

January 14, 2014

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Grandparents' rights case before Michigan Supreme Court this week; Court also to hear case alleging Michigan pharmacies overcharged for generic prescription drugs

[Press release](#)

Detroit Free Press: [Patricia] Boyle: Former Michigan Supreme Court justice dedicated to public service

"Patricia Boyle agreed to give up a coveted lifetime appointment as a federal district judge to serve on the Michigan Supreme Court. The career move made her the third woman to ever sit on the state's highest bench — and also sparked questions.... Boyle, 76, died [Monday]. She was visiting her sister in Florida when she was hospitalized for pneumonia and suffered respiratory failure, [Boyle's son, Oakland County Assistant Prosecutor Jason] Pernick said."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Daily Press & Argus: [Patricia Boyle:] Former Michigan Supreme Court justice and Howell resident dedicated to public service

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: In Memoriam: Hon. Patricia J. Boyle (1937-2014)

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Sara Ylen pleads no contest in fake cancer, health care fraud case

"Dressed in orange, Sara Ylen sat with her hands clasped and cuffed before pleading no contest to health care fraud.... In November 2012, James Grissom — a man convicted in 2003 of raping Ylen — was released from prison after nearly 10 years. The Michigan Supreme Court granted Grissom a new trial after investigators found Ylen had made other unsubstantiated claims of rape. Prosecutors requested the case be dismissed because of the new evidence and the length of time since the incident."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: McCormack named to first National Commission on Forensic Science

"The U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) announced Monday appointments to a newly created National Commission on Forensic Science."

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: Rash of outbursts by defendants creates Grand Rapids courtroom drama, security challenges

"There's nothing Hollywood loves more than a dramatic courtroom outburst by a defendant on trial for his life. But in West Michigan courthouses, those outbursts are rare. However, anyone paying attention to recent high-profile cases in Kent County might think life is imitating art after two defendants had to be removed from the courtroom after they became loud or violent during court proceedings."

[Full story](#)

Holland Sentinel: Phil Power: What single-party domination means for state governments

"Last Sunday, the New York Times published an in-depth article on the rapidly growing number of states in which one political party — usually the GOP — controls all of state government. That's now the case in Michigan, where Republican Rick Snyder is governor and the GOP runs both houses of the Legislature, and has a majority on the Michigan Supreme Court."

[Full story](#)

Hometown Life Newspapers: Wayne's alternative court offers treatment instead of jail

"On recent Thursday afternoon, Wayne 29th District Court Judge Laura Mack sent a probation violator to jail overnight to have an alcohol tether attached but more unusually rewarded two defendants for successful efforts with Meijer gift cards.... Mack started the Mental Health Treatment Court in October to provide appropriate services and monitoring for misdemeanor adult defendants suffering from serious mental illnesses, developmental disabilities and/or co-occurring disorders."

[Full story](#)

Lansing State Journal: Louise Alderson named 54A District Court's chief judge

"Judge Louise Alderson has been appointed 54A District Court's chief judge, officials said. Alderson, who has been continuously re-elected since being appointed to the bench in 2001, is assuming the role previously held by Judge Frank DeLuca. Her appointment by the Michigan Supreme Court was effective Jan. 1."

[Full story](#)

Macomb County Legal News: Tried and true: Judge knows the value of 'never giving up'

"Consider him a late bloomer. Darnell Jackson, a Saginaw Circuit Court judge, certainly had his struggles in high school, where he posted a 1.97 grade point average, barely good enough to merit a diploma from Saginaw Buena Vista. So how does he explain his eventual rise to the circuit court seat? 'Perseverance,' he proclaimed."

[Full story](#)

The MLW Blog: Court of Claims creates dedicated tax appeal docket

"All tax-related cases filed in the Michigan Court of Claims will now go to the court's chief judge, effective immediately, according to an order issued Jan. 9. Judge Michael J. Talbot is currently the court's chief judge. The idea is to have an efficient docket for tax cases, much like the existing business court dockets in the trial courts, said Marcia McBrien, Michigan Supreme Court public information officer."

[Full story](#)

The Ogemaw County Herald: Erickson appeal application denied

"A Michigan Court of Appeals judge has denied an application to appeal filed on behalf of Neal Erickson, who was sentenced to 15-30 years in prison July 10 on one count of first-degree Criminal Sexual Conduct. Ogemaw County Prosecutor LaDonna Schultz said Judge Douglas Shapiro denied the application to appeal because of a lack of merit in grounds presented."

[Full story](#)

Troy Patch: A Transit Center, a Theory, and Some Questions

"We don't know about you, but we no longer believe in coincidences, especially when it comes to Troy politics.... An interesting coincidence occurred at the November 25th City Council meeting, where it was announced that federal money had been secured to purchase the property under the Transit Center, the

ownership of which Grand Sakwa was disputing. Meanwhile, over in the Michigan Supreme Court, the justices were informing Troy that they didn't care to hear anything about the dispute."

[Full story](#)

Washtenaw County Legal News: Courts need interpreters

"The Michigan Supreme Court is looking for foreign language speakers from across the state to become certified court interpreters, to ensure that everyone has consistent, meaningful access to the courts. The state's highest court recently adopted a new rule that requires all courts in the state to provide interpreters."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Foreign language interpreters needed for courts; Supreme Court seeks to ensure those who can't speak English have meaningful access to justice system

[Press release](#)