

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

THE CHIEF SPEAKS	2
ADMINISTRATOR CORNER	2
COURT TALENT	3
COURT BRIEFS	3
FLUSHING HIGH SCHOOL	4
RIBBON CANDY	5
LIVE SANTAS	5
ASK THE JUDGE	6
THE DIGITAL DOCKET	6
ADOPTION DAY	7
SIX PALLETS OF HISTORY	8
RITE OF PASSAGE	8
GENESEELIVING	9
SEASON OF LIGHTS	12
WORD SEARCH	12

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

**PUBLISHER**  
David Combs

**LAYOUT AND DESIGN**  
David Combs

**TECHNICAL ADVISORS**  
David Combs  
Tim Sweeney

**FEATURE ARTICLE**  
Barbara Menear

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**  
David Combs  
Kenda Herrick  
Rachel Hawrylo  
David Leyton  
Sam Olson  
Jennifer Strauel  
Kayla Withey  
Tricia Wright

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**  
David Combs  
Heather Davis  
Rachel Hawrylo  
Sam Olson  
Barbara Menear  
Jennifer Strauel  
Tricia Wright

**CHIEF JUDGE**  
David J. Newblatt



## MICHIGAN COURTS – THE EARLY YEARS

The Courts in Michigan started from what might be characterized as the top down. The Michigan Supreme Court came first. Taking a peak behind the judicial curtain, what came before the Michigan Supreme Court? What authority to address legal issues and seek enforcement of existing law was there before the establishment of the Michigan Supreme Court?

Native American tribes were prevalent in Michigan and had certainly established their own methods of accountability far before the early beginnings of what we call the Michigan Territory and then the State of Michigan on January 26, 1837.

In 1992, Chief Justice Michael F. Cavanagh initiated an important undertaking that added to his legacy. Along with Chief Judge Michael Petoskey of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Cavanagh established the Michigan Indian Tribal Court /State Court Forum. Common ground produced significant statewide reform, including the enactment of the *Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act*.

In 2014, the Michigan Supreme Court, under the direction of Cavanagh reestablished the Tribal State Federal Judicial Forum.

In 2002, the Michigan Hall of Justice was opened. Cavanagh oversaw the construction. It was said to be important to him that the courtrooms were round in honor of the peace-making and sentencing circles used by tribal courts.

Cavanagh tied with Justice James V. Campbell for the longest service on the Michigan Supreme Court. First elected in November 1982 and last elected in November 2006, Chief Justice from 1991-1995.

Jefferson to be the first Justice for the Territory of Michigan. Originally from Virginia, he was the first attorney to establish a law practice in the District of Columbia. It is speculated that he received his education from William and Mary College in Williamsburg, Virginia. Known to sleep in his office, which was kept in a disheveled manner, his writing skills were highly acclaimed.

Woodward was instrumental in the planning of the City of Detroit, along with other territorial leaders of the time. In 1824, he was appointed United States District Judge for the Territory of Florida.

There would be ten territorial Justices, the 9<sup>th</sup> of which was *George Morrell* (1786-1845). Morrell was appointed by President Andrew Jackson in 1832 to be a Justice for the Michigan Territory. In 1836, he went on to become the 2<sup>nd</sup> Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court and served until 1843.

He was known for advancing the writing of opinions which was not customary in the early years of the Court.

With no official reporter in attendance in the formative years, most of the early opinions were authored by Morrell. Morrell was born in Massachusetts and died in Detroit.



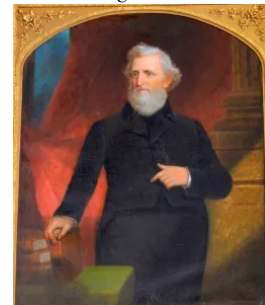
Augustus B. Woodward



George Morrell



William Fletcher



Ross Wilkins

Back to the early years...

*Augustus B. Woodward* (1774-1827) was appointed on March 3, 1805, by President Thomas

# THE CHIEF SPEAKS

When I visited Rome this August with my wife and another couple, there was one place I wanted to see more than any other—even more than Julius Caesar’s funeral pyre: the Rostra where Cicero’s severed head and hands were displayed. My wife and my friends thought I was nuts. And in a way, they were right—because the whole episode felt like a miniature reenactment of the choice Cicero spent his life warning Rome about.

Caesar is easy because he is so intoxicatingly charismatic, and his life—and especially his death—was a blaze of history as spectacle. That’s why we had to fight the crowds to see his funeral pyre. Cicero, by contrast, is boring because he requires you to care not about a charismatic hero, but about a system: republican government. There were no crowds to fight over Cicero. Even finding the Rostra is a kind of metaphor. No one today can say with certainty exactly where Antony’s men nailed Cicero’s head and hands. The Forum has been rebuilt and excavated so many times that finding “the” spot could only be an informed approximation, if anyone had cared enough to

even try. It was probably somewhere near the Arch of Septimius Severus, with the Curia—Rome’s Senate house—nearby. Still, it was the best I could do, so that’s where I went to pay my respects. Why would I do such a morbid thing? Because Cicero’s death is not just a gruesome anecdote; it is the price tag attached to a political temptation: the temptation to trade a republic for a ruler.

A republic is government by institutions—by laws, offices, procedures, limits and shared norms. It is built on the idea that no one person is the state and so sometimes it results in frustration and delay. The alternative is what Rome slid into: the pull toward a single commanding figure—first as “dictator,” later as emperor—who promises to cut through the mess, to make the trains run, to quiet the factions, to restore greatness. Julius Caesar embodied that pull.

Cicero spent his life trying to preserve the Roman Republic. He was a bridge between Greek political philosophy—Plato,

Aristotle, the Stoics—and practical governance. He wrote about duty, virtue, and the responsibilities of public life. And he lived it: a working lawyer, a senator, a consul—trying, case by case and speech by speech, to keep the system alive.

In Shakespeare’s play *Julius Caesar*, Cicero says, “Indeed, it is a

strange-disposed time; but men may construe things after their fashion, clean from the purpose of the things themselves.” This captures the mood—when facts become props, and institutions become obstacles, and people start “construing” everything to fit the story they want. After Caesar’s assassination, Rome’s strange-disposed time turned into open civil war. In that chaos Cicero made his final stand: the Philip-pics—fourteen speeches urging the Senate to resist Mark Antony, whom Cicero saw as another step toward one-man rule. But by then, words were no longer treated as reasons; they were seen as threats. In 43 BC, Cicero was hunted down and killed. His head—the head that thought—and his hands—the hands that wrote—were nailed to a plat-

form built for public speech. The message was unmistakable: this is what happens to the Republic’s defenders when it loses.

And yet Cicero’s defeat is not the end of his influence. In a long, strange way, it is the beginning of his afterlife. When Americans were learning how to build a republic—and how to keep it—they read Cicero. They drew from his moral grammar: power as trust, liberty as restraint, argument as the alternative to violence. And so our Constitution is based, in part, upon Cicero’s ideas, his example and his sacrifice.

I paid my respects to Cicero because he was murdered for defending the Roman Republic, which makes him a civic martyr—and, for those of us who wear a robe, a kind of patron saint. An emperor doesn’t need judges, except for decoration. But only independent judges can uphold the rule of law, which allows all of us to live within a republic. And we do this by thinking with our heads and writing with our hands. —cjdjn



## ADMINISTRATOR CORNER

The Genesee County Legal Resource Center (LRC) continues to be a major resource for people in our community who need help navigating the civil legal system. As the largest self-help center in Michigan, the LRC has been busier than ever. By November 30, 2025, more than 5,600 people had visited the center this year, and we even had our busiest week in November with 165 visitors. These numbers show just how much our community relies on the LRC for support, information, and a welcoming place to get help with court processes.

Looking around the state, the LRC’s impact really stands out. Macomb County—home to about 893,000 residents, more than double Genesee County’s population of roughly 402,000—has had a little over 7,500 visitors since its self-help center opened in early 2024. Even though Macomb is much larger, the LRC continues to see a higher usage rate per capita, showing how strong the need is here at home and how much people value the services we provide.

This local growth mirrors what’s happening statewide. Back in June 2025, Michigan had 40 Self-Help Centers at 65 sites across courts, libraries,



and community organizations. Since then, several new centers have opened, bringing the statewide total to 70 locations.

It’s an exciting time for access to justice in Michigan, with more communities gaining reliable places to get legal information and support.

Together, the LRC’s steady growth and the expansion of self-help centers across the state show a shared commitment to making the civil justice system easier to understand and more accessible for everyone. —rh



Left to Right: Amy Koshy, Joyce Krmel

There are additions to the court staff that we would like to introduce and welcome.

**Amy Koshy** is a court operations specialist in the legal records division of the Circuit Court. Amy was previously a paralegal in a family law private firm. Amy is already a great asset to the legal records division.

**Joyce Krmel** is the file clerk for Probate Court. Joyce has been filing in the legal records division for almost 2 years but is new to the Probate Court. You can find her smiling on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor or the 5<sup>th</sup> floor.

**Cori Grabow** is a FOC Specialist I in the enforcement area. Before

coming to FOC, Cori worked in early childhood learning.

**Sydney White** is a FOC Specialist I in the enforcement area. Before coming to FOC, Sydney worked as an athletic secretary at Woodland Elementary School. Prior to that, she worked as a clerk in the 67<sup>th</sup> District Court.

It takes a dedicated team to support the operation of the Courts. Thanks to our newest members for continuing the standard. -js

\*\* A welcome bag is being provided to our newest Court talent that includes a certificate of

welcome, downtown Flint information (restaurants, menus, parking, etc.) and other goodies.\*\*



Left to Right: Cori Grabow, Sydney White

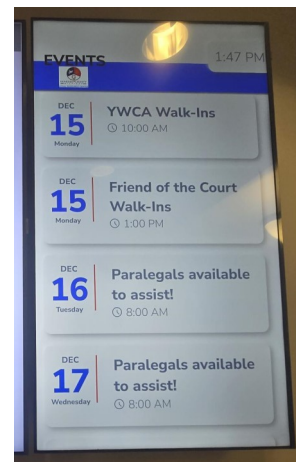


• Thank you to the volunteers who decorated the Courthouse this holiday season:

*Heather Davis  
Mychael Davis  
Carla Edmundson  
Stephanie Frank  
Rachel Hawrylo  
Aaron Labelle*

*Barbara Menear  
Sam Olson  
Nichole Ruby  
Steve Sowa  
Kelsea Wright  
Tricia Wright*

• A new digital display was added showcasing events for the Legal Resource Center



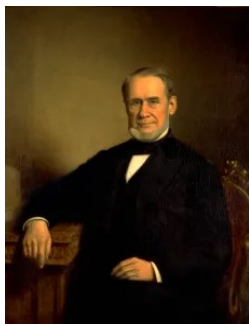
EVENTS		1:47 PM
DEC 15	YWCA Walk-Ins	10:00 AM
DEC 15	Friend of the Court Walk-Ins	1:00 PM
DEC 16	Paralegals available to assist!	8:00 AM
DEC 17	Paralegals available to assist!	8:00 AM

# MICHIGAN COURTS – THE EARLY YEARS (CONT'D)

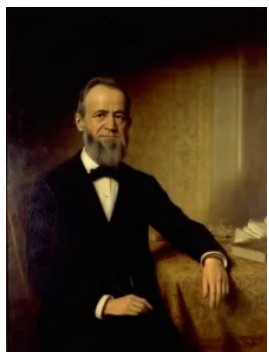
The 10th and final territorial Justice was *Ross Wilkins*, appointed in 1832 and so remained until Michigan was admitted as a state. He went on to serve in the federal judiciary until the state was divided into 2 regions, then continued to be a Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan. He served 38 continuous years in the judiciary. It has been said that Wilkins' term of service covered the most critical period marking the transition from Territory to Statehood.



James V. Campbell



Isaac P. Christiancy



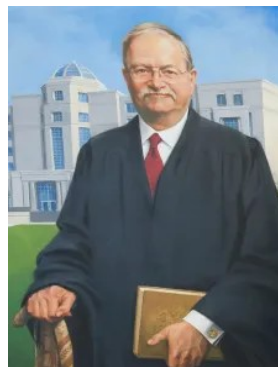
Thomas M. Cooley



Benjamin F. Graves

## 1850 and Beyond...

The State Constitution of 1850 created the Michigan Supreme Court and stated



Michael F. Cavanagh

that Circuit Judges would also serve as judges of the Supreme Court for six year terms. This arrangement

proved unsuccessful. One can only imagine, "riding the circuits" and going from location to location proved to be a plan worth abandoning as the judiciary developed.

In 1857, the legislature created a permanent Michigan Supreme Court, sitting en banc. *James V. Campbell* and *Isaac P. Christiancy* were the first 2 fulltime Justices. In 1867, *Thomas M. Cooley* was appointed while serving as the first Dean of the University of Michigan Law School. When

*Cooley* became Chief Justice in 1868, *Benjamin F. Graves* was elected to the Court. The association of "The Big Four" continued until *Christiancy* was elected to the United States Senate in 1875.

The Court was working with a new Constitution and beginning to shape the Court of the future. It has been written that they were known for exceptional intellect, measured discussion and awareness of their role in state history. Their collective intellect and reserve was recognized throughout the United States.

A look at our past and a foundation for our future. –bam

## Drum Roll...

*William A. Fletcher* had the honor of becoming the first Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court. Born in New Hampshire, he started out as a merchant and switched career paths, moving to New York to study law.

By 1821, he was in Detroit practicing law and had been appointed to Territorial positions. He was appointed Chief

Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court in 1836 and served until 1842. After retirement, he continued to serve as a Regent of the University of Michigan from 1842-1846. It is written that he married a wealthy woman in New York and left her to come to Michigan. After not hearing from him, she came to Michigan to look him up. Finding him deep in debt, she returned to New York.

the circuits" and going from location to location proved to be a plan worth abandoning as the judiciary developed.

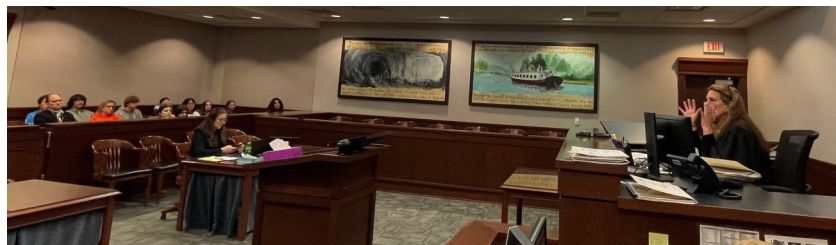
*Photo and reference Credit: Michigan Supreme Court Historical Reference Guide, The Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society, 1998*

*The Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society, Society Update, Fall 2025*

# FLUSHING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS VISIT COURTHOUSE

On December 11, 2025, students from Flushing High School visited the Courthouse and had the opportunity to attend a court session in the courtroom of Judge Elizabeth A. Kelly. Judge Kelly presided over her morning docket and spoke with the students. The photo was taken in her

courtroom. Two selections from the *LaVarne Ross, Historical Series*, are featured in Judge Kelly's courtroom. –bam



## HOLIDAY CANDY WITH A LONG TRADITION

The original ribbon candy came from Europe in the 1800s.

The whole process was done by hand, with the maker shaping the candy around his or her thumb.

That was until, of all people, a dentist named Dr. Philip Benjamin Laskey invented the first mechanical candy crimper in Massachusetts in 1886.

Laskey patented the device, and his son manufactured the crimpers. —bam



## WINTER ON MACKINAC ISLAND —NO HORSES—



## WHEN DID LIVE SANTAS START APPEARING IN SHOPPING STORES?

Several stores claim to be the first to have a live Santa on the premises, but Philadelphia confectioner and dry goods store owner James Parkinson appears to have beat other retailers to the punch, hiring a man to play Kris Kringle in 1841. By 1846, at least three other Philadelphia merchants had their own Santa Claus, one of whom had his own “saloon” in the store where children could pay him a visit.

Next came department stores, which opened in urban centers throughout the country, beginning in the 1860s and 1870s.

By the turn of the century, department store Santas had become a firmly established retail tradition. Holiday decorations became more elaborate, and some larger department stores began holding parades during the holiday season.

Gimbel’s was first, holding a parade in Philadelphia in 1920, followed by Hudson’s in Detroit in 1923 and Macy’s in New York City in 1924. Santa was a key player in these holiday events,

typically serving as the master of ceremonies or grand marshal.

Locally, Smith Bridgman’s Department Store in downtown Flint had a Santa for many years and the Genesee Valley Mall took over the local Santa Scene. —bam



## ICE



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

ICE appeared in the October 1, 2025 edition.

The United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE) has received widespread publicity since Donald Trump took office this year.

This is primarily the result of increased ICE enforcement actions in arresting and detaining individuals who allegedly are in the United States illegally.

Even though the agency’s name is familiar to most, its history and statutory authority are not.

Accordingly, I present a brief ICE history and what its authorized to do.

ICE traces its roots back to 1789 when the U.S. Customs Service was created to regulate imported goods.

The Office of Immigration was subsequently created by Congress to enforce a variety of immigration laws.

In 2002 Congress enacted the Homeland Security Act following 9/11, which combined the functions of these two agencies and resulted in the formation of the Department of Homeland Security.

ICE is a part of this department.

Its primary mission is to preserve American security and public safety by enforcing immigration laws.

The statute gives federal immigration officers authority to perform a wide variety of immigration enforcement actions.

These include: 1) Interrogating any alien, or person believed to be an alien, as to their right to be or remain in the United States; 2) To arrest a suspect without a warrant if they are in the United States illegally; 3) To arrest a suspect with a warrant for federal law violations; 4) To board and search for aliens, any vessel within our territorial waters, railway cars, aircraft, conveyances, or vehicles, under certain conditions; 5) To patrol interior lands which are within 25 miles of an external border to prevent illegal alien entry; 6) To arrest for immigration law felonies, felonies committed in their presence, or other felonies, if they have probable cause; 7) To search the person of an individual seeking admission if it’s reasonably believed

they shouldn’t be granted admission.

Additionally, ICE may delegate its authority to police agencies.

To date, over 600 agencies have received such authority nationally, including six in Michigan.

In 2025 there have been nearly 200,000 ICE deportations, with approximately 60,000 individuals in detention waiting for deportation actions.

The favorability rating of ICE depends on one’s party affiliation.

An August 2025 Pew Research Center poll showed 72% Republican approval compared to 13% approval by Democrats.

We live in interesting times.



## THE DIGITAL DOCKET:

### WHEN AI MEETS THE COURTROOM

Artificial intelligence is rapidly becoming a part of our everyday lives. As these tools become more common, courts should be aware of both their benefits and the risks they introduce into the judicial process.

Generative AI tools can produce legal text that sounds authoritative but may include incorrect citations, outdated law, or completely fabricated cases. Courts around the country have already seen filings containing non-existent authorities generated by AI known as “hallucinations” ([Freedman, 2025](#)). Requiring AI safeguards to verify citations and

disclose when AI tools are used may help prevent these errors.

Understanding how AI works is an important consideration for court staff. Many AI systems operate by sending user-submitted text or documents to remote servers. If users enter privileged or sealed material into these tools without proper safeguards, they may inadvertently compromise confidentiality.

There should be no expectation of privacy with a remote AI system. Educating court users and staff will be paramount as AI continues to expand.

AI also presents opportunities for self-represented litigants who

struggle with legal complexity. AI-based guidance can improve understanding and help them navigate procedures more effectively. Self-represented litigants are still exposed to the same shortfalls of AI generated content.

The future of AI is inevitable, but with thoughtful adoption we all stand to benefit. As courts adapt to these emerging technologies, the priority should be responsible and transparent use of AI. Clear policies, staff training, and user education will help ensure that these tools improve access to justice without compromising trust.

County IT is actively working to prepare for a future with AI. A survey was sent to all county staff to understand how AI is currently being used across departments. On December 2, 2025, court leadership, among other county leadership, met to review the survey results and begin developing policies that promote responsible AI use within a secure, data-protected environment. —djc



# ADOPTION DAY BRINGS JOY TO THE COURTHOUSE

The Adoption Day event on the fifth floor of the Historic Genesee County Courthouse celebrated four families becoming whole – with Judge Barkey presiding over the ceremonies for the final time. On Tuesday, November 25, 2025, the Genesee County Probate Court and Family Division of the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court hosted the first in-person celebration since 2020, to highlight “Families Found in Every Form.”

Courtroom 506 was the location for a wonderful afternoon of celebration. Cole Williams, an adoptive parent and Executive Director and Co-Founder of The Delta Project, was the keynote speaker.

Judge Barkey, in her usual fashion, spoke to the importance of children having a childhood, something adoptive parents help to provide: “Love is the only thing that matters, it really is...by doing this public celebration, hopefully we will motivate other people to step up...because children who have families have a childhood. And you don’t have much of a life if you don’t have a childhood.”

A big “thank you” is in order to the Juvenile Records Office and the Adoptions Unit. Special acknowledgements to Darius Baylock and Brennan Sims for diligent and thoughtful planning for the event.

Lastly but not least, a heartfelt congratulations and Thank You to Judge Barkey. –so



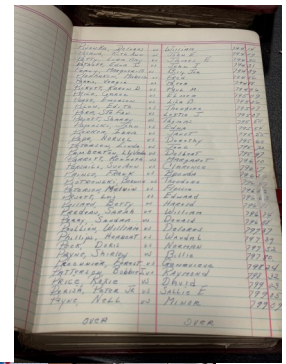
# SIX PALLETS OF HISTORY

In 1979, the Clerk’s Office started using computers and a case management system to keep a digital Register of Actions. Prior to this, Register of Actions were kept in large books and all in handwritten form. When a case was filed in the Clerk’s Office, the clerk would put the parties’ names in the index of the current book by case type along with the case number. Thus began the Register of Actions for that case.

In early December, I went to Graphic Sciences in Madison Heights to inventory 6 pallets of these books. I was able to get the volume number from the book, the case number range for each book and the year the book was created. The books consisted of 202

Chancery or Domestic books, 20 Law or Criminal books, 90 Civil books and 4 Appeal books for a total of 316 books. The dates range from 1882 to 1979. The history that was there in those six pallets was amazing and makes me wonder how the clerks were able to keep track of all of those cases without computers.

Earlier this year, the Legal Records Division began work on a records retention project. This project will include the moving of the books along with a range of files from our off-site storage to the Archives of Michigan for permanent storage. –tw



## RITE OF PASSAGE: SUPPORTING YOUTH, STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

Rite of Passage serves court-involved youth referred by Juvenile Probation in their Evening Learning Center and Community-Based Supervision Programs. Many people are unaware of the services provided to youth in our community and I thought it would be insightful to highlight the contribution made by Rite of Passage.

Kenda Herrick, Juvenile Probation Supervisor

At Rite of Passage, our mission is to empower court-involved youth in Genesee County with the structure, support, and opportunities they need to get their lives back on track. Each young person we serve brings unique challenges and strengths, and our team is committed to helping them build stability, responsibility, and long-term success.

We help youth re-engage in school, gain employment, and access therapeutic services tailored to their needs. Students also explore career pathways through trade experiences and develop healthy habits through wellness activities, fitness, and positive social engagement.

Community involvement is central to our program. This year, students have filled local food pantries, volunteered at a homeless shelter, and are preparing to serve at the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan—experiences that build empathy and help them see their value within the community.

We also create opportunities for joy and connection through positive outings and cultural experiences. Students have attended Detroit Tigers games, visited local parks, celebrated the holidays together, and recently enjoyed an evening exploring the Flint Cultural Cen-



ter. We look forward to upcoming experiences, including a Detroit Pistons game.

At Rite of Passage, we are proud of our students’ progress and grateful for the continued support of the community and court system as we work together to help youth grow, give back, and succeed. –kw



# geneseeLIVING

4, 2026

[Flint Institute of Arts \(FIA\)](#)

Dec22



[Ride the Spicer Express & Santa Photos at Spicers Orchard](#)

Recurring weekly on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday until December 23, 2025

[Spicer Orchards Farm Market, Winery & Tasting Room](#)

Dec22



[The Accidental Astronauts](#)

Recurring weekly on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday until December 28, 2025

[Longway Planetarium](#)

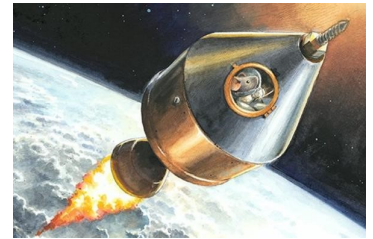
Dec22



[Threads of Time](#)

Recurring every week day until January 12, 2026  
[Flint Institute of Arts Museum + Art School \(FIA\)](#)

Dec23

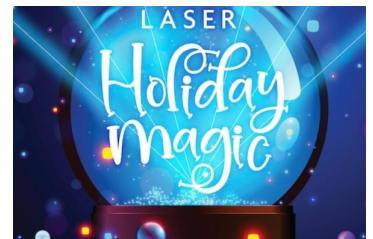


[Armstrong - The Adventurous Journey of a Mouse to the Moon](#)

Recurring weekly on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday until December 27, 2025

[Longway Planetarium](#)

Dec23



[Laser Holiday Magic | Laser Light Show](#)

Recurring weekly on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday until January 4, 2026

[Longway Planetarium](#)

Dec23



[Skies Over Michigan](#)

Recurring weekly on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday until January 3, 2026

[Longway Planetarium](#)

Dec24

Winter events from [www.exploreflintandgenesees.org](http://www.exploreflintandgenesees.org)

Dec22



[A Symphony of Glass: Paperweights from the Ellis Collection](#)

Recurring weekly on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday until March 1, 2026

[Flint Institute of Arts Museum + Art School \(FIA\)](#)

Dec22



[Bicentennial Park Holiday Walking Night Scavenger Hunt Night](#)

[Grand Blanc Parks & Recreation Creasey Bicentennial Park](#)

Dec22



[Cosmic Christmas](#)

Recurring weekly on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday until December 30, 2025

[Longway Planetarium](#)

Dec22



[DRIVE THRU ONLY: Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic Crossroads Village and Huckleberry Railroad](#)

Dec22

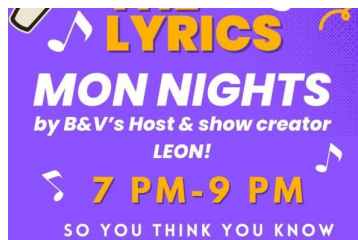


[Echoes of Nature: 200 Years of Japanese Printmaking](#)

Recurring daily until January 18, 2026

[Flint Institute of Arts Museum + Art School \(FIA\)](#)

Dec22



[Finish the Lyrics - Music Trivia Show with Leon](#)

Recurring weekly on Monday until December 29, 2025

[Barley & Vine](#)

Dec22



[Metamorphosis: The Art of Found Objects and Collage](#)

Recurring daily until January

(Continued on page 10)

# geneseeLIVING (CONT'D)



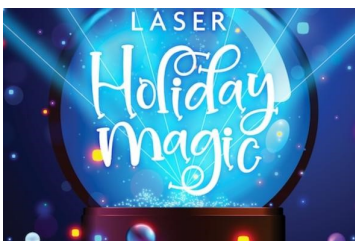
**HomeTown Pub**  
with **F & D Karaoke**  
BOGO **FrankE & DawnE Karaoke**  
1/2 off **WINGS**  
\$2 Ice cold **Fireball**  
\$5 Long  
**FrankE & DawnE Karaoke**  
Recurring weekly on Wednesday  
**S & K Hometown Pub**

Dec24



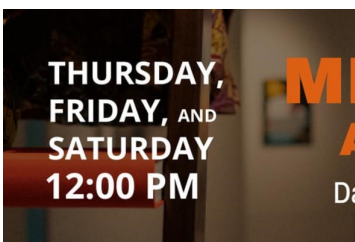
**WIP Wednesdays Workshop**  
Recurring weekly on Wednesday  
Breads & Threads Handmade

Dec25



**Laser Holiday Magic | Evening Laser Light Show**  
Recurring weekly on Thursday, Friday, Saturday until January 3, 2026  
**Longway Planetarium**

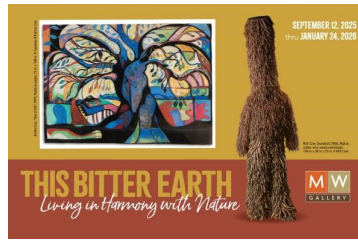
Dec25



**Midday at MW: Daily Guided Tours**  
Recurring weekly on Thursday, Friday, Saturday

## Mott-Warsh Collection Gallery

Dec25



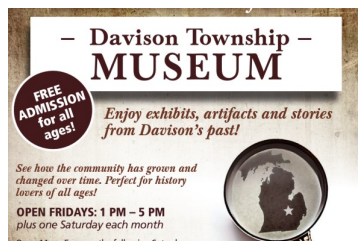
**THIS BITTER EARTH**  
*Living in Harmony with Nature*  
Recurring weekly on Thursday, Friday, Saturday until January 24, 2026  
Mott-Warsh Collection Gallery

Dec26



**Christmas Holiday Magic at Crossroads**  
**Crossroads Village and Huckleberry Railroad**

Dec26



**Davison Township Museum**  
Recurring weekly on Friday  
**Davison Township Museum**

Dec27



**Holiday Craft Show at the**

## Davison Farmers Market Davison Farmers Market

Dec27



**Winter Break - Owl Prowl**  
**For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum**

Dec28



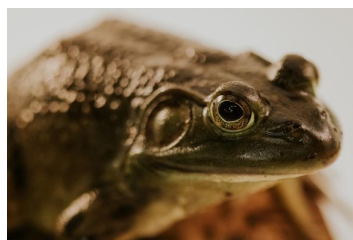
**Flint Firebirds OHL Hockey**  
**Dort Financial Center**

Dec29



**Winter Break Camp: Winter Survival Skills**  
**For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum**

Dec30



**Winter Break Camp: Animal Explorers**  
**For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum**

Dec31



**2nd Annual Roaring 20s New Year's Eve Gala**  
**Whaley Historic House Museum of Flint**

Dec31



**New Year's Eve Dinner at Fenton Winery & Brewery**  
**Fenton Winery & Brewery/ Dream Machine Distillery**

Jan02



**2026 Galaxy Gala: A New Years Space Bash**  
**The Social Event Center & Lounge**

Jan02

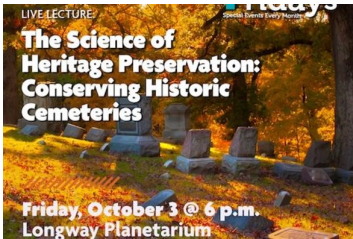


**432 40th Anniversary Event - Christmas Giveaway**  
**Red Ink Flint/Flint Local 432**

(Continued on page 11)

# geneseeLIVING (CONT'D)

Jan02



First Fridays at Longway Planetarium

Recurring monthly on the 1st Friday  
Longway Planetarium

Jan03



5th Annual Rock Never Stops Tribute Tour  
The Machine Shop Concert Lounge

Jan03



El Ballet Folkorico  
Gloria Coles Flint Public Library - C.S. Mott Foundation Community Room

Jan03



Rock Never Stops Tour - Rock of Love, Rat Trap, Armageddon

The Machine Shop Concert Lounge

Jan03



Whaley Historic House Museum Open Tours

Recurring monthly on the 1st Saturday

Whaley Historic House Museum

Jan07



Cooking with Ming: Crab Rangoon  
Forest Township Library

Jan08



Violin & Piano Duo: The Soundtrack of Our Lives  
Flint Township-McCarty Library

Jan09



Flint ARTWALK

Recurring monthly on the 2nd Friday  
Greater Flint Arts Council

Jan09

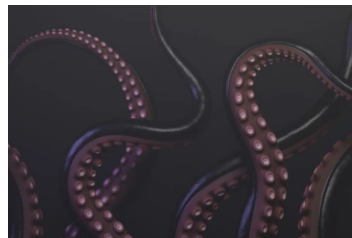


Gilded Game Night

Recurring monthly on the 2nd Friday

Whaley Historic House Museum

Jan09



Second Friday | History of the Universe Series: 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea

Recurring monthly on the 2nd Friday until January 9, 2026

Longway Planetarium

Jan09



Ventana wsg/Psyclon Nine, Cultus Black  
The Machine Shop Concert Lounge

Jan10



Jump - America's Van Halen Experience  
The Machine Shop Concert Lounge

Jan10



Sensory-Friendly Planetarium Shows

Recurring monthly on the 2nd Saturday  
Longway Planetarium

Jan10



Timothy's Pub Comedy Headlining Sean Shank  
Timothy's Pub

Jan10



World Record Holder: Juggler Nick Thomas  
Grand Blanc-McFarlen Library

# HANUKKAH

## FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS



Hanukkah celebrates the re-dedication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem after the Maccabees' victory over forces of oppression in the 2nd century BCE, symbolizing the triumph of light over darkness and religious freedom, marked by a miraculous eight-day burning of oil for the Temple's menorah, hence the name "Festival of Lights". -dl

The neo-classical revival architectural design elements are a stately and attention getting backdrop for the seasonal lighting. The 1926 Courthouse is on both the state and federal registers of historic sites. Designed by Frederick D. Madison, Royal Oak, Michigan, it was soon followed by construction of the Genesee County Jail (1930), same architect and similar design, located on the Courthouse Square.

# CHRISTMAS LIGHTS



Red and green became the traditional Christmas colors a very long time ago, according to some sources. Holly plants with their red berries were brought into homes on the Winter Solstice to serve as a reminder that color would return in the spring. The tradition would eventually be thought of as *decking the halls*. -bam



S I C E S K A T I N G U S M L  
 A H S O O S N O W M A N B I E  
 M I E Y L L W J A T P D D T D  
 T T I A S E W D S H O R A T M  
 S E R D T D I O T O A N C E N  
 I K R I I L R Q W Z R J R N R  
 R C U L C F V E Z E V G I S H  
 H A L O E Z R I B Q I G L O O  
 C J F H C I L I R F R O Z E N  
 Q F N X F B H I Z S C A R F A

BLIZZARD	FROST	ICE SKATING	SCARF
CHRISTMAS	FROZEN	IGLOO	SLED
FIREWOOD	HIBERNATE	JACKET	SNOWMAN
FLURRIES	HOLIDAY	MITTENS	SOLSTICE



★ Read All About It ★

Hearsay is now available on the Circuit Court website [www.7thCircuitCourt.com/hearsay-newsletter](http://www.7thCircuitCourt.com/hearsay-newsletter)

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