

# UpFront

By Mike Eidelbes and Samantha Meinke

## SBM Board of Commissioners 2012–2013



Photo by David Trumple

*Seated from left to right:* Lori A. Buiteweg, secretary; Thomas C. Rombach, vice president; Bruce A. Courtade, president; Brian D. Einhorn, president-elect; and Lawrence P. Nolan, treasurer. *Standing from left to right:* Richard L. Cunningham; Stephen J. Gobbo; Charles S. Hegarty; Donald G. Rockwell; Dennis M. Barnes, Executive Committee member;

D. Randall Gilmer; Jennifer M. Grieco, Executive Committee member; Hope V. Shovein; Vanessa Peterson Williams; Maureen M. McGinnis; Gregory L. Ulrich; Colleen A. Pero; Margaret A. Costello; Richard J. Siriani; Julie A. Sullivan; Felicia O. Johnson; C. Thomas Ludden; Hon. Michael J. Riordan, Executive Committee member; Kathleen M. Allen, Rep-

resentative Assembly vice chairperson; Robert J. Buchanan; David R. Brake; Jules B. Olsman; and Dana M. Warnez, Representative Assembly chairperson. *Not pictured:* Hon. James N. Erhart, Edward L. Haroutunian, and Brandy Y. Robinson. ■

## Five Bowls of Oatmeal Festival

It's got a strange name, but it's a worthy cause.

Attorneys and staff members from Ann Arbor-based Schiff Hardin LLP volunteered to help with the Five Bowls of Oatmeal Festival benefitting 826michigan, a nonprofit organization that assists K–12 students with their creative writing skills. The November 2012 event drew more than 300 people to the University of Michigan Rackham Auditorium. As part of the festival, actors from the Penny Seats Theatre Company

performed a series of one-act plays—each starring bowls of oatmeal—written by 826michigan students.

During the 2011–2012 school year, the program's writing and tutoring programs and creative writing workshops aided nearly 2,500 students in Washtenaw County. Schiff Hardin LLP is a cosponsor of the festival, which marked the start of the firm's A.C.T. Initiative—the acronym stands for All Come Together—promoting volunteer community service. ■



Actors from Ann Arbor's Penny Seats Theatre performed short plays written by 826michigan students during Five Bowls of Oatmeal, 826michigan's annual benefit cosponsored by Schiff Hardin LLP.

## Cooley Cares

Courtesy photo



*Students from Thomas M. Cooley Law School's Ann Arbor campus prepared 200 Thanksgiving meals and distributed them to families in need in Washtenaw County.*

Students and staff members from Thomas M. Cooley Law School campuses in Ann Arbor and Auburn Hills took a break from classes to prepare and distribute Thanksgiving meals to needy families in Oakland and Washtenaw counties. Participants in the Cooley Cares community outreach program packed boxes with everything needed to prepare a holiday feast—turkey, stuffing, corn, green beans, potatoes, macaroni and cheese, and cake and bread mixes. Volunteers delivered the meals to families selected by officials at Ypsilanti Public Schools and Dickens Elementary School in Ann Arbor and St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church in Pontiac. ■