



BRIEFLY

The Seventh Judicial District Newsletter
161 Hall of Justice, Rochester, New York 14614
(585) 371-3266 www.nycourts.gov/courts/7jd
January 27, 2016 Vol. 36—No. 1



Congratulations and Welcome to the 7th JD new judges

Hon. James A. Vazzana has been elected to Monroe County Family Court. Judge Vazzana has been in private practice since 1990. He graduated from the University of Rochester and has his law degree from Dayton School of Law. Judge Vazzana was involved with youth soccer, Pop Warner football, basketball and many other panels and boards in the Rochester area.



L to R: Hon. John Owens, Hon. James Vazzana and his wife Dina, with children Jimmy, Russell and Victoria.



L to R: Hon. John Owens, Hon. Judith Sinclair with her husband, Tom and her two daughters, Chilsea and Morgan Sinclair.

Hon. Judith Sinclair was elected to Monroe Supreme Court. Justice Sinclair has been in private practice since 1991 as a criminal defense attorney. She graduated from State University College at Buffalo with a bachelors in Political Science and a minor in Economics. She completed her law degree at Albany Law School.

Hon. William Taylor was elected to Monroe Supreme Court. Justice Taylor is a Pittsford Town Justice, has served as an Acting Rochester City Court judge, worked in the District Attorney's Office and was a law clerk to Hon. Richard C. Wesley. He was also an adjunct criminal justice professor at Roberts Wesleyan College. Judge Taylor earned his undergraduate degree at SUNY Fredonia and his law degree at SUNY Buffalo. Besides the many civic duties he has, he coaches his children on several teams for the Pittsford Little league, CYP Basketball Program and the Pittsford Mustangs Soccer Club. Congratulations to everyone!



L to R: Hon. Richard Wesley, Hon. William Taylor, his wife Kim and Matthew Olivia and Robert. Youngest son Luke is not pictured.



OBITUARY Anita Fodera passed away peacefully on Thursday, January 14th. She was the mother of **Lorraine Fodera, Wayne Family Court and the grandmother of Adriane Kidder, Livingston Family Court.** Anita is predeceased by her husband of 58 years, Anthony Fodera and her sister Mary DeSouza. Anita is survived by her three daughters; Anne (Dan) Kusnetzky, Marie (Mark) Peck, Lorraine (Henry) Jones, four grandchildren; Adam (Sarah) Peck, Brian (Jordan) Peck, Jacqueline Peck, Adriane (Jess) Kidder, and 3 great-grandchildren. Cards of condolence may be sent to Lorraine and her family c/o Wayne Family Court, 54 Broad Street, Lyons, NY 14489 and to Adriane Kidder c/o Livingston Family Court, 2 Court Street, Geneseo, NY 14454.

Ernestine Bentham, grandmother of **Cheri Beschler, 7th District Office – Automation Unit,** recently passed away at the age of 86 in Randolph, NY. There will be no visitation observed. The family will hold a memorial and reception to celebrate her life, in the near future. Cards of condolence may be sent to Cheri c/o 7th District Office, 161 Hall of Justice, 99 Exchange Blvd., Rochester, NY 14614.

WELCOME TO:

Jaya Madhavan Court Attorney-Referee Monroe County Court from NYC Civil Court in the Bronx

Kathleen L Perrault Principal Court Attorney to Family and Acting Supreme Court Justice Dandrea Ruhlmann in Monroe Family Court

Karen A. Bianchi, Court Reporter in Rochester City Court

Elizabeth I. Brucie, Court Reporter in Monroe Supreme & County

Patrick J. Flaherty, Senior Court Office Assistant in Ontario County →



L to R: Karen and Elizabeth

Nicole Bayly-Henshaw is now a Principal Court Attorney to Family and Acting Justice James Walsh in Monroe Family Court.

Congratulations on your retirement!

Diane Crewe, retired 12/30/15 from Monroe S&C. Diane served 12 years as an Assistant Court Analyst and a Case Manager for Drug Treatment Court.

Catherine Kelliher, retired 12/31/15 after 11 years of service in Monroe Surrogates Court as a Senior Court Office Assistant.

SAVE THE DATE: February 4, 2015 Noon to 2PM HOT COCOA DAY Details to follow



Congratulations!

Tricia Hendrickson, LAN Administrator in the 7th District and her husband Tim, welcomed Sophia Marie Hendrickson on Saturday, January 2, 2016 at 3:40 PM. She was 7 lbs., 6 oz. and 19 inches long. They are all doing GREAT!



“Is your UCS/Kronos ID about to expire? If so, please e-mail 7thHumanResources@nycourts.gov with your name and expiration date. We will be happy to order you a new one!

Thanks! -Human Resources Staff

On Friday, December 18, 2015 Cayuga County Multi-Bench held its Annual Secret Santa Holiday Breakfast. There were 21 participants, tons of food and a log of good cheer.

CAYUGA COUNTY NEWS



Back row : Dorothea Ettman, Carol Colvin, Nancy Quill, Maryanne Marr, Sharon Costantino, Deb Indelicato, Kelly Wejko, Kathy Fagan, Nancy Hussey, Diane Gove, Deb Robillard, Kim Piersielak, Donna Hoey Seated: Marcie Pennella, Trish Geer, Lisa Giacona, Laura Serafino Front: Kathleen Cunningham, Sue Williamson and Janet Lasalle

Wayne County News

In celebration of Black History Month and Martin Luther King's birthday, Tara Wiggins, Senior Court Office Assistant Wayne Supreme & County Court has created a display in the courthouse. Way to Go Tara!!



The staff from the Children's Center (in Monroe County Hall of Justice) would like to wish each of you a very Happy New Year. We would like to thank you for your continued support and for all of your efforts that helped make 2015 a successful year in our Center. The 2016 Advisory Board dates have been scheduled, we are excited to move forward into the new year with your support and shared ideas.

In 2016 we had 4,434 children visit the Center; of that number 1551 were first time visitors. We served 3,059 families and provided 1294 referrals to children and families in need. We sent over 4000 books home with children, and provided 500 oral hygiene kits to families. I am grateful for my permanent staff as well as the over 30 volunteers that enabled us to provide quality care to our children. In 2016 we look forward to enhancing our services and continuing our mission to serve those most vulnerable.

The future Advisory Board dates are:

January 28, 2016 April 14, 2016 July 14, 2016 October 13, 2016

All meetings are scheduled in Room 515 of the HOJ, 12:45 PM -1:30 PM

We look forward to sharing our Center news with you and thank each of you for your commitment.

Warm Regards, *Eileen and staff*

Congratulations to Hank Jesserer on his retirement!

Henry Jesserer III has retired from the UCS after 20 years of service as a Principal Law Clerk to Judge and Court Attorney-Referee. Congratulations!

Pictured L to R: Bill Deninger, Chief Clerk Monroe S & C, Hank, Lisa Preston, Deputy Chief Clerk Monroe S & C and Mary Aufleger, Senior Management Analyst



CHARLOTTE'S ANGELS 2015

Many thanks to everyone who donated gifts to Charlotte's Angels this past Holiday Season. 2015 was a successful season in that our "secret santas" lovingly and selflessly gave over **230 Gifts** to **53 men, women and children** in our community. Families in need from a local charities assisting children, families and veterans received 4-5 gifts each and thanks to the many additional donations, we were able to give some of the moms we adopted extras like lotions, ornaments and jewelry. Gift cards that were donated were used for wishes that we couldn't fulfill and a couple of our secret santa angel employees donated cash which we were able to use to buy a super warm winter coat for a mom who desperately needed one, in addition to being able to buy more gift bags and wrapping paper. Extra games and toys that were donated were graciously appreciated and used to make sure each child from the same family received the same amount of gifts.

A special thank you to Kathy McLean and Racine Walton from the Appellate Division for organizing and collecting gifts for Charlotte's Angels over in their building. Because of the employees at the Appellate Division who participated, we were able to adopt 4 more families than we had originally asked for. We are so grateful to the Appellate Division for being part of Charlotte's Angels and we appreciate the time and dedication involved in organizing this every year.

Lastly, we thank all of the employees who gave their time to help gather up gifts from the designated areas. The constant follow up and communication, especially during the busy holiday month, can add to our already hectic schedules, yet there were so many who offered help and did so without hesitation. Thank you to Cecelia Crone from City Court for donating multiple rolls of wrapping paper for next year's gifts and storage bins for all our supplies. I feel that the qualities we exude during the Holidays embodies the true purpose of Charlotte's Angels and is the purest example of the love that Charlotte had in her heart for other people, whether they were friends or strangers.

During some of the gift drop offs, Nichole and I were able to meet some of the men we adopted because they helped us carry in the gifts! Through the many thank yous, hugs and tears...they all couldn't believe that all of those gifts were for them. Especially those that had children. They wanted us to thank ALL OF YOU. We made sure they knew that the gifts came from a very large, compassionate and giving group of people who wanted to make sure they were going to have a Happy Holiday!



Upper right picture (left to right): Nichole Zanni, Mandy McAvoy, Racine Walton, Kathy McClean



-submitted by Mandy McAvoy, Rochester City Court



Though it can be a source of comfort at the end of a long day, late-night snacking adds unnecessary calories to your diet and can lead to weight gain. Eating late at night means you're consuming calories at a time when your body is unlikely to burn them off before sleeping, which can lead to those calories being directed to your body's fat stores. To avoid this problem, it is important to think about what you are eating after the sun sets and re-examine why it is that you choose that time of night to munch.

Discovering Your Motivation—Ending late-night snacking starts with discovering what you are getting out of the behavior in the first place. Is it the taste of the foods that you are craving? Are you finding yourself still hungry at the end of the day? Are you bored and looking for an activity that you enjoy? Are you trying to repress loneliness? All of these reasons for eating late at night can be helped with some modification of your behavior.

Enjoying Your Snacks—If your primary motivation for eating late is that you have snacks that you enjoy, not being able to eat them at all can lead you to obsess over them. You might find that they become a temptation you simply cannot overcome. To avoid this problem, allow yourself a reasonable amount of this particular snack food during the day or just after dinner, rather than late at night.

Eating Late Due to Hunger—If you find yourself hungry late at night, there are two quick fixes that can overcome that hunger pain without indulging in an after-hours snack. Consider eating dinner later so that you aren't hungry later in the evening. If you don't believe that timing is the problem, take a look at what you are eating for dinner. Is it satisfying? Is it leaving you hungry when you leave the table? Be sure that your dinner is well-balanced and that your plate includes both healthy fats and protein to leave you feeling satisfied when you finish that last bite.

The second option to avoid hunger is to go to bed earlier so that temptation won't strike you when it gets later. Experiment with earlier bedtimes to find the right one that won't leave you raiding the refrigerator later.

Eating Out of Boredom—Many people who snack late at night report that they are simply bored and looking for something to do. The late hour leaves people with a low level of energy, and snacking provides an easy, mindless activity. It's easy for snacking and TV to make for an entertaining night that packs on the pounds. Focus on finding another activity that allows you to engage in something fun during this low-energy time. You may not feel like doing anything very physical, but leafing through magazines, doing simple crafts or browsing the Internet are all things that are easy to do when you're bored at night.

Reaching Out to Others—If loneliness is what is causing you to eat, it's possible that you are snacking to repress your feelings. Instead of reaching for a snack, try reaching out to a friend or family member when loneliness strikes. Even if it's late at night, it's never too late to send out emails and engage with your friends on social media.

It may take time to get out of the habit of late-night snacking, but once you understand the reason that you do it and what you can replace it with, you can expect to lose weight and feel less guilt about your eating habits.

- Spark People, Lizz S. 12/29/15

We are still cleaning house!

The District Office has lots of used binders, in different sizes to give away. Also, hundreds of green legal size hanging folders and about 50 letter size hanging folders. E-mail Darleen Holmes at dholmes@nycourts.gov if you are interested.



CONGRATULATIONS TO MEG DIMARTINO ON HER RETIREMENT!!

Margaret DiMartino, retired 12/31/15 with 29 years of service of various positions, most recently as Chief Clerk in Yates Supreme & County and Commissioner of Jurors. Meg's party was held on December 18, 2015 at the Elks Club in Canandaigua. Friends and family came out to wish her well.

(L to R) Randy Schwingle – Retired court security sergeant, Margaret Calder, Maryanne Townsend, Vanessa Smith, Pamela House, Tammy James, Judge Falvey, Carol Winslow, Matthew Renslow, Liz Lombardo, Marian Strickland, Margaret DiMartino and Kate Smith



Hon. W. Patrick Falvey, Marian Strickland, Margaret Calder, and Meg DiMartino

Vanessa Smith, Meg and Carol Winslow



2007



(L to R) Jimmy, Tony, Meg, Anthony and Gabe DiMartino



2004



2005



2002

JANUARY 2016 WELLNESS EVENT

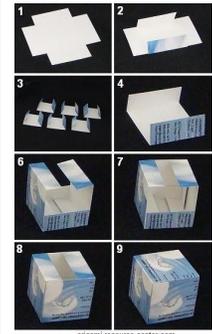


60 employees started the year out right by attending the exercise event held in the Monroe County Hall of Justice: Being Active—A Way of Life! Exercise logs, pedometers, and water bottles were given away. Sue Hartwig, San Diep and Tashelma Byrd were winners of t-shirts. A big thank you to Ron Pawelczak, District Executive for donating the veggie trays!

There are packs of business card paper still available. See the suggestions below on how you can use these cards. If you would like a few or a lot of cards, (10 cards per sheet) please e-mail Peg Drexler at pdrexler@nycourts.gov The cards are pre-cut and blank on the back side.

14 Neat Things You Can Do with Old Business Cards

1. Use them as bookmarks—punch a hole in the corner and attach a bit of old ribbon or twine.
2. Use them as table place cards for special events.
3. Turn them into labels—use for filing cabinets, on cans, in your library, on spice jars, or anywhere you need a label.
4. Make a deck of playing cards—keep kids busy making the cards, then playing cards—paint or color them with markers
5. Make mini flash cards.
6. Mini Note Cards—just big enough to jot down a grocery or to-do list. Attach a binder clip and the card stands up.
7. Make small boxes out of cards and tape (see picture on the left).
8. Gift cards—write your message on the fancy side



9. Moving box labels—easily attached with tape and easy to see
10. Luggage tags or gift tags
11. Hamster Box filler—shred to make bedding for your favorite rodent
12. Slip a handful into a baggie, add crayons and you can keep kids busy
13. Plant markers—staple to a twig or popsicle stick. They’ll last for a season.
14. Paint chips—dip into paint, let dry and put in a binder with the color code and location on the back

CENTER FOR DISPUTE SETTLEMENT MEDIATORS TAKE THEIR OATH

At the Annual Livingston Holiday Open House twelve of the nineteen Livingston County Mediators took their Oath of Office. In addition to the Oath of Office ceremony, ten mediators were honored for volunteering with the center for ten to twenty years. Those honored were: Phyllis Green for 16 years of service, Catherine Judkins for fourteen years, Laura Schultz for 13 years mediating, Geraldine Gobeli for twelve years, Sandra Brennan, Keith Cummings, and Lawrence Savino each for eleven years of service, and Vince Micciche, Priscilla Minster and William Daniels for ten years each.

Four mediators were honored last year for mediating more than twenty years. They were recognized again: William V. Powell and R. Greg Emerton for 32 years of service, William Van Buskirk for 29 years of service and Edward, "Ned" Holmes for 23 years. Director Letitia Rosenthal began by thanking all Center for Dispute Settlement volunteers for their service. "You have all given so much of your time.. your talent ... your skills to make our community better. You've met with people at some of the most frustrating and low points of their lives and helped them find hope in a future they could structure, and relationships they could design."

President and CEO of Center for Dispute Settlement, Sherry Walker-Cowart was presented with a pin that marks her 25th anniversary as a mediator in 2016. David Tang, President of the CDS Board of Directors and Livingston County Court Hon. Dennis Cohen administered the oath and certification.

Left to Right...Bill Powell, Letitia Rosenthal, Ned Holmes, Hon. Dennis Cohen, Laura Schultz, Bill Daniels, Bill VanBuskirk, Cathy Judkins, Bill Graham, Sandy Brennan, Tavid Tang, Larry Savino and Barbara Schmied.



The Reading Room Recommends:



Thanks to everyone who submitted their favorite book(s) of 2015. Here they are:

What She Left Behind by Ellen Marie Wiseman—Karen R., Room 123 Rochester City Court This book merges the past and present together into a haunting story about the nature of love and loyalty and the lengths we will go to protect those who need us most AND **The Plum Tree by Ellen Marie Wiseman** Follows a young German woman through the chaos of World War II and its aftermath.

The Storied Life of AJ Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin—Hon. Renee Forgensi Minarik Court of Claims The characters are fully developed, interesting and worthy of your compassion. The novel isn't terribly long and it's easy to read.

The Flight of the Wretched by Michael McCarthy—Christine R., Monroe Supreme & County It's a book from 2011, authored by a former RPD officer—it's the story of several persons who leave Ireland, their trip to America, their travels across NY State on the Erie Canal—wonderfully and descriptively written, with references all along the journey to places near us on the Canal. The characters are engaging and caring. Well written and well worth reading.

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak and Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline—Kris T., Livingston County Set in Nazi Germany during the Holocaust and NYC/Midwest during the time period of the orphan trains, respectively, both fictional protagonists are young, orphaned girls who, despite their dreadful life circumstances, learn to deal with and overcome the adversity during each historical time period.

In the Kingdom of Ice by Hampton Sides—George D., Internal Auditing Unit This is a fascinating account of a failed polar expedition to the North Pole. Combined with interesting history of the late 1800's, it's a fight for survival through conditions so harsh that the story would not be believable if it were not true.

Yellow Crocus by Laila Ibrahim—Kathy I., Retired Monroe S & C A powerful book about slavery and the enduring strength of women facing adversity AND **Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay** It's a page turner about World War II, the Holocaust and contemporary Paris.

Sycamore Row by John Grisham—Chris M.—3rd Judicial District

Old Whiskey and Young Women by R. Marc Kantrowitz – Gwen G., Monroe Family Court The Honorable R. Marc Kantrowitz has served as an assistant district attorney, private counsel, and a judge, first on the juvenile court and then the Appeals Court in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Some of his articles are published in The Daily Record periodically and relate to some of the most notorious legal cases in American history. To quote from the dustcover of the book, "Murder and mystery, society, sex and suspense combined in such a manner as to intrigue and captivate the public fancy.... Here, some of the most notorious legal cases in American history are explored. What they have in common is that they titillated, if not repulsed, the entire nation when they first occurred. From the unfair framing for murder of America's most famous comedian, to America's first capital case involving an older woman and her much younger lover murdering her husband. And meet the real Norman Bates of Alfred Hitchcock's Psycho, whose mother fixation and real life gruesome crimes far outmatched those of any fictional character. This book brings to life these notorious characters and many more from the rich pages of history."