In Law Offices, Has the Robot Invasion Already Begun? Yes and No
Artificial intelligence isn’t just on the horizon; it’s already here. And it’s going to replace an awful lot of lawyers … right? Actually, says A.J. Shankar, CEO of Everlaw, what may emerge is a hybrid partnership between human and machine. “For example,” he writes at Bloomberg Law, “while AI probably won’t draft contracts, it might do quite well at analyzing them.” How else could AI help your members (or you), and how might it change how legal work gets done?

New EDs for Alabama and Mississippi state bars, and Florida’s Jack Harkness to Retire
Three Southern/Gulf states are joining in the trend toward transition as the Alabama State Bar and The Mississippi Bar announce their new executive directors and The Florida Bar announces its ED’s upcoming retirement. The Alabama State Bar welcomes Phillip McCallum, The Mississippi Bar introduces Deanne Mosley, and The Florida Bar prepares for its fond farewell to Jack Harkness.

Use PACER? You Might Be Eligible for a Refund
If you or any of your members access federal court documents and dockets via Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER), then you might be part of the class in a lawsuit regarding charges that are alleged to be too high. The lawsuit, which was certified as a class action last week by a federal judge, pertains to anyone who used PACER between April 2010 and April 2016 —and nearly all such users could receive a partial refund if the suit is successful, writes Josh Gerstein at Under the Radar. What is the crux of the lawsuit, who filed it … and what are the allegedly too-high charges used for?

Lawyers, Take Care of Your Heart … and Your ‘Heart’
By now, it’s no secret that the legal profession has a big problem with stress, overwork, and the many serious — and often fatal — diseases and conditions that can result. Several of these involve the heart … and one way to dial things back is to consider the “heart” in terms of emotion and values. Are you being true to your values if you’re throwing elbows along with everyone else, and working your way toward a heart attack or stroke? At his blog Thoughtful Legal Management, David J. Bilinsky prompts lawyers and others to look inward and make changes while they still can — and shares a few symptom lists that might just make you sit up and take notice.

January 31st: The Final Day for the BLI Early Rate is TODAY
This is your last chance to take advantage of early registration for the 2017 ABA Bar Leadership Institute (BLI). Don't miss your chance to attend the premier national conference dedicated to the leadership development of incoming bar leaders. The BLI is scheduled for March 15-17, 2017 at the Chicago Marriott Downtown.