

THE EARSAY

GENESEE COUNTY
CIRCUIT AND
PROBATE COURTS
E-NEWSLETTER
a quarterly publication

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

HAIL TO THE CHIEF	2
ODE TO THE CHIEF	3
ADMINISTRATOR CORNER	3
CHIEF SPEAKS	4
STRIPED SHIRT AND A ROBE	5
TEAMMATE REFLECTIONS	6
LAW CLERK REFLECTIONS	7
EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT	8
COURT BRIEFS	8
ASK THE JUDGE	9
COURT PARTY	10
GCBA 125 YEARS	11
ADOPTION MONTH	11
JUDGES ON THE MOVE	12
2023 LEADERSHIP	12
GENESEE LIVING	13

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

PUBLISHER
Fredricka Savage

LAYOUT AND DESIGN
David Combs

TECHNICAL ADVISORS
David Combs
Tim Sweeney

FEATURE ARTICLE
GCBA A Night of Honor

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Sherri L. Belknap
Sheonna Hill
Mike Krellwitz
Judge Mark C. McCabe
Tony McDowell
Barbara Menear
Sam Olson
Jennifer Strauel

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
David Combs
Rhonda Ihm
Tony McDowell
Sam Olson
Barbara Menear
Fredricka Savage
Tricia Wright

CHIEF JUDGE
Duncan M. Beagle



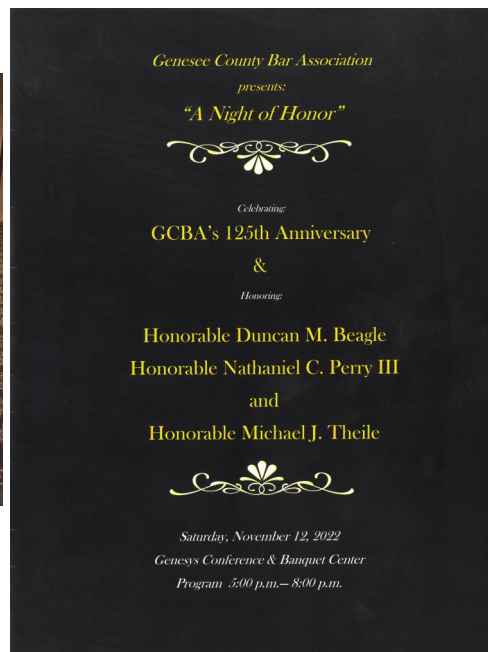
GENESEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION PRESENTS "A NIGHT OF HONOR"



Judge Nathaniel C. Perry III, pictured with son, Nate, daughter, Corey, and granddaughter, Chelsea



Judge Duncan M. Beagle, pictured with son, Devan and wife, Dana



Judge Michael J. Theile



Hail to the Chief

WHEREAS, Judge Duncan M. Beagle has been a Circuit Court Judge since 1991 and was one of the members of the inaugural Family Division Bench, effective January 1, 1998 and

WHEREAS, Judge Duncan M. Beagle served in the Family Division for the remainder of his judicial career focused on children, families and related cases that come before the Court and

WHEREAS, Judge Beagle served as the Presiding Judge of the Family Division and will retire as the Chief Judge of the Genesee County Circuit and Probate Court and

WHEREAS, his colleagues acknowledge his service, commitment to the Courts, legal community and the community at large and

WHEREAS, he has been the unofficial judicial ambassador for all things sports related for his entire judicial career,

The Judges of the Genesee County Circuit and Probate Courts wish to thank Judge Duncan M. Beagle for his service, his friendship and for being a role model of a life well lived with a heart of purple and gold.

The Judges further extend our heartfelt desire that he return when summoned to serve in the role of Chief Judge Emeritus of Goodwill and Social Justice.

Judge Jennie E. Barkey
Judge F. Kay Behm
Judge Celeste D. Bell
Judge B. Chris Christenson
Judge Joseph J. Farah

Judge John A. Gadola
Judge Elizabeth A. Kelly
Judge Mark A. Latchana
Judge David J. Newblatt
Judge Brian S. Pickell

The Judges of the Genesee County Circuit and Probate Courts wish to acknowledge the service and dedication of Judge Nathaniel C. Perry, III and Judge Michael J. Theile, upon their retirement.

It is with pleasure that we celebrate the milestone with the Genesee County Bar Association.

Judge Jennie E. Barkey
Judge F. Kay Behm
Judge Celeste D. Bell
Judge B. Chris Christenson
Judge Joseph J. Farah

Judge John A. Gadola
Judge Elizabeth A. Kelly
Judge Mark A. Latchana
Judge David J. Newblatt
Judge Brian S. Pickell

ODE TO THE CHIEF

For a life with many highlights, tributes are hard to pen
What you might not know or remember is a feat from the old bullpen,

A one-hitter he threw at his dear Albion
Against which team you ask, no, not Adrian.

It was Michigan State and a memorable feat
It put Beagle and his team in the Briton elite.

The Spartans, undefeated since 1907
Beagle was pitching for a spot in purple and gold heaven.

He now has ascended to chief of the bench
a location in sports he hoped never to get.

He played for the team whenever required
And now he can coach as he'll soon be retired.

Regards to the chief and friend most of all
The next chapter is starting and will still be a ball.

Driving to Ann Arbor, East Lansing and all
Still hoping the Tigers will be winners by fall.

Shoeless Joe you can finish and play all the parts
Just remember you will always be special in our hearts.

Barbara A. Menear (the poet)
Administrator
7th Judicial Circuit Court

Samuel A. Olson (partner on the sentiment)
Administrator/Register
Probate Court

ADMINISTRATOR CORNER

Follow-Up Article from [July 2022](#) New Case Management System Coming to Circuit Court

In November 2022, the circuit court transitioned to its new case management system, Trial Court System (“TCS”). TCS officially went “live” on November 14, 2022.

The significant move was a result of hours of challenging, technical preparation by the court’s technology staff. Special recognition should be given to James Terry, Dave

Combs, and Tricia Wright for their time and dedication to the project.

James, Dave, and Tricia worked diligently with the JIS team in Lansing on the many aspects involved in the process.



County IT has also been integral in assisting the courts with the extensive technological components involved. The department continues to dedicate time and effort to updating hardware and software to maximize usability. —so



THE CHIEF SPEAKS

Among the many talents of the Chief Judge, are the photographs pictured here. Taken on a recent weekend and shared for the *Hearsay* readership. Once again, A big thank you to Doreen Fulcher, Probate Court. Doreen revived the Courthouse Holiday decorations several years ago and plans it out each year. Doreen is the definition of a person who takes on a task and is faithful to its completion. Force over distance= Duration. Duration= Doreen.



THOUGHTS FROM THE AUTHOR WHO WEARS A STRIPED SHIRT AND ROBE AND STILL DOES THE SAME JOB. REFEREE, MIKE KRELLWITZ

Duncan Beagle has served the people of Genesee County for some 31 years. His professional history is pretty well known by most of us. A short recap could be helpful.

Family background. Duncan is a third-generation lawyer. His mother was a homemaker and he had one brother, John. Duncan was a product of Flint Southwestern where he played and excelled (according to him) at baseball, once pitching a "no hitter" at Atwood Stadium. This "no hitter" occurred 2 weeks after Duncan's brother was killed in a car crash as he

was returning to Washington and Lee University in Virginia, where he was a senior. This began Duncan's enduring love of Atwood Stadium.

Duncan graduated and went on to Albion College where he played and excelled (according to him) at baseball. He recalls many times his father would come to the games, but dad found that the games were more fun to watch if he was better prepared.

This meant a little liquid refreshment to get his cheerleading attitude in tune. His father would

sit in the stands and yell at Duncan, the umpires and whoever else, which often caused a commotion in the ballpark.

Law School. Yes, Duncan entered law school after graduation from Albion. Now many of us thought that was because his father, John Beagle and his grandfather Charles, were lawyers and that they would be his natural inspirations to become a lawyer.

Not true. Early on Duncan found that his father and grandfather worked long hours and often on weekends. This did not

promote the idea of being a lawyer, even a little bit. However, his motivation came with his "draft lottery number" which was 157. He quickly enrolled in law school and the National Guard.

Notable Events. Jump forward to 1990. Duncan was stricken with a disease that paralyzed him from the waist down. In May 1991 he was appointed to the Circuit Court Bench by Governor John Engler. In September 1991 he married Dana.

Inspirations. Duncan is certainly
(Continued on page 5)



Willie's son to Ford Field to watch the Lions.

Duncan loves sports. He is faithful to the Detroit Lions and Detroit Tigers through thick and thin. I have been with him at both Tigers and Lions games. He always gets the camera guys to put our pictures on the "big screen".

Over the years Duncan has organized and taken inner city kids to Tiger games. He has seen to it that

more than 330 young people have seen the Tigers in person. In 1991 Judge Beagle was invited by Tiger management to "throw the first pitch" at a Tiger game.

Community Service. Yes, he has time for community service. He presently serves on 7 boards and organizations including The Genesee County Bar Foundation, Voices for Children, Disability Network, and several non-profit groups supporting sports.

Did you know that Duncan is on a first name basis (almost) with Tom Izzo, MSU basketball coach, Ernie Harwell, author and former WJR voice of the Detroit Tigers and, Charlie Bell former MSU basketball player and others.

That said, Dana Beagle is on a first name basis, and has regular contact with, Sara Harbaugh wife of U of M football coach Jim Harbaugh.

It is notable that Judge Beagle was a MHSAA basketball official. During his career as an official he worked some of the bigger games in the area. His long time referee partner was Nick Papadakis the former Circuit Court Administrator. I, humbly, admit to working a basketball game at Flint Beecher with Duncan. It was "interesting". I remember that after the game we went over a number of things including officiating philosophy. He told me that officiating is 10% rules and 90% experience and that he knew 10% of the rules.

Duncan has had a long-standing love of Atwood Stadium. The stadium has been refurbished mainly because of his efforts. He is still active when it comes to "the stadium."

The Future. So, what will he do now? This subject is partly my musings and his comments. He has indicated that the prosecu-

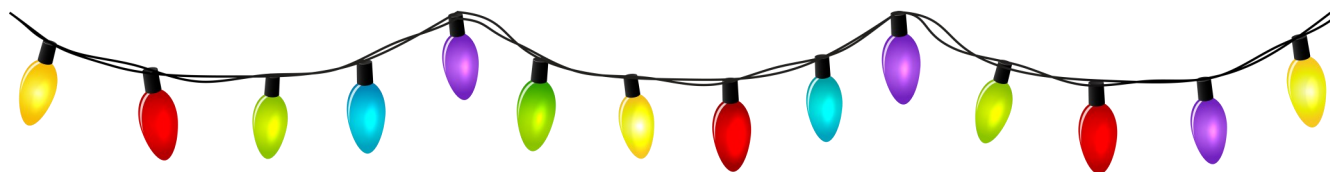
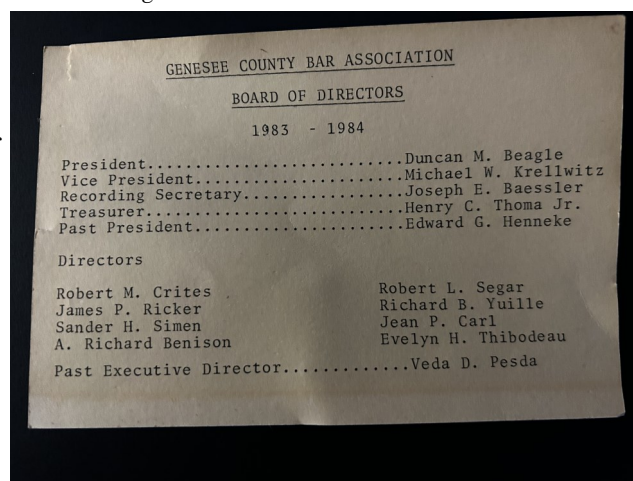
tor's office needs at least 3 new assistant prosecutors. He may apply. He will continue on the various boards of directors, he might do some travelling, perhaps he will begin attending club meetings that he has not been able to attend. He indicated that he is getting a committee together to help recruit men and women to consider officiating as a way to stay young, in shape and earn a few dollars, while having the best seat in the house from which to watch the game.

Whatever he does and wherever he goes, I admit that I will likely tag along. My friend, Duncan Beagle. -mk

(Continued from page 4)

an inspiration to many. You need only to see the plaques and awards in his office to understand. It is little known that Duncan's inspiration is a young man, Willie McQueen who lost his legs in a train accident when he was a teenager. Duncan read about him and that he played football for Flint Southwestern. He went to watch him and after meeting and talking to him, Willie became the judge's inspiration. The young man had courage and drive that impressed Duncan.

He talks to Willie often and each Thanksgiving, for the past several years has taken his son Devan, Willie and



JUDGE DUNCAN BEAGLE – SOME WELL-KNOWN AND NOT SO WELL-KNOWN FACTS ABOUT HIS SPORTS ACCOMPLISHMENTS, SPORTS CAREER, AND SOME OTHER RELATED FACTS

Judge Mark C. McCabe
67th District Court, team-
mate of Judge Beagle on
the Judge Yeotis team.

Years ago I did some coaching for the Fenton Middle School football team.

One of the gentlemen who I coached with was named Ken. He had played football for the University of Michigan and he knew just about everything there was to know about the game and importantly, how to get the best out of our players. He also became a very good friend.

At the beginning of each season, before our first practice, he would gather the players around him and talk about what we expected from them and our goals for the year.

He always finished his talk by placing his right fist over his heart and saying, "Boys, if you don't have it here, I can't give it to you."

Of course he was talking about having heart, wanting to win, competitiveness and everything else that goes along with all of those traits.

Unfortunately my friend Ken is now gone but his words live on. Without hesitation I can say that if there is one person in this world who has everything Ken used to talk about, it's Judge Duncan Beagle. I'm sure I have Judge Beagle's

permission from this point forward to simply refer to him as Duncan.

There are many incredible things to say about Duncan, but today I will limit myself, as best I can, to some known and perhaps not so well-known sports facts about him and a couple of non-sports ones to throw in for good measure. So here goes.

Duncan played baseball as a pitcher and as a basketball guard at Flint Southwestern in the mid 1960's.

One of his basketball teammates

was from the University of Detroit with his law degree in 1974.

I first met him when I came to Genesee County in 1976 as a young lawyer.

However, I didn't really get to know him until 1977 when I started playing for one of Judge Thomas Yeotis' many slow pitch softball teams.

Judge Yeotis had an attorneys team in the Civic Center League. Duncan and I became teammates and remained so for many years.

Duncan had close to a 200 average using an unconventional grip by putting his thumb in the top bowling ball hole and his middle and forefinger in the bottom two.

He was also an excellent golfer.

Carrying over from his basketball days, he was a high school basketball referee for over 20 years and considered one of the best in the county.

As a partial aside from the sports theme, I need to mention that he started his legal career as the 67th District Court's administrator, which I would analogize to being the general manager of a professional sports team.

Also partially sports related is his dedication to Big Brothers/Big Sisters, which included bringing his little brother to softball games and being actively involved in the annual Big Brothers/Big Sisters bowling fundraiser. He is also a past-president.



was former Circuit Court Judge Rick Yuille.

He excelled at both sports and was the captain of the baseball team.

After high school he went on to Albion College and continued to play baseball.

In his senior year he was co-captain, the most valuable player, pitched a no hitter against Hope and one-hitters in victories over Olivet and Michigan State. He then went on to law school and graduated from the Univer-

sity of Detroit with his law degree in 1974. I first met him when I came to Genesee County in 1976 as a young lawyer. However, I didn't really get to know him until 1977 when I started playing for one of Judge Thomas Yeotis' many slow pitch softball teams. Judge Yeotis had an attorneys team in the Civic Center League. Duncan and I became teammates and remained so for many years.

The team picture I have included with this article (Exhibit A) is from a championship team circa 1978. Duncan is seated in the front row. Hopefully a few readers will be able to identify some of the other players.

He was a tremendous player and I played outfield with him, and prosecutors Dan Stamos and Tim Bograkos.

I learned that he was also an all-around athlete including being a very talented bowler.

I also must mention the fact that Duncan has always been very active in the Genesee County Bar Association, including being president in 1983-1984.

Since we have an annual golf outing, I think I'm O.K. mentioning this and am keeping on the sports focus.

He is the chairman of the Atwood Stadium Authority and was one of the advocates of keeping it a viable entity and

(Continued on page 9)

LESSONS IN SERVICE FROM JUDGE BEAGLE: A MENTEE'S PERSPECTIVE NEEDED



Tony McDowell (left) and Sam Olson (right)
at Beagle retirement party

would impact the rest of my life.

The first and most obvious way we needed to “protect the judge from himself” was as it related to the way he always went the extra mile for those around him.

When working on a divorce case, if he thought it would help, it wasn't uncommon for Judge Beagle to be the first to offer up an opportunity to sit down and talk with the attorneys, parties, both, or separately.

It didn't matter how busy we were, how Judge Beagle was feeling, or what else we had going on – the people who appeared in front of Judge Beagle were going to be heard and treated with respect. They were going to leave the courtroom feeling like they had their day in court – no matter what Judge Beagle needed to do to make that happen – stay late, come in on weekends, work through lunch – it didn't matter, as long as the people were served.

Another frequent way we needed to “protect the judge from himself” was related to taking things under advisement. In those days, it was common for Judge Beagle to take an issue under

advisement to issue a written opinion. The issue being that some of these opinions would grow to “War and Peace” type lengths. Although this was certainly a challenge to work through, what I learned was that it was because Judge Beagle, even after nearly 20 years on the bench at that time, still cared deeply about the decisions he had to make. Taking something under advisement meant that it needed further consideration because we were dealing with the most important part of people's lives, their children, and we needed to take that responsibility seriously.

So, we developed processes to make sure we could discuss these tough cases and I could find ways to help him with the opinions, because it mattered, and we were taking it seriously.

The most pressing reason to “protect the judge from himself” was the different community events he would get involved in. Of course, Judge Beagle loves his community and loves to help others, especially children. As such, there was always another committee, another group, or another project, that could use his help.

It wasn't too long after starting with Judge Beagle that I found myself being his proxy at different boards, community events,

and committees. This was, of course, in furtherance of rule number one. But much more than that it was what I was inspired to do, because of Judge Beagle leadership.

Much to Dawne's chagrin, by the time I left, I too needed a rule number one. I too needed to be protected from myself.

This is the special experience of having Judge Beagle as a mentor and friend, there is so much to learn. Since my days of leaving Judge Beagle's office and my eventual appointment as the Friend of the Court, I continue to hold with me the valuable lessons I learned.

To go above and beyond in the service of others. To always be the first to offer to help, when you can. To take the work of serving families seriously and treat those who interact with the court with the upmost respect. To be a part of the community. To never stop finding ways to improve this community. To serve. –tm



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Kimberly Hallenbeck

Probate Court

Kimberly Hallenbeck is a deputy register for the Probate Court. Kimberly formerly worked in the banking industry.

Circuit Court

Hailey Schimmel (not pictured) is the judicial advisory assistant for Judge Brian S. Pickell. Hailey graduated from Eastern Michigan University and received her law degree from Wayne State University Law School.

Friend of the Court

Kristen Thompson is a program clerk for the Friend of the Court. Kristen formerly worked at the Flint City Jail.

Jessie Harbin is a program clerk for the Friend of the Court. Jessie recently moved to the area from Austin, Texas where he worked in the Intelligence and Counter-Terrorism division of the Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS). – js



Left to right: Kristen Thompson,



• Domonique D. Clemons was sworn in by Chief Judge Duncan M. Beagle on December 6, 2022 as the Genesee County Clerk-Register of Deeds.

Clemons was selected for the vacant position by the Circuit Court Judges.

Mr. Clemons received broad support and indicated his intention to speak with existing staff before developing future management plans.

Mr. Clemons formerly served as a Genesee County Commissioner and at the time of vacating the position was serving as Board Chair.

• The Genesee County Bar Association composite for 2020 has been framed and is

now hanging in the gallery on the 2nd floor of the Courthouse.

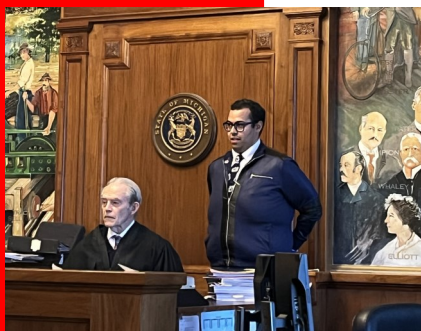


• A big thank you to Judge Geoffrey Neithercut (retired) who is providing docket assistance to the Circuit Court. Judge Neithercut presides via zoom and in person. His ongoing commitment to the court and his local legal community is noted and appreciated.

• Please be patient as the courthouse directories and signs are updated. With many changes and the holiday season, there may be temporary signs for some period.

The new facility directories near the elevators on the Beach Street side of the Courthouse will be accurate, since they can be electronically updated.

• Thanks to Tricia Wright and Deanna Hawkins for assistance with the courthouse decorations.



SENTENCING 18-YEAR-OLDS CONVICTED OF MURDER AS IF THEY WERE JUVENILES AND MORE



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

Sentencing 18-year-olds convicted of murder as if they were juveniles and more appeared in the August 9th, 2022 edition.

In 2012, the United States Supreme Court rendered its decision in *Miller v Alabama* holding that a mandatory life without parole sentence for juvenile offenders constituted cruel and unusual punishment under the Eighth Amendment of the United States Constitution due to the offenders’ immaturity, impetuosity, and failure to appreciate risks and consequences.

This decision was held to be retroactive in 2016 in *Montgomery v Louisiana*.

Since then, using what are called the “Miller Factors,” a judge must consider the following in imposing a sentence on a juvenile defendant when deciding if life without parole or something less is warranted: (1) their age and maturity; (2) the family and home environment; (3) the circumstances of the homicide offense; (4) whether they could have been charged with and convicted of a lesser offense but for their own immaturity in dealing with the police or helping their attorney; (5) the possibility of rehabilitation.

In Michigan, mandatory life without parole sentences for juveniles were eliminated by statute in 2014 unless the prosecutor files a motion requesting such a sentence and a hearing is held.

Otherwise, the sentence is to be a 25 - to 40-year minimum up to a 60-year maximum.

On July 28, the Michigan Supreme Court issued four opinions expanding the Miller holding.

The case, which has received the most publicity is *People v Parks* which held that the use of the Miller Factors will now be required in sentencing 18-year-old defendants who have been convicted of first-degree murder.

Parks further held that Michigan’s Constitution provides greater rights for these defendants than the Eighth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

A summary of the holdings in the other cases is as follows:

- Life without parole is presumptively disproportionate for defendants 18 years old and younger;

- Life with parole for defendants in this age category, who have been convicted of second degree murder, is unconstitutional under Michigan’s Constitution;

Courts must always consider youth as a mitigating factor even when the youthful defendant is sentenced to a term of years rather than life without parole.

This area of the law continues to evolve. Importantly what can never be forgotten is that victims also have rights and, when it comes to sentencing, everyone’s rights must be considered.



JUDGE DUNCAN BEAGLE – SOME WELL-KNOWN AND NOT SO WELL-KNOWN FACTS ABOUT HIS SPORTS ACCOMPLISHMENTS, SPORTS CAREER, AND SOME OTHER RELATED FACTS (CONT’D)

(Continued from page 6)

securing funding over the years for renovations and the eventual ownership transfer from the City of Flint to Kettering University.

He is a past-president of the Police Athletic League.

He is also a member of the Mott Community College Bruin Club and a member of the Board of Directors of the

Greater Flint Sports Hall of Fame.

He remains involved with local high school sports and frequently attends college games for almost all sports.

Now to veer out of my sports lane, I will simply say that Duncan has always had a great love for the law and is an example of everything a lawyer and a judge should be.

I know I’ve listed a lot of things here and there are many more things which could be added.

Unquestionably, if Ken were still with us, he would tell Duncan “Great job, you made a lot of good things happen out there.”

On a personal note, I am most fortunate to be able to say that

Duncan is my friend. I wish him all the best in the next phase of his career, and I have no doubt he’ll remain extraordinarily busy. –mcm

BEAGLE LOVE OF SPORTS THEME FOR COURT PARTY

On Thursday, December 15, 2022, the Hearsay Committee, and the Genesee County Bar Association Young Lawyers Committee, sponsored a sports theme afternoon event in honor of the retirement of Judge Beagle.

The event was underwritten by a contribution from the Genesee County Bar Foundation, Earl Cline Fund, along with “hot dog” contributions from Judges Farah and Christenson. Thanks to Chris Poulos, The Whitehorse, for the personal delivery and good wishes. Acknowledgement to Zuddles, who contributed the banner to designate the jury box as “box seats” for the event.

The afternoon was a total surprise to Judge Beagle, who thought he was attending a court reorganization meeting. He expressed

concern to his secretary, Christine, about preparation for the event and how long it should be penciled in his schedule. She impressed upon him that no preparation was required and that other attendees would carry the day. He believed his faithful secretary, only to show up to a

courtroom of over 100 cheering his arrival. Judge Elizabeth A Kelly took the bench to gavel his arrival and the room erupted. It was a great day.

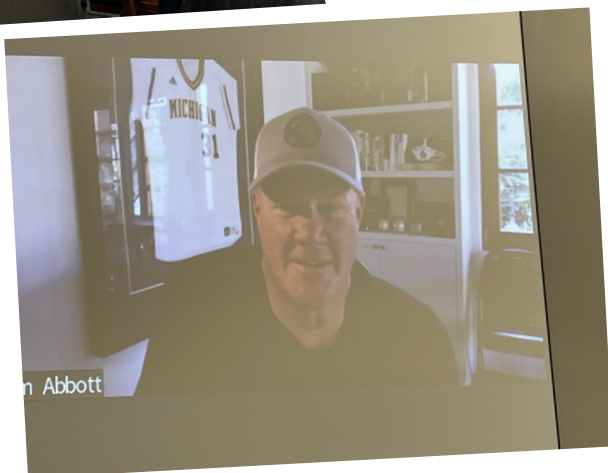
Hot dogs, popcorn and soft drinks continued the ballpark theme. 1960's cartoons preceded selected

“movie shorts” of Beagle in his earlier years playing basketball and throwing the opening day pitch at Tiger Stadium. The highlight of the movie shorts was a zoom call from Jim Abbott, a native son who played Major league baseball and has a longstanding relationship with Judge Beagle. Abbott is depicted on the mural in Judge Beagle’s courtroom.

The main event was the movie “Eight Men Out.” This is one of Judge Beagle’s favorite movies about the 1919 World Series Scandal.

The photos included with this article give the reader some idea of how well attended and fun the afternoon turned out to be.

A big thank you to the Hearsay Committee for their hard work and creativity. - bam



GENESEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION 125 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

In 1897, Thomas Edison patented the Kinetoscope which produced moving pictures. Bob Fitzsimmons won the heavyweight title by knocking out Jim “Gentleman” Corbett. The Boston Marathon started and was won by John J. McDermott. Amelia Earhart was born, and the Genesee County Bar Association was formed. Nicholas II ruled Russia and William McKinley was President of the United States.

In 1835, the Territorial Council of Michigan established Genesee County and its judicial seat on a two-acre parcel of land acquired from Wait Beach.

On November 18, 1897, the Honorable George H. Durand called a meeting to order, with other Genesee County attorneys, in order to form an association to advance the legal profession, improve the administration of justice and to socialize. The following day, the constitution of the Genesee County Bar Association (“GCBA”) was adopted.

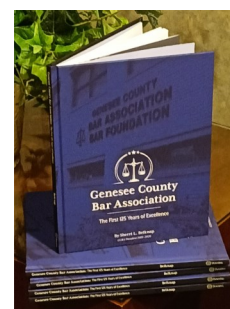
In the beginning, GCBA was more of a social organization. It celebrated its first year in grand fashion. Law firms closed their doors and met at the lounge of the Hotel Bryant. At night, first GCBA President George H. Durand welcomed out of town visitors at his home. Then at 9:00 p.m., Durand and his guests met the other attorneys for dinner and a program at the Hotel Bryant.

On November 3, 1934, thirty-seven years after it was created, GCBA filed its Articles of Corporation as a non-profit corporation with the State of Michigan. Its purpose was to maintain honor and dignity in the profession, increase the administration of justice, protect the public against the unlawful practice of law and cultivate social intercourse with its members. Approximately 90 members signed the incorporation documents including one woman, Ruth Winegarten.

Over the course of the 125 years, GCBA has issued public statements on the Jimmy Hoffa trial, Watergate and other emerging issues in our community. Its

members supported the community during the sit-down strike, destructive tornadoes, the water crisis and everyday situations. GCBA members have been leading the community in and out of the courtroom since its creation.

Genesee County Bar Association: The First 125 Years of Excellence preserves the association’s history. It relies on newspaper articles and books from the time period as well as meeting minutes from Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Further, the book honors our trailblazers including Otis M. Smith, Honorable William S. Price III, Honorable Celeste Bell, and Jessica Mainprize-Hajek. The book is available at the Genesee County Bar Association. —slb



Presiding Family Court Judge John A. Gadola and the adoptions staff celebrated Michigan Adoption Month in November.

Michigan Adoption Month is co-sponsored by the Michigan Supreme Court, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange, and the Child Welfare Services Division of the State Court Administrative Office.

National Adoption Month is part of a nationwide effort to bring attention to the number of foster children waiting for adoption, and to celebrate families who adopt, as well as

those who facilitate the process.

There are over 10,000 children in Foster Care in Michigan, including more than 230 children that are waiting for a loving, permanent home.

The Honorable John A. Gadola, Presiding Judge of the Family Division of the 7th Judicial Circuit Court in Genesee County presides over the foster care adoption docket.

Throughout this year, despite lingering challenges posed by the pandemic, Judge Gadola maintained the momentum of finalizing adoptions making it

clear that permanency for children remains a top priority.

Judge Gadola explains, “There’s always a need for children. The adoption docket is a great way to start my Monday mornings! There are great outcomes and it’s a great part of the process to see. It’s very meaningful.”

The Adoption Department recognizes that there are times when the adoption process is meticulous and exhausting. We are grateful for the patience that adoptive families endure during the journey and for their perseverance throughout the process.

In lieu of an Adoption Day courthouse celebration this year, it was decided to take the celebration to the families out in the community. The court adoption caseworkers delivered gift bags to randomly selected families to express gratitude for their participation in the adoption process.

The adoptions leadership and staff (Sheonna Hill, Darius Baylock, Heather Davis and Mary Anne Falk) should be commended for their hard work in highlighting both the need and the joy in adopting a child who needs a family. —so

JUDGES ON THE MOVE

It is a time of change for the Genesee County Circuit and Probate Courts. We are fortunate to have a collegial bench that is welcoming to new judges and appreciative of the work done by outgoing judges. The Courts are ready for the new year with an attitude of anticipation and appreciation.

Judge Joseph J. Farah – retired, effective November 9, 2022. Judge Farah served in the Family, Civil and Criminal Divisions of the court.

Judge Duncan M. Beagle – will retire with 31 years of judicial service. Beagle served as a member of the inaugural Family Division bench in 1998, as the presiding judge of the Family Division and will retire as the Chief Judge of the Circuit and Probate Courts.

Judge F. Kay Behm – will leave Probate Court and be-

come a United States District Court Judge. Behm was assigned to the Family Division of Circuit Court, as well as the Criminal-Civil Division. She was also appointed to assist the Circuit Court as a Business Court Judge.

Judge Khary L. Hanible – appointed by the Governor for the seat vacated by Judge Jo-



seph J. Farah.

Judge Hanible was sworn into his position on December 6, 2022 by Judge Celeste D. Bell. He will take over the family

division docket of Judge Christenson and be located on the 5th floor. Judge Christenson will move to the Criminal-Civil division in 2023.

Judge Dawn M. Weier – elected to replace Judge Beagle. She will take over the Beagle docket in the Family Division.

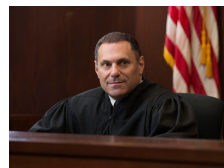


Judge Weier will be located on the 5th floor, former Beagle courtroom. –bam



JUDICIAL LEADERSHIP FOR 2023

Judge David J. Newblatt
Chief Judge
Circuit and Probate Courts



Judge Elizabeth A. Kelly
Chief Judge Pro Tem
Circuit and Probate Courts



Judge Jennie E. Barkey
Presiding Judge
Probate Court



Judge John A. Gadola
Presiding Judge
Family Division



Judge Mark W. Latchana
Presiding Judge
Criminal-Civil Division



Fredricka Savage is
the columnist for
geneseeLIVING

ADULT COFFEE SKATE

Presented By: Rollhaven Skate
& Fun Center
5315 S. Saginaw Street, Flint,
MI 48507
(810) 694-4533
Dates: September 8, 2022 - De-
cember 22, 2022
Recurrence: Recurring weekly
on Monday, Thursday
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

BREAKING THE MOLD: EU- ROPEAN CAST GLASS

Presented By: Flint Institute of
Arts (FIA)
1120 E. Kearsley Street, Flint,
MI 48503
(810) 234-1695
Dates: October 29, 2022 - April
2, 2023

**PETER BERGIN HOLIDAY
CONCERT** - Presented By: Baker
Park Library
G3410 S. Grand Traverse, Bur-
ton, MI 48529
(810) 742-7860
Dates: December 19, 2022 at
3:30 PM

CHRISTMAS AT CROSSROADS HOLIDAY MAGIC 2022 DRIVE THRU

Presented By: Genesee County
Parks & Recreation Commission
6140 Bray Road, Flint, MI
48505
Dates: 12/19/2022, 12/24/2022,
12/26/2022
5:00 PM to 9:00 PM

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Presented By: Minister of Music
Jerome Threlkeld
4813 Clio Road, Flint, MI 48504
Dates: December 19, 2022
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

COSMIC CHRISTMAS - Present-
ed By: Longway Planetarium
1310 E. Kearsley Street, Flint,
MI 48503

Dates: November 25, 2022 - De-
cember 30, 2022

ENCHANTED: A HISTORY OF FANTASY ILLUSTRATION

1120 E. Kearsley Street, Flint,
MI 48503
(810) 234-1695
Dates: September 24, 2022 -
January 8, 2023

THE WAKE - Presented By:
Flint Institute of Arts (FIA)
1120 E. Kearsley Street, Flint,
MI 48503
(810) 234-1695
Dates: until - December 30, 2022

WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Presented By: Flint Institute of
Arts (FIA)
1120 E. Kearsley Street, Flint,
MI 48503
(810) 234-1695
Dates: August 6, 2022 - Febru-
ary 5, 2023

MASTERSINGERS CONCERT

Presented By: Flint Public Li-
brary
1026 East Kearsley St, Flint, MI
48503
(810) 232-7111
Dates: December 20, 2022
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

NATURE STORY TIME

Presented By: Genesee County
Parks & Recreation Commission
14098 N. Genesee Road, Burton,
MI 48509
(810) 736-7100 ext. 892
Dates: 12/20/2022, 12/28/2022
11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

KNEE-HIGH NATURALIST: ARCTIC ANIMALS

Presented By: For-Mar Nature
Preserve & Arboretum
2142 N. Genesee Road, Burton,
MI 48509
(810) 736-7100 ext. 892
Dates: December 21, 2022

LIVE AT LUNCH

Presented By: Café Rhema
432 S. Saginaw Street, Flint, MI
48502
Date: December 21, 2022
12:00 PM to 1:00 PM

GAME CHANGERS: SAM GILLIAM AND HIS CONTEM- PORARIES

Presented By: Mott-Warsh Col-
lection Gallery
111 E. Court Street, Flint, MI
48502
(810) 835-4900
Dates: currently - January 21,
2023

RHEMA LOUNGE - ALICIA RENEE AKA "BLUE EYES"

Presented By: Café Rhema
432 S. Saginaw Street, Flint, MI
48502
Dates: December 22, 2022
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

THE WIND DOWN

Presented By: Harambee Well-
ness
1159 W. Hill Rd., Flint, MI
48507
Date: December 22, 2022
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

TRAIL OF LIGHTS

Presented By: Davison Town-
ship Parks & Recreation
10069 Atherton Road, Karen
Miller Event Center, Davison,
MI 48423
(810) 214-1810
Dates: 12/22/2022, 12/23/2022

ADULT NITE SKATE

5315 S. Saginaw Street, Flint,
MI 48507
Recurrence: Recurring weekly
on Friday
9:30 PM to 12:00 AM

GLASSBLOWING DEMON- STRATIONS

Presented By: Flint Institute of
Arts (FIA)
1120 E. Kearsley Street, Flint,
MI 48503
Recurrence: Recurring weekly
on Sunday, Saturday
11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW AT THE DAVISON FARMERS MARKET

Presented By: Davison Farmers
Market
8110 E. Court Street, Davison,
MI 48423

(810) 412-5883
Dates: December 14 and 24
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

WINTER BREAK POP-UP PROGRAM SNOW PARTY!

Presented By: Genesee County
Parks & Recreation Commission
2142 N. Genesee Road, Burton,
MI 48509
Date: December 27, 2022
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

FLINT FIREBIRDS OHL HOCK- EY

Presented By: Dort Financial
Center
3501 Lapeer Road, Flint, MI
48503
(810) 744-0580
Dates: 12/28/2022 - 3/25/2023

OWL PROWL

Presented By: Genesee County
Parks & Recreation Commission
2142 N. Genesee Road, Burton,
MI 48509
(810) 736-7100 ext. 892
Date: December 28, 2022
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

WINTER BREAK ADVEN- TURE: SNOWSHOEING 101

Presented By: Genesee County
Parks & Recreation Commission
2142 N. Genesee Road, Burton,
MI 48509
Date: December 28, 2022
2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

WINTER BREAK ADVEN- TURE: WINTER SURVIVAL SKILLS

2142 N. Genesee Road, Burton,
MI 48509
(810) 736-7100 ext. 892
Date: December 29, 2022
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

IRONSNAKE

Presented By: The Machine
Shop Concert Lounge
3539 Dort Highway, Flint, MI
48507
(810) 715-2650
Date: December 31, 2022
7:00 PM

geneseeLIVING (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 13)

NOON YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Presented By: Flint Children's Museum
1602 W. University Avenue,
Flint, MI 48504
(810) 767-5437
Date: December 31, 2022 10
A.M. – 1 P.M.

POLLYWOGS

Presented By: Davison Town-
ship Parks & Recreation
10069 Atherton Road, Davison,
MI 48423
(810) 214-1810
Dates: currently - April 4, 2023
Recurrence: Recurring monthly
on the 1st Tuesday
10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

FRANKE & DAWNE KARAO- KE

Presented By: Franke & DawnE
Karaoke and DJ

8006 Miller Road, Swartz Creek, MI 48509
(810) 736-7100 ext. 892
Date: January 7, 2023

Recurrence: Recurring weekly
on Wednesday - 7:00 PM to
11:00 PM

WIP WEDNESDAYS WORK- SHOP

Presented By: Breads & Threads
Handmade
131 E. Grand Blanc Road,
Grand Chalet Shoppes, Grand
Blanc, MI 48439
(248) 494-3880
Recurrence: Recurring weekly
on Wednesday
1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

MINDFULNESS HIKE WITH THE CRIM 'I HIKE FOR- MAR' SERIES

Presented By: Genesee County
Parks & Recreation Commission
2142 N. Genesee Road, Burton,

STATE OF MINE
Presented By: The Machine
Shop Concert Lounge
3539 Dort Highway, Flint, MI
48507
(810) 715-2650
Date: January 7, 2023 AT 7:00
PM

COMMUNITIES FIRST FILM SERIES: A PLACE CALLED DESIRE

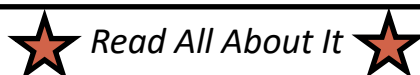
Presented By: Flint Institute of
Arts (FIA)
1120 E. Kearsley Street, Flint,
MI 48503
(810) 234-1695
Date: January 12, 2023 AT 5:30
PM to 8:00 PM

CULTURAL ASTRONOMY

Presented By: Longway Plane-
tarium
1310 E. Kearsley Street, Flint,
MI 48503
(810) 237-3400
Dates: January 13, 2023 - De-
cember 8, 2023
Recurrence: Recurring monthly
on the 2nd Friday
6:00 PM to 6:45 PM

EXPRESSIONS: WORKS ON PAPER BY AFRICAN AMERI- CAN ARTISTS

Presented By: Flint Institute of
Arts (FIA)
1120 E. Kearsley Street, Flint,
MI 48503
(810) 234-1695
Dates: January 14, 2023 - April
2, 2023
Recurrence: Recurring daily



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 news-
letter and feedback on the current edition. You can also submit ideas and information about activi-
ty in your department. hearsay@7thcircuitcourt.com