

President's Letter

Welcome to Grand Rapids and the 2005 Outstanding Young Michigander and Distinguished Service Awards Program.

For 50 years, the Michigan Junior Chamber has highlighted the outstanding efforts of the best young Michiganders in our great state. It is these great people who truly exemplify the potential of young people to influence positive change. They are excellent examples of what an individual can do and should do as a Jaycee. Their efforts demonstrate how we can have a strong impact in our communities and truly make a difference for all people all over the State of Michigan.

We gather here tonight to honor those who have made a significant impact in their communities. You will have the opportunity to meet these outstanding young individuals who truly represent the best of the best throughout the State of Michigan and who will have the opportunity to be put forward as a National recipient as well. Their stories and actions will reveal the magnitude of their accomplishments and serve as a living example for all of us to follow.

As President of the Michigan Junior Chamber, I have the tremendous honor and privilege of recognizing these individuals tonight. We all have favorite projects or events each year in the Jaycees. However, the common bond that we all share is that we are making a difference in our communities. I see it every day and witness it each time I visit a chapter project.

As the Outstanding Young Michigander's plaque states, "The hope of mankind lies in the hands of youth in action." In your hands, lies the future of the Michigan Junior Chamber. I congratulate all of the 2005 honorees and thank them for their time, effort, and commitment to the betterment of their families, communities, and our State. As Jaycees, we should always remember that, "Service to Humanity is the best work of life!"

Yours in Jaycees,

Robert J. Peacock
81st President
Michigan Junior Chamber
Live the Dream!



Outstanding Young Michiganders Distinguished Service Awards

Outstanding Young Farmer

Mr. Paul G. Trierweiler – Portland, Michigan

Outstanding Young Educator

Ms. Jill Kunnath – Canton, Michigan
Nominated by the Wyandotte Jaycees

Tim Pope Memorial Award

Outstanding Young Governmental Leader

Ms. Barbara A. Farrah – Southgate, Michigan
Nominated by the Wyandotte Jaycees

Outstanding Young Public Safety Officer

Mr. Cary Thompson – Dearborn Heights, Michigan
Nominated by the Royal Oak Jaycees

Outstanding Young Michigander

Mr. Dustin Farmer – Coldwater, Michigan
Nominated by the Coldwater Jaycees

Outstanding Young Michigander

Mr. James Barczewski – Cadillac, Michigan
Nominated by the Cadillac Jaycees

Outstanding Young Michigander

Ms. Stacey Randolph – Kalamazoo, Michigan
Nominated by the Kalamazoo Jaycees

Outstanding Young Michigander

Mr. Brian Werschem – Fruitport, Michigan
Nominated by the Greater Muskegon Jaycees

Outstanding Young Michigander

Mr. Patrick Allen Miles – Grand Rapids, Michigan
Nominated by the Grand Rapids Jaycees



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50th Annual Congress

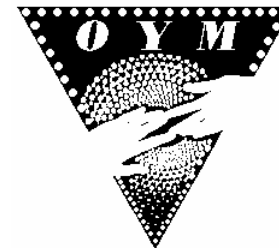
Spencer Abraham - 1984	Thomas Davis - 1988	Sarah Holland - 1996
Phillip Abrell - 1962	Norman DeGraff - 1964	Kathleen Horon - 1985
Gary Allen - 1981	David Lee DeVries - 1991	Teresa Horvat-Durham - 1993
George Arwady - 1983	Fred Dillingham - 1980	Milton Huber - 1958
Richard Baird - 1984	Mike Dively - 1972	Chris Huckle - 2004
Pete Baldwin - 1959	Don Dodge - 1966	Katherine Huckle - 2004
William Ballenger - 1974	David Draper - 1983	Roxanne Marie Hunter - 2002
Bonnie Ballinger - 2000	James J. Dreyer - 2002	Mike Hurst - 1962
Rich Balzhiser - 1967	Michael Duggan - 1990	Rick Inatome - 1983
James Barcia - 1991	Clyne Durst - 1962	Edward Inman - 1992
Wayne Bates - 1973	Tim Dyer - 1968	Christopher Johnson - 1987
Bob Beard - 1961	David Eberhard - 1969	Louid Johnson - 1988
Bob Beard - 1963	Ron Egnor - 1976	Stanley Jones - 1958
Paul Belden IV - 1995	John Engler - 1983	Bill Josephson - 1981
Cedo Benjamin - 1971	Michelle Engler - 1996	Larry Julius - 1977
Kent Benson - 1986	Hubert Federer - 1962	Paul Kasper - 1975
Ray Bently - 1998	Denis Ferkany - 1978	Stephen Lee Kasperski - 1994
Duncan Black - 1975	Robert Ficano - 1986	William Kelly - 1982
* Jim Blanchard - 1977	Henry Fonde - 1957	John Conway Kennedy - 1993
Doug Blease - 1997	John Fonger - 1958	Bruce Kirk - 1989
Bob Bolduc - 1968	Jacqueline Ford - 1992	Vikki Lynn Kirk - 1994
Lonnie Lee Bone - 1988	Peter Forsythe - 1970	Rich Klein - 1965
Michael Bouchard - 1992	Ed Freeh, Jr. - 1965	Rich Klein - 1973
Paul Bowman - 1987	Troy Fulton - 2004	Terry Klotz - 1995
Bob Bradshaw - 1966	Jeffery Geraldts - 1994	Milton Knabush - 1956
Lomas Brown - 1993	Jim Gilmore - 1960	Dirk Koning - 1997
* Vernon Buchanan - 1984	George Goodman - 1974	Lucinda (Cindy) Koning - 2003
Dexter Bussey - 1984	Rich Goodrick - 1961	Jerry O. Kooiman - 2002
* Keith Andre Butler - 1988	Daniel Gowdy - 1999	John Kruse - 1960
Albert Butler - 1972	Jennifer Granholm - 1999	David Kubitski - 1985
Edward Campbell - 1964	John Graves - 1971	William Kutchey - 1957
* Thomas Carey - 1980	Loren Gray - 1966	Al Lanshan - 1960
* Jerome Cavanagh - 1963	* Suzanne Greenberg - 2000	Robert Law - 1978
Denny Cawthorne - 1971	Rich Guenther - 1960	Robert Leclerq - 1986
Ronald Charter - 2001	Mike Guido - 1981	Sander Levin - 1966
Barbara Christian - 1995	Fred Halbert - 1979	Robert Ling - 1967
James Clark - 1958	Gary Hall - 1970	John Lore - 1977
Pete Clark - 1964	Bill Hampton - 1970	Tim Lozen - 1980
Richard Clark - 1980	Todd Harding - 1996	David Magee - 1956
Mark Clodfeiter - 1979	Mike Harrison - 1976	David Martin - 1980
Hurley Coleman, Jr. - 1986	Kay Hart - 1990	Todd Martin - 1995
Matthew Collier - 1989	James Harvey - 1957	Frank Marvaso - 1979
Joe Collins - 1961	Karl Hascall - 1998	Walt McCarthy - 1958
Amy Courter - 2000	Robert Hath - 1985	Thaddeus G. McCotter - 2001
Michael Cummings - 1989	John Hay - 1956	Bruce McCristal - 1963
Norman Cunningham - 1990	Mark Hewill - 1997	Mary McDonald - 1991
Ron Cunningham - 1974	Susan Hildebrant - 1985	Pat McDonald - 1971
Jeffrey Cutter - 1996	Bill Hitchcock - 1965	John McKendry, Jr. - 1982
Cynthia D'Amour - 1998	Fred Hoffman - 1982	Brian Meakin - 2004
Dr. Dan Johnson - 1975	Phillip Hoffman - 1985	Rich Meyerson - 1963
Ten Daubresse - 1961	Henry Hogan - 1963	John Milford - 1985



Michigan Junior Chamber

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| * John Mogk - 1972 | Greg Roberts - 1997 | Charles Toby - 1973 |
| Michael Glenn Monroe - 2001 | Rich Roberts - 1965 | Eugene Umlor - 1965 |
| Michael Morton - 1986 | Dick Robinson - 1976 | John Van Wyck - 1989 |
| Erin Moss - 2003 | Mike Rogers - 1997 | Guy Vanderjagt - 1957 |
| LeAnn Moss - 1994 | John Rogin - 1987 | Ron VanderMolen - 1977 |
| Susan Munsell - 1986 | Richard Ruhala - 1969 | Ward Verseput - 1975 |
| Michael Mushett - 1982 | Dave Rutledge - 1981 | David Wagner - 1994 |
| Greg Need - 1986 | Bob Sack - 1991 | Lewis Walker - 1968 |
| Rudy Nichols - 1981 | George Sanders - 1959 | Moses Walker - 1970 |
| Larry Nowak - 1985 | Tom Saylor - 1976 | Thomas Walsh - 1959 |
| Pat Nowak - 1974 | John Schall - 1992. | Kathy Walters - 1993 |
| Gary O'Donnell - 1972 | Darren L. Schmidt - 2002 | Michael Warner - 1998 |
| Julie Ovenhouse - 1993 | Ken Seigel - 1978 | George Westfield - 1961 |
| Dean Owen - 1959 | Terry Sever - 1986 | Rich Whitmer - 1971 |
| Gary Owen - 1973 | Pat Sheridan - 1973 | David Wierman - 1985 |
| Keith Owens - 1970 | Rich Shockley - 1959 | David Willett - 1979 |
| Bob Padget - 1968 | William Sinyard - 1987 | Edward Zelenak - 1990 |
| Fred Paffhausen - 1984 | Rick Sitz - 1986 | |
| Sandra Frost Parrish - 1996 | Michael Skytta - 1983 | |
| Michelle Pelkey - 1995 | Herbert Smith - 1964 | |
| John Pastor - 1999 | Richard Smith - 1956 | |
| Brooks Patterson - 1974 | Wendell Smith - 1966 | |
| Tammy Pennington - 1998 | Douglas Spade - 1990 | |
| Eugene Pheiffer - 1956 | Roger Spoelman - 1992 | |
| April Ping - 2000 | Barry Sprink - 1979 | |
| Tom Plunkett - 1972 | * Debbie Stabenow - 1985 | |
| Richard Posthumous - 1986 | John Stack - 1968 | |
| Bill Pressprich - 1962 | William Stahl - 1989 | |
| Bob Pressprich - 1962 | Roger Stanley - 1967 | |
| Cameron Priebe - 1985 | Bradley Stark - 1999 | |
| Kay Lani Rae Rafko - 1991 | Jan Stokosa - 1982 | |
| Mike Recker - 1978 | Dale Stoppels - 1960 | |
| Donald Reisig - 1964 | Karen Straw-Lockwood - 1987 | |
| Rev. Ric Rienstra - 1977 | David Strubler - 1988 | |
| John Richardson - 1969 | Tony Tague - 1991 | |
| Tom Ritter - 1976 | Chester Tinker - 1969 | |
| Chris Roach - 1978 | John Tirrell - 1957 | |
| Richard Robb - 1969 | Lloyd Tisi, 1975 | |

* USJCC TOYA Recipients



Outstanding Young Farmer Paul Trierweiler

Paul started working on the family farm at a young age. His father paid him forty dollars a month beginning when he was just ten years old. Working throughout high school and college, Paul purchased fifteen percent of the family partnership in 1987. By 1989, he was a thirty percent partner with his father and brother. Following the buy-out of his father's shares in 1999, Paul is now a 50/50 partner in a 600-cow dairy farm.

One of the greatest challenges facing today's young farmers is the need to shift roles from laborer to manager. Paul takes pride in the empowerment of his employees. Seeing his employees excel, allows the farm to excel and shows the community that they can be an employer of choice. Paul's family farm experiences a very low rate of employee turnover, with most employees falling in the 3 to 10 year career range. According to Paul, "(farming is) a way to make a good living, be close and work with (his) family, and make a positive and lasting impression on the face of agriculture..."

Paul's current goals for the farm are to increase their land base, let the dairy business progress at its normal pace, and continue to increase profitability. Innovative production practices have included synchronized breeding, automated milk weights, automatic cattle sorting, three times per day milking, the use of bovine somatotropin, total mixed rations and silage specific corn hybrids. They practice soil improvement, erosion control, water management, and reforestation techniques to maintain and improve the environment in which he lives and works.

It is for these reasons and many more that Paul Trierweiler was selected as a 2004 United States Junior Chamber Outstanding Young Farmer. The Michigan Jaycees would like to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate Paul on this fabulous achievement, and to wish him and his family continued success in the years ahead.



Outstanding Young Educator
Jill Kunnath

Nominated by the Wyandotte Jaycees

Jill Kunnath was inspired to become a teacher by her Aunt Bernadette. Originally an elementary teacher in a catholic school, her Aunt went on to become principal and associate superintendent of the Archdiocese of Detroit. Wishing to duplicate this passion and love for her job, Jill chose to attend Eastern Michigan University and major in education. In the three years since graduation, Jill has worked in a couple of different educational settings, and is currently pursuing a graduate degree in Special Education at the University of Michigan, Dearborn.

Jill believes the most important quality to possess in order to work in the field of education is love. According to Jill, "Love is contagious and will show through your actions. It is important to impact each and every child that walks into your classroom and it is a blessing to see their smiles and know that you are making a difference in their lives." The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade special education students at Marshal Middle School in Westland, Michigan, certainly wouldn't have it any other way.

Jill's love for her students and her career is apparent to all those around her. Patricia Dolski, Special Education Department Head at Franklin Middle School states, "(Jill's) dedication to meeting her students' needs, and professionalism in dealing with their dilemmas, certainly qualify her to be nominated for this (outstanding young educator) honor. Her continued desire to enrich her knowledge and her enthusiasm to take on unfamiliar roles within her profession make her a mentor for other young educators." Amongst her peers, Jill is known for using very innovative teaching strategies and techniques to make an impact in her classroom and the community around her.

The Wyandotte Jaycees are honored to nominate and the Michigan Jaycees are proud to recognize Jill Kunnath with the 2005 Outstanding Young Educator Distinguished Service Award. Her passion and dedication to her chosen career show continued promise for the years ahead.

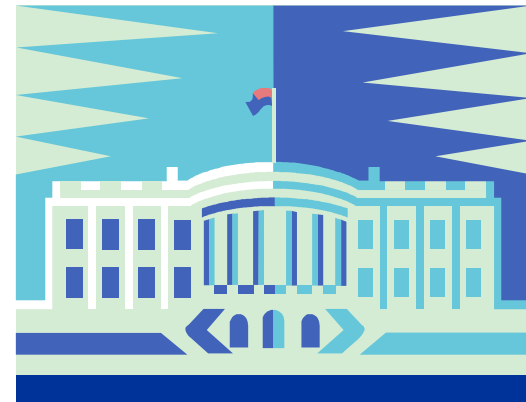


Tim Pope Memorial Award for Outstanding Young Governmental Leader

Tim Pope believed that politicians were elected to serve the people. Tim served the citizens of Novi, Michigan on the Novi City Council, the Michigan Legislature as a Legislative Aide, the members of the Novi Jaycees as Community Development Vice President and the Michigan Jaycees as Model Legislature Chairman.

Many young people wait to get involved – wait until they finish college, wait until they are married, wait until they are established in a career – not Tim Pope! Tim believed that the people of Michigan and our nation should always be involved – young and old. Tim practiced this every day. He wanted to make the world a better place for his wife Sara, and for his children, Andrew and Abbie. Whether you met Tim while he was working in the Legislature, helping out with the Novi DSA Banquet, taking Andrew to see Santa, or showing off his first pictures of Abbie as a baby, you knew that this young man was very special. It was a tragedy for us all when Tim died due to injuries from a car accident.

In honor of the outstanding young government leader that Tim Pope was, and all that he believed for the young people of this nation, the Senators of the Novi Jaycees wish to congratulate State Representative Barbara Farrah as the Tim Pope Memorial Award winner.



*Tim Pope Memorial Award for
Outstanding Young Governmental Leader*

Barabara A. Farrah

Nominated by the Wyandotte Jaycees

In 1991, at the age of only 25, Barbara Farrah was elected to the City of Southgate City Council. She served the Council for over 10 years, including three years in non-consecutive terms as Council President. In November of 2002, she was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives, on behalf of the communities of Southgate, Trenton, Riverview, and Wyandotte.

Rep. Farrah is well known for her dedication to the protection and preservation of local community interests. She has been able to make a positive change in her community and throughout the state of Michigan by being an effective legislator and giving a voice to the younger citizens of her district. Her areas of emphasis include the House Committees on Land Use and the Environment, Conservation & Outdoor Recreation, and Tax Policy. In 2003, Rep. Farrah introduced a bill in the state legislature that would enable police departments to use drug-forfeiture money and other assets for homeland security initiatives.

Rep. Farrah has stated, "It is important for our state legislators to recognize and understand the crucial role that our local units of government have; they are on the front lines, providing the critical day-to-day services that keep our communities alive." Her contribution to her community includes doing what she does – being active, visible, and accessible in office. She continues to help out at the local level through many projects, including small business development, road improvements, and improving the sewer system. She has the ability to work with people and get things done that benefit everyone. She uses that gift to help her community and district.

Rep. Farrah's commitment to her local community has not been restricted to her years in public office. Barbara has worked as a Community Outreach Coordinator for the Wayne County Department of Environment, and as a Prevention Specialist and Project Coordinator for the Southeastern MI Substance Abuse Services.

For over a decade of continual service and dedication to the welfare of her local community, the Michigan Jaycees are pleased to recognize Rep. Barbara Farrah as the 2005 Tim Pope Memorial Award Winner for Outstanding Young Governmental Leadership.



Outstanding Young Public Safety Officer

Cary Thompson

Nominated by the Royal Oak Jaycees

A Firefighter / Paramedic with the Royal Oak Fire Department for seven years, Cary Thompson's personal goal is the reduction of childhood injury through education. In the spring of 2004 Cary established "Safety Town" – a program designed to help area children learn to prevent fires, escape buildings, thwart abductors, recognize poisons and avoid a variety of other dangerous situations. He spent a year organizing the free event, which educated and entertained 183 children and coordinated the efforts of volunteers from seven local agencies.

Cary was also instrumental in other community projects focused on youth safety. These included – a Walk to School Event in conjunction with the Royal Oak Fire and Police Departments and the Oak Ridge Elementary School, Child Car Seat safety inspections, and the ongoing Oakland County Safe Kids Program.

Cary believes the most important quality a firefighter / paramedic should possess is compassion. "There is no greater feeling than to rush to the aid of someone that you do not even know. You place yourself in their position or their family's position. You give patients and victims the same care that you would give your own family. Being able to help people, and genuinely caring about them makes you good at what you do." Cary realized early on that he could choose any career that he wanted, but there were few jobs with the personal satisfaction of this one.

Jennifer Sutherland, Royal Oak Jaycees' Chairman of the Board, is confident that Cary has the talent, resources, and determination to continue as a role model and leader in their community. He has proven his desire to create a safer environment for children, and has proven his dedication to his profession. The Royal Oak Jaycees are committed to supporting Cary and his efforts as a member of the Royal Oak Fire Department.

The Michigan Jaycees are proud to recognize Cary Thompson for his accomplishments toward preventing childhood injury with the 2005 Outstanding Young Public Safety Officer Distinguished Service Award.



Outstanding Young Michigander

Dustin Farmer

Nominated by the Coldwater Jaycees

At the age of sixteen, Dustin Farmer felt God's call to serve Him in full time ministry. Over the next eleven years, Dustin traveled far and wide on this path of service. Through a series of events he interviewed and was hired as the Senior Pastor of the Coldwater Wesleyan Church in January of 2002.

When Pastor Farmer arrived in Coldwater, the church had just come through some very rough times. Attendance was down and the congregation was slipping away due to some previous conflicts. Dustin was fully aware of this situation when he accepted the position, and felt he was up to the challenge. Some of his first goals were to bring stability to, and improve the health of the church and its congregation.

While working toward these goals, Pastor Farmer became involved in a program called the Refocusing Church Network. Through this program, he and members of his congregation took a look at the needs in their church and in their community. They soon realized that one of the main areas the church was missing was in its ministry to families that have gone through divorce and are now in various stepfamily and broken family situations.

To begin to answer this problem, Pastor Farmer and a church member came up with the Save Our Stepfamily ministry, or S.O.S. He brought this ministry to his area ministerial association with the hope of having a wide spread impact on the community at large. Through a partnership with three other churches in Coldwater, they have been able to organize a ministry that gives stepfamilies some of the tools they need in order to heal, mend old wounds, and to avoid future family and stepfamily catastrophes.

Through this and other ministries, the Coldwater Wesleyan Church has seen the highest percentage growth in their District for the 2003-2004 year. Pastor Farmer believes it would be conceded and immature to take credit for all that has happened in the course of his ministry up to this time. "All Glory and credit goes to the one that made all of this happen, and that is Jesus Christ my Lord. I am His servant and I look forward to the adventure the He continues to lay out in front of me and my family."

The Michigan Jaycees join with the Coldwater Jaycees in recognizing Pastor Dustin Farmer as a 2005 Outstanding Young Michigander.



Outstanding Young Michigander

James Barczewski

Nominated by the Cadillac Jaycees

As a Firefighter / Paramedic, James Barczewski has been instrumental in the development of prevention and education programs for children and seniors throughout the Cadillac community. In 2004 these included Senior Fire Safety and Fall Prevention – conducting education programs for over 500 area senior citizens and distributing night lights to prevent or reduce the number of nighttime falls.

James' continuous dedication to the Cadillac Community also led to the implementation of a Halloween Safety Night in 2004. Partnering with the Cadillac Jaycees, they distributed glow lights for child visibility during trick-or-treating and offered candy inspections to over 300 area children.

James has been recognized by the City of Cadillac and the Cadillac Fire Department for his initiative and involvement in obtaining the funding necessary for the purchase of a Fire Safety Trailer to promote fire education at schools and community events. This trailer has been used in conjunction with the annual Cadillac Child Safety Expo, which has grown in participation from 150 to over 500 children in the three years since its introduction.

While pursuing his Bachelors degree in Fire Science from the University of Maryland, James also seeks to develop and advance educational programs within his department and the community. He accomplishes this through his continued roles as the lead paramedic instructor at Baker College of Cadillac and the EMS Coordinator for the Cadillac Fire Department.

The Cadillac Jaycees appreciate James' ongoing commitment to community service and are honored to share with the Michigan Jaycees in recognizing his achievements as a 2005 Outstanding Young Michigander.



Outstanding Young Michigander
Stacey Randolph

Nominated by the Kalamazoo Jaycees

Sergeant Stacey Randolph is a 13-year veteran of Kalamazoo Public Safety (KPS). In this role, the hats of police officer, firefighter, and first responder are all worn. Stacey is currently the first-line supervisor of the Community Policing Unit, where she is responsible for keeping abreast of the concerns of citizens throughout the city, and ensuring that the eleven officers she is responsible for address those concerns with proactive policing.

Sergeant Randolph is known to be both an intelligent and hard worker, attributes which contributed to her being promoted to Sergeant in 2003. Stacey is the first African-American female promoted to a supervisory position in KPS's 124-year history – also a first in all of Kalamazoo County.

Sergeant Randolph has also been the Director of KPS's annual Citizens Public Safety Academy (2001, 2002, and 2004). This 10-week academy educates citizens on the various units and other facets of the department through a combination of lectures, hands-on training and a ride-along experience. 2004 was the 10-year anniversary of the academy and the largest class to date.

One of the strengths of Sergeant Randolph's character is demonstrated by the creativity and diligence she utilized in spearheading a street name change at a local apartment complex (that used to receive abundant police response). In the year 2000, "Patwood Dr." was approved by the Kalamazoo City Commission to be changed to "Interfaith Blvd." The former name was equated with stereotypical images of projects and ghettos and outsiders were comfortable going to this area to hang out and be disruptive. The street name change, in conjunction with neighborhood beautification, resident support, and proactive enforcement resulted in an "extreme makeover" where the police calls are distinctly lower than they used to be.

In addition to her Public Safety work, Stacey is also the visionary president of a local women's civic organization – Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. – that contributes to the community by feeding the homeless, sponsoring HIV/AIDS Awareness events, and awarding annual scholarships.

Congratulations to Sergeant Stacey Randolph on her accomplishments and deserved recognition as a 2005 Outstanding Young Michigander.



Outstanding Young Michigander

Brian Werschem

Nominated by the Greater Muskegon Jaycees

Brian Werschem overcame major hardships growing up. Being the son of deaf parents presented many challenges both at school and in social life. However, Brian grew up with a real sense of community. People helping people are a part of Brian's credo. Knowing how important support groups, community based organizations, and family are continues to engage Brian in community programs.

As the Director of Employment Services for Ottawa County, through the Michigan Works Connection, Brian was awarded one of five special grants from the federal government to operate a model re-training program for displaced workers. He has worked with many area employers to retrain workers and upgrade skills to prepare them for job changes or displacement.

Additionally, as the host of the number one talk and public service program on WMUS News Talk 1090 AM, he has been instrumental in a variety of successful local fundraisers, festivals, and events. Mark Dixon, program manager for Clear Channel Communication, states, "Brian's work with the radio station, on a volunteer basis, continues to be an important part of the community fabric. His knowledge and continued dedication has become very important for every one on Michigan's West Coast."

In 2001, Brian along with several members of the hard of hearing community launched the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Connection of West Michigan. This organization provides a much needed referral service to help hard of hearing people acquire the latest electronic communication technologies.

In 2002 Brian began a project with the local Fraternal Order of Police Lodge called "Guns and Hoses." This annual fundraiser combines a shooting contest with an awards banquet and silent and live auctions to benefit a local police officer or firefighter in times of dire financial stress. The first year his committee raised over \$10,000. The second year the banquet was sold out and the evening auction was standing room only.

The Michigan Jaycees are honored to recognize Mr. Brian Werschem as a 2005 Outstanding Young Michigander.



Outstanding Young Michigander

Patrick A. Miles, Jr.

Nominated by the Grand Rapids Jaycees

In 1997, at the age of 29, Patrick A. Miles, Jr. became the first black and youngest partner in the 110-year history of Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt & Howlett LLP, a 150-attorney law firm. His corporate practice includes representing Michigan companies ranging in size from startup ventures to public multinational corporations on general corporate matters and mergers and acquisitions. Patrick is also an expert on minority / women-owned business formation and certification issues. He is one of two principal Varnum partners who represent over 200 local governments nationwide in the area of cable and telecommunications law. Patrick is the primary special outside legal counsel to the City of Detroit on these matters.

Patrick is a leading advocate of diversity in the legal profession. He led the Grand Rapids Bar Association's effort to hold a diversity summit in 1998, which led to the development and implementation of a diversity strategic plan. He is also a founding member of the Grand Rapids Community Foundation Social Venture Philanthropy Leadership Team which has made over \$100,000 in grants to help children at risk, neighborhoods, work force development, and youth in the arts.

Patrick has focused his volunteer and philanthropic efforts in four primary areas: education, healthy families, neighborhoods, and diversity. He has served two terms on the Board of Inner City Christian Federation (ICCF). ICCF constructs and renovates affordable housing for low-income people. The dignity of home ownership is a key component of personal improvement and community strength.

Patrick has earned an excellent reputation in the West Michigan business and legal communities and beyond both for his professional skills and service. In 2001 he was elected to serve a term on Varnum's six-person management committee. He was also elected by the Grand Rapids Bar Association members to serve as trustee and then as president in 2002 – the youngest attorney and only the second African-American to hold such office. Patrick was also recently appointed to the Spectrum Health Hospitals' Board of Trustees.

The Michigan Jaycees are truly privileged to join with the Grand Rapids Jaycees to recognize Patrick A. Miles, Jr. as a 2005 Outstanding Young Michigander.





The Ten Outstanding Young Americans (TOYA) project exists to recognize and honor ten Americans each year who exemplify the best attributes of the nation's young people, aged 21 through 40.

The Ten Outstanding Young Men program was officially adopted in 1938 and has been conducted annually since 1940. In 1984, the U.S. Junior Chamber admitted women as members and, in accordance with this change, reorganized this awards program to reflect the organization's membership. In 1985, the program was officially changed to Ten Outstanding Young Americans, recognizing the accomplishments of young men and women.

Winners are selected on their achievement or contribution in at least three of the following areas: personal improvement or accomplishment; financial success or economic innovation; social improvement to major contemporary problems; philanthropic contribution or voluntary service; politics or government service; scientific or technological contributions; legal reform; cultural achievement (literature, history, education, arts); academic leadership or accomplishment; moral and religious leadership; athletic accomplishment; success in the influence of public opinion; any other important contribution to the community, state, or nation.

Copies of all entries are sent to screening judges who independently select and rank the twenty semi-finalists. The entries of the semi-finalists are sent to finalist judges who independently narrow the selection to the ten men and women selected as TOYA honorees.

Of the more than 600 young American honored, many were recognized before the achievements for which they are now known: John F. Kennedy, Gerald R. Ford, Ann Bancroft, Gale Sayers, Elvis Presley, Dan Quayle, Dr. Kathryn Sullivan, Larry Holmes, Bill Clinton, Joe Louis, Kaye Lani Rae Rafko-Wilson.





Congratulations to each of the Award Recipients

*Thank You to All the Chapters
Who Submitted Nominations*

*Nominations for 2006 Public Relations Awards
Are Being Accepted through November 15, 2005*

*Special Thanks to the Following Organizations and
Individuals for their Assistance:*

Deaf, etc.
Grand Rapids, MI

Abbey Stahl, staffer
Governor Jennifer Granholm's Office

Rebecca Cajka, PR Director
Sarah Laster, President
Grand Rapids Jaycees

Cadillac Printing Co.

