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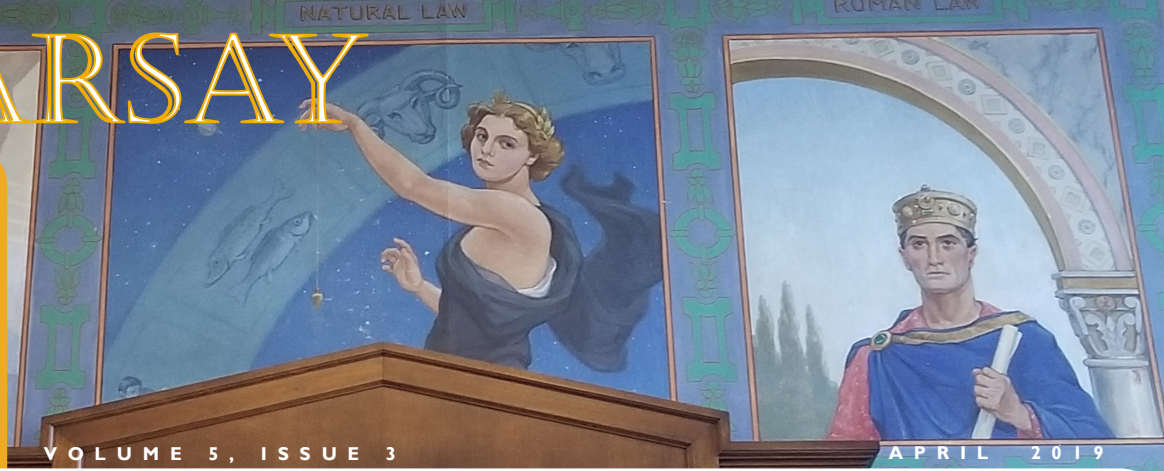
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SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

After the end of the American Civil War, the Union Veterans of the Civil War organized into the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR).

Membership was restricted to those who served in any branch of the military during the Civil War. It existed until 1956. The GAR was a social and political organization with the mission of preserving the history of the veterans who served.

GAR then formed the Sons of Veterans (SUV) of the United States and later changed its name to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) (1925) to carry on the traditions.

Membership was limited to those who could trace their ancestry to a veteran of the Civil War and then associate membership created for others

The national headquarters is located in the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. There are over 6,000 members of the organization and 26 departments which consist of one or more states. At its peak there were over 200,000 members.

The national organization is headed by an annually elected Commander-in-Chief and for 2018-2019 that person is local attorney Don Shaw.

Don was admitted to the practice of law in 1980 and has maintained an office in Flint since that time. He has been a member of the Sons since 1994 and has held a number of positions in the organization over the years.

The Commander-in-Chief represents the organization at a variety of events throughout the year and officiates at the installation of officers for various departments around the United States.

The local chapter has special significance since Governor Henry Crapo was the Governor of the State of Michigan at the end of the Civil War and was from Genesee County.

During the Courthouse Square Project, the SUVCW presided over a rededication of one of the war memorial markers that are on the grounds of the Courthouse Square.



Photo Credit: "The Banner" a publication of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

This was occasioned by the relocation of that marker to a more suitable location. In addition, they participated in a military parade down Saginaw Street for the dedication ceremony of the new Courthouse.

It was quite a site to see when the Civil War unit, in historically accurate attire was the first group in the parade, with other branches of the military "honoring their point," in the military tradition (see photos on page 8).

Attorney Shaw and other members of the organization also

(Continued on page 7)



Courthouse Square Re-dedication Ceremony, September 14, 2003

who subscribed to the purpose and objectives of the organization.

THE CHIEF SPEAKS

Genesee Youth Facility

It is with a great deal of gratitude and satisfaction that it appears as though the Genesee County Board of Commissioners will undertake the construction of a new youth facility on the site of the Genesee Valley Regional Center (GVRC). The new construction will not only be a detention center but also the site for day treatment for youth under court supervision.

The existing buildings have been the site of a variety of services over their history starting in the 1920's as the county orphanage, when only the original house was on the premises, then additional wings were added for other youth services. The Genesee County Probate Court was central to the operation of the facility in most of the early years.

The county owned and ran the operations until around 1978, when the State of Michigan took it over. Then, in 2002 the state gave notice that the detention center would be closed unless the county wanted to take it back. Major upgrades were needed at that time.

The county opposed the state closure of the facility. Genesee County ended up taking it back. Over the years, a variety of improvements were made to keep the facility open, but no sweeping overhaul or construction project was undertaken until now.

Many operational efficiencies can be introduced and a new design will foster such a review.

The Judges of the Genesee County Circuit and Probate Courts unanimously signed a resolution in support of the construction and it was presented to the Genesee County Board of Commissioners on March 13, 2019.

I want to thank the Board for their action. Retaining youth in the community, while providing educational, vocational training and positive lifestyle direction is important to the future of Genesee County.

E-filing

You may not know that e-filing is part of statewide initiative by the Michigan Supreme Court. The courts are taking direction on a statewide rollout that will occur in phases.

We often get the question "why doesn't the court imple-



ment e-filing?" Members of the court staff are very involved in working with other courts around the state on workflow issues, particularly the pilot courts who implemented e-filing several years ago with permission from the Michigan Supreme Court.

There is a concerted effort to make sure that the statewide launch is done in such a way as to minimize post-

implementation problems. This is a major undertaking and revolutionary for state courts.

Locally, we have been scanning civil and criminal new filing since January 2018. This creates an electronic court file, while we continue to work out of the hard copy file as our official court file.

Once the file is closed, the electronic court file becomes the closed court file. Eliminating further hard copy storage was a goal of the project. This reduces adding to the cost of storage and makes the file available to multiple users. Many times, file contents can be reviewed electronically by law clerks, for example, without obtaining the hard copy file.

Domestic cases have been electronically managed since 2009.

2019 promises to be another year of progress for the Genesee County Courts. I welcome the new members of the bench and court staff. - cjrby

ADMINISTRATOR CORNER

As many of the readers of *Hearsay* are aware, Genesee County is in the process of implementing the first 4 standards for indigent criminal defense. These standards were passed by the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Office (LARA) of the State of Michigan, pursuant to statutory authority.

The Genesee County Board of Commissioners created a compliance plan workgroup, comprised of members from the courts, attorneys and other stakeholders from within the criminal justice system. A compliance plan was submitted and approved.

For the first time, there is state funding available to support indigent criminal defense.

The *Genesee County Sheriff* was able to hire 2 deputies to assist with video connectivity and inmate movement within the jail. The courts were able to hire a part time IT technician who is located in the McCree Building to assist defense counsel, jail/city lock up and the court with video conferencing, troubleshooting and general support.

A contract has been finalized to put a team of attorneys at the McCree Building to repre-

sent indigent defendants at the time of arraignment.

The same contract includes a team of attorneys to represent indigent misdemeanor clients in the 67th District Court-5th division. Other legal services include representation for probation violations, extradition cases and line ups.

A separate contract will provide legal representation at arraignments on weekends and other days that the courts are closed.

Likewise, indigent defendants charged with misdemeanors in the other election divisions of



the court will have access to counsel for arraignment and other court events.

Felony cases will continue to be assigned to counsel through the Defender Program, through the defender program. -bam

ALCOHOL USE MONITORING



67th District Court Judge Mark C. McCabe writes "Ask the Judge" for the *Tri-County Times*.

Alcohol Use Monitoring appeared in the March 15th 2019 edition.

It is an unfortunate fact of life that some people consume alcohol and then drive their motor vehicles when intoxicated.

If they are caught and a drunk driving conviction results, the judge has a variety of available options that can be used to prevent this type of behavior in the future including various forms of alcohol monitoring.

The dangers of drinking and driving are well known.

What might not be as well known is the connection between alcohol and other crimes. For example, studies have shown that 86 percent of homicides and 37 percent of rapes and sexual assaults involve offenders under the influence.

Alcohol is also involved in a number of other crimes, and overall about 40 percent of all violent crimes are alcohol related.

If a defendant is not incarcerated for an alcohol related conviction, the sentencing judge typically wants to have a way to monitor the defendant's possible alcohol use during the period of any probation. This includes remote monitoring.

Over the years, various ways to remotely monitor alcohol

use have been developed. Here are brief descriptions of four of the most common.

• Interlock Devices

Interlock devices were first developed in 1969 and various improvements have been made since then.

The device is installed in the defendant's car with a video camera to confirm the defendant's identity. Before the car can be started, he or she must blow into the machine to show that they haven't been drinking alcohol. If they have, the car won't start.

• SCRAM Technology

Available since 2003, SCRAM is short for "Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitoring." This is an ankle bracelet or tether device, which measures sweat for the presence of alcohol every 30 minutes.

• In Home Alcohol Monitoring

This is a fairly recent option and requires a defendant to blow into an in-home Breathalyzer device. The device also includes a video camera.

• EtG Test

Introduced in 2001, this is a type of urine test, which can detect a byproduct of alcohol (Ethyl Glucuronide) for up to three days after it has been consumed.

Another statistic — there are approximately 88,000 alcohol related deaths annually in the United States.

This is serious business and technology has unquestionably helped to make things better and safer for all concerned.

ON THE COVER



On the cover: You will notice that the masthead for *Hearsay* has changed.

After 5 years of publication, the committee decided to replace the cannon on the courthouse lawn as our signature photo.

The current depiction is from one of the 3 original murals that were installed during the 1926 construction of the Historic Genesee County Courthouse.

It is an allegorical mural depicting the evolution of law through various periods in history. The muralist was Edgar Spier Cameron.

The next 2 editions will feature other masthead photos. You will be asked to vote on which one of the 3 should become the final section.

GENESEE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT LAUNCHES TEXT ALERT PROGRAMMING



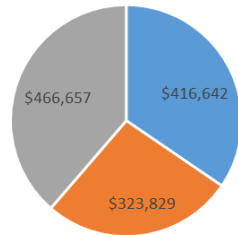
Effective April 1, 2019, if you owe money to the Genesee County Circuit Court arising out of a criminal conviction, you will be asked to enroll in a program that sends text message alerts to your mobile phone that a payment is due or that a payment was missed.

The goal is to prompt a defendant to stay in compliance with a payment plan and increase revenue for Genesee County.

This initiative is an enhancement of col-

lection software, developed by a private vendor in collaboration with the Michigan Supreme Court. Genesee County is already using the collection software and will become the second circuit court in the state to

FY 17/18 Revenue Collected



■ Local Revenue ■ State ■ Restitution

implement the text messaging feature.

All parties must agree to receive text or phone notification and sign an authorization form. Phone numbers within the software are kept private and are not available for public consumption.

Available methods for making payments are in person at the Circuit Court or Probation Office location with cash, check, money order or credit card. Credit card payments may also be made online at the

court's website. (7thcircuitcourt.com)

Below is a chart of the breakdown of revenue collected for fiscal year 17/18. Note that the greatest amount of monies collected is restitution (monies owed to victims).

The initiative will be evaluated to determine if text message alerts may be used for other purposes, such as reminding unrepresented litigants about future court dates. —ml



• A sincere expression of appreciation and gratitude is extended to the Building & Grounds staff. They provided the labor and logistics related to the renovation of the 2nd floor court administration area. This was accomplished over the course of three consecutive weekends with minimal staff disruption.

• In late February, the Tech Team met with the civil/criminal secretaries and reviewed the case management reports available in the software system. An explanation and a demonstration was provided of the reports that help cases move efficiently through the system.

The next Tech Talk is scheduled for April 18th @ 11:30am. The

topic will be *Excel Basics and Beyond*. An email and sign-up sheet will be circulated by the tech team. Tech Talk is a 30 minute session designed to upgrade or refresh skills on selected topics.

The previous sessions have been sell-outs. Don't delay in signing up, when you receive the email.

Jury Trial Activity—Quarterly Comparison

	10.1.18 - 12.31.18	1.1.19 - 03.31.19
Criminal Jury Trials	13	12
Civil Jury Trials	3	4
Days of Trial	57	71
Days jurors were told to report for jury selection	24	35
Pleas/settlements prior to jury selection	10	18
FC (felony capital cases) scheduled for jury selection	10	19
Jurors told to report for jury service	1542	2,153
Jurors actually reported for jury service	973	1,445



geneseeLIVING

geneseeLIVING is new to *Hearsay*. It will feature events and opportunities in Genesee County. Thanks to Fredricka Savage for agreeing to author the column.

Self-care is currently a huge buzzword. Its popularity is bringing forth awareness to the importance of taking care of yourself and your mental health.

According to PsychCentral.com, self-care is defined as “any activity that we do deliberately in order to take care of our mental, emotional, and physical health.”

So what does that mean for us? Get up, get out and get active!

Be sure to take time to do something you enjoy and allow yourself time to have some fun.

Here are some Genesee County events and activities that may help you practice some self-care.

20th Annual Winetasting

Date: April 6, 2019

Time 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Description: “The Flint Institute of Arts and the Junior League of Flint present this annual wine tasting event that will introduce guests to a selection of exclusive, international wines with a focus on Spain. The evening will showcase Spanish tapas, gourmet fare and delicious desserts from local Flint restaurants, along with themed entertainment, all in a world-class museum setting.”

Flint's Second Friday ART-WALK

Date: April 12, 2019

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Description: “Partake in delicious food, tasty beverages, live music and the works of various artists on display throughout a variety of downtown Flint galleries and businesses. For more information visit genesee-fun.com”

Annual Superhero 5K Fun Run/Walk

Date: April 27, 2016

Time: 5k Race @ 9:05 a.m.

Untimed 1K Family

Run @ 10:35 a.m.

Location: Flint Farmers' Market
Description: “Enjoy one of Flint areas favorite family events featuring a fun course and great venue. Every finisher will receive a custom finishers medal... Dressing as your favorite superhero is encouraged. For more information visit flintsuperhero-run.

Wellness At The Wheel

Location: 615 South Saginaw St.

Flint, MI 48502 (6th floor)

Description: “... we offer a wide variety of fitness and meditation practices that'll help you attain peace, flexibility and mindfulness.” They offer a variety of yoga classes Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday. Visit <http://www.ferriswheelflint.com/en/page/wellness-at-the-wheel> for details.

Coloring Party at Tenacity Brewing with Vehicle City Tacos

Date: April 9, 2019

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Location: 119 N Grand Traverse St, Flint, Michigan 48503
Description: “This is a FREE family-friendly events and all coloring supplies are provided. Enjoy Vehicle City Tacos from 4-9 p.m. and Ice Box Brand Ice Cream Bars!” For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/245702259392199/> -fs

JURY PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND BEST PRACTICES DEFINED

Our justice system is anchored in trial by jury. Our forefathers thought this was so important that they put trial by jury into our Constitution, not just once but four times.

What can courts do to minimize one of the major complaints of jury service: the perceived waste of jurors' time? Jurors wait to be selected, wait during legal arguments and wait during breaks.

To be fair, trials present difficult logistical challenges including scheduling conflicts of

witnesses or lawyers. Unexpected legal issues can also arise.

In 2016, the Michigan Supreme Court adopted a Jury Statistics Performance Measure. Each year courts must report on juror yield and juror utilization.

Jury yield measures the number of citizens who are sent qualification questionnaires, qualify for jury service and are available to serve.

Juror utilization measures the number of jurors who are told to report, the number of jurors who

actually report and the number of jurors that are questioned during jury selection.

In March 2019, the Michigan Supreme Court also identified best practices related to jury management.

These include:

- Adopting a *One Day, One Trial* system
- Standardizing jury panel sizes by case type
- Commencing trial immediately after jury selection

- Pursuing enforcement action for jurors who failed to appear

- Alleviating financial barriers of jury service

Jury service is an important obligation but it can be intimidating and inconvenient. Courts are working to improve jury service by making the experience more user-friendly for jurors. -jep

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Left to Right: Brandi Bohn, Todd McKee, Connor McLaughlin, Randy Petrowski

Brandi Bohn is the new administrative secretary to the circuit court administrator. Brandi most recently worked at the Oakland County Probate Court where she was a judicial court clerk for 6 years. She also has experience working as a secretary for a small law firm. Brandi has an associate's degree in paralegal studies from Oakland Community College and a bachelor's degree in business administration from Central Michigan University.

Todd McKee began his part-time position with Genesee County in early February as the MIDC IT Technician. Todd previously worked for GreenStone Farm Credit Services, Hewlett Packard and currently owns his own business. Todd has a bachelor of science degree in mathematics from Harding University in Arkansas.

Connor McLaughlin is the judicial advisory assistant to Judge Brian Pickell. In 2015, Connor graduated from Grove City College. He then attended the University of Georgia

School of Law, graduating in May 2018. Connor passed the July 2018 bar exam and began working here in January.

Randy Petrowski is the new judicial advisory assistant for Judge John Gadola. Randy graduated from the University of Michigan-Flint with a degree in political science. He recently graduated from Western Michigan University Cooley Law School. Prior to working at the court, he worked as a legal advocate with Legal Services of Eastern Michigan.

Christine Greig is the new jury board supervisor. Christine has a bachelor's degree in legal assistant studies. Previously, she was a records coordinator with a commercial real estate company. In addition, she has worked as a case manager for a social services agency and also has experience working as a legal assistant at a personal injury law firm.

Donna Jacobson is the new jury board secretary. Donna has a bachelor's degree in management information systems from Oakland University. Prior to working with the court, Donna worked in the human resource field with several employers including Henry Ford College,

Kettering University, Lansing Community College and the University of Michigan-Flint.



Left to Right: Brianna Jones,

Brianna Jones started with the Friend of the Court (FOC) in March as program clerk. Brianna is currently assigned to the customer service area. Brianna was employed by an auditing company before coming to FOC.

Mollie Meyer joined the Friend of the Court in March. Mollie will be the caseworker assigned to Judge Gadola's team. Mollie was a literacy interventionist before coming to FOC.

Terrance Marble started in March with the Friend of the Court as a caseworker assigned to Judge Kelly's team. Before joining the FOC, he was a corrections deputy for Genesee County Sheriff's Department.



Left to Right: Donna Jacobson, Christine Greig

SONS OF UNION VETERANS (CONT'D)



Laying of a wreath, re-dedication of the Civil War marker

maintain the Civil War cannons and cannonballs that are on the Courthouse Square. Every decommissioned cannon that is relocated has records to verify its original location. Those on the grounds were in Washington DC and guarded the national capital.

It may be that Governor Crapo and the high number of Michigan soldiers who fought in the Civil War were part of the reason for their destination.

During the Courthouse Square Project, the cannonballs had to be re-manufactured, many having been lost over the years. Private funds were raised through donations, primarily from Genesee County Bar Association members, to manufacture new cannonballs that are stacked in the tradition pyramid and welded together to deter theft.

of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Auxiliary to the SUVCW. -bam



The celebratory view of the Courthouse (the ice cream vendor made the shot complete!)



Vintage automobiles were parked on the Courthouse lawn during the re-dedication weekend, courtesy Sloan Museum (September 12-14, 2003)



The troops in formation, Don Shaw on the left

Don has also been in some of the Civil War movies such as *Andersonville*, the Visitors' Center movie at Antietam and the School of the Soldier, used by the reenactment community to demonstrate how the presentation of arms should be done.

The SUVCW was created by a Congressional Act. There are four other Orders which include the The Woman's Relief Corp, Ladies of the GAR, Daughters



Re-dedication events are conducted according to long standing traditions



Marine Corps League



Civil War Troops



Michigan National Guard



Marine Corps Reserve



Navy Reserve



VFW Davison Post 4087



RIDDLE ME THAT

1. Forrest left home running. He ran a ways and then turned left, ran the same distance and turned left again, ran the same distance and turned left again. When he got home, there were two masked men.

Who were they? _____



2. I am the beginning of sorrow and the end of sickness. You cannot express happiness without me yet I am in the midst of crosses. I am always in risk yet never in danger. You may find me in the sun, but I am never out of darkness.

What is it? _____



3. What five-letter word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?

What is it? _____



4. What 8 letter word can have a letter taken away and it still makes a word. Take another letter away and it still makes a word. Keep on doing that until you have one letter left.

What is the word? _____



5. I can travel from there to here by disappearing, and here to there by reappearing.

What am I? _____



6. Fourteen of the kids in the class are girls. Eight of the kids wear blue shirts. Two of the kids are neither girls or wear a blue shirt. If five of the kids are girls who wear blue shirts, how many kids are in the class?

How many? _____



*Answers can be found at the bottom of this page –bb

Court Jester



Read All About It



Hearsay is now available on the Circuit Court website www.7thCircuitCourt.com/hearsay-newsletter

We want to hear from you! Send us an email letting us know what you would like to see in the newsletter and feedback on the current edition. You can also submit ideas and information about activity in your department. hearsay@7thcircuitcourt.com