

October 25, 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: Activist files one more suit to kick Duggan off ballot; Duggan countersues, wants costs back

"Labor activist Robert Davis isn't giving up his attempts to get front-running Detroit mayoral candidate Mike Duggan tossed off the ballot. But if lawyers for Duggan have their way, it could become more difficult for Davis to continue filing lawsuits in Wayne County."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Activist asks state's highest court to throw out Nov. 5 ballots for Duggan

[Full story](#)

WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit: Two filed lawsuits could delay Detroit Nov. election

[Full story](#)

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Activist files suit to get Mike Duggan off Detroit mayoral election ballot

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Judge orders Inkster to cut water rates, refund overcharges

"Inkster residents and businesses will be receiving refunds for overcharges on their water bills after a judge ruled that the rates were too high and ordered the city to reduce them. Byron Nolen, the attorney for plaintiff Terrance Trahey, said retired Wayne County Circuit Judge Paul Teranes, who presided over the bench trial last week, ordered a reduction in water rates from \$15.30 per unit to \$11.96."

[Full story](#)

Ann Arbor Chronicle: Leadership Changes Set at Trial Court

"David S. Swartz has been named chief judge of the Washtenaw County Trial Court, effective Jan. 1, 2014. The appointment was made by the Michigan Supreme Court and announced in a press release issued on Oct. 24 by court administrator Dan Dwyer. Swartz will replace current chief judge Donald Shelton, who has served in that position for four years. Because of his age, Shelton will be ineligible for re-election when his term ends next year."

[Full story](#)

Bay City Times: Bay City man who tells judges to 'die in hell' in juror questionnaire pleads guilty to contempt charge

"A Bay City man has pleaded guilty to a charge of criminal contempt after filling out his juror qualification questionnaire form with a litany of vulgarities and insults. Erick E. Haubenstricker, 36, on Thursday, Oct. 3, appeared before Bay County Circuit Judge Joseph K. Sheeran and pleaded guilty to the 93-day misdemeanor charge."

[Full story](#)

C & G News/Warren: Council approves \$48,914 for new courthouse security upgrades

"The Ferndale City Council during its Oct. 14 meeting unanimously approved spending \$48,914 to update security at the 43rd District Courthouse once the building renovations wrap up in the spring. The money will be used to install new equipment from Security Corp, including monitored cameras in multiple areas

of the courthouse, a panic button with a monitoring system and a new keyless entry system for multiple areas within the building.”

[Full story](#)

C & G News/Warren: Macomb County launches first mental health court

“With the introduction of the Macomb County Circuit Court’s new Mental Health Court docket, county officials are seeking to help defendants with mental illness get the treatment they need rather than simply putting them in jail.... Macomb County Probate Court Judge Carl Marlinga pointed out that mental health courts are part of a national movement that has grown steadily in popularity over the last 15 years.”

[Full story](#)

C & G News/Warren: Court bills paid despite discrepancies

“As it begins to look like an actual municipal building, questions on changes to the costs of the project hung over the 40th District Court Building. City Council had tabled payment of a \$173,210.09 bill to Bernco Inc., the contractor for the building, at the Sept. 16 meeting. When that bill was added to another payment due at the Oct. 7 City Council meeting for \$353,063.02, the payments were again questioned.”

[Full story](#)

The Clare County Review: Recovery Court awarded \$35,000 grant

“Judge Joshua Farrell of the 80th District Court in Clare and Gladwin counties was recently notified by the State Court Administrative Office that the Recovery Court for the District Court and the 55th Circuit Court had been awarded a continuation grant of \$35,000 for the coming fiscal year under the Michigan Drug Court Program.”

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Snyder appoints Audrey Van Alst to 84th District Court (second article)

“Gov. Rick Snyder announced the appointment of Audrey Van Alst, of Cadillac, to the 84th District Court serving Wexford and Missaukee counties.... Van Alst fills a vacancy created by the retirement of Judge David Hogg and must seek election in November 2014 to serve a full term.”

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Capitol walkway named in honor of former AG Kelley

“The longest-serving attorney general in the nation, Frank J. Kelley, Michigan’s 50th attorney general, was honored at a ceremony Wednesday when the walkway from the state Capitol building to the Michigan Hall of Justice was officially named the ‘Frank J. Kelley Capitol Walkway.’ ”

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Grand Rapids Legal News, the Muskegon County Legal News and the Oakland County Legal News.

Grand Rapids Press: Adding a judge to Kent County's bench could cost millions, committee says

“It could cost Kent County taxpayers nearly \$3 million and another \$400,000 in annual operational expenses to hire an additional judge as recommended last summer by the State Court Administrators Office. Kent County Commissioner Joel Freeman, R-Byron Township, has been chairing a special subcommittee formed in August to investigate the state’s recommendation.”

[Full story](#)

Jackson Citizen Patriot: It's expensive and intensive, but Jackson County's Recovery Court can be a life-changer for many addicts

"... Intensive and expensive, Jackson County Recovery Court offers addicts caught up in the criminal justice system an opportunity to break the cycle and undergo treatment. There are no guarantees, but proponents say it beats the alternative: a vicious cycle of criminal behavior fueled by addiction. 'We need to treat (addiction) first,' said Circuit Judge Susan Beebe, who oversees the drug court."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Jackson Citizen Patriot: What you need to know about Jackson County's Recovery Court

[Full story](#)

Jackson Citizen Patriot: Amber Carr hit bottom after her fifth drunken-driving arrest and then got clean through Jackson County's Recovery Court

[Full story](#)

Jackson Citizen Patriot: "I just got sick and tired of being sick and tired of life," said Dave Casper, a 2012 graduate of Jackson County's Recovery Court

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Drug-use insanity defense rejected by Macomb County judge

"A criminal defendant's request to pursue a temporary insanity defense due to 40 years of cocaine abuse and alcohol use was rejected by a Macomb County judge. The attorney for Patrick Russell, 61, of Roseville, on Wednesday attempted to convince Judge Mark Switalski that Russell's addictions since age 21 made him insane at the time of the November 2011 crash that killed Mary Kerman, 92, of Sterling Heights."

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Bill to end automatic life sentences for juveniles does not include re-sentencing

"People serving mandatory life sentences for crimes they committed as juveniles would not get a chance at re-sentencing, under a bill approved [Thursday] by the state Senate. It's been more than a year since the U.S. Supreme Court ruled automatic life sentences without parole for minors cruel and unusual. This legislation would bring the state in compliance with that decision."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

WKAR News/East Lansing: Bill To End Automatic Life Sentences For Juveniles Clears State Senate

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: 'Baby Bree' will be returned to parents today after court deal is reached

"Baby Bree will be returned to her parents after a deal was reached in Ingham County Circuit Court today. Maria and Steve Green received word today that their daughter, Brielle 'Bree' Green, will be returned to them this afternoon. Bree was removed from her parents' home on Sept. 13 in what has become the focal point of a battle between Child Protective Services and proponents of the state's Medical Marijuana Act."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit: Attorney: Baby Bree to go home to marijuana-growing parents

[Full story](#)

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: 'Baby Bree' is going home; Parents who grow, use medical marijuana regain custody of 7-month-old daughter

[*Full story*](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Business Side of Juvenile Court Appointments

"The Oakland County Bar Association's Juvenile Law Committee continued its Fundamentals of Juvenile Law – Year VII brown bag lunch lecture series with 'The Business Side of Juvenile Court Appointments' on Thursday, Oct. 10, at the Oakland County Bar Center in Bloomfield Hills."

[*Full story*](#)

WOOD-TV(8)/Grand Rapids: How many AEDs do public buildings need?; Judge Benjamin Logan had heart attack this week

"61st District Court Judge Benjamin Logan is undergoing tests to determine the extent of the damage done by the heart attack the long-serving jurist suffered this week. Logan was rushed to the hospital on Tuesday after suffering that heart attack in his courtroom."

[*Full story*](#)