

The Monroe Sunday News

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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

— The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

► To the point

Probate Court Judge Hohman's citation as Outstanding Judge of the Year by a state group bespeaks his dedication to area youth.

High honors for judge

Applause goes to Monroe county Probate Court Judge John A. Hohman, who recently was cited as Outstanding Judge of the Year by the Michigan Court Appointed Special Advocates Association.

It's a high honor indeed, given that hundreds of Michigan judges are eligible.

The CASA volunteers work with abused or neglected kids involved in court cases, listening to their concerns and advising judges, lawyers and parents. Judge Hohman has been involved in Monroe County's CASA program from the start, taking part in training classes for the past

11 years.

He also led a team of area professionals preparing for the creation of a juvenile drug court here. That effort led to the county's landing, in 2002, a \$500,000 federal grant — the largest such grant ever awarded a drug court.

Probate Judge Pamela Moskwa also was honored, in 2003, as Outstanding Judge of the Year by the state CASA group. That she and Judge Hohman both have received the honor this decade speaks volumes about their dedication to county youth and to the strength of the county CASA organization.