



MDCR/MCRC E-news for October 19, 2010

**Ann Arbor City Council condemns Andrew Shirvell's attacks on Chris Armstrong**

From AnnArbor.com, 10/19/10

"Ann Arbor Mayor **John Hieftje** stood side-by-side with University of Michigan student body president **Chris Armstrong** at the start of Monday's City Council meeting, as its members celebrated a long history of gay rights advocacy in the city..."

<http://www.annarbor.com/news/ann-arbor-city-council-condemns-andrew-shirvell-for-attacks-on-openly-gay-u-m-student/>

**Dow Corning, along with other businesses and Williams Township, participating in regional 'Disability Mentoring Day'**

From the Bay City Times, 10/18/10

WILLIAMS TWP. — One municipality and two businesses in Bay County are participating in the inaugural Great Lakes Business Leadership Network's regional "Disability Mentoring Day."

[http://www.mlive.com/business/mid-michigan/index.ssf/2010/10/dow\\_corning\\_along\\_with\\_other\\_b.html](http://www.mlive.com/business/mid-michigan/index.ssf/2010/10/dow_corning_along_with_other_b.html)

**Ubyl man, auto supplier reach tentative agreement in suit claiming age discrimination, violations of Americans With Disabilities Act**

From the Bay City Times, 10/17/10

BAY CITY — A tentative settlement has been reached in a federal civil suit in which an Ubyl man alleged he was fired because he had a heart attack.

[http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2010/10/ubyl\\_man\\_auto\\_supplier\\_reach\\_t.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2010/10/ubyl_man_auto_supplier_reach_t.html)

**US Airways agrees to discuss policy changes with Western Michigan man they booted off flight for being 'too disabled to fly'**

From the Grand Rapids Press, 10/16/10

GRAND RAPIDS TOWNSHIP — "Johnnie Tuitel says he was raised to believe that though he has a disability, he should be strong enough to overcome life's challenges without any special treatment from others..."

[http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/10/us\\_airways\\_agrees\\_to\\_discuss\\_p.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/10/us_airways_agrees_to_discuss_p.html)

**Bullying produces tragic results (editorial)**

From the Lansing State Journal, 10/16/10

"In a tragic set of coincidences, the nation has learned during the last few weeks of the suicides of five young people who ended their lives because they had been harassed for being different. In addition, the people of Michigan have been shown a glaring example of the kind of treatment that sent these young people into despair..."

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20101016/OPINION02/10160305/1087/OPINION02>

### **FBI is cleared in Imam's death**

From the Free Press, 10/14/10

"Almost a year after a Detroit Muslim leader was shot dead by FBI agents, the Department of Justice has cleared all federal agents in the Oct. 28 killing, saying they acted appropriately in firing 20 bullets at Imam Luqman Ameen Abdullah, according to a report released Wednesday..."

<http://www.freep.com/article/20101014/NEWS05/10140555/1318/FBI-is-cleared-in-imams-death-Feds-Agents-had-legitimate-fears>

### **Chris Armstrong: Attacks have only motivated me to keep on serving U-M student body**

From Ann Arbor.com, 10/14/10

"While the comments Andrew Shirvell has made are hurtful, all they've done is add to his desire to continue serving the students who elected him, University of Michigan student body President Chris Armstrong said today..."

<http://www.annarbor.com/news/armstrong-attacks-have-only-motivated-me-to-keep-on-serving-u-m-student-body/>

### **AWARE Inc. employee and a former employee file discrimination charges against shelter**

From the Jackson Citizen Patriot, 10/13/10

"One AWARE Inc. employee and a former employee have filed discrimination charges against the domestic violence shelter with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Detroit..."

[http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2010/10/aware\\_inc\\_employee\\_and\\_a\\_former.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2010/10/aware_inc_employee_and_a_former.html)

### **Finding support, counseling and education for gay youth in America, as LGBT suicides spark national attention**

From the AP, 10/13/10

"Support and other resources for gay young people are out there, sometimes only a click or a phone call away, but advocates said the recent suicide of Rutgers University freshman Tyler Clementi and other teens who were believed to have been victims of anti-gay bullying point to the need for even more widespread help..."

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/10/finding\\_support\\_counseling\\_and.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/10/finding_support_counseling_and.html)

### **Saginaw manager hopes to act on police Internal Affairs recommendations within five weeks**

From the Saginaw News, 10/11/10 (John Golaszewski is on this group)

SAGINAW — "City Manager Darnell Earley says he hopes within five weeks to fashion an "action plan" based on recommendations made in a Saginaw Police Department Internal Affairs review...."

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2010/10/saginaw\\_council\\_addresses\\_poli.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2010/10/saginaw_council_addresses_poli.html)

### **Civil Rights Commission hears about fears of hiring disabled**

From the Midland Daily News, 10/9/10

"The message was clear — most employers have a fear of hiring people with disabilities...."

<http://www.ourmidland.com/news/feafe0e2-d3b5-11df-a6ee-001cc4c002e0.html>

### **Consumers Energy ordered to pay \$8 million in sexual harassment lawsuit**

From the Grand Rapids Press, 10/8/10

GRAND RAPIDS – “When she started a four-year apprenticeship, Consumers Energy worker Theresa Waldo said her boss told her that no women worked in the transmission lines department -- they weren't welcome there and couldn't handle the job, anyway...”

[http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/10/consumers\\_energy\\_ordered\\_to\\_pa.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/10/consumers_energy_ordered_to_pa.html)

### **2010 YWCA Summit on Racism in Kalamazoo: Getting at the roots of racism**

From the Kalamazoo Gazette, 10/8/10

KALAMAZOO — “Remedying racism is more complicated than changing individuals. The structures and systems in society that allow racism to continue must be changed before real progress can be made, the keynote speaker for the 2010 Summit on Racism in Kalamazoo said Thursday...”

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/10/2010\\_ywca\\_summit\\_on\\_racism\\_in.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/10/2010_ywca_summit_on_racism_in.html)

### **EMU forum addresses controversial Ku Klux Klan cartoon**

From Ann Arbor.com, 10/8/10

“An Eastern Michigan University forum was designed to start the healing process after a cartoon deemed racially insensitive ran in the Eastern Echo. But some students said it fell short...”

<http://www.annarbor.com/news/african-american-students-cartoonist-meet-over-contrversial-ku-klux-klan-editrial-cartoon/>

### **Nevada Senate candidate: Muslim law taking hold in places like Dearborn**

From the AP, 10/7/10

“U.S. Senate candidate Sharron Angle told a crowd of supporters that the country needs to address a “militant terrorist situation” that has allowed Islamic religious law to take hold in some American cities.

Her comments came at a rally of tea party supporters in the Nevada resort town of Mesquite last week after the candidate was asked about Muslims angling to take over the country, and marked the latest of several controversial remarks by the Nevada Republican...”

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2010/10/nevada\\_senate\\_candidate\\_muslim.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2010/10/nevada_senate_candidate_muslim.html)

### **Are minority students disciplined more harshly? Obama administration to issue suspension guidelines**

From the Grand Rapids Press, 10/7/10

“Are minority students disciplined more harshly than white students?”

The Obama administration thinks so, and is planning to make addressing racial disparities in school discipline a high priority, reports Education Week’s Mary Ann Zehr...”

[http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/10/are\\_minority\\_students\\_discipli.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/10/are_minority_students_discipli.html)

### **Mom fights cyberbullying**

From the Free Press, 10/7/10

"Every hand in the room of 45 kids shot up when Tina Meier asked how many of the Levey Middle School students had Facebook accounts.

But few of the Internet-active students understood what it meant to be a cyber-bully..."

<http://www.freep.com/article/20101007/NEWS03/10070366/1320/Mom-fights-against-cyber-bullying?GID=+GrtCYpUGtQW76wmkMOvqrcnFrIJT8JQzWh>

### **Chaldean, Jewish students share cultures**

*Forum debunks stereotypes and examines common linkages between the groups*

From the Detroit News, 10/7/10

Bloomfield Hills — "Chaldeans own gas stations. Jews are wealthy. These are just a few of the stereotypes shared — and debunked — Wednesday during a cross-cultural forum for teenagers..."

<http://www.detnews.com/article/20101007/SCHOOLS/10070390/1411/METRO02/Chaldean--Jewish-students-share-cultures>

### **Chris Armstrong breaks silence on 'hurtful' blog by assistant attorney general**

From Ann Arbor.com, 10/6/10

"Saying the blog about him was "hurtful" and a "big strain on myself, my friends and my family," University of Michigan student body President Chris Armstrong broke his silence tonight speaking to CNN's Anderson Cooper..."

<http://www.annarbor.com/news/chris-armstrong-breaks-silence-on-hurtful-blog-by-assistant-attorney-general/>

### **Anti-gay minister shouldn't be able to intrude on soldiers' funerals**

From the Washington Post, 10/6/10

"Today the U.S. Supreme Court will hear arguments in *Snyder v. Phelps*, a case about the nature and scope of basic rights -- those of free speech vs. those of privacy. But this case is fundamentally about wrongs and the law's imperfect ability to redress them..."

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/10/05/AR2010100503827.html?hpid%3Dopinionsbox1&sub=AR>

### **Dearborn schools settle with coach who claimed he lost his job over Christian beliefs**

From the AP, 10/5/10

"A wrestling coach who claimed he lost his job at a suburban Detroit high school because of his Christian beliefs settled the lawsuit for \$24,500..."

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2010/10/dearborn\\_schools\\_settle\\_with\\_c.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2010/10/dearborn_schools_settle_with_c.html)

### **TC approves anti-discrimination ordinance**

From the Traverse City Record Eagle, 10/5/10

TRAVERSE CITY — "Mary Van Valin grew emotional as she stood at a podium to address the Traverse City Commission..."

<http://record-eagle.com/local/x1477593166/TC-approves-anti-discrimination-ordinance>

### **Bullying shows continuing battle for acceptance**

From the Free Press, 10/5/10

"An openly gay University of Michigan student leader has been vilified for his sexual orientation in a public official's personal blog.

A Rutgers University freshman was outed online, and killed himself.

Both are examples of the humiliation young gays and lesbians experience daily, despite strides toward cultural acceptance, said Leslie Thompson, a leader of the metro Detroit lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community..."

<http://www.freep.com/article/20101005/NEWS05/10050303/1318/Gay-activist-Bullying-shows-continuing-battle-for-acceptance#ixzz12pGFB9bE>

### **Topic of race not easy for some, but professor hopes to spur conversation**

From the Kalamazoo Gazette, 10/3/10

KALAMAZOO — "Why is it so hard for us to talk about race?.."

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/10/topic\\_of\\_race\\_not\\_easy\\_for\\_som.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/10/topic_of_race_not_easy_for_som.html)

### **Woman was fired from Saginaw AT&T because of disability, lawyers allege in federal suit**

From the Bay City Times, 10/3/10

BAY CITY — "The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has asked a federal court to order AT&T, Inc., to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and provide back pay and other damages to a former employee who has multiple sclerosis..."

[http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2010/10/woman\\_was\\_fired\\_from\\_saginaw\\_a.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2010/10/woman_was_fired_from_saginaw_a.html)

### **Assistant AG sparks controversy with anti-gay tirades**

From the Michigan Messenger, 10/1/10

"Andrew Shirvell, an assistant attorney general for the state of Michigan, is attracting national attention for a blog he started and still maintains where he launches vicious attacks on Chris Armstrong, the president of the University of Michigan student assembly, for being gay..."

<http://michiganmessenger.com/42298/assistant-ag-sparks-controversy-with-anti-gay-tirades>

### **"RACE: Are We So Different?" opens Friday at Kalamazoo Valley Museum**

From the Kalamazoo Gazette, 9/30/10

KALAMAZOO — "Kalamazoo Valley Museum officials are expecting crowds never before seen at there as an exhibition centering on race and race relations starts Friday..."

[http://www.mlive.com/entertainment/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/09/race\\_are\\_we\\_so\\_different\\_opens.html](http://www.mlive.com/entertainment/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/09/race_are_we_so_different_opens.html)

### **The Secret World of Extreme Militias**

From Time Magazine, 9/30/10

"Camouflaged and silent, the assault team inched toward a walled stone compound for more than five hours, belly-crawling the last 200 yards. The target was an old state prison in eastern Ohio, and every handpicked member of Red Team 2 knew what was at stake: The year is 2014, and a new breed of neo-Islamic terrorism is rampant in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio..."

The current White House Administration is pro-Muslim and has ordered a stand-down against Islamic groups. The mission: Destroy the terrorist command post — or die trying. The fighters must go in "sterile"—without name tags or other identifying insignia—as a deniable covert force. "Anyone who is caught or captured cannot expect extraction," the briefing officer said..."

<http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,2022516-1,00.html#ixzz12pMTjuEW>

### **184 housing discrimination complaints**

#### ***Speaker urges community to recognize discrimination***

From the Holland Sentinel, 9/30/10

Holland, MI —“The room fell silent as real estate lawyer John Obee shared stories of discrimination that he has seen Michigan residents face in their search for a place to call home...”

<http://www.hollandsentinel.com/news/x1616316471/184-housing-discrimination-complaints>

### **Plaintiffs, including some undocumented Hispanic residents, drop lawsuit against Kent County clerk for denying marriage licenses**

From the Grand Rapids Press, 9/29/10

GRAND RAPIDS – “The Hispanic couples who claimed Kent County Clerk Mary Hollinrake denied them marriage licenses for lack of Social Security numbers have agreed to drop the case..”

[http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/09/plaintiffs\\_including\\_some\\_undo.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/09/plaintiffs_including_some_undo.html)

### **Kent County Clerk tells what she really doesn't do**

Editorial El Vocero Hispano

“In an organized society each person and especially each governmental organization has a specific role to play. If legislators started to do the President's job, we would have to close down the White House and if the President started to write laws, we would have to make of the Capitol a national museum. There's politicians who, despite the nation's 234 years of history, do not understand this and therefore it's not a surprise that mid-level state employees seek to take on functions that are in fact those of the federal government. That seems to be the case of Kent County Clerk Mary Hollinrake...”

<http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://www.elvoceros.com/english-version/16130-kent-county-clerk-tells-what-she-really-doesnt-do&ct=ga&cad=:s7:f2:v0:d1:i1:lt:e0:p0:t1286051273:&cd=D0kRidGqdfc&usg=AFQjCNFPh5gDPLK2wGyCvzoyJMRgXyqgkw>

### **Defense system needs to change, Michigan lawyers say**

From the Kalamazoo Gazette, 9/29/10

Kalamazoo — “Criminal defense attorney Michael D. Hills freely admits that the creation of a public defender's office to provide legal representation for indigent defendants could negatively affect his bottom line...”

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/09/defense\\_system\\_needs\\_to\\_change.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/09/defense_system_needs_to_change.html)

### **Ethnic intimidation case in Alger County court**

From UpperPeninsulaSource.com, 9/21/10

MUNISING – “Two Alger County men were in court for a pre-trial hearing on ethnic intimidation charges...”

<http://www.uppermichiganssource.com/news/story.aspx?list=194550&id=514064>