



Judge Gage is "Activist of the Year"



Judge Sanborn Honored at Macomb Celebration

The occasion was a centennial celebration hosted by the Macomb County Bar Association (MCBA) February 28 in Mt. Clemens. State Bar President Thomas Cranmer took the opportunity to meet and congratulate the Sanborn family, especially the first recipient of the MCBA's Medal of Courage and Honor, Judge Kenneth N. Sanborn. (Left to right: Thomas Cranmer, Mark Sanborn, Judge Kenneth Sanborn, and Senator Alan Sanborn.) In 1953, Kenneth Sanborn, then a young Macomb attorney, together with another lawyer, Charles C. Lockwood (now deceased), did what few attorneys were willing to do for fear of being branded subversive—they took the case of Milo Radulovich, an Air Force lieutenant who faced a military hearing that unjustly attempted to strip him of his commission because his father and sister were suspected communists. The Radulovich case caught the attention of legendary journalists Edward R. Murrow and Fred W. Friendly who featured it on a popular CBS program, striking a fatal blow to McCarthyism that was rampant at the time. The State Bar of Michigan recognized the importance of the case and commemorated it as the 26th Michigan Legal Milestone in 1998. More recently, the Radulovich story was featured in the film *Good Night and Good Luck*, which was nominated for six Academy Awards.

(Photo by Naseem Stecker)

The Jewish Community Council of Metropolitan Detroit has chosen Judge Hilda R. Gage as its 2006 Activist of the Year. Gage stepped down from the Michigan Court of Appeals in January this year, concluding a 28-year judicial career. She is being recognized for the numerous professional and community service leadership roles she has assumed over the years. In 1991, she earned the State Bar of Michigan's highest honor, the Roberts P. Hudson Award. She will be feted at a June 11 special event at the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield. For more information call (248) 642-5393 ext. 0.



A recently added benefit can help State Bar of Michigan members save up to 60 percent on office supplies. Through its Business Advantage program, Staples gives SBM members discounts on many of the more than 30,000 products that it stocks. With StaplesLink.com, members can access Staples' entire catalog instantly and complete an online order form in a matter of minutes. Discounts are also available

when ordering by phone, fax, or in any of Staples' stores across the United States.

To register, complete a form online or download it and fax it to Staples. Links to both can be found in the programs and services section of the State Bar of Michigan website at <http://www.michbar.org/programs/>. Further questions can be directed to Staples' SBM account manager Julie Copits at SBM@Staples.com.

Interested in Being UpFront?

The news, people, and events featured on this page attract notice. If you'd like to share news of an interesting event or law-related news, send us a few lines (not to exceed 150 words) and include a photograph or high-quality digital image. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for clarity, and the right to decline to publish. Please submit your news to: Naseem Stecker, State Bar of Michigan, 306 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48933; e-mail nstecker@mail.michbar.org; phone (517) 367-6428.

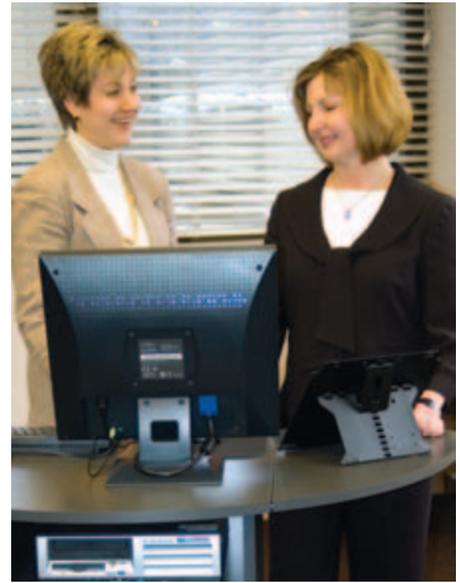


PMRC Gears Up

Workplace efficiency expert Alita Marlowe (above) speaks to a group of legal administrators on March 1 during the inaugural seminar hosted by the State Bar of Michigan Practice Management Resource Center. The half-day event gave select legal administrators from larger firms the opportunity to get the first glimpse of the PMRC Educational Center—a classroom at the State Bar’s Lansing headquarters that is outfitted with state-of-the-art computers and multimedia equipment. As part of the event, attendees offered feedback about their primary practice management needs.

Several legal software titles are available for members to test in the center. Call 1-800-341-9715 to reserve time for training or a demonstration. The PMRC officially debuted with the launch of its website (<http://www.michbar.org/pmrc/content.cfm>) February 1; the Educational Center opened March 1. The PMRC’s goal is to assist State Bar members with the day-to-day operations of their practices via hands-on training sessions and software demonstrations at the Educational Center, a telephone helpline, lending library, and online support.

(Photos by Sarah Nussbaumer)



State Bar of Michigan Deputy Director of Professional Standards Victoria Kremski (left) and Practice Management Resource Center Program Administrator JoAnn Hathaway, who spearheaded the development of the PMRC, demo “Amicus Attorney” in the Educational Center at the State Bar Lansing headquarters.

Garvey’s Generosity Takes MTLA Commitments Over \$500,000 Goal

St. Clair Shores attorney Robert Garvey (extreme right) recently pledged \$50,000 to the Bar’s Access to Justice Campaign—the second time that he has donated generously to help with the civil legal needs of low-income Michigan citizens. His pledge boosts contributions already made by the Michigan Trial Lawyers Association to the Access to Justice Fund to over half a million dollars. Left to right: Jesse Reiter, MTLA president-elect, Gregory and Reiter; Michael Pitt and Peggy Pitt of Pitt, McGehee, Mirer, Palmer and Rivers; Steve Goren of Goren, Goren and Harris; Tom Cranmer, president, State Bar of Michigan, Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone; Kim Cahill, president-elect, State Bar of Michigan, Schoenherr and Cahill; and Robert Garvey of Robert Garvey P.C.





Panel Debates Affirmative Action

Affirmative action/racial preferences: should they be banned? This question—focusing on one of the most contentious statewide ballot proposals in recent Michigan history—sparked some lively exchanges at Central Michigan University's Spring Griffin Policy Forum March 29. On center stage were four panelists who made the case for and against Proposal 06-2 on the November 7 general election ballot. State Bar of Michigan Past President Reginald Turner (extreme left), who is a member of the State Board of Education, argued for affirmative action and the compelling need for diversity. Another panelist was Jennifer Gratz, director of the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative that is behind the ballot "to ban affirmative action programs that give preferential treatment to groups or individuals based on their race, gender, color, ethnicity, or national origin" in university admissions, government hiring, and contracting. Gratz was a plaintiff in a 1997 lawsuit brought against the University of Michigan in federal court. The case was appealed to the United States Supreme Court. In 2003, the Court decided that affirmative action is not unconstitutional. Kary Moss, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan, and William Allen, a professor of political science at Michigan State University, also participated as panelists. About 400 people jammed the Park Library Auditorium and two overflow rooms where the debate was relayed by closed-circuit video. Left to right: Reginald Turner, past president of the State Bar; Gary Shapiro, CMU dean of the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences; Jennifer Gratz, director of the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative; William Allen, MSU political science professor; Kary Moss, executive director ACLU-Michigan; Bill Balenger, moderator and Griffin Endowed Chair in American Government and Political Science at CMU; and Won Paik, chair of political science at CMU. (Photos by Robert Barclay, CMU)



Reginald Turner, a member of Clark Hill PLC in Detroit, is president of the National Bar Association. He recently led volunteer lawyers and law students in a legal clinic in New Orleans for victims of Hurricane Katrina. The clinic was broadcast nationally on the web.

Mock Trial Champions

The 2006 champions for the Michigan High School Mock Trial Tournament from Kalamazoo Central High and their coaches had plenty to smile about March 25 in Lansing. They beat nine other teams at the state finals to emerge tops. The presiding judge for the championship round was Hon. Benjamin Logan, 61st District Court (second from the right). Altogether, 22 judges and lawyers volunteered for the finals, including Assistant U.S. Attorney Agnes Kempker-Cloyd and State Bar President Thomas Cranmer (second and third from the left). The Mock Trial Tournament was made possible with support from the State Bar of Michigan, the Litigation Section of the State Bar, the Macomb and Oakland County Bar Foundations, and the Michigan Center for Civic Education.

(Photo by Linda Start, Michigan Center for Civic Education)

