



**COUNTY OF DELAWARE**  
**GOVERNMENT CENTER BUILDING**  
201 W. FRONT STREET  
MEDIA, PENNSYLVANIA

**COUNCIL**

**John J. Whelan**  
Chairman

**Christine Fizzano Cannon**  
Vice Chairman

**Thomas J. McGarrigle**  
Andy Lewis  
Mario J. Civera, Jr.

610-891-4931  
FAX NUMBER 610-891-8055  
E-MAIL: delcopr@co.delaware.pa.us

Department of Public Relations  
Contact: Trish Coffell  
Communications Officer  
610-891-4943

For Release 05/23/2011

**County Shows Appreciation for Jurors**

*Special week recognizes importance of jurors to justice system*

Jurors are valued by the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas every single day that Court is in session, but the County judges and Delaware County Council set aside two special days in May to display their respect and gratitude during statewide Juror Appreciation Week.

Judge George Pagano and County Council Chairman Jack Whelan praised jurors and presented gifts to members of the jury pool on Delaware County Juror Appreciation Day, held both May 16 and 18 in the Jury Lounge at the Government Center in Media.

“People don’t usually call up their friends, all excited, and say ‘Guess what? I’ve been called for jury duty.’ But it’s important. You play a vital role in our justice system and we have profound respect and gratitude for our jurors,” said Judge Pagano.

Council Chairman Whelan also praised the jurors for taking the time, setting aside personal business, to respond to the call to serve on a jury. He noted that an estimated 15,000 residents serve on Delaware County jury duty per year.

Judge Pagano and Chairman Whelan presented prizes to the jurors by pulling names from the Jury Wheel, once used to select jurors in Delaware County. The wooden wheel was replaced by computers in 1978.

Jurors won prizes that included gift certificates from various Media businesses and restaurants. The Jury Administration of the County Court Administrator’s Office, under the supervision of Gerald C. Montella, worked with the Media Business Authority to collect gift prizes throughout the borough.

Jury Administrator Nancy Alkins and her staff worked with Zubair Kahn, executive director of the Media Business Authority, and Bryan Messick, of the Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union and president of the Media Rotary, to solicit prizes from Media businesses.

Jury Commissioners Lillian Griffin and Dorothy Gallagher also participated in Juror Appreciation Day.

The week of May 16-21 was designated Juror Appreciation Week by the Pennsylvania Senate.

Chief Justice Ronald D. Castille said one of the most fundamental rights of the American people is the right to a jury trial.

“To ensure that right, the people themselves must be willing to play a vital role in the justice system. They must occasionally be willing to respond to the call of service,” Justice Castille said.



### ***County jurors recognized for service***

*Caption:* As part of Delaware County Juror Appreciation Day in May, juror names were pulled from the wooden Jury Wheel to award prizes and gift certificates given in appreciation for their jury service. Attending the event in the Delaware County Jury Lounge are, from left, County Executive Director Marianne Grace, Council Chairman Jack Whelan, Jury Administrator Nancy Alkins, jurors Janet Lynch of Springfield and Rebecca Hynek of Garnet Valley, and Common Pleas Judge George Pagano.