



MDCR/MCRC E-newsletter for March 10, 2011

Bullied Michigan teen in D.C. for summit

From the Detroit Free Press, 3/10/11

<http://www.freep.com/article/20110310/NEWS06/110310020/Bullied-Michigan-teen-D-C-summit?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>

"A Michigan teen is at the White House today for a day-long conference aimed at finding ways to prevent bullying in the nation's schools..."

West Michigan Muslims uneasy as Congressional hearings on threat of homegrown terrorism begin

From the Grand Rapids Press/MLive, 3/10/11

http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2011/03/local_muslims_react_to_congres.html

"With hearings set to begin today on the perceived terror threat from homegrown radical Islam, Kentwood resident Kamal Nuriddin posed a question of his own..."

Grand Rapids schools hit with sanctions for suspending blacks, students with disabilities at higher rates

From the Grand Rapids Press/MLive, 3/9/11

http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2011/03/state_says_grand_rapids_school.html

"The state has cited Grand Rapids Public Schools for suspending a "significantly disproportionate" number of black and special education students -- a move that has forced the district to shift \$1 million in federal funds to address the problem..."

Judge orders Washtenaw County Commissioner Ronnie Peterson, property manager to pay \$82,500

From Ann Arbor.com/MLive, 3/7/11

<http://www.annarbor.com/news/a-federal-judge-has-ordered/>

"A federal judge has ordered Washtenaw County Commissioner Ronnie Peterson and a former property manager to pay \$82,500 to women who were sexually harassed while living in Peterson's rental homes in Ypsilanti Township..."

Woman's Club being dedicated as Muskegon County Women's History/Vision Museum

From the Muskegon Chronicle/MLive, 3/2/11

http://www.mlive.com/living/muskegon/index.ssf/2011/03/womans_club_being_dedicated_as.html

MUSKEGON — "For 108 years, the Greater Muskegon Woman's Club has stood sentinel at the corner of Webster Avenue and Second Street, a testament to the ages..."

Teacher claims Birch Run principal asked if her goals included 'being a wife and mother'

From the Saginaw News/MLive, 3/4/11

http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2011/03/teacher_claims_birch_run_princ.html

BIRCH RUN — “A substitute teacher said that Greene Middle School Principal Scott Preston asked if her goals “included being a wife and mother” when he evaluated her for a long-term substitute teacher’s job, according to court documents...”

Sexual harassment lawsuit against East Jackson Superintendent Paul Reeves settled

From the Jackson Citizen Patriot/MLive, 3/2/11

http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2011/03/sexual_harassment_lawsuit_agai.html

“A sexual harassment lawsuit filed against East Jackson Superintendent Paul Reeves has been settled...”

Victims tell state panel about incidents of bullying

From the Grand Rapids Press/MLive, 3/2/11

http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2011/03/victims_tell_state_panel_about.html

GRAND RAPIDS — “Danita Chapman used to get followed home from elementary school by a group of boys who taunted her about the way she walked and talked...”

Auburn, man, 60, says he was passed over for job because of age

From the Bay City Times/MLive, 2/27/11

http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2011/02/auburn_man_60_says_he_was_pass.html

BAY CITY – “A 60-year-old Auburn man has filed a federal civil suit claiming age discrimination...”

Michigan immigration proposal drawing protest

From the Associated Press/MLive, 2/27/11

http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2011/02/michigan_immigration_proposal.html

“A proposal to allow Michigan police to try to determine the immigration status of people who are stopped on a violation is sparking protest...”

Michigan court system considering certification for state translators

From the Lansing State Journal/Associated Press, 2/27/11

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20110228/NEWS01/102280314/Michigan-court-system-considering-certification-state-translators?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

“Michigan’s court system is studying whether to implement certification standards for translators, an effort to address criticisms that help for those who aren’t fluent in English is uneven and sometimes violates suspects’ constitutional rights...”

Been bullied? Local forum is inviting personal stories of victims, bullies

From the Grand Rapids Press/MLive, 2/25/11

http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2011/02/been_bullied_local_forum_is_in.html

GRAND RAPIDS – “If you've been bullied, you've got a chance to tell people about it, and maybe make a difference...The Michigan Civil Rights Commission is co-hosting a forum on bullying Tuesday at Union High School, with an array of area co-sponsors concerned about the issue...”

Ypsilanti police officer's racial discrimination lawsuit heading for trial

From AnnArbor.com/MLive, 2/25/11

<http://www.annarbor.com/news/ypsilanti-police-officers-racial-discrimination-lawsuit-heading-for-trial/>

“A lawsuit alleging a white Ypsilanti police officer was discriminated against several years ago when he was passed over for a promotion in favor of a “far less-qualified” black colleague is scheduled for trial in May...”

Snyder remakes Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth into regulatory affairs department

From Ann Arbor.com/MLive, 2/23/11

<http://www.annarbor.com/business-review/rick-snyder-remakes-department-of-energy-labor-and-economic-growth-into-regulatory-affairs-clearingh/>

“Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder today ordered a reconfiguration of the state's Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth, changing its name to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs and shifting many of its previous responsibilities to other departments...”

Museum’s racist objects meant to stir meaningful exchange

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/23/11

<http://www.freep.com/article/20110223/FEATURES01/102230305/Museum-s-racist-objects-meant-stir-meaningful-exchange?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p>

“Some people think hateful racist images should be ignored, kept out of sight. Buried in the past....”

Suit calls movie set a hostile situation

From the Detroit News, 2/22/11

<http://detnews.com/article/20110222/METRO/102220337/Suit-calls-movie-set-a-hostile-situation>

Detroit — “A Hollywood makeup artist is suing the producer of the “American Pie” movies and others over what he says was a hostile work environment filled with nipple-pinching and sexually explicit comments during the making of a comedy shot in Michigan...”

GOP majority eyes “Right to Work” legislation

From the Michigan Messenger, 2/22/11

<http://michiganmessenger.com/46725/gop-majority-eyes-right-to-work-legislation>

LANSING — “Across the Midwest, from Madison to Columbus, organized labor is rallying against legislative and executive moves they say will undermine the ability of workers to organize and bargain collectively. And Michigan is staring down the barrel of very similar questions, debates and legislation...”

Judge rules against Bay County snack food driver who claimed racial discrimination

From the Bay City Times/MLive, 2/21/11

http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2011/02/judge_rules_against_bay_county.html

BAY CITY —“A federal judge in Bay City has ruled in favor of Frito-Lay, Inc., in a race discrimination suit filed by a former employee...”

The fight to protect LGBTQ youth

From Workers World, 2/21/11

http://www.workers.org/2011/us/lgbtq_youth_0224/

“In Michigan there is currently a struggle over whether or not to pass “anti-bullying” legislation. To define its opponents as “bigoted extremists” would be an understatement. Who could possibly stand in the way of protecting a child from assault, harassment and intimidation?...”

Michigan legislators, Washtenaw County supporters speak in favor of anti-bullying bill at Ypsilanti rally

From Ann Arbor.com, 2/19/11

<http://www.annarbor.com/news/group-rallies-to-push-anti-bullying-legislation-forward/>

“As University of Michigan student body President Chris Armstrong was trying to weather the storm that came with the anti-gay attacks from then-state assistant attorney general Andrew Shirvell, he found solace in one place — the acceptance of the U-M community...”

Activist Shirley Sherrod's story demonstrates fight against racism continues

From the Lansing State Journal, 2/18/11

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20110218/NEWS06/102180317/Activist-Shirley-Sherrod-s-story-demonstrates-fight-against-racism-continues?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|News|s>

“Shirley Sherrod said she experienced racism firsthand growing up in Baker County, Ga. before the civil rights movement...”

Second parent adoption advocates worry about DHS Director's past actions on subject

from the Michigan Messenger, 2/17/11

<http://michiganmessenger.com/46624/second-parent-adoption-advocates-worry-about-dhs-directors-past-actions-on-subject>

“Advocates for second parent adoption want to pass legislation legalizing that practice in Michigan, but face likely opposition not only from the religious right but from the new head of the agency that oversees adoptions in the state...”

Delta penalized \$2 million over shortcomings in serving disabled

From the Detroit News, 2/17/11

[http://detnews.com/article/20110217/BIZ/102170446/1361/Delta-penalized-\\$2-million-over-shortcomings-in-serving-disabled](http://detnews.com/article/20110217/BIZ/102170446/1361/Delta-penalized-$2-million-over-shortcomings-in-serving-disabled)

“Delta Air Lines Inc. was penalized \$2 million for its treatment of passengers with disabilities, the largest fine assessed against an airline for a non-safety violation, according to the U.S. Transportation Department...”