

HEARSAY

GENESEE COUNTY
CIRCUIT AND
PROBATE COURTS
E-NEWSLETTER

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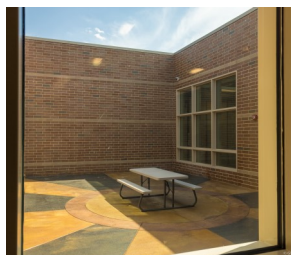
A VISION, A MISSION, A REALITY

It's been nearly four years since Genesee County broke ground on a new facility and vision for its juvenile justice system. On Wednesday June 12, 2024, the County reached a milestone, the opening of the Genesee County Juvenile Justice Center. The new facility features a secure program, a residential program, and a day treatment program.

The secure detention program is a 40-bed program for youth who pose a risk to public safety and need short-term programming while their charges are resolved. Mt. Morris Schools provide educational services and



mental health support is provided by Genesee Health Systems. The staff are trained in Core Correctional Practices and CHOICES which are evidenced-based cognitive behavioral interventions



through the University of Cincinnati. The facility also offers

medical and nursing services. Additionally, Youth Arts Unlocked offers an art program for the youth.



The residential program is an 8-bed program for youth that need more intensive support. The residential program will provide a Specialized Trades Program that focuses on Construction Trades or Hospitality Arts. The staff are trained in cognitive behavioral interventions through the University of Cincinnati and Easterseals of Michigan will provide family functional therapy.

The Day Treatment Program is designed to provide a highly structured environment for up to 20 youth. Educational services



will be provided by Mt. Morris Consolidated Schools and Peckham Inc. will provide specialized trades train-

ing as part of the educational curriculum.

COLESPEAKS will provide a parenting series which aims to reduce risk factors and strengthen protective factors of families. Rite Care will provide an Evening Learning Center that will operate from 3:30pm to 8:30pm Monday through Friday, with weekend hours available for high-risk youth that may need additional support in the community. The program will provide academic support, individualized clinical services, therapy groups utilizing the University of Cincinnati curriculum, a gun violence program, substance use support, community service opportunities, and transition planning to ensure success after program dismissal.



We have created a local juvenile justice system that attempts to understand the root causes of delinquency, such as

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This article contains excerpts from the remarks made by Chief Judge David J. Newblatt at the opening ceremony for the Genesee County Juvenile Justice Center on June 12, 2024

On June 12, we celebrated a momentous day for our courts and our county: the grand opening of our new Juvenile Justice Center. This was a gala event that included judges, commissioners and other local leaders, as well as court staff, attorneys and the community.

Genesee County has been at the forefront for decades for innovation in rehabilitative and restorative justice.

In Genesee County, we consider it our mission to do more

than just make decisions; we are also here to solve problems. We strive to use contacts with the justice system as opportunities to lift up families and children so that they can live happy, healthy and meaningful lives. Nothing exemplifies this spirit more than our new Juvenile Justice Center.

Our new center is more than just a brand-new building, as nice as it is. It is about a new model for juvenile justice. I'm not just puffing here: this facility and what we will do here will make Genesee County a leader in juvenile rehabilitation throughout the entire country.

With state-of-the-art facilities, educational programs, and comprehensive support services, we aim to address the root causes of delinquency and

provide our young people with the tools they need to build better futures.

For children in secure detention prior to trial, we can use that valuable time to address their needs through services. For children on probation in the community, we can provide education and services in a day-treatment model. And for children in need of residential treatment,

instead of sending them out of the county—and many times out of state—we can provide that right here, where they can remain close to their families.

Our staff, composed of dedicated professionals, educators, and counselors, will work tirelessly to ensure that each young person who enters these doors receives individualized care and attention.

The facility is a significant milestone in the Court's partnership with the Board of Commissioners to rehabilitate youth and create a safer community.

On February 7, 2017, the Court had its first meeting with a few Commissioners to discuss the need for a new facility. There was no disagreement: the former facility was well beyond its useful life. With a complex of multiple buildings, some dating back to the 1920's, it was functionally obsolete and not suitable for the needed services.

On August 3, 2017, the family division judges unanimously signed a letter of commitment to reduce the number of juveniles in residential placements, allowing public dollars to be utilized for evidenced-based programming in the community. The purpose of this letter was to demonstrate the Court's

(Continued on page 10)



COURT ADMINISTRATOR CORNER

Follow-Up from July 2023 Article Legal Resource Center Genesee County and January 2024 Administrator Corner

Since the previous *Hearsay* edition, the hard-bound books and historic bookshelves have been removed for the law library space, paving the way for the physical transformation into the Legal Resource Center. An exiting time for the courts, as court administration continues to work with various vendors and stakeholders as construction phase approaches.

With the assistance of Derrick Jones, Genesee County Purchasing Administrator, the project was published for bids. Responses are due June 27, 2024.

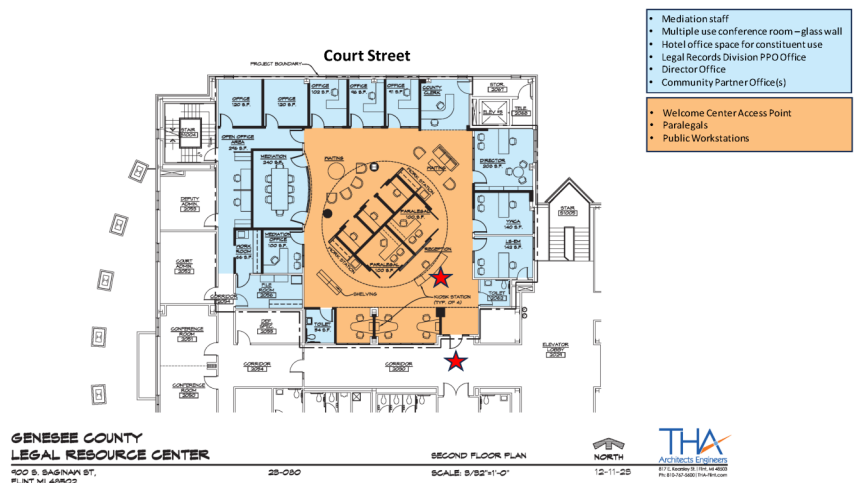
A third window of opportunity was opened by the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) to apply for additional grant funds to expand existing self-help centers. With the assistance of Attorney Brian Smith from Legal Services of Eastern Michigan, the court is in a position to apply for continued funding. The court received a \$100,000 SCAO grant for 2022-23 to start the project, and a second grant for \$75,000 for 2023-24.

Self-help legal kiosk work stations will be installed in the center space in early August 2024. The all-in-one kiosks are designed to assist self-represented litigants with infor-

mation and resources to better navigate legal matters, among other functions.

Chief Judge Newblatt and members of the administrative team gave a brief presentation about the project to the Board of Commissioners on May 15,

2024. Court staff will have the opportunity to attend a presentation on July 15, 2024 at 11:30am in the jury management office. —so



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Left to right: Brennan Sims, Christian Blough-Swingen

Circuit Court

Brennan Sims is an adoption caseworker in the juvenile records department. Brennan previously worked at Genesee Health System Autism Center.

Christian Blough-Swingen is the judicial law clerk for Criminal/Civil Division Judge Mark W.

Latchana. Christian received his law degree from Michigan State University-College of Law.

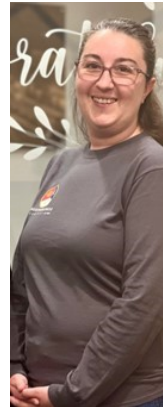
Rachelle Cooper is a public engagement specialist in the legal records division. Rachelle previously worked for a temp agency and was assigned to the legal records division. (Not pictured)

Friend of the Court

Stevie Cooper is a FOC specialist I at the friend of the court. Stevie previously worked for a chemical company managing production and inventory. She is originally from England and moved to the USA in 2006.

Juvenile Probation

Devon Payne is a juvenile probation officer. Devon previously worked as a director of an assisted living facility.



Stevie Cooper



Devon Payne



- A big thank you to Cindy Grossbauer, currently assisting Judge Richard Ball, with the circuit court docket known as the virtual backlog reduction grant docket.

- Judge B. Chris Christenson extended an invitation to his courtroom as part of the Genesee County Bring Your Child to Work Day on April 25, 2024.

A grant from the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) supports this very successful endeavor. Cindy retired as the legal division supervisor for the Genesee County Clerk, is a certified transcriber and has returned on a part-time basis. Lynn Beldin, retired judicial secretary for Judge Latchana, is the Cindy back-up and brings a similar commitment to her work.

- There were 262 jurors who came to the Courthouse for jury duty between June 17 and June 21



GENESEE YOUTH COMMISSION ATTENDS COURT

The Genesee County Youth Commission is a partnership between the Genesee County Board of County Commissioners and Michigan State University – Extension Office.

The program is meant to foster a deeper understanding of the role of local government and the direct impact that our work has for the residents we serve.

Each fall, students from school districts across the county, who may be interested in government or public

policy, are able to apply for nine seats on the Youth Commission. One student from each county commission district is chosen to serve.

The Youth Commission meets twice a month to discuss topics of interest to youth in Genesee County. The Commission settles on one topic to take a deeper dive that culminates in a presentation to the Board of County Commissioners.

In addition to their regular meetings, the Youth Com-

mission participates in a County Government Day. The students spend the day at the county learning from department leaders. One of the highlights of the day is the opportunity to meet with our Circuit Court judges to better understand the different functions of each court.

Our thanks to Judge Heath and Judge Latchana for their contribution to this year's County Government Day with the Genesee County Youth Commission. –jmf

*Pictured below are Judge Ariana Heath and Judge Mark Latchana with participating students.



SPECIALTY COURTS UPDATES

The Genesee County Specialty Courts have many exciting updates happening. Since February, a new referral process has been implemented to assist in ease of referral for defense attorneys, assistant prosecutors, and anyone else in the community of defendants who may qualify for programming with the mental health court, veteran's treatment court, family dependency treatment court, or the adult felony recovery court.

In the last ~45 days, fifty individuals have been referred for screening for a spe-



cialty court program. This is a significant increase from the first and second quarters of the year.

The veteran's treatment court program has received ancillary funding to ramp up drug screening procedures that are more in line with State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) and Michigan Association of Treatment Court Professionals (MATCP) standards. This will allow the program to offer a wider array of testing options for those veterans who work, live out of the county, or struggle with transportation to and from the contracted testing agen-

cies. The program anticipates that with expanded testing options, this will eliminate barriers that currently exist for people regarding transportation to and from testing agencies.

A no-cost extension of a prior SAMHSA grant for adult felony recovery court has been awarded which is an upwards of \$100,000. This allows continued funding of a staff position, all testing and treatment costs, and supply costs to be covered through the end of the fiscal year. The grant was initially slated to end on May 31st, but

through application and approval, unspent funds can now be utilized through the end of September. This is very exciting as the program can continue to run on the scale it has been for the last five years as allowable by this sizeable grant from SAMHSA.

In the month of May, the specialty courts office held reset meetings with the team members and stakeholders for all the programs to discuss the highs, lows, and improvements that can be made to the programs going forward. From this meeting, the office has begun to explore some 'unconventional'

ideas for incentivization of clients while in the program to instill positive behavioral changes and prevent re-offense.

One of the most significant ideas that we have been working on implementing is a contingency management closet for the clients. This hosts multiple different categories of items including personal needs, hygiene items, planners, prizes like fidget spinners, throw blankets, lotions/perfumes, and more. The office is actively seeking donations for items to add to the contingency closet to ensure its sustainability past the end of the fiscal year.

The court programs have continued to graduate successful participants from all programs and are tracking the data on recidivism rates post-graduation at 3 months, 6 months, and 12 months. Through the recovery court program's partnership with REA evaluators, an evaluation has also been conducted with staff and participants to identify areas of strength and areas of improvement for the future.

As we come closer to the end of our fiscal year, the programs are hopeful that at minimum, all grant funding will be continued to progress further with the current rehabilitative work being done to help those identified with significant mental health and substance use disorders within the legal system. Multiple

ancillary grants are being applied for as well to expand capacity, programming, testing, and incentive options for the participants in the programs.



The specialty court programs aim to provide rehabilitation, treatment and testing, along with the resources and support from community agencies and personnel to offer long-standing recovery, sobriety, and a support network of invaluable individuals that they can rely upon in the future.

These programs offer participants a unique experience and opportunity to engage with the legal system on a less formal basis, get to know the people involved within their case more, create a rapport with their probation officers and judges that differ from usual contact, and create a variety of opportunities that they may not have access to otherwise such as stable housing, options for employment, assistance with legal issues, gas cards and bus passes, and much more.

If you're interested in hearing more about the specialty courts, want brochures or marketing materials for your offices, or have any questions about what the office does, feel free to reach out to us via email at SpecialtyCourtReferrals@GeneseeCountyMI.gov or 810-424-4412. –bb

THE RIGHT OF A CRIMINAL DEFENDANT TO A PUBLIC TRIAL



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

The Right of a Criminal Defendant to a Public Trial appeared in the March 19th, 2024 edition.

Until 1641 England had a notorious criminal court called "The Court of the Star Chamber."

It gained its reputation for a number of reasons including punishing juries for verdicts unfavorable to the government, torturing defendants to obtain confessions, and questioning witnesses secretly with no public trials.

When the court was abolished, England established the right to a public trial. This right carried over to the United States, where today a public trial is a constitutional right under the Sixth Amendment.

Since this is a very important right, the following is a brief explanation of why we have it and some exceptions.

The reasons for a public trial are varied but include ensuring a fair trial, reminding the prosecution and courts of their responsibility to the accused and the importance of their functions, encouraging witnesses to come forward, and discouraging perjury.

The right is not unlimited, and circumstances may exist

when the closure of a courtroom at any stage of the proceedings is appropriate.

The United States Supreme Court has held that to warrant a courtroom closure there must be an overriding interest that is likely to be prejudiced by a public hearing, the closure is no broader than necessary to protect that interest, the trial court must consider reasonable alternatives to closing the proceeding, and, it must make findings adequate to support the closure.

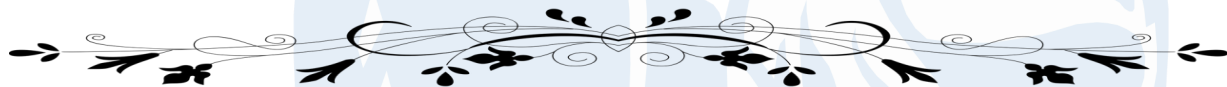
A judge has broad discretion to control proceedings at trial, but when a courtroom is closed and the requirements aren't met, there can be a reversal of a conviction.

An example of this is a 2022 Michigan Supreme Court

reversal of a murder conviction in a Genesee County case, when the courtroom was closed (except for the victim's mother) due to an observer briefly talking to one of the jurors.

Examples of proper courtroom closures include during the testimony of young CSC victims, confidential informants, and witnesses who have been threatened.

In 1948, Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black in a secret trial case from Michigan, said that "the public trial guarantee has always been recognized as a safeguard against any attempt to employ our courts as instruments of persecution. The knowledge that every criminal trial is subject to contemporaneous review in the forum of public opinion is an effective restraint on possible abuse of judicial power."



LT. JASON WHITE JOINS COURTS AS NEW COURT SECURITY DIRECTOR

Lieutenant Jason White has joined the courts as the new Court Security Lieutenant. Lieutenant White succeeds Ryan Ulshafer, who departed to become the Executive Director for Safety and Security with the Genesee Intermediate School District.

Lieutenant White has been with the Office of the Sheriff for over 21 years. He brings a wealth of experience from multiple roles and assignments. He was previously a detective/

sergeant assigned to animal cruelty before his promotion to lieutenant and appointment to the courts. He has been in almost every division of the Sheriff, other than the paramedic division. Lt. White earned a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University in Criminal Justice.

The courts are excited to have Lt. White's presence and experience to head up security. Welcome Jason! -so





GENESEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Professionalism Since 1897

2024 Mock Trial Competition Schedule

Location: Genesee County Circuit Court
Thursday, May 2, 2024

Trial begins at 11:00 a.m.

Plaintiff	Defense	Judge/Location	Jurors
Beecher <u>Teacher:</u> Evan Ghoujehi <u>Attorney Advisor:</u> Anthony Maxwell and Chief Nathaniel Perry	International Academy of Flint #1 <u>Teacher:</u> Kelly O'Brien <u>Atty Advisor:</u> Charles Boike	Judge Christenson Room 303 7th Judicial Circuit Court 900 S. Saginaw St. Flint, MI 48502	Swartz Creek, Powers, Lake Fenton, Waterbrook
International Academy of Flint #2 <u>Teacher:</u> Shayla Coughlin <u>Atty Advisor:</u> Kyona McGhee and Judge David Guinn	Swartz Creek <u>Teacher:</u> Fredrick "Jim" Fuller <u>Atty Advisor:</u> Janet McLaren	Judge Kelly Room 306 7th Judicial Circuit Court 900 S. Saginaw St. Flint, MI 48502	Beecher, Powers, Lake Fenton, Waterbrook
Powers Catholic <u>Teachers:</u> Paul Stravato <u>Atty Advisor:</u> Samantha Orvis and Chris Ebbott	Lake Fenton #1 <u>Teacher:</u> Frank Dimich <u>Atty Advisor:</u> K.C. Baran	Judge Heath Room 504 7th Judicial Circuit Court 900 S. Saginaw St. Flint, MI 48502	Beecher, International, Swartz Creek, Waterbrook
Lake Fenton #2 <u>Teacher:</u> Frank Dimich <u>Atty Advisor:</u> Kent Wallace	Waterbrook Christian Academy <u>Teacher:</u> Amy Lentine <u>Atty Advisor:</u> W. Kevin Miller	Judge Latchana Room 305 7th Judicial Circuit Court 900 S. Saginaw St. Flint, MI 48502	Beecher, International, Swartz Creek, Powers



Judge Elizabeth A. Kelly with student participants

geneseeLIVING

Fredricka Savage is the columnist for geneseeLIVING.

Summer is here and adventure awaits. Take advantage of the warmer weather and find something new to explore.

[Adventure Days at Lake Callis](#)

Get ready to celebrate the stars and stripes at our USA-themed kids' party! Decked out in red, white, and blue, local patriots will enjoy sparkling fun-filled celebration of all things USA, where kids can wave their flags high and feel proud to be American!

Looking for a weekly adventure to break the routine and keep the kids active this summer? Look no further! Join us every week at the Lake Callis Recreation Complex for a thrilling time of excitement. Our Adventure Days offer a variety of activities, and the best part is, they're all FREE once you've paid the gate admission. It's the perfect opportunity to get the kids out of the house, explore, and make unforgettable memories in a fun-filled environment. Don't miss out on the excitement at Lake Callis Recreation Complex! Don't forget to bring your beach towel and sand toys to spend the day at the lake afterwards

Price: Lake Callis gate admission required. Once inside, activities are free. (Splash pad not included)
Price: Book club meeting is

free. General admission ticket required for the planetarium show.

Date: Monday, July 1, 2024

Time: 11 a.m. — 4 p.m.

Location: Lake Callis Recreation Complex; 1152 N. Gale Rd. Davison, MI 48423.

[Books & Stars: Longway Planetarium's Book Club](#)

Every first Wednesday of the month, Longway Planetarium hosts a free astronomy-related book club. Following the book discussion guests are welcomed to attend a planetarium show in the dome that relates to the book (general admission ticket required for planetarium show). This is a FREE book club. Advance registration is requested; walk-ins accepted.

Date: Monthly on the 1st Wednesday of each month

Time: 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Location: Longway Planetarium; 1310 E. Kearsley St. Flint, MI 48503

[Dream Machine Archive: Pocha Dream](#)

Dream Machine Archive: Pocha Dream is an excerpt from a “psychodynamic audio and video tool” created by Mexican-American artist Natalia Rocafuerte to assist immigrant women with their own dream interpretation. Using a hotline that was open from 2020 to 2022, Rocafuerte collected dreams from callers in the Detroit metropolitan and South Texas border areas. She then created audiovisual pieces inspired by the dreams, layering distorted sounds and sights, manipulated voices, bright colors, and found images. Pocha Dream includes a

dream titled Dream of Emma and Tony, which won Best Michigan Filmmaker 2021 at the Ann Arbor Film Festival, the longest running experimental film festival in the nation. This excerpt also includes advertisements the artist distributed to recruit callers. Natalia Rocafuerte is a graphic artist, video editor, and recent graduate of the University of Michigan (MFA 2022). She grew up on both sides of the Rio Grande Border in Tamaulipas and Texas and became a naturalized US citizen in 2019.

Date: Now until 7/31/2024

Location: Flint Institute of Arts (FIA)

[From Earth to Sky: Ancient Art of the Americas](#)

This exhibition features ancient ceramic sculptures from Mexico and Costa Rica (200 BCE–200 CE). Since they did not leave a written record, these clay objects, many of which depict ancestral figures, ball players, warriors, animals, and shamans, offer a glimpse into the lives of people living more than 2,000 years ago. Also included are vessels used to store or serve food or drink, as well as other objects that would have been used in ceremonies or community events. Like other ancient cultures, their strong belief in the afterlife is evidenced by the practice of placing objects of significance in the tomb. These underground shaft-tombs contained clay sculptures that were intended to serve as companions, guides, and guardians of the spirit of the deceased. Many objects in this exhibition now tell us

something about how these cultures/peoples viewed themselves and their environment, how they honored the dead, and how they celebrated life.

Date: now until 8/25/2024

Location: Flint Institute of Arts Museum; 1120 E. Kearsley St. Flint, MI 48503

[Nature Quest—Snakes, Lizards and Bugs!](#)

Join For-Mar educators for a small live animal experience; families will enjoy a variety of nature-themed games and activities that promote learning about animal habitats, behaviors, and conservation. Suggested for families with children. Suggested for families with children, all ages, and abilities.

Dates: 7/1/2024 & 7/2/2024

Time: 6:00—7:00p.m.

Location: Kearsley Park Blvd. Flint, MI 48503

[Karaoke at the Mill Pond](#)

Karaoke is back at the Kimble Sharp Gazebo starting June 4th. Thanks to our Sponsors! Premier Partner Linden DDA Grow Linden Community Partners The State Bank, Sharp Funeral Homes, Vic Bond Sales, Beacon, and Bridge Market, and our Friend of the Community Sponsor Shiawassee Shores Retirement Park. Come for the music, fun, food trucks and free giveaways plus 50/50 drawing.

Dates: 7/2/2024, 7/16/2024 & 8/13/2024

Time: 6—9 p.m.

Location: Mill Pond Linden, MI
Price: Free

[River Kids](#)

Come explore the outdoors! Each session is once per week for 3 weeks, pre-registration is required. Each week includes fun activities like fishing and nature-based scavenger hunts, as well as

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learning opportunities. Each class includes time on the water, supervised by trained staff, exploring nature from a kayak. All equipment, training and one-on-one support is included. Pre-registration is required the day prior to the event. Visit Kayakflint.org to register. For questions, please contact Jaime Welch at jwelch@flinriver.org or call 810-767-7140.

Price: \$10 per person per program (Scholarships available upon request).

Dates: 7/2/2024

Time: 10—11:30 a.m.

Location: Lakeside Ave. Flint, MI 48503

Yoga in Nature

Everyone can benefit from yoga! This yoga series offers a variety of classes from slow pace yoga to help you unwind after a long day, to a heart-pumping flow to help you stay fit. Yoga mats are provided if needed and optional suggested items include a yoga mat, block, bolster, strap, or even a blanket. Will be held 100% outdoors, weather permitting. For teens and adults of all abilities.

Date: Tuesday, July 2, 2024

Time: 6:00—7:00 p.m.

Location: 2142 N. Genesee Rd. Burton, MI 48509

Price: Free

Concerts in the Park

July 3 - Genesee Valley Concert Band

July 10 - Rodeo Drive

July 17 - SpaceCat

July 24 - Itchy Coo Park

July 31 - Old Days' Band

August 7 - The Good Foot

August 14 - Irish Night Pub

Runners & Hubbardston Irish Dance Troupe

Food and drink vendors are on site. Stadium seats and bleachers available or bring blankets and lawn chairs. Wheelchair pads are available with easy

handicap access and good viewing. Insect repellent, sunglasses and umbrellas (for rain) are your choice. 50/50 drawing tickets will be sold from 6:45 PM thru concert break time. 1st ticket drawn = 50% of collection, up to \$500. Additional drawings of gift certificates donated

Price: Free

Location: 230 S. Cherry Flushing, MI 48433

Time: 7-9 p.m.

2024 Fenton Freedom Festival

On Tuesday, July 4, 2024, the Fenton Freedom Festival Committee will be sponsoring the Fenton Freedom Festival to be held downtown Fenton.

The Freedom Festival Parade will begin at 10:00am rain or shine! All are welcome to join in the fun! **If you are in need of a sensory sensitive viewing area, no noise is allowed from the beginning of the Parade Route to the intersection of Owen Rd. and Fenway Drive**

Price: Free

4th of July Celebration—9th Annual Flint Water Festival and FIM Holiday Celebration

Free Concert, Fireworks & Family Fun

– Collector Car Auction 9am -12pm

– Pickelball Experience 5pm -9pm

– Summer Stage Kickoff 5pm

– Soak Park 5pm-9pm

– Water Giveaway 5pm-6pm

– Marshall Charloff & The Purple xPeReINCE 9pm

Price: free

Date: Tuesday, July 4, 2024
Time: 9:00 a.m.— 11:00 p.m.

Location: 303 W. Water St. Flint, MI 48503

Fenton Firecracker 5K & 2K Run/Walk

The Fenton Firecracker is an annual tradition just prior to the Fenton 4TH of July Parade. Come join us for fun and fitness, then stay for the parade! The 12th annual Fenton Firecracker 5K and 2.5K is back! This is a great race for athletes and weekend warriors alike on July 4th. The race begins at 9:45 am so be sure to be in place with your bib on by 9:30 am. Race starts on the corner of Mill St and S. Adelaide heading north!

Date: 7/4/2024

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: 404 W. Ellen St. Fenton, MI 48430

Cost: 5K Run/Walk \$35 2K Run/Walk \$35 Prices increase after June 25

Independence Day Celebration

Spend the day with some old fashioned fun. There will be games and prizes for kids, card making for veterans, and at 2 pm join us for our annual Crossroads Ice Cream Social as we celebrate our Nation's 248th year of Independence. Twisting Smiles will offer FREE balloon art for kids and Craig Wise will entertain crowds with his amazing stilt walking skills!

Date: Tuesday, July 4, 2024

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location: Crossroads Village; 6140 N. Bray Rd. Flint, MI 48505

Reel Fishy Fun!

Let's cast out and reel in some memories! We have the bait and equipment; we are missing you! If you are a first-timer or an experienced angler, this program is for you. Kids ages 5-16 can fish without a license. Folks 17 and older are welcome to

fish but will need a license. Pre-registration is required by 7/3/2024.

Date: Wednesday, July 5, 2024

Time: 6:00—7:30 p.m.

Location: 14098 N. Genesee Rd. Clio, MI 48420

Butterfly Hike & NABA Butterfly Count Day

The July 4 weekend isn't just for the fireworks, it's also national butterfly count day! Come volunteer and learn the basics of butterfly identification and how to collect your own data to add to this national citizen science project. The North American Butterfly Association's Butterfly Count has been an annual event in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico since 1993. For families, recommended for ages 6 & older, all abilities. Pre-registration required by 7/5/24.

Date: Saturday, July 6, 2024

Time: 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Location: 2142 N. Genesee Rd. Burton, MI 48509

Admission: Free

Touch A Truck

Escape the hustle of modern life and journey back to a simpler time at Crossroads Village. Step into an authentic Great Lakes town reminiscent of the turn of the last century, boasting 34 historic structures and a vibrant community eager to greet you. Whether you're boarding the iconic Huckleberry Railroad, enjoying a captivating show at the Colwell Opera House, or discovering traditional trades from skilled artisans, this is a place where history comes alive and where you can create your own unforgettable moments. While visiting Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad this weekend, get up close and personal with the equipment and vehicles that serve our community.

Date: July 6—July 7, 2024

Time: 10:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Location: 6140 Bray Rd. Flint, MI 48505

A VISION, A MISSION, A REALITY (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

poverty, lack of education, lack of positive peers and activities, family issues, and untreated mental health issues. By focusing on rehabilitation, investing in community-based programs, and building the Juvenile Justice Center we have created a system of care

that not only addresses the root causes of delinquency but also fosters hope and opportunity. —ri



CHIEF SPEAKS (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 2)

commitment to retaining youth in their community whenever it is possible.

From that date to today, the judges maintained that commitment.

On March 13, 2019, with unanimous support of the eleven

judges serving in the circuit and probate courts, the Board of Commissioners adopted the resolution to build the new Genesee County Juvenile Justice Center for court-involved youth. And on September 16, 2020, after thoughtful and thorough development and design, Genesee County broke ground on our new facility.

This moment was decades in the making. Many presiding judges of family court have worked on this—from Judge Tom Gadola to Judge Beagle to myself to Judge John Gadola. I want to extend my gratitude to everyone—and there are many—who have helped to make this facility a reality. Your hard work, dedication,

and belief in our mission have been instrumental in bringing this vision to life.

As we open the doors to this wonderful new facility, let us remember that every young person deserves a chance to lead a happy, healthy and meaningful life. —cjdjn



Read All About It



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

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