



E-newsletter for May 14, 2010

Center a tribute to Judge Damon J. Keith's lifetime pursuit of civil rights

From the Detroit News, 5/13/10

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20100513/SCHOOLS/5130449/Center-a-tribute-to-Judge-Damon-J.-Keith-s-lifetime-pursuit-of-civil-rights>

"When Winnie and Nelson Mandela came to Detroit in 1990, Judge Damon J. Keith called Rosa Parks to see if she needed a ride to the airport for the welcome ceremony. Her caretaker, however, said the two of them hadn't been invited. ..."

Flint Housing Commission chief looks at drug tests for tenants in some public housing

From the Flint Journal, 5/13/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2010/05/flint_housing_commission_chief.html

"Use illegal drugs, lose your apartment...That could be the prospect facing some public housing tenants if Flint Housing Commission Director Rod Slaughter gets his way..."

Generation of Promise teaches kids about race and diversity

From The Detroit News, 5/13/10

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20100513/SCHOOLS/5130430/1026/Generation-of-Promise-teaches-kids-about-race-and-diversity>

"For years, Diana Kakos kept quiet about her background...The Birmingham Groves High School student rarely shared much about her Chaldean heritage.

That changed in 2008, when the West Bloomfield Township resident was selected to join a diversity and leadership program through Generation of Promise, a Detroit-based youth development nonprofit agency working to change attitudes on race and diversity..."

Azerbaijanis notice efforts to mold young leaders, visit Kalamazoo's Hispanic American Council

From the Kalamazoo Gazette, 5/12/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/05/azerbaijanis_notice_efforts_to.html

"The success of an after-school, youth development program at the Hispanic American Council caught the attention of the U.S. State Department and a delegation from Azerbaijan...."

W.K. Kellogg Foundation announces \$75 million effort to tackle structural racism and promote racial healing

From the WK Kellogg Foundation, 5/11/10

[http://www.wkcf.org/news/Articles/2010/05/WKCF-Announces-\\$75-Million-Effort.aspx](http://www.wkcf.org/news/Articles/2010/05/WKCF-Announces-$75-Million-Effort.aspx)

WASHINGTON – "In an unprecedented effort to address the devastating impact of racial inequities on communities across the country, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation launched today a five-year, \$75 million initiative – America Healing – that aims to improve life outcomes for

vulnerable children and their families by promoting racial healing and eliminating barriers to opportunities..."

Latino civil rights group sues Ottawa County for discriminating against illegal immigrants who want to marry

From the Grand Rapids Press, 5/11/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/05/latino_civil_rights_group_sues.html

"A Latino civil rights group on Tuesday filed a federal class action lawsuit against Ottawa County, saying its policy requiring illegal immigrants to possess a Social Security number to obtain a marriage license is discriminatory and unconstitutional..."

Commentary: Fix immigration by going after businesses, not border crossers

From The Detroit News, 5/10/10

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20100510/OPINION03/5100319/1008/OPINION01/Commentary--Fix-immigration-by-going-after-businesses--not-border-crossers>

"President Barack Obama is right that Arizona's tough immigration law is "misguided." And Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer is right that her state has been "more than patient waiting for Washington to act." The two are not unrelated..."

Some say guidelines for mental health parity overstep need...

From the New York Times, 5/10/10

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/10/health/policy/10health.html>

"A huge fight has erupted over rules issued by the Obama administration to enforce a 2008 law that requires equal insurance coverage for the treatment of mental and physical illnesses..."

Michigan lawmaker plans Arizona-like immigration bill

From the Associated Press, 5/9/10

http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2010/05/michigan_lawmaker_plans_arizon.html

"A Michigan lawmaker believes the state's law enforcement officers need the authority to arrest illegal immigrants and is drafting legislation similar to Arizona's new immigration law..."

Area Hispanic residents call Arizona anti-immigration law 'a slap in the face'

From the Grand Rapids Press, 5/8/10

http://www.mlive.com/living/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/05/charley_honey_area_hispanic_re.html

"The asparagus is ripening in Oceana County. The Rev. Tom Bolster had his first taste last week and found it delicious...But there's a bitter taste among the Hispanic residents and seasonal migrants who pick the bountiful crop in this beautiful Lakeshore area. They feel Arizona's harsh new anti-immigration law is a "slap in the face," says Bolster, pastor of St. Gregory Catholic Church in Hart..."

Ann Arbor school district ends controversial program only open to black students

from Ann Arbor.com, 5/7/10

<http://www.annarbor.com/news/ann-arbor-school-district-ends-controversial-program-only-open-to-black-students/>

"The Ann Arbor school district has ended a controversial black-student only program at Dicken Elementary School. ..."Lunch Bunch is no longer," district spokeswoman Liz Margolis said in an

e-mail to AnnArbor.com. "It will be discussed among staff and some parents and be reworked. It has a valuable goal of assisting children who are not performing well on the MEAP, and this effort will continue." ...

Black-only field trip that sparked controversy in Ann Arbor receives national media attention

From Ann Arbor.com, 5/6/10

<http://www.annarbor.com/news/black-only-field-trip-that-sparked-controversy-in-ann-arbor-receives-national-media-attention/>

"Marian Wallace is upset. So steamed, in fact, she had to take a walk to calm down after reading about Ann Arbor **Dicken Elementary School's** African-American Lunch Bunch...."

Group challenging Hope College gay policy to present petitions to trustees

From the Grand Rapids Press, 5/6/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/05/group_challenging_hope_college.html

"Two Holland advocacy group said they're teaming up to pressure Hope College trustees to remove a controversial statement on homosexuality..."

Former CMU player loses discrimination lawsuit

From the Lansing State Journal, 5/5/10

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20100505/NEWS01/305050013/-1/middayupdates/Former-CMU-player-loses-discrimination-lawsuit->

"A judge has ruled in favor of Central Michigan and its women's basketball coach in a lawsuit by a former player who claims she lost her scholarship because of discrimination..."

Suit against EMU prompts lawmakers to push for reports on protecting students' religious beliefs

From Annarbor.com (MLive), 5/4/10

<http://www.annarbor.com/news/suit-against-emu-prompts-lawmakers-to-push-for-reports-on-protecting-students-religious-beliefs/>

"Lawmakers in the Michigan Senate are demanding the state's public universities report on how they're protecting the religious beliefs of students in counseling degree programs, nearly a year after an advocacy group sued Eastern Michigan University on behalf of student Julea Ward..."

Date set for federal judge to hear motion to dismiss Midland man's civil suit challenging constitutionality of hate crimes law

from the Bay City Times, 5/2/10

http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2010/05/date_set_for_federal_judge_to.html

"A federal judge in June will hear arguments on a motion to dismiss a lawsuit questioning the constitutionality of a new hate crimes law..."