



MCRC E-Newsletter for February 2, 2010

Munger man pleads guilty to charges of ethnic intimidation, assault

From the Bay City Times, 2/2/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2010/02/munger_man_pleads_guilty_to_ch.html

"A Munger man accused of letting his supposed racist tendencies spur him into assaulting a man has narrowly avoided trial..."

Suit Points to Guest Worker Program Flaws

From the New York Times, 2/2/10

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/02/us/02immig.html?th&emc=th>

"Immigration authorities worked closely with a marine oil-rig company in Mississippi to discourage protests by temporary guest workers from India over their job conditions, including advising managers to send some workers back to India, according to new testimony in a federal lawsuit against the company, Signal International..."

Delta paper calls 'racist' Saginaw cartoon 'teachable moment'

From the Saginaw News, 2/1/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2010/02/new_delta_paper_addresses_cont.html

"Delta College's student newspaper responded to charges of racism and community-bashing in its first edition published since the Jan. 15 cartoon that sparked the controversy..."

You said it: Is regulating drivers licenses for transgender people worth the time?

(More on the Rep. Paul Scott Story)

From MLive/Booth Mid-Michigan, 2/1/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2010/02/you_said_it_is_regulating_driv.html

Flint Township officials working to make hall more accessible

From the Flint Journal, 2/1/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2010/02/flint_township_officials_worki.html

FLINT TOWNSHIP, Michigan – "Township officials have secured a local company specializing in accessibility to evaluate needed accommodations for wheelchair users at Township Hall..."

Four Men, a Counter and Soon, Revolution

From the New York Times, 1/31/10

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/01/arts/design/01museum.html?th&emc=th>

GREENSBORO, N.C. — "The sign still says "F. W. Woolworth Co." in bright gold letters running across the building on South Elm Street, just as it did 50 years ago. And within that two-story structure, the same stainless steel dumbwaiters and commercial appliances line the mirrored walls. The lunch counter, which includes a bowling-alley-long tabletop that must dwarf any

currently in use, is largely intact; the original chrome and vinyl chairs are still mounted in the floor. This site is an authentic, half-century-old relic..”

FBI official defends his agents in cleric's death

From the Free Press, 1/29/10

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100129/NEWS05/1290346/1001/NLETTER09/FBI-official-defends-his-agents-in-clerics-death?source=nletter-news>

“The special agent in charge of the Detroit FBI office told a Dearborn audience Thursday that the case of a Muslim cleric who died in a shoot-out with federal agents ended tragically, but his agents followed proper protocol...”

New Mapping Website Provides Online Tools to Help Increase Accuracy

From Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, 1/26/10

<http://www.civilrights.org/press/2010/new-mapping-tool-census.html>

“A new web-based mapping site introduced today will provide nonprofit organizations and state and local governments with a powerful set of interactive tools designed to help increase the count among historically hard-to-count populations, which is critical for civil rights enforcement and voting rights for the next ten years...”

By the People: Hard Times, Hard Choices

<http://www.wkar.org/reworkingmichigan/article/1286/bythepeople> “A special MacNeil/Lehrer Productions report on a unique gathering of citizens from across Michigan who gathered in Lansing to deliberate about the state's economic crisis. The citizens came to listen and they came to be heard.” And visit <http://cdd.stanford.edu/polls/btp/> to see the written report (the former is a documentary on public tv) Commission Chair Matt Wesaw was a panelist and former MDCR Director Nanette Reynolds was also involved with this initiative.

Disabled rip Detroit transit service

From the Detroit News, 1/25/10

<http://detnews.com/article/20100125/METRO01/1250333/1409/METRO>

Detroit – “For years, Rosalind Shaw was comfortable using the city's para-transit service. On most days, the 46-year-old visually impaired woman said she was picked up by drivers who were on time and sensitive to her disability...”

Grand Rapids summit works to raise awareness of modern slavery

From the Grand Rapids Press, 1/23/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/01/kuyper_college_summit_works_to.html

GRAND RAPIDS — “Kuyper College sophomore Jon Delger didn't know much about the trafficking of children and women for forced sex or labor or how he could help...”

Western Michigan University gets grant for rehabilitation counseling to help people with disabilities get, keep jobs

From the Kalamazoo Gazette, 1/22/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/01/western_michigan_university_ge_1.html

KALAMAZOO — “With a \$548,000 government grant, a team of Western Michigan University faculty members has been charged with creating a model program to recruit rehabilitation counselors...”

American Civil Liberties Union joins fight to allow girl with cerebral palsy to attend Napoleon elementary school with mobility assistance dog: updated

From the Jackson Citizen Patriot, 1/21/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2010/01/american_civil_liberties_union.html

"The American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan said today that Napoleon Community Schools is breaking the law by not allowing a 5-year-old student with cerebral palsy to attend school with her mobility assistance dog..."

Secretary of State candidate Paul Scott campaigns against changes on ID for transgender individuals

From the Grand Rapids Press, 1/21/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/01/secretary_of_state_candidate_p.html

"Paul Scott seems prepared to court controversy in his candidacy for Michigan Secretary of State..."

Department of Justice Creates Fair Lending Unit to Fight Discrimination

<http://www.civilrights.org/archives/2010/01/868-fair-lending-unit.html>

From CivilRights.org 1/20/10 – "Responding to the severe housing and credit crisis in the United States, Assistant Attorney General Tom Perez recently announced the creation of a fair lending unit within the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. Perez, who leads the division, identified "lending discrimination" as particularly destructive, stating that "it's discrimination with a smile, and it tears communities apart..."

Supreme Court Reinstates Death Sentence for Anti-Gay Neo-Nazi

From the Associated Press, 1/12/10

<http://www.365gay.com/news/supreme-court-reinstates-death-sentence-for-anti-gay-neo-nazi/>

Cleveland — "The Supreme Court on Tuesday reinstated for a second time the death sentence of a neo-Nazi convicted of murdering three men in Ohio more than a quarter century ago..."