown doctor, Charles Goodell excelled academically at Jamestown High School, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa at Williams College, graduated from Yale Law School in 1951 and received a graduate degree from Yale’s Graduate School of Government the following year. In 1953, he attended a luncheon where he reunited with his childhood neighbor, Robert Jackson, who later wrote a recommendation that helped set the course for Goodell’s career in public service. Goodell became a congressional liaison in the Eisenhower Administration’s Justice Department before returning to Jamestown to open his own law practice.

In 1959, Goodell was tapped by the local Republican committee to fill a vacancy left after Rep. Daniel Reed’s passing. Goodell won the seat in a special election that May. He served nine years in the House of Representatives until September of 1968, when Gov. Nelson Rockefeller appointed him to the U.S. Senate to fill the seat of Robert F. Kennedy.

In the Senate, Goodell authored and sponsored a large number of bills, including bills to provide conservation and development aid to small towns and rural areas. With the aid of federal matching funds provided by Goodell’s legislation, many small upstate New York communities without municipal sewage systems were able to build them. Goodell most notably made headlines as the first U.S. Senator to propose legislation calling for the withdrawal of troops from the Vietnam War, ostracizing him from many of his fellow Republican Party members. President Richard Nixon refused to endorse him, instead subtly supporting Conservative Party candidate James L. Buckley, who defeated Goodell and Democratic challenger, Richard Ottinger in a three-way race in 1970. Despite the political loss, Goodell returned to public life in 1974 as chairman of President Gerald R. Ford’s Clemency Board.

Upon his passing in 1987, Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan remarked, “I have not known a finer member of Congress.”

The Center was pleased to host generations of the Goodell family at a reception, including Timothy Goodell, Roger Goodell, Michael Goodell and Jeffrey Goodell, four of Goodell’s five sons. The public tribute included remarks from former New York State Lieutenant Governor, Stan Lundine; former Goodell aide Michael Smith; RHJC board member Joseph Zanetta, Esq.; Fr. Denis O’Pray, the family pastor who eulogized Goodell in 1987 at his funeral and Goodell’s second eldest son, Timothy Goodell, who serves on the board of the RHJC. A video short, produced by Jackson Center intern Cameron Hurst (a St. Bonaventure University student), was featured during the program and is available on the exhibit webpage.

The exhibit features panel-by-panel displays of Goodell’s life, a video short on his career, vintage campaign buttons, posters, and the American flag that flew at the United States Capitol on the day that he was sworn into the Senate. The exhibit has been an important teaching tool for students and adults to learn the traits that build courageous leaders.

The event was made possible through our donors and the sponsorship support of the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation (CRCF), Kranky Plate productions, Lind Funeral Home, and Quick Solutions.
Seventy-five years ago, Justice Robert H. Jackson wrote the majority opinion for the United States Supreme Court's decision in *West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943). The Court held that the Free Speech Clause of the First Amendment protects students from being forced to salute the American flag or say the Pledge of Allegiance in public school. The decision was a legal victory for religious freedom, in general, and for the Jehovah’s Witnesses, in particular, whose religion forbade them from saluting or pledging to symbols, including symbols of political institutions. *Barnette* overturned the Court’s decision in *Minersville School District v. Gobitis*, 310 U.S. 586 (1940), which resulted in a significant backlash against the Jehovah’s Witnesses.

Cass R. Sunstein, a professor at Harvard Law School and leading constitutional law scholar, opined in a Bloomberg View article that the foundational importance and “sheer eloquence” of Jackson’s opinion “helped orient many liberty-protecting decisions,” and he ranked *Barnette* as one of the five greatest moments in the history of the Supreme Court.

University’s Washington College of Law, Philip Brumley, General Counsel for the Jehovah Witnesses, and Marie Barnett Snodgrass, one of the named petitioners in the *Barnette* case to the Center for a two-day event. The program began on Tuesday, October 16 with an open house at the Jackson Center that included a docent-led historical exhibition of various visual presentations of the Jehovah’s Witnesses’ struggle for religious freedom leading up to the *Barnette* decision. A formal program followed in our Cappa Theatre, which included a riveting 15-minute stage play, “The Faithful Do Not Yield,” that was originally presented for National History Day at the 2017 National Contest. After the performance, Professor Tsai delivered the fascinating lecture, “What Might Have Been.” Prof. Tsai quoted from earlier drafts of Justice Jackson’s *Barnette* opinion that revealed a more passionate response to the failings of the *Gobitis* decision.

On Wednesday, October 17, the stage play was reprised, but was followed by two illustrated presentations that traced the events surrounding the *Gobitis* and *Barnette* decisions. The Center was honored to have Thomas A. Loftus, III, the grandson of Justice Jackson and former Jackson Center board member, read passages from the *Barnette* opinion. A roundtable conversation with

In commemoration of the 75th anniversary, we invited Professor Robert L. Tsai of American
Marie Barnett Snodgrass, Louise Blanton and Judith Gobitas Klose followed. Ms. Blanton, also a Jehovah's Witness, was a contemporary of Lillian Gobitas who lived through the challenges of the Gobitis decision and Judith Klose, the daughter of the late Lillian Gobitas, completed the panel. It should be noted that the Court misspelled the surnames of both the Gobitas and Barnett families. At the conclusion of the interview with the panel, Simone Arnold Liebster joined the conversation via Skype from France. In the 1940s, Simone refused to accept the Nazi party and was persecuted by her school and local officials as a Jehovah’s Witness. She was put in a harsh reform school until the end of World War II.

Philip Brumley, general counsel for the Jehovah’s Witnesses, delivered the keynote lecture, “Jehovah’s Witnesses: Canaries in the Coal Mine of Human Rights.” The Center was fortunate to have students from Jamestown Public School and Randolph Public School present to learn the history of the struggle for religious freedom and the challenges of exercising one’s religious rights in a secular world.

Barnette is still one of the most quoted of Jackson’s decisions and an edited quote is engraved on the flagpole that stands at entrance to the Jackson Center. A fuller version of the quote states:

“The very purpose of a Bill of Rights was to withdraw certain subjects from the vicissitudes of political controversy, to place them beyond the reach of majorities and officials and to establish them as legal principles to be applied by the courts. One’s right to life, liberty, and property, to free speech, a free press, freedom of worship and assembly, and other fundamental rights may not be submitted to vote; they depend on the outcome of no elections.

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If there is any fixed star in our constitutional constellation, it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion or force citizens to confess by word or act their faith therein. If there are any circumstances which permit an exception, they do not now occur to us.”

West Virginian v. Barnette, 319 U.S. 624, 638, 642 (1943)

The program was made possible by donors and the sponsorship support of the Watch Tower Society and the UBS-Wight, Auer, and Kane Group.
An eager audience laughed through tears at the Jackson Center on August 2, 2018, to learn and appreciate the courage it sometimes takes for comedians to exercise the full measure of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. The Jackson Center was pleased to collaborate with the National Comedy Center to feature “Comedy and the First Amendment,” which spotlighted how comedians use humor to speak truth to power, but not without the consequence of censorship, lost work, and even criminal prosecution. The evening’s panelists included Kitty Bruce, the daughter of legendary comedian Lenny Bruce, notable Buffalo attorney Paul J. Cambria, Jr., renowned comedian Lewis Black and the producer of CNN’s History of Comedy, Stephen Morrison.

No stand-up comedian is more noted for his confrontations with the law, because of his craft, than the late Lenny Bruce. Sometimes addressing issues of racial inequality and religious discrimination, Bruce pushed the envelope on the limits of free speech. His daughter, Kitty, shared remarkable personal stories about her father’s battles with the law as he plied his comedy craft, often in defiance of obscenity laws. The entire audience leaned in close to hear her explain how Bruce’s battles with authorities took a painful toll on “his deep belief that the United States has the greatest legal system in the world,” but, understood the dangers of attacking every sacred cow of the 1950s and 60s from his underdog, working-class perspective.

An expert on First Amendment rights, attorney Paul Cambria, discussed his professional challenges in representing controversial graphic magazine publisher Larry Flynt and musicians DMX and Marilyn Manson. Cambria addressed the limits of censorship as it relates to different forms of media. He noted that, just as Lenny Bruce was ultimately pardoned by Governor Pataki in 2004, society’s tolerance (as it relates to a jury) shifts over time.

Lewis Black, known for his trademark comedy rants had a number of pointed and humorous observations about social media and lamented audience members who take a comedian’s act out of context to criticize their work. For him, cell phones create a different dynamic for stand-up comedians whose routines can be turned into a meme or go viral for reasons that have little to do with the original context of their act. Ultimately, he disclosed that he never changes his act based on the First Amendment, but looks for ways to draw the audience in to understand that his jokes are not driven by politics, but his persistent drive to speak truth to power.

**PULITZER PRIZE WINNER DISCUSSES HOW ATTICA SHAPED U.S. PRISON REFORM POLICY**

On September 13, 1971, New York State troopers regained control over Attica Correctional Facility, from prisoners, who had taken guards hostage four days earlier in protest over conditions of confinement. Forty-seven years later, to the day, Heather Ann Thompson detailed the events leading up to, during and after the prison uprising, and, described the legacy of that historical moment. Dr. Thompson was the keynote speaker at the Jackson Center’s Fall Continuing Legal Education (CLE) seminar on September 13, 2018.

In 2017, Dr. Thompson won the Pulitzer Prize in History for her work “Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy.” The book tells the gripping, apolitical, and behind-the-scenes
story of a pivotal moment in history and the lessons that were learned from that event.

Dr. Thompson is an author, historian, speaker and college professor at the University of Michigan, where she earned both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees. She later earned a PhD from Princeton University. Thompson was previously on the faculties of the University of North Carolina in Charlotte and Temple University in Philadelphia. Thompson has written about the history and current crises of mass incarceration for numerous popular and scholarly publications, including The New York Times, Newsweek, The Washington Post, NBC, Time Magazine, The Atlantic, and Huffington Post.

During her presentation, Dr. Thompson noted how the public’s growing interest in prison reform dramatically plummeted in 1971 after rampant misrepresentations surfaced regarding the prisoners’ treatment of hostages during the uprising. In her book, Dr. Thompson fully reveals facts, memos, interviews and legal documents that were never disclosed to the public. The significance of the Attica uprising and how it reshaped the public’s perception of prison reform was etched in the memories of many audience members who were living near Attica in 1971. The Jackson Center was pleased to have students from Allegheny College attend and learn, first-hand, about the checkered modern history of prison reform in the United States.

The CLE also included a panel discussion with Lee Coppola, former dean of the Jandoli School of Communication at St. Bonaventure University. In 1971, Coppola was at Attica prison as a reporter for The Buffalo Evening News on the date the prison was retaken. Coppola shared personal accounts of being a 27 year old reporter ‘on the ground’ that day; hearing 10-15 minutes of the ‘Gatling gun-like’ sounds of bullets inside the walls of the prison filled with unarmed inmates. An hour after the last shot was heard, Gerald Houlihan, an aide to the Corrections Commissioner, announced to reporters that the hostages had been killed by convicts in knife attacks and some of the victims had their throats slashed. The following day, the New York Times recanted that story and confirmed that the nine hostages died of gunshot wounds and not from slashed throats, but, the potency of the initial report never died. FBI Special Agent in Charge of the Buffalo, NY Field Office, Gary Loeffert, joined the panel to describe how the FBI painstakingly gathers facts, post-Attica, in order to corroborate information and avoid miscommunications.

The CLE seminar began with a presentation by Phillips Lytle attorney, Amanda Lowe, on “Diversity, Inclusion and Elimination of Bias.” In January 2018, New York State added a new CLE category for diversity, inclusion and elimination of bias courses now required for attorneys.

The CLE course materials also included a copy of U.S. Solicitor General Robert Jackson’s address at a forum meeting of the Corrections Committee in 1939. A copy of that speech is available on the Jackson Center’s website page for the Fall 2018 CLE.

A luncheon followed the CLE with Gregory Peterson interviewing Don Luce, former professional Canadian ice hockey centre, executive and scout.

The program was made possible, in part, by Jackson Center annual fund donors and Phillips Lytle LLC; Northwest Bank; Allegheny College; Andreozzi Bluestein LLP; AXA Financial; Axiom; Chautauqua Region Community Foundation; Jamestown Bar Association; Greater Chautauqua Regional Estate Planning Council; Rodgers Land Surveying; Key Private Bank; and, the following fund held at Chautauqua Region Community Foundation: The Honorable Joseph Gerace/Robert H. Jackson Lectureship Fund and with in-kind Support from the Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame.

Our current special exhibit is: A Model for Courage: The Life of Charles Goodell.

“The most hopeful sign of our time is in thus placing criminal conduct in a right relation to the whole social and economic pattern, as a concern of all people, and in recognizing the primary purpose of punishment to be restoration of broken lives.”

NOTED WWII SCHOLAR, GERHARD WEINBERG, SHARES PERSONAL STORY

Dr. Gerhard Weinberg, a German-born American diplomatic and military historian, spoke as the inaugural Al and Marge Brown lecturer on WWII, established with an endowment gift from Philip and Mary Ann Zimmer to benefit the Jackson Center. The Center was thrilled to have the children of Al and Marge Brown present to spend time with Dr. Weinberg. The Brown family believes their father, the former president at The College at Brockport SUNY, would have enjoyed Dr. Weinberg immensely.

Dr. Weinberg was interviewed by Jackson Center co-founder, Gregory L. Peterson, a partner at Phillips Lytle LLC. The interview focused on the rise of the Nazi party that forced a young Gerhard to flee his native Germany in 1938. That development led to his lifelong interest in researching and writing about World War II. He is the William Rand Kenan, Jr. Professor Emeritus of History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Weinberg has been a member of the history faculty at UNC-Chapel Hill since 1974. Previously, he served on the faculties of the University of Michigan (1959–1974) and the University of Kentucky (1957–1959).

Students from Fredonia University’s history department joined the audience to hear Dr. Weinberg recount his personal experiences as a Jewish person living in Hanover, Germany. Dr. Weinberg recalled that the Kristallnacht attack in 1938 as the memory that most disturbed him as a child. Although he knew there were “nasty” people in the world, he could not reconcile how someone could be so mad at God that they would set fire to a house of worship. For him, “this was a different category of horror.” This marked the turning point for his family’s decision to leave Germany.

The event was one of several events supported, in part, by the Chautauqua County Veterans Service Agency’s PFC Joseph Dwyer Peer-to-Peer program and the Jefferson Educational Society.

Intern Spotlight: Rose Pregler

Rose Pregler is a senior at Mercyhurst University, double majoring in Anthropology/Archaeology and History with concentrations in Archaeology and Public History. This past summer she completed an internship at the Robert H. Jackson Center in which she, with the help of St. Bonaventure University archivist Frank Dennis, produced an archival processing manual tailored to the Center’s particular archival needs. She is currently investigating Robert H. Jackson’s family farmstead in Spring Creek, Pennsylvania through archaeology and oral history. The work will be used to produce two senior theses to be completed by May 2019. She is very thankful for this opportunity and cannot wait to share her findings with the various stakeholders from the Jackson Family, Jackson Center, and locals from the Jamestown and Spring Creek areas.
We were honored to host the Supreme Court of the State of New York Appellate Division, Fourth Department to hear oral arguments in a regular session of Court at the Robert H. Jackson Center on Thursday, October 25. This was a unique privilege for the Jackson Center because the Court has never held a session outside of a courthouse other than at a school of law.

The public witnessed two-hours of brisk oral arguments in the Jackson Center’s Cappa Theatre. It was a meaningful opportunity for the adults and students to see some of the area’s top litigators and learn how well-prepared the justices are to fully understand the range of issues in the cases before the Court. Following the appellate session, the public was invited to Continuing Legal Education (CLE) program that included an interview with retired Justice Salvatore R. Martoche on the opioid epidemic. This remarkable interview will be addressed in a later newsletter, but was a deeply moving and a sobering session for all who attended.

The Arthur N. Bailey Judicial Suite

The Appellate Division was able to hold its historic session because of the extraordinary generosity of attorney Arthur N. Bailey. Mr. Bailey supported the development and construction of a custom made judicial bench for the Appellate Court to be seated at the Jackson Center. The exquisite oak bench was crafted by Colecraft Manufacturing of Jamestown, NY, echoing the city’s rich history as the former “Furniture Capital of the World.”

We are grateful for the generosity of Mr. Bailey, who has practiced cutting-edge litigation in Western New York for five decades. He is a nationally prominent litigator in civil antitrust price-fixing federal class actions. “We sincerely thank Art Bailey for his generous donation,” Jackson Center board chair and president Tom Schmidt said in a statement. “Bailey’s attention to our efforts to bring a new chapter to the Jackson Center’s mission, creates exciting opportunities for us to provide unique educational experiences in the future. We are grateful Mr. Bailey’s vision will allow us to invite the community to learn more about the profession of law with this handsome furniture suite that includes a judicial bench, two counsel tables, a witness box and podium.”

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