

# UpFront

By Naseem Stecker and Samantha Meinke



SBM photo

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## Remembering Mrs. McCree

Each April for many years, Does McCree would make the trek from Ann Arbor to East Lansing to attend as guest of honor a ceremony for winners of the Wade H. McCree Jr. Awards, presented to journalists whose work promotes the advancement of justice. The awards were named after her husband—a federal judge, professor of law, and solicitor general of the United States dedicated to advancing greater understanding of the role of a free press in society. Mrs. McCree passed away recently, leaving behind her own legacy—one of helping others to attain their fullest potential.

Trained as a librarian at a time when few women had careers of their own, she led a full life and “enjoyed 90 wonderful years,” said her son, Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Wade Harper McCree. Mrs. McCree not only graced the McCree Awards cere-

mony, held in conjunction with the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame’s annual induction ceremony, but also took time to talk to and encourage the winners and the important work they were doing. She had a genuine interest in other people and did a great deal to steer students toward public service careers and opportunities in the field of law.

She is survived by two children, four grandchildren, a brother, and two sisters. Memorial contributions may be made to the Friends School in Detroit, the Wade H. McCree Jr. Scholarship Fund at Wayne State University Law School, the Wade H. McCree Jr. Endowed Professorship at the University of Michigan Law School, and the Michigan Opera Theater. Mrs. McCree’s memorial service program can be viewed at: [http://www.mayspringing.com/funerals\\_dec.htm](http://www.mayspringing.com/funerals_dec.htm). ■

## Dealing with the Media



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Left to right: C. Jesse Green, director of communications, Michigan Association for Justice; Kenneth Zichi, Zichi and Brauer, PC; Abigail Elias, Ann Arbor City Attorney’s Office; and Daniel Cherrin, Fraser, Trebilcock, Davis and Dunlap, PC.

How do you respond when the media calls? Members of the State Bar Law and the Media Committee were at Wayne State University on January 19 to give the Metro Bureau, a consortium of educational institutions, advice and guidance on today’s fast-changing media landscape and how to engage it. The lively session involving more than 30 people included discussion of topics such as crisis management and social media. The Law and the Media Committee is chaired by Jesse Green. It also hosts newsroom seminars for journalists. ■

## Plaques Marking Vincent Chin Case Installed in Ferndale



Photo by Margot Wang Pontius

Left to right: Hy Safran, representative from Congressman Gary Peters' office; Janet Welch, executive director of the State Bar of Michigan; Van Ong (the nurse on duty when Vincent Chin was brought to the hospital); Roland Hwang, Michigan assistant attorney general, past president of American Citizens for Justice, and member of the SBM Law Related Education & Public Outreach Committee; Frances Kai-Hwa Wang, editor of IMDiversity.com, outreach coordinator of the Ann Arbor Chinese Center of Michigan, and advisory board member of the American Citizens for Justice; and former Ferndale Mayor Craig Covey.

A State Bar plaque commemorating the Vincent Chin case and an accompanying marker, specially erected by the city of Ferndale through the efforts of former Mayor Craig Covey and other officials, were recently installed at the Nine Mile and Woodward crosswalk. In 2009, the State Bar of Michigan held a dedication ceremony, "From a Whisper to a Rallying Cry," to spotlight the Chin case as part of its Michigan Legal Milestones program focusing on significant cases and personalities in our state's legal history.

The June 1982 beating death of Vincent Chin in Highland Park and the lenient sentences meted out to his assailants caused an outcry in the Asian-American community and led to the birth of a civil and victims' rights movement. Chin had worked part-time in Ferndale at the Golden Star, a Chinese restaurant located where the Post Bar now stands. The plaques were installed just across the median from that site, which is also where the Asian-American community rallied and a Pan-Asian movement was born. For more information about this and other SBM Michigan Legal Milestones, visit <http://www.michbar.org/programs/milestones.cfm>. ■

## "Ethics in Our World" Symposium to Kick Off in Grand Rapids March 15

Does America still have the moral integrity to be a beacon to the world? This question will be at the heart of the inaugural presentation of a symposium in Grand Rapids on Tuesday, March 15, organized by the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum and Foundation, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, and the Grand Rapids Bar Association. Steven M. Ford, President Ford's son, will make opening remarks in a speech titled "What My Father Taught Me About Ethics," followed by a panel of distinguished leaders, including SBM President W. Anthony Jenkins.

The program at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum, located at 303 Pearl Street Northwest, is scheduled to run from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. A post-event reception will follow from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. For reservations, please call (616) 254-0384. ■

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