

UpFront

By Naseem Stecker and Samantha Meinke

"Can You Balance the Scales of Justice?" Exhibit Debuts



Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Marilyn Kelly and Justice Alton Davis prepare to cut the ribbon in front of the "Can You Balance the Scales of Justice?" exhibit at the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center on Wednesday, September 15. The new interactive exhibit, featuring moveable scales of justice, aims to get students thinking about how race, gender, and other factors impact access to justice in the legal system. ■



State Bar of Michigan photos

Justices Alton Davis, Diane Hathaway, and Michael Cavanagh and Chief Justice Marilyn Kelly take questions from visiting students from City School in Grand Blanc and St. Mark's Christian Academy in Troy. The Learning Center is located on the ground floor of the Hall of Justice in Lansing. Walk-in visitors are welcome Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Docent-led tours can be reserved for a group of eight or more by calling (517) 373-7589. ■



Virginia Morgan (third from left), a federal magistrate judge for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, visited Scarlett Middle School in Washtenaw County on Friday, September 17, to present a program for students about Constitution Day. Also pictured, from left to right, are student teacher Chelsea Raupp, teacher Joan Grissing, attorney Suellyn Scarneccchia, and law clerk Jessica Sprovtsoff. ■

Celebrating Constitution Day



Attorney Drew McGuinness visited Tappan Middle School. Lawyers in Washtenaw County presented materials and exercises to sixth- and seventh-graders in the Ann Arbor Public School District regarding the Sixth Amendment issues of *voir dire* and the Confrontation Clause. In all, they reached about 2,750 students. State Bar Commissioner Lori Buiteweg coordinated the effort, which involved 36 lawyers. ■

Courtesy photos by Frank Weir, Washtenaw County Legal News

Photo by John Meiu, courtesy of Detroit Legal News



Back row, left to right: Dan Matthews, Michael Schloff, Judge Leo Bowman, David Haron, Thomas Rombach, W. Anthony Jenkins, James Vlastic, Alan Gershel, Joseph Papelian, Eugene Bolanowski, and Frank Aiello. **Second row:** Regina Daniels Thomas, Ava Ortner, Judge Edward Ewell, Judge Frederick Mester, and Judge Harold Hood. **Front row:** John Nussbaumer, Georgia Hill, Lauren Rousseau, Monica Navarro, Judge Bryan Levy, Anthony Bellanca, Jennifer Grieco, and Steven W. Dulan.

SBM Disabilities Project Newsletter Hits Five-Year Anniversary

In November 2004, the first disabilities newsletter, "Deaf and the Hard of Hearing," was distributed to Michigan attorneys and others interested in disabilities issues. It was intended to be the first in a year-long quarterly series funded in part by a grant from the Newman Foundation.

Because of the dedication of the volunteer members of the SBM Disabilities Workgroup, the newsletter has continued on a quarterly basis since its launch.

Each newsletter tackles a specific topic such as "Autism and the Courts" and "Accommodating a Person with a Visual Disability in the Courts" and contains concise and helpful information for attorneys, judges, litigants, witnesses, jurors, and the general public.

The newsletter, which began with approximately 400 subscribers, now has a subscriber count of 739.

To read issues of the newsletter online, visit www.michbar.org/programs/equalaccess.cfm. To subscribe to the newsletter, visit <http://www.michbar.org/publications/signup.cfm#disabilitynews>. ■

"Professionalism in Action" Gathering Momentum

The State Bar's Professionalism in Action program, inaugurated last year at Thomas M. Cooley Law School's Auburn Hills campus, has been gathering momentum. At a recent session on the campus, 25 lawyers, judges, and faculty members participated along with 170 freshmen law students. State Bar President W. Anthony Jenkins was the

keynote speaker and praised Cooley for its leadership in launching this program, which is now being replicated at other law schools in the state. The program emphasizes the importance of ethics and civility using pre-selected hypothetical situations and small group discussions among law students, lawyers, and judges. ■

DeYonker Receives Business Law Section's Schulman Award



Alex DeYonker, executive vice president and general counsel at Spartan Stores, Inc. and a former managing partner with Warner, Norcross and Judd, LLP, has been named recipient of

the 2010 Stephen H. Schulman Award by the SBM Business Law Section. The award honors those who consistently exemplify the highest standards of professionalism and

practice and an unwavering dedication to service, ethical conduct, and collegiality in the practice of business law. DeYonker, a Detroit native and long-time Grand Rapids resident, has a long history with the Business Law Section, including serving as chair in 1994–1995.

The award is named after Prof. Stephen Schulman, who taught business law courses during a lengthy tenure at Wayne State University Law School in Detroit. He was also instrumental in drafting much of Michigan's corporate law that is still in place today. ■

New ACES Faces



Courtesy photo

The Arts, Communications, Entertainment and Sports (ACES) Section held a summer social recently. Pictured left to right are John M. Kamins, incoming ACES chair; Pamela Osborne, incoming ACES chair-elect; and Ethan Bordman, 2010 ACES chair. The section provides education, information, and analysis about issues of concern through meetings, seminars, its website, public service programs, and its newsletter. Membership in the section is open to all State Bar members. For more information, visit <http://www.michbar.org/arts>. ■