



MDCR/MCRC E-newsletter September 28, 2010

Time Limit on Evidence Would Deny Justice for Innocents

From the Free Press, 9/23/10

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100923/OPINION01/9230415/1322/Time-limit-on-evidence-would-deny-justice-for-innocents>

"It already takes a minor miracle to get innocent people out of prison. If Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy prevails, Michigan will foreclose even that faint hope of justice..."

Civil Rights Commission to Meet in Midland in October

From the Bay City Times, 9/22/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2010/09/civil_rights_commission_to_mee.html

MIDLAND — "Area residents who believe they have been the victims of discrimination can air their concerns next month in Midland..."

Birch Run Substitute Teacher Claims Discrimination after School Picks Man, Not Her

From the Saginaw News, 9/22/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2010/09/birch_run_substitute_teacher_c.html

BIRCH RUN — "Kelly Monk claims Birch Run Area Schools leaders passed her over for a "less qualified male" when choosing a long-term substitute teacher at Greene Middle School in 2008..."

No State Charges in Quran Burning

From the Lansing State Journal, 9/22/10

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20100922/NEWS01/9220325/No-state-charges-in-Quran-burning>

"No state charges will be filed against an individual who admitted burning a Quran and scattering its ashes outside of the Islamic Center of East Lansing on Sept. 11, Ingham County Prosecutor Stuart Dunnings III said Tuesday..."

Jackson High School students generally 'sensitive' on Opposite Gender Day, Gay-Straight Alliance member says

From the Jackson Citizen Patriot, 9/21/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2010/09/jackson_high_school_students_g.html

"Jackson High School students generally showed sensitivity during Tuesday's Opposite Gender Day, members of the school's Gay-Straight Alliance said..."

Ann Arbor officials reaffirm city's commitment to religious tolerance in wake of anti-Muslim events

From AnnArbor.com, 9/21/10

<http://www.annarbor.com/news/ann-arbor-officials-reaffirm-citys-commitment-to-religious-freedom-in-wake-of-anti-muslim-events/>

"The Ann Arbor City Council responded to a perceived increase in anti-Islamic sentiment across the country on Monday by unanimously approving a resolution reaffirming the city's commitment to religious tolerance..."

Muslim Leaders Unite Behind Center

From the New York Times, 9/20/10

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/21/nyregion/21mosque.html?_r=1&th&emc=th

"The proposed Islamic community center and mosque in Lower Manhattan got its strongest vote of confidence yet from major Muslim leaders on Monday, after months of behind-the-scenes grumbling that they were not properly consulted on the project, and a day's worth of intense and painful conversations at a hotel near Kennedy International Airport..."

For deaf, wireless devices a new portal to world

From the Washington Post, 9/20/10

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/09/20/AR2010092000012.html?hpid=sec-tech&sub=AR>

TALLADEGA, Ala. – "Quietly over the last decade, phones that make text messaging easy have changed life profoundly for millions of deaf people..."

Speak Up Against All Intolerance

(letters to the editor from the Free Press, 9/20/10)

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100920/OPINION04/9200316/1322/Speak-up-against-all-intolerance>

Congrats to Commissioner Zelley on this award!

14 people honored at Flint Human Relations Commission People's People Award

From the Flint Journal, 9/16/20

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2010/09/14_people_honored_at_flint_hum.html

FLINT — "Edna Green-Perry said everyone has issues, and it's up to others to help each other out..."

Michigan ranked 4th Highest for Reported Hate Crimes

From WLNS (Channel 6), Lansing, 9/16/10

<http://www.wlns.com/Global/story.asp?S=13166175>

"Anti-violence advocates from across the state came together in Lansing Thursday. Legislators and law enforcement were all advocating for safety. Thursday's event was the fourth annual Michigan Alliance Against Hate Crime Conference. "An opportunity to learn more about what our communities can do to combat hate in Michigan," said Harold Core, Michigan Department of Civil Rights and Public Affairs..."

Michigan Hate Crimes Conference Under Way

From the State Journal, 9/16/10

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20100916/NEWS01/309160006/Michigan-hate-crimes-conference-under-way>

DELTA TWP. – "Jeff Miles learned lots of new information over breakfast Thursday: About neo-Nazi symbols, Ku Klux Klan codes, tattoos designed to intimidate..."

Michigan Challenge to Hate Crimes Law Rejected

From the State Bar of Michigan Blog, 9/15/10

<http://sbmblog.typepad.com/sbm-blog/2010/09/michigan-challenge-to-hate-crimes-law-rejected.html>

"Ann Arbor's Thomas More Law Center brought a challenge in the Eastern District of Michigan federal court to the Shepard-Byrd Hate Crimes Prevention Act on behalf of several fundamentalist pastors, arguing that the Act violates the plaintiffs' freedom of speech by stifling their criticism of "the homosexual lifestyle" the "homosexual agenda" and "homosexual acts," and that it grants gays and lesbians "special rights." ...

Former skinhead hits road with story

From the State News (MSU), 9/14/10

http://www.statenews.com/index.php/article/2010/09/former_skinhead_hits_road_with_story

"Frank Meeink was tired of people writing stories about him...The former skinhead and drug addict said he was contacted by a woman who was writing a chapter about him in her upcoming book, but Meeink decided it was time for him to tell his own story..."

Immigrants Can Help Renew Detroit

From the Detroit News, 9/14/10

<http://www.detnews.com/article/20100914/OPINION03/9140361/Immigrants-can-help-renew-Detroit>

"Anti-immigration sentiments -- and state policies -- are enjoying a seasonal, election-timed vogue. ..But in the Detroit area, where the doughnut hole of an increasingly vacant city continues to expand, recruiting foreign-born residents shows potential as an urban renewal lifeline..."

Civil Rights Photographer Unmasked as Informer

From the New York Times, 9/13/10

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/14/us/14photographer.html?th&emc=th>

ATLANTA — "That photo of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. riding one of the first desegregated buses in Montgomery, Ala.? He took it. The well-known image of black sanitation workers carrying "I Am a Man" signs in Memphis? His. He was the only photojournalist to document the entire trial in the murder of Emmett Till, and he was there in Room 306 of the Lorraine Hotel, Dr. King's room, on the night he was assassinated...."

Police investigating who was at fault after garbage truck kills woman in motorized wheelchair crossing 28th Street

From the Grand Rapids Press, 9/13/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/09/police_investigating_who_was_a.html

WYOMING – "As residents from Pinery Park apartments went bowling and traveled to appointments Monday morning, many wondered what had happened to close down a nearby intersection..."

FBI Probe is Sought in Burning of Quran

From the Free Press, 9/13/10

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100913/NEWS05/9130376/1322/FBI-probe-is-sought-in-burning-of-Quran>

"A national Islamic group has called for an FBI investigation after a burned Quran, its pages allegedly covered in feces, was found Saturday at an East Lansing mosque frequented by the Michigan State University community..."

Flint eyes drug tests for public housing

Effort aimed at curbing crime, but ACLU says plan unconstitutional

From The Detroit News, 9/13/10

<http://www.detnews.com/article/20100913/METRO/9130337/Flint-eyes-drug-tests-for-public-housing#ixzz10qkDqLOS>

Flint – "Flint's public housing authority, in an effort to fight crime in the projects, is considering a requirement for all current and prospective residents to take a drug test to keep their federally subsidized apartments..."

Reports: Upset over Michigan Incident, Muslims Attack Church in India

From the Free Press, 9/13/10

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100913/NEWS06/100913017/1318/Reports-Upset-over-Mich.-incident-Muslims-attack-church-in-India#ixzz10qlCXCcQ>

"Muslims in India reportedly attacked a church late Sunday night after they heard reports that a Quran had been burned in Michigan, according to Indian media outlets..."

Former Northwood University Professor Alleges Age Discrimination

From the Bay City Times, 9/12/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2010/09/former_northwood_university_pr.html

MIDLAND — "A former Northwood University professor is claiming the school violated his civil rights when they terminated his employment..."

Is restaurant's 'no screaming kids' policy discriminatory or recipe for success?

From the Grand Rapids Press, 9/10/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2010/09/no_screaming_kids_is_one_resta.html

"A restaurant in North Carolina is making predictable headlines for its new policy on screaming children: They're not welcome..."

Jones calls again for penalties for hiring illegal immigrants

From the Kalamazoo Gazette, 9/3/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/09/jones_calls_again_for_penaltie.html

KALAMAZOO — "The recent discovery and arrest of suspected illegal immigrants who had been working to clean up the oil spill near Marshall has deepened State Rep. Robert Jones' resolve to speak out for a package of legislative bills that would penalize businesses that hire undocumented workers..."

The Hands that Feed Us

From the American Prospect, 9/2/10

http://www.prospect.org/cs/articles?article=the_hands_that_feed_us

"Because so little has changed, her years in the fields seem to melt together. She works under abusive crew bosses and beside people who are sick but cannot take time off to get care. She works alongside youngsters less than 12-years-old, the U.S. legal limit for child labor, because some families need every hand to get by. Working from sunup to darkness without drinking water or a toilet nearby to relieve herself, she goes in the bushes, if there are any..."