

GENESEE COUNTY CIRCUIT AND PROBATE COURTS E-NEWSLETTER

a quarterly publication

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THE CHIEF SPEAKS



The *Chief Speaks* is receiving feature article placement to introduce Judge Richard D. Ball, retired and visiting judge, assigned to preside over the criminal virtual backlog reduction grant docket.

If he only had a nickel for every time he's heard that one. We haven't heard it before, but we sure are glad to hear it now. The "Ball" is Judge Richard Ball and his court is *any* court in this building we can scrounge up on a given day. This is just life in the fast lane of Genesee County's Virtual Backlog Reduction Project.

The Genesee County Virtual Backlog Reduction Project was created last year after we were awarded a grant from SCAO.

Our mission is to increase our capacity to resolve older FH cases in order to reduce our entire backlog of cases created during the pandemic.

This project is everyone's baby—all within our county's criminal justice system have come together to build it. This includes the prosecutor's office, the defender's office,

the judges and the clerk. Nellie Heller is the judge's assistant and Dawn Morgan is assigned from the clerk's office. Barb Menear is the chief architect of the project. But the linchpin is the participation of a visiting judge.

We are very fortunate to have Judge Richard Ball as the visiting judge presiding over this project.



I want to talk about Judge Ball and to do that I can't resist using a lot of "ball" puns.

Thankfully, he is a good sport and has graciously given me permission to use as many as I can think of. So here goes: Judge Ball is the belle of the Ball who is a Ball of energy. He's always on the Ball and always knows what the Ball game is all about.

Whew! Now that I've got that out of my system, it is my absolute please to tell you a little about Judge Ball. Born in 1949, Judge Ball was raised in the Dutch community in Grand Rapids.

He was in the first class of the newly established James Madison College within MSU and then followed that by being in the first day class of Cooley Law School.

He served in the National Guard for 19 years, much of that time in a judge advocate role. He was in private practice for 16 years before running for

judge against an incumbent in 1992. He won by 69 votes.

Judge Ball served as president of Michigan District Judges Association as well as president of the Ingham County Bar Association.

He was the presiding judge of Ingham County's Veterans Treatment Court for ten years. He retired at the end of 2022 to cap a thirty year judicial career.

If you bought him a beer, I'm sure he could regale you with stories of presiding over several cases where Spartan athletes were at the wrong place at the wrong time.

Judge Ball is particularly qualified to serve as visiting judge as he has served as a visiting judge

(Continued on page 2)

THE CHIEF SPEAKS (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

in many jurisdictions over his career where he handled PPOs.

He is very energetic and excited to work. He is pleasant, unassuming and has a good sense of humor. But most of all, he is fair. But don't take my word for it—make sure you catch Judge Ball to see for yourself.

Judge Ball was married to his wife Diane from 1971 until her

passing in 2014. They share three daughters and two grandchildren. He has been remarried since 2017.

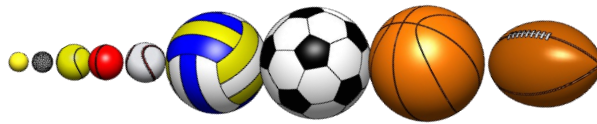
When he's not judging, he enjoys reading fiction and listening to Willie Nelson. He also enjoys the boost of optimism he gets from watching Ted Lasso.

One other interesting thing about Judge Ball is his disinclination to wear socks. He tells

me that he simply realized during the pandemic that he is a lot more comfortable if he doesn't wear them. And so I can tell you from my own observations that his ankles are indeed exquisite.

Judge Ball has been working since the middle of May and has already resolved dozens of cases. And so I can definitely say that Judge Ball is on a roll.

In conclusion, I want to say that I have high hopes that Judge Ball will accomplish great things in Genesee County before he bounces.—djn



COURT ADMINISTRATOR CORNER

The circuit and probate courts are in the process of making changes to hearing room spaces on the first floor of the courthouse. The changes include a relocation of referee offices and hearing rooms, which will involve a renovated space, along with a hearing room for virtual proceedings.



Suite 103, which is located on the west side of the courthouse across from the juvenile records office, will be repurposed as

probate and circuit hearing rooms. The space will include two hearing rooms (rooms 103-A and 103-B) to be used for virtual hearings. Currently, hearing room 103-A is occupied by Visiting Judge Richard Ball, who is presiding over a virtual backlog response docket with the circuit court, to address non-capital criminal cases that have been pending

greater than 91 days. The specialized docket is the product of a \$785,000 grant from the Michigan Supreme Court.

Hearing room 103-B is in use for a virtual probate register docket – uncontested probate matters presided over by the probate register. The room is also used for delinquent fiduciary conferences, which are also held virtually.



Suite 101, which is located on the southeast area of the courthouse, is now the sole location in the courthouse for juvenile referee hearings.

Referees Mary Hood and Lisa Lanxton preside in the two hearing rooms in the suite, which will soon undergo major renovations. The renovations will accommodate the recent Family Division Plan revisions, with the new design focusing on safety and security.

Signs have been updated through the courthouse to identify these changes—so



Left to Right: Haley Lepczynski, Lisa Champion-Julian, Kayla McMillian, Michelle Franckowiak



Left to Right: Alexander Zilinski, Nellie Heller



Left to Right: Victoria Garcia, Patricia Umphrey



Left to Right: Alan Butler, Jamie O'Brien



Circuit Court

Nellie Heller is the judicial advisory assistant (law clerk) for Visiting Judge, Richard D. Ball. Nellie graduated from University of Michigan-Flint and is a rising 2L student at Wayne State University Law School.

Aaron Labelle is the new court IT tech II. Aaron formerly worked in IT at Covenant.

Alexander Zilinski is the judicial advisory assistant (law clerk) for Family Division Judge, Khary L. Hanible. Alex graduated from University of Michigan-Flint and received his law degree from Michigan State University College of Law.

Friend of the Court

Alan Butler is an attorney referee for the Friend of the Court. Alan formerly practiced law in Saginaw County.

Cora Carlson is a program clerk for the Friend of the Court. Cora formerly worked in the medical clerical field. (not pictured)

Lisa Champion-Julian is a program clerk for the Friend of the Court. Lisa formerly worked for the City of Corunna.

Michelle Franckowiak is a program clerk for the Friend of the Court. Michelle formerly worked at Doctors of Physical Therapy.

Haley Lepczynski is a caseworker for the Friend of the Court. Haley formerly worked for Catholic Charities of Livingston County.

Kayla McMillian is a program clerk for the Friend of the Court. Kayla formerly worked for Hope Network New Passages as a caseworker.

Jamie O'Brien is an attorney referee for the Friend of the Court. Jamie formerly practiced law for 22 years in the private sector.

Probate Court

Catrina Crane is the judicial advisory assistant (law clerk) for Probate Court Judge, Ariana E. Heath. Catrina graduated from Oakland University and received her law degree from the Michigan State University College of Law.



Catrina Crane

Victoria Garcia is a deputy register for the Probate Court. Victoria formerly worked as a legal assistant.

Lawanda Halford is a deputy register for the Probate Court. Lawanda formerly worked for the 67th District Court. (not pictured)

Patricia Umphrey is a deputy register for the Probate Court. Patricia relocated back to Michigan from Alabama.



Aaron Labelle

- The SCAO public satisfaction surveys will be conducted this year during the week of September 18-22. In person and remote court users will be encouraged to take the survey. The Hearsay Committee will be assisting with the in-person surveys and Dave Combs will tackle the remote user invitations.

- The Courthouse security camera upgrade project has recently been completed. Thanks to Lt. Ryan Ulshafer for his leadership and commitment to improved security awareness. 67th District Court, at all of its locations, received similar improvements

- Thank you to Carla Edmundson, Legal Division – Clerk's Office, for taking over the display cabinet content project on the 2nd floor. Tricia Wright continues to help and is greatly appreciated. Take a look at the 4th of July content. They look great!

- Conference Technologies, Inc. (CTI) will be installing evidence presentation software and evidence display upgrades in the courtrooms throughout the summer. The project will include new podiums, outfitted with camera upgrades and other features. Director of Court IT, David Combs, is overseeing the project with the vendor.

- The Genesee County Mental Health Court and Veterans Treatment Court programs have new full-

time staff: Alyssa Hunt (AHunt@geneseecountymi.gov) and Darianne Macciomei (DMacciomei@geneseecountymi.gov). Staff offices are located in suite 103, first floor of the courthouse, across from Juvenile Records.

- Judge Beagle once again spearheaded the effort to take over 400 youth from various Genesee County Schools to a Detroit Tiger game. The Community Foundation of Greater Flint chipped in for part of the expenses. Judge Beagle's contacts with the Tigers carried the project the rest of the way. Good job to the retired Chief!



RESOURCES FOR REUNIFICATION: SUPERVISED PARENTING TIME SERVICES GRANT INCREASED

When one parent has lost contact with their child or has worked through their own personal struggles, the Court may want to start a parenting time order with supervised parenting time, to create a safe bonding environment for the child and parent.



For years in our community, supervised visitation was more ad hoc, with many orders requiring unpaid relatives to assist with supervised parenting time. In October 2021, the 7th Circuit Court Friend of the Court was awarded a \$10,000 grant to be used for supervised parenting time services in the community. The Friend of the Court partnered with two agencies, Family Matters of Flint and KIND of Lapeer.

As with any new project, it can be difficult to predict how the

program will be received and whether the services will be of value to those in the community. With a few years of experience, we now know that the demand for supervised parenting time in our Court is great and the services are being used by families in our community.

Families can receive either supervised parenting time or supervised exchange services through the program and can be ordered to pay out of pocket, use grant funds, or a combination of both.

With the support of the Family Division Judges of the 7th Circuit Court, the program has been such a success that our Court has been approached about receiving an additional grant award for the remaining few months of this Fiscal Year, increasing the funding for supervised parenting time services to \$17,500 in the Fiscal Year ending in 2023.

The success of the project has garnered even more attention

and starting in October 2023,

through a partnership with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the YWCA of Greater Flint, and InvolvedDad, there is expected to be even more funding available for supervised parenting time services



for families who have a history of intimate partner violence. This new program is expected to at least double the funding available for services and have a special focus on training all staff involved to serve these families in crisis.



In around 2 years, Genesee County has transitioned from a

community with no organized supervised parenting time program, to being on the cutting edge of large grant funding with the likes of communities such as Grand Rapids and Saginaw, who have a history of supervised parenting time programs.

The success of this program is built on community partnerships with our friends at MDHHS, the YWCA, and InvolvedDad, as well as the hard work of Friend of the Court staff like Jennifer

Keillor, Johanna Prince, Kevin Fialka, Joe Beauchamp, Timm Rye, and Carrie Shelton.

Great efforts by all to bring this program from a seedling idea to a fully grown supervised visitation program in such a short time frame. -tm

ADR UPDATE

Due to a change in court rule, effective January 2022, case evaluation dockets have experienced a decline. Fewer cases are referred for scheduling.

Effective June 1, 2023, all case evaluations are being conducted remotely via zoom. This allows more evaluators to participate and assists with late

adjustments to panel composition.

The ADR Clerk manages the court approved civil mediator, domestic mediator and case evaluator rosters. The lists can be found [HERE](#).

Approved mediators and evaluators may participate for sev-

en (7) years before reapplication is necessary.

Beginning May 1, 2023, the ADR Clerk sent out notice that both applications and reapplications were being requested. The application process is in conjunction with MCR 2.404 and Local Administrative Order 2023-04 J.

For more information, contact the ADR Clerk at adr-clerk@7thcircuitcourt.com.

Since the court rule revision, the civil cases referred for case evaluation have declined approximately 10% in 2022 and an additional 15% in 2023 to date.—rg

LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER GENESEE COUNTY



The number of self-represented litigants, particularly in domestic relations cases, has increased statewide over the years and the Genesee County Circuit Court is no exception. Litigants are often navigating an emotional and stressful family issue without knowing the law or having legal representation.

The Michigan Supreme Court recognized the issue of self-representation as a statewide concern. The Chief Justice convened a blue-ribbon committee comprised of judges, court staff, community human resource agency representatives, law school representatives and domestic abuse professionals to address what can be done to assist litigants who cannot afford counsel.

The committee arrived at a number of recommendations that included:

1. Establish a self-help website, to be used on a statewide basis to provide assistance in filling out court forms, an explanation of the law (in understandable terms) for the most commonly filed cases for self-represented litigants and links to other sites of interest.

2. Create self-help legal resource centers within commu-

nities. the most through direct legal help and state-wide advocacy. Michigan Legal Help (MLH) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit.

Its funding comes from the Michigan Supreme Court, the Michigan State Bar Foundation and through grants from the State Bar of Michigan, the Legal Services Corporation and others.

The Michigan Legal Help website, <https://michiganlegalhelp.org>, and the first self-help centers launched in 2012. Both the website and the self-help centers have expanded since that time.

In 2015, MLH received the innovations in Equal Justice Award from the *National Legal Aid and Defender Association*. In 2017, MLH received the *Access to Justice Award* from the Michigan State Bar Foundation.

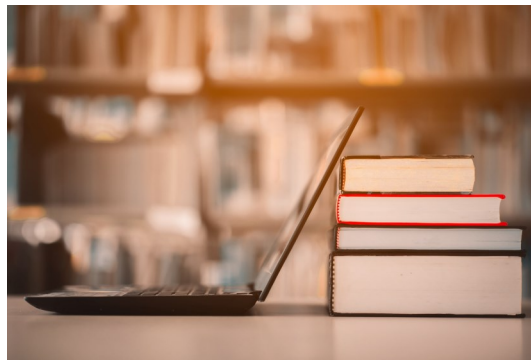
The staff includes attorneys, web developers, analysts and translators dedicated to both accurate and expanded services.

Michigan Legal Help is part of the Michigan Advocacy Program, a legal aid organization that provides access to the justice system for those who need it

Self-help legal resource centers are in operation around the state. In Genesee County, the designated self-help centers are located at the Gloria Coles, Flint Public Library, Legal Services of Eastern Michigan, Genesee District Library, Grand Blanc-McFarlen Branch.

Court staff are not permitted to give legal advice. However, legal information is often sought out at the Office of the Genesee County Clerk and Courthouse Law Library.

In 2023, the Genesee County Circuit Court, under the transitioning leadership of Chief Judge Duncan M. Beagle, retired, and Chief Judge David J. Newblatt appointed a committee to begin the process of converting the existing Courthouse Law Library into a Legal Resource Center.



Within the Center, there would be a designated self-help center component to assist the many law library users who come seeking assistance to navigate a court proceeding without counsel.

The self-help center advisory committee met for the first time on February 16, 2023 and consists of the following members:

Duncan M. Beagle
Circuit Judge (retired)
Genesee County Bar Foundation, President

Dr. Beverly Brown
Genesee County Commissioner
District 4

Tatilia Burroughs
Executive Director
Genesee County Bar Assoc.

Melissa Caldwell
Co-Director, Domestic Violence
Programming
YWCA-Greater Flint

Domonique Clemons
Genesee County
Clerk
Register of Deeds

Tony McDowell
Director
Friend of the Court
7th Circuit Court

Barbara A. Menear
Administrator
Genesee County
7th Circuit Court

Julie Nichols
Attorney
Legal Services of
Eastern Michigan

Sam Olson
Administrator-Register
Genesee County
Probate Court

The Court, with assistance from Legal Services of Eastern Michigan applied for a \$100,000 grant to become a self-help center site. The funds became available through the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) for first-time applicants serving populations who could benefit the most from the services. It was awarded and the project has begun in earnest. The next steps are to design a

(Continued on page 11)

THE 4TH OF JULY

-LESSER KNOWN AND RELATED FACTS-

The star-spangled banner became the United States' national anthem in 1931.



The Continental Congress voted for Independence on July 2, 1776.



President Zachary Taylor died in 1850 after eating spoiled fruit following a 4th of July speech.



Massachusetts became the first state to declare the 4th of July an official state holiday in 1781.



The Liberty Bell in Philadelphia is tapped (not rung – it has fractures!) every 4th of July in honor of the 13 original colonies.



John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on the 4th of July, in 1826. This was the 50th anniversary of the event.



Americans spend more than \$1 Billion annually on fireworks.



Coney Island, New York has a famous, televised hot dog eating contest each year on July 4th.



George Washington celebrated the holiday by giving his soldiers a double ration of rum for the 4th of July.



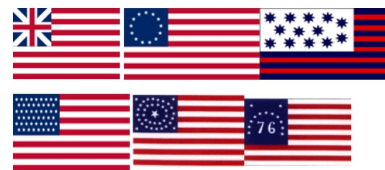
Benjamin Franklin was the oldest person to sign the Declaration of Independence at the age of 70.



There were only 2.5 million people living in the United States in 1776.



There have been 27 versions of the United States flag.



Not all Americans gained freedom on July 4, 1776. It was not until June 19, 1865 that all enslaved African Americans were freed by the Emancipation Proclamation. It took 2 years for the news to reach Texas. The celebration included prayer, feasting and song. Juneteenth became a state holiday in Texas in 1980 and a federal holiday in 2021. The event continues to include celebrations, family, community gatherings and festivals.



Barack Obama's oldest daughter, Malia, was born on July 4, 1998.



July 4th was not a federal holiday until 1870, nearly 100 years after its signing.



PRESERVING THE PAST AND BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

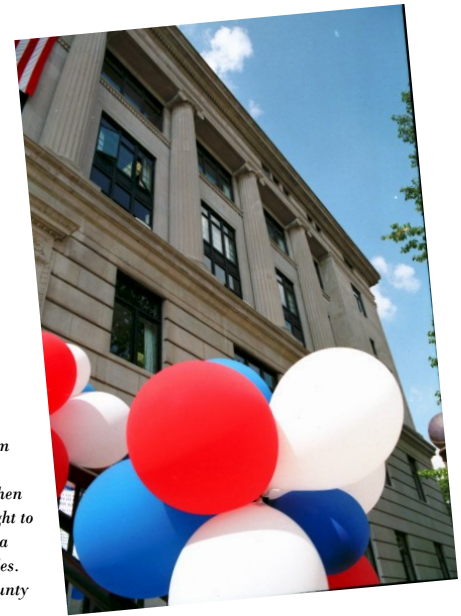
This was the title of the introductory page in the *Re-dedication Events Commemorative Publication* when the Historic Genesee County Courthouse was re-dedicated in 2003.

Now, twenty years later *Hearsay* reflects on the unprecedented gala weekend celebration that took place. The commemorative publication can be seen [HERE](#).

A few of the photos taken during the event are found below.



Steve Davidek - sketch of the lumber scene in the mural recreated in courtroom 308. It was a painstaking project to recreate the original mural. It started as quarter size sketches, moved to life size drawings, drawings on canvass and then painting on canvass. The work was all done at the Davidek studio and brought to the Courthouse for installation. The original mural had been removed. Only a black and white photo and 5 feet above a suspended ceiling were used as guides. The recreation of the mural was paid from private funds, mostly Genesee County Bar Association members and the Genesee County Bar Foundation.



Steve Davidek (front left), the primary artistic contributor to the restoration on his 70th birthday. We had a birthday cake, candles and sang to him. He was moved to tears. Steve Heddy (back right) was the co-artistic contributor to the project. All of the decorative painting treatments to the walls and even creating the appearance of wood grain on metal doors, was done by Steve Heddy. Other members of the Davidek and Heddy teams are in this photo. Steve Davidek and Steve Heddy were the stars of the restoration and without whom it would not have been possible.



COURTHOUSE SQUARE PROJECT

When the Courthouse Square Project started and restoration of the 1926 Historic Genesee County Courthouse was to be part of the scope of work, Janet Patsy, former deputy court administrator, and I contacted a number of individuals at the state level for assistance.

One of those individuals was Kerry Chartkoff, Michigan State Capitol Historian. She was a wealth of information, since the Capitol had recently gone through a restoration project. For many years, the identity of the muralist at the Michigan State Capitol was unknown. Since the Gen-

esee County Courthouse also had an unknown muralist, our collaboration with Ms. Chartkoff was ideal.

It was also during that time, I joined the *Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society* to enlist support relative to the conservation of the portrait of Justice Charles D. Long, whose oil painting was located in our former law library on the 4th floor. I have remained a member since that time.

In the most recent, *Society Update*, (June 2023 edition), a Michigan Supreme Court Justice with ties to Genesee

County was one of the featured Justices.

Justice Otis Smith was the first African American male to serve on the Michigan Supreme Court. He was from Memphis, Tennessee, but practiced law in Flint from 1950-1957. Justice Smith is prominently featured in our "walking photographic history" consisting of compilations of courthouse, legal and community milestones. His frame is located on the 3rd floor of the Courthouse.

I am including the article that was in the edition, with credit to the publication.

When Smith was defeated in the election of 1966, he joined General Motors and eventually rose to General Counsel. The *New York Times* wrote an article about Smith, noting that he would head a staff of 125 attorneys and report directly to the chairman of the board and the board of directors.

Smith served in the Army Air Force with the 447 Bomb Group. Former Mayor Coleman Young, Detroit, served with the same group. Perhaps the next mystery to unveil is what brought Smith to Genesee County. - bam



LEGAL MILESTONE

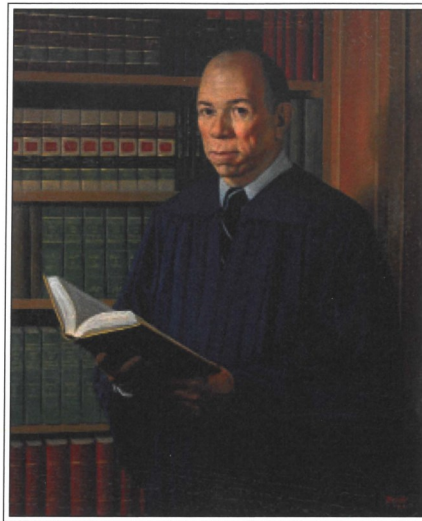
Otis Milton Smith

(February 20, 1922 - June 29, 1994)

*As published in the 2015 Edition of the *Michigan Supreme Court Historical Reference Guide*

Otis M. Smith, the first African American justice on the Michigan Supreme Court, was born in Memphis, Tennessee, on February 20, 1922. He attended Fisk University and Syracuse University. In 1950, Smith graduated from Catholic University Law School in Washington, D.C. In January of 1951 he was admitted to the bar and immediately began to practice law in Flint, Michigan. In addition to his practice of law, Smith took part in many civic organizations and functions. His community service brought him recognition from the Junior Chamber of Commerce in the city

of Flint as the Outstanding Young Man in Flint in the year 1956. In 1954, the prosecuting attorney of Genesee County, a Republican, appointed Smith as assistant prosecuting attorney, recognizing his skills. He was a man who considered public office to be a trust of the highest magnitude, second only to serving God. He was an honest man, a man of intellect, solid values, and character. Five Michigan governors thought so too and appointed him to prominent positions in state government where he broke many barriers as the first black to hold such posts. In 1956, Governor G. Mennen Williams appointed him chairman of the Public Service Commission of the state of Michigan and, in October 1959, auditor general of the state of Michigan. In October 1961, Governor John Swainson appointed Smith to the Michigan Supreme Court to replace Jus-



tice Talbot Smith who had left for a seat on the U.S. District Court in Detroit. Otis Smith won the vacancy election in November 1962 for the remainder of Talbot Smith's term, but he lost the election in November 1966 for a full eight-year term. Otis Smith's civility and courtesy in all of his personal relationships, even in the presence of abusive provocative conduct, were particularly important to the court during the very stressful

years of his service. After leaving the supreme court, Smith hoped to be appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, but he was not. He later acknowledged that this disappointment was a blessing in disguise as he joined the legal staff of General Motors where he served for thirteen years, advancing to vice president and general counsel. 1

More Resources Online!

Website Biography - <https://www.micourthistory.org/justices/otis-smith/>

Presentation of Portrait - <https://www.micourthistory.org/special-sessions/presentation-of-the-portrait-of-the-honorable-otis-m-smith/>

Oral History - <https://d.lib.msu.edu/mscj/38>

Memoir-

Looking Beyond Race: The Life of Otis Milton Smith by Otis Milton Smith and Mary M. Stolberg (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2000)

GPS TETHER



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

GPS Tether appeared in the June 20th, 2023 edition.

The word tether has a number of meanings. A traditional definition is a rope, cable, or similar restraint that holds something in place while still allowing some movement.

Over time, the definition has expanded to include a way to restrict movement without a physical connection.

I am referring to what the criminal law generally refers to as

"tether," and which allows a defendant to not be held in custody, but instead have limited freedom, with restrictions on their movements, using electronic monitoring.

Most people have probably heard of criminal tethers but don't know the specifics. Accordingly, I hereby present a brief primer on the most commonly used tether device.

On Oct. 4, 1957, the Soviet Union launched Sputnik into space. It became the first artificial earth satellite, and marked the beginning of the so called "space race" with the United States.

It also allowed American scientists at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to discover that Sputnik emitted certain radio signals so that it could be tracked in space, while the loca-

tions of the receivers on earth could be tracked at the same time.

This discovery turned out to be the beginning of the modern Global Positioning System (GPS), which is comprised of 24 satellites, and used today to track a variety of objects for military and civilian purposes.

One of those uses is the tracking of noncustodial defendants using a "GPS tether."

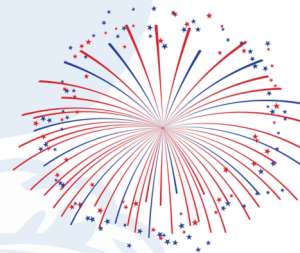
This device came into widespread use early this century. It requires the defendant to wear an ankle tether, which communicates its location by a radio signal to a base unit. The base unit then communicates with one of the satellites which tracks the defendant.

A defendant's location is constantly monitored. If the defendant fails to comply with

court or other government ordered restrictions, (such as no contact with a victim, staying within a certain area, or keeping a curfew), the monitoring company notifies the authorities and an arrest is made.

GPS tether has become the standard of the industry as it has been shown to be an effective way to monitor individuals who don't need to be in custody while also ensuring public safety.

The forecasts are that improvements will continue, and the system will be made even more efficient. We'll see what happens.



geneseeLIVING

Fredricka Savage is the columnist for geneseeLIVING.

Summer is finally here and the outdoor fun is in full effect. Check out this list of Independence Day celebrations and summer fun to see some of what Genesee County has to offer.

CROSSROADS VILLAGE & HUCKLEBERRY RAILROAD - TOUCH-A-TRUCK

6140 Bray Road, Flint, MI 48505

July 1, 2023 from 10 AM to 5 PM

Train Times: 11am, 1pm, 3pm

Opera House: Richard Paul

at 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm (Ventriloquist)
Price: Village Only: Adult (13-59) - \$9 Senior (60+) - \$8
Children (25 months to 12) - \$7
Train/Village Only: Adult (13-59) - \$21 Senior (60+) - \$20
Children (25 months to 12) - \$19

FIRST FRIDAYS AT BRUSH ALLEY 120 East First Street, Flint, MI 48502
July 1, 2023 - September 1, 2023

Recurrence: Recurring monthly on the 1st from 5:00 PM to 11:00 PM
The First Friday series of events is focused on highlighting local artists, DJs, and musicians with the goal of actively engaging the greater Flint community with new space and creativi-

ty through sound and vision. Compete with light installations, original artwork on display, live painting, vendors, and much more.

KEVIN COLLINS & FRIENDS

Blackstone's - 531 S. Saginaw Street, Flint, MI 48502
July 1, 2023 from 8 PM to 10:30 PM

Jazz, R&B, Horns, Percussions.... There is sure to be some great vibes when Kevin & his Friends come to Blackstone's! This show is free compliments of Guitar Center Flint.

LOCAL FEST

124 W. First St., Flint, MI 48502

July 1, 2023 at 2:00 PM
We'll be joined by amazing local artists for a day packed

with music, vendors, food and so much more. This is a free festival for everyone!!

2023 FENTON FREEDOM FESTIVAL

Downtown Fenton, Fenton, MI 48430

July 4, 2023

The Freedom Festival Parade will begin at 10:00am rain or shine! All are welcome to join in the fun!

CONCERTS IN THE PARK

230 S. Cherry, Flushing, MI 48433

July 5, 2023 from 7 PM to 9 PM
50/50 drawing tickets will be sold from 6:45 PM thru concert break time. First ticket drawn = 50% of collection. Food and drink vendors are on site.

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY POP-UP PROGRAM: HONEYBEE KIDS WITH FOR-MAR BEE-

(Continued on page 10)

geneseeLIVING (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 9)

KEEPERS & JUNIOR MASTER GARDENERS 2142 N. Genesee Road, Burton, MI 48509

July 5, 2023 from 11 AM to 1 PM

Each Wednesday throughout the summer we are excited to bring you different Nature themed Pop-Up programs for you and your kids to enjoy together. Each For-Mar Pop-Up Program will include Garden Time, Kids fitness fun, a themed activity area and new this year each session will have one or more community partner that will joining us. Have you heard the Buzzzz this week's theme is all about Honeybee. Kids will learn about beekeeping and see hives in action first hand. Our community partners for this program with 'bee' the For-Mar beekeeper and the 4H Junior Master Gardeners. A special thank you to HAP for sponsoring our summer Pop-Up programs and Hurley Wellness for providing Fitness and Nutrition instructors in the parks.

REAL BODIES THE EXHIBITION

1221 E. Kearsley Street, Flint, MI 48503

Dates: July 7, 2023 - January 14, 2024

Recurrence: Recurring weekly on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

You'll never see your body the same way again! REAL BODIES uses real human specimens that have been respectfully preserved to explore the complex inner workings of the human form in a refreshing and thought-provoking style. System by system, the exhibition provides an approachable and fascinating insight into

what's happening inside every one of us.

Price: Adults 12-59: \$8 Genesee County residents (with ID), \$21 non-county residents Seniors 60+: \$7 Genesee County residents (with ID), \$17 non-county residents Youth 2-11: \$6 Genesee County residents (with ID), \$14 non-county residents Children under 2: Free

TIKTOK HIP HOP

July 7, 2023 from 5 PM to 6 PM

Dance challenge, anyone? Join us to learn popular dance trends in our TikTok Hip Hop Class. In a fun, inclusive setting for all levels, you will learn new moves, explore new trends and get your heart pumping. Fun for the whole family!!

ALLEY FEST 2023 Buckham Alley, Flint, MI 48502

July 8, 2023 from 2 PM to 10 PM

Join us for Alley Fest 2023 on July 8! Music, food, vendors, and more in Downtown Flint's Buckham Alley!

BAD WOLVES The Machine Shop Concert Lounge- 3539 Dort Highway, Flint, MI 48507

July 8, 2023 at 6:00 PM
Must be 18 and over to attend. Price: \$25 in advance

CROSSROADS VILLAGE & HUCKLEBERRY RAILROAD - BANJO DAZE 6140 Bray Road, Flint, MI 48505

Dates: 7/8/2023, 7/9/2023 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Train Times: 11am, 1pm, 3pm

Opera House: Richard Paul at 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm (Ventriloquist)
A celebration of folk music, featuring America's musical instrument! Enjoy perfor-

mances by Michigan's Troubadour, Neil Woodward, Suzanne & Jim, Banjo Betsy and more. Several Michigan music shops will be onsite, so stop by and pick up some gear or sign up for lessons.

Price: Village Only: Adult (13-59) - \$9 Senior (60+) - \$8 Children (25 months to 12) - \$7 Train/Village Only: Adult (13-59) - \$21 Senior (60+) - \$20 Children (25 months to 12) - \$19

DAVISON DOWNTOWN MARKET - SECOND SATURDAYS IN THE SUMMER

Downtown Davison, Davison, MI 48423

Dates: 7/8/2023, 8/12/2023 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Join us downtown on Saturdays June 10, July 8, and August 12 for vendors selling homemade goods, crafts and produce, food, and fun! The market will be held from 10am - 2pm.

EXOTIC ANIMALS WITH SCIENCE ALIVE 2142 N. Genesee Road, Burton, MI 48509

July 8, 2023 from 10-11:30 AM and 12 PM-1:30 PM
The Science Alive Team is here for a live animal show that the whole family will love. Meet different LIVE animals up-close and learn fun facts about each of them.

Price: Cost: \$8 per participant

GUIDED MINDFULNESS WALK AT APPLEWOOD 1400 E. Kearsley Street, Flint, MI 48503

Dates: May 13, 2023 - September 9, 2023 from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM
Recurrence: Recurring monthly on the 2nd Saturday
Join us for a guided mind-

fulness experience at various places throughout the gardens and grounds. Enjoy Applewood's beauty and tranquility with mindful activities that support well-being and promote self-awareness. Offered on the second Saturday of every month through a partnership with the Crim Fitness Foundation.

KEURIG DR. PEPPER MAXIMUM DESTRUCTION - NIGHT OF FIRE / FIREWORKS! / MARFC NIGHT 10205 N. Saginaw Road, Clio, MI 48420

Dates: July 8, 2023 at 4:30 PM
Night of Fire! Come enjoy fireworks with us and some good racing!

Wear red, white and blue and get \$2 off your ticket / Kids 12 & Under free! Price: Adult General Admission: \$22 Kids General Admission (12 & Under): \$0.00 Senior General Admission (62 & Over): \$13

WE'RE REEL EXCITED TO GO FISHING 14098 N. Genesee Road, Clio, MI 48420

July 8, 2023 from 12 to 1:30 PM
What's Michigan with no lakes - still a Great State! Luckily we have a local lake to really give kids a full scope of Michigan and the beauty within lakes of the state. Kids will learn how to fish, but more importantly they will learn the value of nature. Fishing poles, bait and tackle will be provided. It is a license free weekend. Fish on!

CLIO AMPHITHEATER SUMMER CONCERT SERIES - TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES 301 Rogers Lodge Drive, Clio, MI 48420

Dates: July 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM
The Clio Amphitheater celebrates Michigan's warm season with their Summer Concert Series featuring "SHOUT" - a tribute to the Beatles. Gates open at 6 p.m., show starts at 7 p.m.

(Continued on page 11)

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(Continued from page 10)

Always free parking.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL WITH THE GENESEE VALLEY CONCERT BAND

1026 E. Kearsley Street, Flint, MI 48503
July 11, 2023 from 6 to 7:30 PM

Join us for our annual concert with the Genesee Valley Concert Band, a perennial favorite! The Friends of the Flint Public Library will serve ice cream during the intermission.

MAGIC GLOBE

1310 E. Kearsley Street, Flint, MI 48503
Dates: July 11, 2023 - July 30, 2023 at 12:00 PM
Recurrence: Recurring weekly on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday
On vacation at her grandpa's, a little girl Mia accidentally discovers a mysterious piece of astronomical machinery. Edmund, Mia's eccentric uncle, tricks the

girl into using the tool's secret powers to change the world's seasons. She realizes the consequences of what they are going to do, but Edmund doesn't want to let the plan go. Magic Globe is produced by Creative Planet. Recommended for ages 5 and older.

Price: Tickets: \$8 adults, \$6 seniors 60+, and \$6 youth ages 2-11. Children under 2 free. Genesee County Residents receive a 50% off discount. Please present your driver's license or ID with your address on it to confirm your residency.

ADVENTURE AWAITS! KAYAKING ON THE FLINT RIVER

3102 Collingwood Parkway, Flint, 48503
July 14, 2023 from 4 to 6 PM
Join us for another day at the water, this time to enjoy some kayaking. Riding in the kayaks will give us a great opportunity to see the natural beauty of Thread Lake. Kayaks & life jackets

will be provided. Guided tours for new kayakers are available.

BACK TO THE BRICKS ROAD RALLY

Dates: 7/15/2023, 9/16/2023
Back to the Bricks® brought back the very exciting Rally's in 2022 and featured a new element, a Pok-er Run. We want to continue the momentum and this year thanks to our presenting sponsor General Motors and brought to you by sponsors Shea Automotive Group and Halo Burger we will host TWO Road Rallies in 2023. Participants will receive a packet that morning with top-secret route details and additional information and depart in small groups every 3 to 4 minutes from Shea Automotive when the flag is dropped.

2023 RIVER ROAST Kimble -Sharp Gazebo, 132 E. Broad Street, Linden, MI 48451

Dates: 7/21/2023, 7/22/2023
Expanding to two days of

fun in 2023! Lots of fun on the river - music, food, activities and more!

CRIM FAMILY BOWLING

NIGHT 5340 Richfield Road, Flint, MI 48506
July 21, 2023 from 4 to 6 PM
Join the Crim Fitness Foundation at the lanes of Richfield Bowl and bring your A-game! This will be a great opportunity to help the kids learn proper bowling technique and have a fun time with the whole family.

2023 OPEN GATE SUMMER GARDEN TOUR

310 S. Leroy Street, Fenton, MI 48430
July 23, 2023 from 10 AM to 5 PM
Eight beautiful and innovative gardens in and surrounding Fenton will be on the tour. Experienced gardeners will be on hand to answer any questions. Price: Tickets are \$10.00 in advance and \$12.00 day of tour. Children 12 and under are FREE. Admission includes guides, refreshments, merchant discounts and a raffle ticket.

LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER GENESEE COUNTY CONT'D

(Continued from page 5)

survey to determine who are the users of the location, did they receive assistance, was it helpful and other questions of importance for statewide evaluation.

The intake process will be designed to quickly route users for services. This will include

electronic check-in with staff assistance on site. Other self-help centers in Michigan have been reviewed for intake processes that have worked well.

The hard copy materials in the existing law library will be reduced or eliminated, most of which are no longer updated. There will be an expanded op-

portunity for electronic legal research. The design will include additional options for confidential conversations, small conferences, direct access to staff and other multi-use options.

For the attorneys reading this article, the ADR Office will continue to be part of the

new design of the Legal Resource Center. There may be some change in footprint, but the function will remain.—bam

SUMMER WORD SEARCH

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F	N	M	D	C	H	R	J	D	Z	I	H	K	Z	Y
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AMERICA
BLUE
FIREWORKS
FOURTH

FREEDOM
INDEPENDENCE
JULY
PARADE

RED
STARS
SUMMER
WHITE



Read All About It



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