The Wayne County Probate Bar Association meeting will be held on Thursday, May 19 at the Renaissance Center Club in Detroit. Among the topics expected to be discussed will be a "sweeping" new legal aid plan to aid the city's poor. Those who wish to attend should call (313) 274-5377 for more information.

LAWYERS IN MUSKEGON

A. Thomas Oatmen has been nominated by Governor Jennifer Granholm for the position of District Court Judge for the 6th District Court. Mr. Oatmen is a Muskegon County resident with over 25 years of legal experience. If confirmed by the Michigan Senate, he would succeed Judge Richard J. G. Hicks, who is retiring. The nominations will be presented to the Governor's office by the Michigan Supreme Court. The Michigan Supreme Court-appointed commission will conduct an investigation and, if possible, interviews of the applicants. The commission will recommend to the Michigan Supreme Court the most qualified candidate for appointment to the judgeship. The Michigan Supreme Court will then rule on the candidates and make the final appointment. Mr. Oatmen has been a member of the Muskegon County Bar Association for over 25 years, serving as its President in 1994-95. He is a graduate of Muskegon Catholic Central High School and received his law degree from the University of Detroit in 1975. Mr. Oatmen is a member of the Muskegon Area Bar Association, Michigan Trial Lawyers Association, and the Michigan State Bar Association. He has also served as a judge for the Muskegon County Bar Association.

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MOTION is the definitive lifestyle magazine for Metro Detroit’s most influential movers and shakers. A vibrant mix of real estate, leadership, philanthropy, and personal interests is showcased in each issue.

PHILANTHROPY

In the Detroit Legal News, we help you stay current with the latest developments in law. We provide insights into the legal issues that impact you and your business, and we keep you informed of the latest trends and developments in the legal profession. We are committed to providing you with the information you need to make informed decisions.

PLANNED GIVING

James P. Feeney (Jeff Buck) is a partner in the law firm of Butzel Long in Detroit, Michigan. He has been recognized as a leader in the field of corporate law and has been involved in numerous high-profile cases. He is known for his expertise in the areas of corporate governance, mergers and acquisitions, and complex litigation.

BENEFITS & EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

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SENIOR LITIGATION (DETROIT)

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Miller Canfield
Miller Canfield associate Karolina Niemirska-Fido (Warsaw, Poland office) and principal Richard A. Walawender (Detroit, Mich. office) co-authored “Poland’s Revised Bankruptcy, Reorganization Law.” The article appears in the June 2010 issue of the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal.

Niemirska-Fido advises Polish and foreign clients conducting business in Poland, with an emphasis in bankruptcy and reorganization proceedings.

Walawender heads the firm’s Corporate, International, and Automotive Groups and co-founded the firm’s Polish partnership in 1991. He is the lead attorney on numerous multinational M&A transactions for U.S., Canadian, European, Asian, Mexican and Polish clients.

Potestivo & Associates P.C.
Potestivo & Associates P.C. is pleased to announce that through united fundraising efforts firm-wide, they have raised $4,568 for the American Cancer Society’s signature event, Relay 4 Life, held June 26-27 at Hart Middle School in Rochester Hills.

“The annual fundraising we do for the American Cancer Society’s Relay 4 Life is something all of our employees look forward to and continue to get creative with year after year,” says Brian Potestivo, founder and president, Potestivo & Associates. “It brings our employees together for a common goal and the money we are able to donate at the end of the relay, is something everyone can feel proud of.”

The firms various departments put together a wide range of fundraising events such as bake sales, 50/50 raffles, euchre tournaments and themed lunches. During the relay, several employees participated and took on a leg of the relay with family and friends and fellow coworkers. Those who didn’t relay showed support by attending the event and cheering on the walkers.

Giarmarco, Mullins, & Horton, P.C.
John A. Anderson, attorney with the law firm of Giarmarco, Mullins, & Horton P.C., has been appointed by the Board of Trustees for Genesys Regional Medical Center, Grand Blanc, Michigan, to serve as a member of the Executive Committee of the medical center’s Board of Trustees and as an officer of the corporation in the capacity of Corporate Secretary. The appointments were made by the Genesys Board at its meeting on June 2 and become effective July 1.
Anderson specializes in health care law with Giarmarco, Mullins, & Horton PC in Troy.

“I’m honored by the appointment” Anderson said. Anderson also observed that “Genesys is widely acclaimed as one of the nation’s best hospitals and it’s exciting to be part of a dynamic organization focused on quality healthcare delivery to residents of the Southeastern Michigan region.”

**Kemp Klein Law Firm**

Robert Zawideh brings two decades of experience to Kemp Klein as he joins the full service law firm located in Troy. Zawideh helps businesses and families involved in estate and post-death disputes, complex business and commercial litigation, employment claims, franchise litigation, real estate claims and contract disputes.

Zawideh’s litigation practice has taken him before Michigan’s trial and appellate courts, including the Michigan Supreme Court, as well as before federal courts, state courts and arbitration panels across the United States.

Zawideh earned his law degree from Wayne State University Law School in 1990 and his Bachelor of Arts, Justice, Morality & Constitutional Democracy from Michigan State University in 1987.

**Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP**

For the sixth consecutive year, Honigman, Miller, Schwartz, and Cohn LLP’s Real Estate; Corporate/Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A); and Litigation: General Commercial practices have achieved a number one rating in the legal research publication Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business (Chambers). In addition, Honigman’s Real Estate and Corporate/(M&A) practices have been the only number one ranked firm in Michigan for the past three years.

Chambers also rated Honigman’s Employee Benefits and Labor and Employment practices among the top three in the state for the fifth year in a row and Banking and Finance among the top three in Michigan for the last two years.

In addition to Honigman’s Real Estate Department’s ranking, its chair, Lawrence McLaughlin, has been named by Chambers as a “star” in this legal practice for four consecutive years.

The following individuals at Honigman were named “Leading Attorneys” by Chambers in 2010 (the practice area appears below as designated by Chambers):

- Ankers, Norman, Litigation: General Commercial (Detroit).
- Aviv, Joseph, Litigation: General Commercial (Bloomfield Hills).
- Baty, Donald, Banking & Finance: Bankruptcy (Detroit).
- BurNstein, Richard, Real Estate (Bloomfield Hills).
- DeMars, Gregory, Real Estate (Detroit).
- Fink, Herschel, Litigation: General Commercial (Detroit).
- Foltyn, David, Corporate/M&A (Detroit).
- Friedman, Michael, Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation (Detroit).
- Henney, Raymond, Litigation: General Commercial (Detroit).
- Kunz, Donald, Corporate/M&A (Detroit).
- Lewis, Denise, Real Estate (Detroit).
- Luckoff, Howard, Real Estate (Bloomfield Hills).
- McLaughlin, Lawrence, Real Estate (Detroit).
- Parsigian, David, Corporate/M&A (Ann Arbor)
- Sable, E. Todd, Banking & Finance: Bankruptcy (Detroit).
- Sargent, William, Labor & Employment (Detroit).
Butzel Long

Butzel Long attorney and shareholder Beth S. Gotthelf was a guest on Bloomfield Community Television’s (BCTV) Practical Law show on Sunday, June 27. Gotthelf discussed alternative energy with host Henry Gornbein on the program “Practical Law.”

Based in Butzel Long’s Bloomfield Hills office, Gotthelf heads up the environmental, energy and land use practice. She represents and counsels a diverse mix of clients in numerous matters throughout the country.

Gotthelf is president of the Great Lakes Guardian for water protection, general counsel to the Michigan Association of Metal Finishers, Chair of the Birmingham Brownfield Authority, and former general counsel to the Wayne County Brownfield Authority.

She has been very active in the State Bar of Michigan, Environmental Law Section, including serving as past chair of the Section. She is co-chair of the American Bar Association (ABA) Section of Natural Resources, Energy and Environmental Law, Teleconference Committee, vice chair of the ABA 2010 Eastern Water Conference and ABA 2011 National Water Conference, and vice chair of the ABA Water Quality and Wetlands Committee. She is past chair of the Environmental Law Committee of the Oakland County Bar Association and is a past member of the State Bar Representative Assembly on behalf of Oakland County.

Gotthelf serves on the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce Leadership Committee for Transportation, and is past chair of the Chamber’s Task Force on Water and Sewer Issues. She is a Fellow of the Michigan State Bar Foundation and a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America.

Gotthelf is a graduate of the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law (1985) and Oakland University (B.S. Public Administration and Public Policy, 1980). In 2009, Gotthelf received an Oakland University Distinguished Alumni Award.

Additionally, Butzel Long attorney and shareholder Laurie Michelson has been elected president of the Federal Bar Association, Eastern District of Michigan Chapter. Previously, Michelson served as president-elect (past secretary, past treasurer and past program chair) and Board member of the Federal Bar Association, Eastern District of Michigan.

The Federal Bar Association was founded nationally in 1920 by a group of federal government lawyers and has grown and expanded over the years. The Association is now recognized as the professional organization for private attorneys, government lawyers and judges involved in federal practice.

Based in Butzel Long’s Detroit office, Michelson practices in the areas of white collar criminal defense and media law/ intellectual property litigation.

Michelson was recently named for the first time to Chambers USA — America’s Leading Lawyers for Business 2010. Michelson is the practice group leader for Butzel Long’s Intellectual Property, Technology and Media practice.

Michelson has written numerous guest articles and spoken on white collar criminal
**Miller Canfield**

**MILLER CANFIELD associates KAROLINA NIMROD-NADEL (Warren) and JASON K. WALTER (Delray)**

The firm has a strong presence in the automotive industry and related matters, including supply chain claims, business torts, trade secrets, franchises, and employment and labor disputes.

**Potessios & Associates P.C.**

**TUTLON LONG attorney and partner DAVIS G. GOTTHELM**

Gotthelm is a partner at Bloomfield Hills (BACH, HOFFMAN, DUDEK & FITZGERALD LLC) (BHF) in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. His practice focuses on business litigation, commercial bankruptcy, commercial collection, civil RICO, class actions, and contract disputes.

**Kemp Klein Law Firm**

**ROBERT ZAWIDZI**

Zawidzki has been named one of the Top 50 Litigation Lawyers in the Midwest by the Detroit Legal News. He is a partner at the firm, which was founded by his father, Robert Zawidzki, and his uncle, Ronald Zawidzki.

**Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP**

**JENNIFER GASIECKI**

Gasiecki is a partner at the firm, where she focuses on corporate law, business litigation, and commercial litigation. She has been named a "Client Champion" by the ABA and has received several other awards and recognitions for her work in these areas.

**Garan Lucow Miller P.C.**

**GARAN LUCOW MILLER P.C.**

The firm has a strong reputation in bankruptcy law and related matters, including insolvency, creditors' rights, and commercial transactions.

**Legal People**

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**Submit news & views to bcox@legalnews.com**
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