

September 7-9, 2013

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.

Detroit Free Press: Escaped inmate was on parole, has lengthy criminal record, police say

"An escaped inmate has been on the run since about 8 a.m. after using a comb fashioned into a shank to stab a Wayne County Sheriff's deputy multiple times in the neck this morning at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice. The manhunt continues, and police have not revealed whether anyone has seen 25-year-old Abraham Pearson — who also is known by the alias Derreck White — since he ran from a two-car crash after carjacking a woman outside the courthouse.... The busy courthouse was put on lock down after the incident and reopened before 11 a.m."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Police search near Belle Isle after prisoner stabs sheriff's deputy in escape

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: Detroit manhunt for convict who attacked deputy

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Detroit convict on the loose after slashing bailiff, fleeing into the city

[Full story](#)

WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit: Prisoner on the run after he stabs deputy, escapes Detroit courthouse

[Full story](#)

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Prisoner on run after stabbing Sheriff's deputy at Detroit courthouse

[Full story](#)

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Wayne County Deputy stabbed at Detroit's Frank Murphy Hall of Justice, suspect on loose

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Michigan juvenile lifer bills stalled by retroactivity issue

"More than a year after the U.S. Supreme struck down mandatory life-without-parole sentences for juveniles, Michigan lawmakers attempting to bring the state into compliance have hit a potential stalemate that threatens to derail any progress. The sticking point: Does the decision apply retroactively to the 360 or so inmates who were under 18 when they committed crimes, mostly murder?"

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Associated Press: Retroactivity issue stalls juvenile lifer bills

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Macomb inmate population dips, ending jail overcrowding emergency

"The overcrowding emergency declared at the Macomb County jail last week has been lifted, Sheriff Anthony Wickersham said Monday.... Monday's count fell below 1,213. Wickersham credits the circuit and district judges and law enforcement agencies working together to bring the number down."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Macomb County averts jail overcrowding emergency

[Full story](#)

Ann Arbor.com: Judge: Prosecutors can look through text messages of attorney accused of sexual assault

"After roughly three hours of arguments from attorneys on Thursday, Judge J. Cedric Simpson dismissed a defense motion that would have essentially prevented prosecutors from looking at certain text messages sent and received by Nader Nassif, the Ann Arbor attorney and former Downtown Development Authority board member accused of sexual assault."

[Full story](#)

Crain's Detroit Business: Tax or fee: Court ruling may impact DWSD stormwater runoff billings

"Is it a tax or a fee? That's the crux of a recent Michigan Court of Appeals ruling regarding stormwater runoff charges that the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department is reviewing in light of some city businesses' concerns about a DWSD stormwater runoff charge that hadn't been billed for in years."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Twice as nice: Star Bar award winner keeps it all in the family

"... Kurt Schnelz, a longtime member of the State Bar Board of Commissioners and a past president of the Oakland County Bar Association, has been named the 2013 winner of the Hudson Award. He will be saluted September 18 at the Lansing Center as part of the State Bar's Annual Meeting. The occasion will serve as the first time that a son has joined a father as award recipients. Schnelz's father, Gene, a retired Oakland County Circuit Court judge, received the Hudson Award in 1994 along with then Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland County Legal News.

Also see:

Macomb County Legal News: Spotlight shines on State Bar award winners

[Full story](#)

Hometown Life Newspapers: Patriot Week: Renew faith in America

Oakland Circuit Court Judge Michael Warren writes "... With the old holidays all but discarded, we need to invigorate our appreciation and understanding of America's spirit through newer celebrations such as Patriot Week... [Patriot Week is] anchored by the key dates of Sept. 11 (the anniversary of the terror attacks) and Sept. 17 (Constitution Day, the anniversary of the signing of the Constitution)."

[Full story](#)

Jackson Citizen Patriot: Judge terminates woman's parental rights to three children after two were badly burned by boyfriend

"A judge last week terminated the parental rights of a woman whose two children were badly burned in scalding water after their mother left them in her boyfriend's care. Jackson County Probate Judge Diane Rapplepe on Aug. 30 decided it was in the best interest of Corey Austin Jr., Bella Austin and their 5-year-old sister to permanently separate them from Bridget Marks."

[Full story](#)

Kalamazoo Gazette: Judge orders new trial for Battle Creek man convicted of killing his girlfriend's 3-year-old daughter

"A Battle Creek man convicted in 2012 of killing his girlfriend's 3-year-old daughter should receive a new trial because of the ineffective assistance of his attorney, a Calhoun County judge ruled Friday. Leo Ackley, 27, was found guilty of felony murder and first-degree child abuse in April 2012 in the death of Baylee Stenman."

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Michigan Supreme Court asked to decide fate of "medibles"

"A medical marijuana cardholder has appealed a drug possession conviction to the Michigan Supreme Court. The appeal seeks clarification on how the law views putting marijuana or its active ingredient into baked goods. Earl Caruthers hopes the state's highest court will reverse the Michigan Court of Appeals in his case."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

WKAR News/East Lansing: Michigan Supreme Court Asked To Decide Fate Of "Medibles"

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: Muskegon County veteran court to be first to receive federal approval

"By October, the Muskegon County veterans' court is expected to receive federal certification of its veterans court this fall, the only one in Michigan. The certification opens the door for more federal grants, David Eling, chairman of the Muskegon County Department of Veterans Affairs, told Michigan Lawyers Weekly."

[Full story](#)

Traverse City Record-Eagle: Court drops drug testing company

"The 86th District Court dropped another drug testing company after a judge deemed it didn't meet the court's standards.... [86th District Judge Michael] Haley made the decision to stop referring drug testing to KPEP, a long-standing drug testing facility and rehabilitation center in Kalamazoo, after a probation violation hearing on Sept. 3 that involved Nicholas Newman, 27, a Western Michigan University senior."

[Full story](#)