

December 27, 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.

The Arab American News: Dearborn inauguration ceremony for newly elected officials scheduled for Jan. 2, public invited

"The public is invited to attend the inauguration ceremony at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 2 for the City of Dearborn elected officials who will serve January 2014-December 2017. The ceremony will be inside the Michael A. Guido Theater at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Ave.... [City officials] will be sworn-in by Michigan Supreme Court Justice Brian Zahra."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Dearborn Patch: Public Invited to Inauguration of City Officials Jan. 2

[Full story](#)

Bay City Times: Bay County judge on sentencing fiancée-choker: 'If I could send you to prison longer, I would'

"A Bay County judge said he wishes he could send a Bay City probationer who repeatedly choked his fiancée unconscious to prison for longer than he was allowed, predicting the defendant will cause more damage once he's free. Bay County Circuit Judge Harry P. Gill on Monday, Dec. 23, sentenced Zane A. Bukowski, 23, to concurrent terms of 38 months to five years and 23 months to four years in prison, plus one year in jail."

[Full story](#)

Daily Press & Argus: Eaton County prosecutors will use dog to assist victims of crime

"The Eaton County prosecutor's office is now one of five in the state with a trained dog that can provide emotional assistance to child crime victims and others.... [18-month-old black Labrador named] Reagan will be available to provide support during courtroom testimony or whenever a victim needs him. Officials say all five of the county's judges have agreed to allow Reagan, known as a canine advocate, in their courtrooms."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Legal News: Eaton County gets canine advocate to assist victims

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Institutional knowledge: Judge shares court's core values, culture of service while in Uganda

"... In the Ugandan legal system, that sense of trust and fairness has been lacking among its citizens, whether legitimately or only in perception. One of Michigan's most respected judges, the Hon. Cynthia Stephens, was invited recently to help turn around that perception."

[Full story](#)

Flint-Genesee County Legal News: Court of Appeals Chief Judge William B. Murphy elected as treasurer of the Council of Chief Judges of the State Courts of Appeal

"Court of Appeals Chief Judge William B. Murphy was recently elected to serve as the treasurer of the Council of Chief Judges of the State Courts of Appeal throughout the United States. This leadership

position is the first on Judge Murphy's path to being elected as the Council's president within the next few years."

[Full story](#)

Kalamazoo Gazette: New Kalamazoo County probate judge Scott Pierangeli to take oath of office Jan. 3

"Former Kalamazoo County Assistant Prosecutor Scott Pierangeli will take the oath of office Friday, Jan. 3, 2014, as he becomes the county's newest Probate Court judge. Pierangeli's oath of office and investiture is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. at the Kalamazoo County Juvenile Home, 1424 Gull Road. A reception will immediately follow, according to a news release issued by county officials."

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Macomb County unarmed robbery convictions reversed on appeal

"The convictions of two men accused of robbing a man of his gold necklace outside a Warren bowling alley have been overturned by the state Court of Appeals for different reasons. Jason G. Lehre, 30, gained an outright acquittal of his conviction of unarmed robbery, [while] his co-defendant, Michael C. Garrison, 34, gained a new trial order on the unarmed robbery charge, according to the combined, unanimous opinion released Friday."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Daily Tribune.

MLive.com: Top 10 most unforgettable Detroit court cases of 2013

"... Here are some of the most notable Detroit or Metro Detroit court cases of 2013:... Judge Wade McCree Jr.: Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Wade McCree, who previously had trouble with the Judicial Tenure Commission after shirtless images he reportedly sent to a bailiff became public, was back under scrutiny in 2013. This time he's accused of sleeping with Geniene La'Shay Mott, a woman who came before his court as a litigant."

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Plaintiffs in Michigan prison sexual abuse suit ask court to allow for anonymity

"A group of Michigan inmates who allege they were sexually assaulted as minors while incarcerated have asked a federal judge to allow their suit against corrections officials to go forward without disclosing their names. The suit was filed in October by seven inmates being held in state prisons against the Michigan Department of Corrections, Gov. Rick Snyder and 11 current and former wardens."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Holiday celebration with PALS

"The Polish American Legal Society (PALS) hosted its Holiday Party on Saturday, Dec. 7, at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy. Among those celebrating the season were ... Retired Judge Richard Wygonik, ... Wayne County 20th District Court Chief Judge Mark Plawecki, [and other members.]"

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Judge fights ruling against her in custody lawsuit

"A Detroit-area judge wants a federal appeals court to intervene in a lawsuit linked to the accidental consumption of alcohol by a child at a Detroit Tigers game. The parents of Leo Ratte are suing Judge Judy Hartsfield. In 2008, the 7-year-old boy was temporarily removed from them when his father mistakenly gave him Mike's Hard Lemonade at Comerica Park."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Judge sued in custody case linked to alcohol at Tigers game wants appeals court to step in

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Federal appeals court stays order on parole for Michigan juvenile lifers

"A federal appeals court has issued a stay of a judge's ruling that could lead to parole for prisoners convicted of murders committed when they were under 18. Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette said Monday that the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati delayed implementation of Ann Arbor U.S. District Judge John Corbett O'Meara's order that the state start the parole review process for about 360 inmates."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Courts closed

"The Oakland County Circuit and Probate Courts will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 31-Jan.1, for the New Year's holiday.... The Michigan Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, and the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 31-Jan.1, for the New Year's holiday. The Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and SCAO will be open on Friday, Dec. 27; and Monday, Dec. 30."

[Full story](#)

Washtenaw County Legal News: DRC thanks volunteers for busiest year ever

"Three local women say that volunteering as mediators at Washtenaw County's Dispute Resolution Center is one of the best decisions they've made.... Volunteer mediators help students, family members, landlord/tenants, merchants, employees and others resolve their issues without going to court. So far this year, mediators have worked on about 600 cases serving more than 1400 people."

[Full story](#)