



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Michelle L. Capone
PHONE: (315) 785-2585
EMAIL: capone.michelle@yahoo.com

Winners of 2008 Young Professionals Awards Announced

The Greater Watertown Jaycees, in partnership with the Jefferson-Lewis Workforce Investment Board, are pleased to announce the selection of three outstanding young professionals that have demonstrated outstanding leadership in their communities.

Eric King, Installation Transportation Officer, United States Army Garrison, Fort Drum, was selected for his outstanding leadership in business. Mr. King has attained the most senior Transportation Management Specialist position in less than 10 years of federal civilian service. He has been recognized by the U.S. Army Chief of Transportation as a superior leader and entrusted to develop and mentor transportation and Department of the Army interns. In his position, Mr. King utilizes local carriers and small businesses at every opportunity to meet his customers' needs. He is a member of the American Legion Post 1757 and is on the Sackets Harbor Arbor Day committee.

Shay Richards, owner of Way Seeker Studios and Wild Root Book Store, Lowville, was selected for her outstanding work in promoting arts and culture within her community. For the past 6 years, Ms. Richards has spearheaded Harvest of the Arts, a fundraiser for Operation Lowville. Held every fall at the Maple Ridge Center the event features a variety of top quality artisans, vintage clothing, antique car show, food, music and activities. Ms. Richards is also an active member of the Lowville Business Association and Boy Scouts of America.

Michael Lumbis, Planner for the City of Watertown, was selected for his outstanding leadership and volunteer work in his community. Mr. Lumbis has played an instrumental role in TREE Watertown to return tree lined streets and parks to the City. He has gone above and beyond his duties as a city planner spending countless hours educating the public and forming partnerships with civic organizations like Rotary to plant over 4,800 trees in the City. Mr. Lumbis has played an instrumental role in the City being named a TREE CITY USA for seven consecutive years.

Recipients will be honored at the Young Professionals Awards luncheon on Thursday, May 15 at the Best Western Carriage House. Guest speaker for the event will be John B. Johnson, Advertising Director, for the Watertown Daily Times. Registration forms are available on-line at www.watertownjaycees.org.