



MDCR/MCRC E-newsletter for July 23, 2010

Mark Potok, Director of the Intelligence Project at the [Southern Poverty Law Center](#), which is the department that monitors hate groups, was online Thursday, July 22, to discuss the Sherrod incident and the intersection of race, politics and media. This relatively short piece cuts through a lot of the media clutter. Here is the link to the transcript: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/discussion/2010/07/21/DI2010072105275.html>

Judge hears arguments on Arizona Immigration

From the Free Press, 7/22/10

"A federal judge will hear arguments today from lawyers for the governor, the federal government and civil rights groups over whether Arizona's new immigration law should take effect in a week..."

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100722/NEWS07/100722010/1322/Judge-hears-arguments-on-Arizona-immigration-law?GID=nupUr9JKmT5ZVaVrxLpIuAL6HV5AEc7QoYDKoV0XVss%3D>

With apology, fired official is offered a new job

From the New York Times, 7/22/10

WASHINGTON — "[Shirley Sherrod](#), the black Agriculture Department official whose firing and subsequent offer of rehiring by the Obama administration this week has sparked a national conversation about politics and race, said Thursday she believes she deserves a telephone call from [President Obama](#) — and the White House said Mr. Obama has not ruled it out..."

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/22/us/politics/22sherrod.html?_r=1&th&emc=th

Jackson Human Relations Commission wants City Council to explain what it is looking for after two nominees were rejected

From the Jackson Citizen Patriot, 7/22/10

"The Jackson Human Relations Commission wants to know what the Jackson City Council is looking for in new commission members.

On Tuesday, the City Council voted 5-2 to reject two nominees — Julie Nemecek and Thomas Burke — for openings on the commission.

Nemecek has undergone a gender transformation..."

http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2010/07/jackson_human_relations_commis_8.html

Great Lakes Bay Region businesses come together to work with disability service providers

From MLive, 7/20/10

"Several prominent businesses in the Great Lakes Bay Region are taking steps to better understand and benefit from resources that people with disabilities can contribute to the work force..."

http://www.mlive.com/business/mid-michigan/index.ssf/2010/07/great_lakes_bay_region_busines_2.html

Leonard Pitts: A battle over the injustice of the nation's war on drugs

From the Free Press, 7/20/10

"Ron Allen probably thinks Alice Huffman has been smoking something.

Huffman, president of the California Conference of the NAACP, recently declared support for an initiative that, if passed by voters in November, will decriminalize the use and possession of marijuana. Huffman sees it as a civil rights issue..."

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100720/OPINION05/7200319/1322/A-battle-over-the-injustice-of-nations-war-on-drugs>

Bloomfield Township police investigate racist graffiti outside condo complex

From MLive/Fox 2, 7/19/10

"Residents of a Bloomfield Township condo complex found racist graffiti on a car and carport this weekend, and police are investigating the matter..."

http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2010/07/bloomfield_township_police_inv.html

Curb ramps getting redone in Detroit to comply with federal law

From the Free Press, 7/19/10

"Nearly five years after a federal judge ordered the City of Detroit to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act by installing curb ramps at intersections, several streets still have not been fitted with properly constructed access ramps..."

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100719/NEWS01/7190328/1318/Curb-ramps-getting-redone-in-Detroit-to-comply-with-federal-law>

Threat of bullying case recedes for schools

From the Lansing State Journal, 7/19/10

"A Michigan man has wrangled an \$800,000 settlement from the Hudson Area School District over claims he was bullied and harassed at school. Mid-Michigan school districts, and counterparts across the state, can breathe easier, though, that a disturbing legal precedent has not been set in the state..."

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20100719/OPINION01/7190302/1086/OPINION01>

Weight discrimination in Michigan: Hooters, part 2

From Michigan Employment Law Connection (a blog), 7/18/10

"A second waitress has filed a lawsuit against Hooters alleging that she was fired for failing to lose weight. She alleges that she was placed on weight probation and given thirty days to make her uniform fit properly. She was subsequently fired..."

<http://www.michiganemploymentlawconnection.com/2010/07/weight-discrimination-in-michigan.html>

Paddling program reaches out to visually impaired

From the Kalamazoo Gazette, 7/18/10

PORTAGE – “Sue Fluri paddled through small waves that gently lapped against Long Lake’s sandy shore. She headed toward the middle of the water but soon doubled back. Her guide caught up and set her on a straight course again...”

http://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2010/07/paddling_program_reaches_out_t.html

Some concerned about lack of diversity and experience in Jackson County Prosecutor's Office

From the Jackson Citizen Patriot, 7/17/10

“Since two of its top attorneys, both of them women, left the office last month, some say the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office lacks diversity and lawyers with experience handling Circuit Court cases...”

http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2010/07/some_concerned_about_lack_of_d.html

“Immigrant” list sets off fears

From the New York Times, 7/15/10

SALT LAKE CITY — “A list of 1,300 Utah residents described as illegal immigrants has sown fear among some Hispanics here, and prompted an investigation into its origins and dissemination. ...”

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/15/us/15utah.html?_r=1&th&emc=th

Racial Threats Spur Community Meeting

from Click on 4 Detroit , 7/13/10

“EASTPOINTE, Mich. -- Residents in Eastpointe are banding together with church and organization leaders to find a way to address the recent racial threats and tensions in the area...”

http://www.clickondetroit.com/news/24247216/detail.html?treets=det&tid=26511625583813&tmi=det_7am&tmi=det_7am_1_06000107142010&ts=H

How Would You Like Brigido Oregon’s Job?

From In These Times, 7/14/10

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.—“Brigido Oregon is a small man, so it is hard to imagine all the work that has been squeezed out of him in 27 years as a farmworker...”

http://inthesetimes.com/working/entry/6225/how_would_you_like_his_job/