



*For Immediate Release*

## **Pat's Carstar Autobody Wins Award**

*WISCAP Recognizes Central Wisconsin Auto Body Shop*

Pat's Carstar of Plover was recognized with the WISCAP "Helping Hand Award" at its annual "Poverty Matters" conference in Appleton on November 17. Owner Pat Arnold, his wife Sandy, and Tony Kempen accepted the award to a standing ovation by the 225 conference participants for their work in the National Recycled Rides Program. Mary Patoka of CAP Services presented the award and commented on the importance of reliable transportation for employment, accessing medical and other services as well as allowing families to fully participate in their communities, especially for low-income families. Pat's contribution has a significant impact on the three families receiving the vehicles to date.

Recycled Rides is a nationwide awareness project where collision repair members of the NABC repair and donate recycled vehicles to families in need in their communities. Launched on Thanksgiving in 2007, the program began with less than ten stores participating and has 60 on board in 2010. The NABC hopes to repair and donate 500 cars each Thanksgiving in the long term for families in need.

Pat's Carstar Auto Body has participated in the National Auto Body Association's (NABC) Recycled Rides Program for the past three years. He asked CAP to assist in identifying a family in need of reliable transportation in the fall of 2008 and has continued each year since. "When a community supports you year after year, you have to do something that supports them in return, and Thanksgiving is an appropriate time to do it."

Just days after receiving the award, Pat's CARSTAR Auto Body officially presented the repaired vehicle, a 2006 Toyota Sienna van, to the Bourne family on Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10 a.m. In addition to the car, Pat's CARSTAR employees have donated their own money toward a gas card for the family.

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