



In this Issue

Message from the Presiding Judge.....2

Newsmakers.....3

Superior Court Investiture Ceremonies.....6

Students Give Teen Court High Grades.....7

Photo Highlights.....9

The *Judicial Branch News* is an online newsletter published by the Media Relations and Community Outreach Department. The newsletter is also available on the Court's Intranet site at: <http://courts.maricopa.gov/publicInfo/newsLetter/index.asp>

If you wish to contribute to this newsletter, please send articles, news items, photos or other correspondence to: karra@superiorcourt.maricopa.gov.

"Committed to the Timely, Fair and Impartial Administration of Justice."



Juvenile Court Celebrates Adoptions

Joyful events can be rare in Juvenile Court. But each November, since the year 2000, there is one day of boundless joy and happiness. It's the day to "Celebrate Adoption."

This year's eighth annual celebration starts at 9 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 17, at the Juvenile Court Center, 3131 W. Durango, and ends by early afternoon. Juvenile Court is expected to hold 128 hearings that will join 173 children with their forever families.

"National Adoption Day is a true celebration of the heart. On the Saturday before Thanksgiving, our community comes together to assure that our children have safe, loving, forever families," Juvenile Presiding Judge Eileen Willett said. "I encourage everyone who is considering adoption to come to Juvenile Court on November 17th, watch an adoption hearing, ask questions, and get all the information you need to bring a child into your heart and family. Our children need you."

Superior Court judges, court commissioners, volunteer attorneys, court staff, private adoption agencies and governmental entities that are engaged in adoption efforts all work together to assure the event is a success.

Celebrate Adoption - Continued on page 3



Governor Fills Division 95

Governor Janet Napolitano appointed Aimee L. Anderson to fill the recently created Division 95.

Anderson has served as a Superior Court Commissioner since 2001. She earned her Bachelor and Juris Doctorate degrees from Arizona State University.



Message From the Presiding Judge



Barbara Rodriguez Mundell
Presiding Judge

Talking with the community is an exhilarating experience which was proven again during our October court-community forums in Phoenix and Mesa.

The diverse interests, perspectives and questions presented during the events showed that the community cares about its courts and judges. The participants demonstrated an eagerness to meet with judges in an informal, comfortable setting to talk and listen. Many lingered afterwards to continue conversations with judges and administrators.

Our format for these most recent forums included introducing all of our judges and commissioners who attended and letting them talk a little about their personal, educational, professional and judicial backgrounds. It was an invaluable exercise to demonstrate for the audience that judicial officers are interesting, funny, compassionate and serious individuals who are dedicated to delivering the highest level of justice to each individual who comes to court. It is during this segment of the program that judges and the community have the opportunity to link on a personal level.

Because of the timing of this year's forums, participants expressed a lot of interest in the accountability of the judiciary. I took the opportunity to educate the audience at each forum that the judicial branch is the most accountable, most open and most monitored branch of government. No other public officials face the checks, balances and scrutiny that judges undergo.

It is extremely important that judges remain fair and impartial. They must be held accountable - to the law and the constitution – and should not be held accountable to politics, special interest groups or what's 'popular.' Let me explain why judges are the most accountable public officials.

- Court proceedings are open to the public, providing transparency of what we do.
- Decisions are in writing. Anyone can review court documents and read the legal basis for a ruling. Again, this guarantees transparency of our actions and decisions.
- All court rulings and decisions can be appealed to higher courts, where they can be scrutinized and reviewed.
- After pleadings are submitted and we hear oral argument on legal issues, we must rule within 60 days. In order to receive our paychecks, we must sign an affidavit declaring we have no decisions pending past the 60-day deadline.
- If anyone believes a judge has conducted himself or herself in an unprofessional, unethical, biased or other unacceptable manner a complaint can be made to the Commission on Judicial Conduct for review. An investigation can be undertaken, if warranted. If the allegations are proven, sanctions can be imposed - up to and including removal from office.
- Judges face a retention election every four years. Litigants, lawyers, jurors, court observers, court staff and others are asked to complete surveys of judges who face retention. The surveys are given to everyone who has been in the specific judge's courtroom. The evaluations are reviewed and tabulated by the Judicial Performance Review Committee and serve as the basis of a comprehensive public report that assists voters in determining how each judge rates in a variety of performance areas.
- Judges and staff have to fulfill mandatory educational programs each year to assure a high standard of professionalism.

The public should have great confidence in the quality and competence of the judiciary in Maricopa County. We are accountable – by upholding the law. Our agenda is not to be decided by popular opinion or political pressure. We give people their day in court. We listen to them. We apply the law. And we make a fair ruling.

It is our responsibility to provide equal justice under the law.

Newsmakers

Veteran Service Center Opens to Honor Former Employee



Left to right: Richmond Vincent, Supervisor Andy Kunasek, Elizabeth Wong, Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox, County Manager David Smith, Supervisor Max Wilson, Adult Probation Chief Barbara Broderick, Rochelle Webb, and Trish Georgett

Recently, the Maricopa Workforce Connections West Valley Career Center opened the doors of the Elijah Wong Veterans Service Center.

The Center will help veterans get access to many state and federal programs designed to assist veterans and their families including housing, immediate transitional

services and vocational assistance.

Sergeant Elijah Wong, a Maricopa County Adult Probation Surveillance Officer and a member of the Arizona National Guard's 363rd Explosive Ordnance Company, was killed in Sinjar, Iraq, in the line of duty on February 2, 2004. He was the first Maricopa County employee and first Arizona Guardsman to die in

Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth and three children.

Sgt. Wong was an exemplary surveillance officer and was dedicated to the Probation Department's mission. He touched the lives of his co-workers and probationers alike. Eli demonstrated great passion for his work and in his life. He was a man of conviction and served his country to make a better life for others.

Sergeant Wong's widow and many members of his former unit attended the dedication.

Members of the Luke Air Force Honor Guard posted colors to open the dedication ceremony.

**Story submitted by
Shari Anderson-Head
Adult Probation**

Celebrate Adoption - Continued from page 1

Each year, the months of planning and hard work has paid off with great satisfaction because by the end of the day parents and children have consummated their life commitment to each other.

In the inaugural year, a total of 33 adoptions were finalized. The numbers have grown annually since then. Last year, there were 155 adoptions from families permanently adding 197 children to their lives. Put another way, 197 children became members of families they could call their own.

This year, Juvenile Court is planning 148 hearings to finalize adoptions of 202 children.

The event helps raise public awareness about the plight of

children without families. They range in age from toddlers to teenagers. They are children who have been abandoned, neglected, and some were abused. Some have not been mistreated, but have been given up for adoption because of circumstances that made adoption the child's best option for a happy life.

Celebrate Adoption is the only time in Juvenile Court that media cameras are invited – and allowed – to capture adoption proceedings. It is through a special waiver by the Arizona Supreme Court that cameras are permitted. All adoption participants sign waivers and agree to be photographed and are willing to talk to the media about their experiences adopting children.

The festive atmosphere of the

event is heightened by a visit from the Phoenix Suns Gorilla mascot; face painting; games for kids; photos of the newly created families; and cake and ice cream.

National Adoption Day is a nationwide effort to raise awareness that more than 120,000 children are waiting in foster care for permanent homes and loving families.

Juvenile Court judges, commissioners and staff welcome everyone interested in learning more about adoption, as a lawyer or potential adoptive parent, to participate in the event.

It's an opportunity to leave a courtroom wearing a smile.

Judicial Assistant Trainer Promotes Consistency

The JA Trainer position for Civil became a reality in January of 2007, when Kristi Dallman was hired as the result of a successfully awarded JCEF grant. The position remains funded by a JCEF grant that will terminate at the end of this fiscal year. The genesis of the Court's active JA Trainer positions (Criminal and Family) also sprung initially from JCEF funding and following in the footsteps of those departments, we are confidently anticipating that this position will become permanently funded as a Court/County position for the upcoming fiscal year.

Kristi began her career with the Court in 1997 when she was hired as Judge Gottsfield's bailiff. In 2001 she became Judge Gottsfield's JA, where she served one of the Court's most esteemed judges until December of 2005, when Judge Gottsfield formally retired.¹ Switching gears, Kristi then embarked upon a career with Court Technology Service as an IT Training Coordinator, a position she held until becoming the Civil JA Trainer.

The JA Trainer position has been recognized in Family, Criminal, and now in Civil Departments as an essential administrative support lifeline. Fundamentally, the JA Trainer is responsible for the design and implementation of training protocols for the Civil Department's 23 J/A's. Kristi is also instrumental in providing mentoring and support to general judicial staff, while monitoring the Department's J/A performance to ensure consistency. Consistency is a major rationale for justification of this important position, particularly as the Court regularly acquires its cadre of JA's and underscores the importance of ongoing training in so many important JA tasks.

All of the Court's JA Trainers act as liaisons between judicial staff Court Admin, and Court Technology Services and with Kristi's prior

experience in CTS, she is rarely daunted by business practice protocols or changes. The Civil JA Trainer also oversees creation and maintenance of Department JA manual, E-Filing manuals, as well as any materials routinely distributed during rotation training while assisting in providing training in computer operation, use of electronic courtrooms, and other judicial staff topics.

Civil Presiding Judge Aceto currently directs the JA Trainer's activities, but Kristi interacts quite frequently as well with Court Admin to resolve ad hoc issues in divisions, judicial education and training, rotation planning, and other matters designated by the departmental presiding judge.

At the request of the presiding civil judge, Kristi developed and provided a workshop in "basic training" for all of the Civil JA's in April of this year which involved the initial and on-going training for new and existing JA's in civil divisions. This training is essentially the hallmark of the position's mission in terms of ensuring consistency in the performance of their job duties and to provide updates on any and all changes in existing procedures.

In May, Kristi conducted JA rotation training for all of those JA's who rotated with their judges into civil assignments and provided updated and accessing procedures in iCIS and Excel programs. In June she provided training with other JA Trainers and court administration support staff at a JA conference designed to develop greater consistency in the performance of daily duties. On October 26th, Kristi and the Family Court JA Trainer will present joint training in conjunction with the JED training.

Time management is a skill that is indispensable to the JA Trainer as

there are many demands placed on the Civil JA Trainer. Kristi acts as a "trouble shooter" and problem solver for individual divisions at each of the Regional Court locations whenever issues arise which require her assistance or specific individual training. Kristi's background in CTS operations/training has proved useful in assisting JA's and judicial officers with specific problems in implementing new procedures or accessing data in their computers.

Kristi is sporadically called upon to provide emergency JA coverage and has been called upon to train bailiff's who may be required to provide emergency coverage in JA duties. One of the most critical areas of responsibility for JA's is the entry of events into the iCIS system, which is crucial for the accurate maintenance of the Cal Acti reports which are monitored by Civil Court Administration. This function ensures that notices are provided litigants in a timely manner and divisions are alerted as to potential case management issues.

Kristi is currently updating the JA training manual which is maintained on-line in the PDF format. This is a very time consuming process but one that is necessary in terms of reference training for all JA staff. Kristi is in the process of establishing monthly "brown bag" lunch meetings with interested JA staff.

The JA Trainer's duties require the use of many skills, including trainer, trouble shooter, problem solver, liaison and sometimes counselor to frustrated staff. Perhaps the most essential qualities required are flexibility and patience. The ability to constantly adjust priorities requires a great deal of both. The position is a critical one for the Court, and we look forward to a sustained and meaningful growth in the impact of this position on civil administration for years to come.

Juvenile Probation Panels Helps Youths

The Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department is partnering with the community to assist juveniles in making better decisions in the future.

With the help of the Juvenile Probation Department, a group of trained volunteers are helping juveniles eligible to participate in diversion programs through a series of restorative justice panels. The panels hold juvenile offenders responsible for their actions, while restoring the harm they have caused within the community. Success can be rewarded with no juvenile delinquency record.

Two of the more successful programs have been the Target and Wal-Mart Panels.

The Target Panel began about six months ago in South Phoenix through collaboration between Juvenile Probation Officer Paula Carrillo-Colvin and Target Asset Protection Officer Mike Mudry.

"The panel and Juvenile Probation has made great strides in

helping Target deal with juveniles who shoplift," Mudry said.

The Wal-Mart Panel, located in Maryvale, has been making a difference in the Maryvale community since March of 2006. Wal-Mart's Quality Risk Manager, Don Goodall, teamed up with Juvenile Probation Officer Vickie Wylie to create the panel

because he "found satisfaction in giving back to the community and steering youngsters to productive lives." With the vast experience Goodall and the volunteers have in retail, they have been able to provide insight to juvenile offenders on the harm of shoplifting and the effect it has on the store as well as the entire community.

Maricopa County Juvenile



Juvenile Probation Officer Vickie Wylie and Quality Risk Manager Don Goodall of Wal-Mart.

Probation embraces the philosophy of Restorative Justice through its Community Justice Volunteer Panels. The panels decide on consequences intended to hold the juveniles responsible for their actions. At the same time, competency development programs are used to assist the juveniles in making good choices.

Three New Interpreters Hired

Paul Williamson comes to us from the State of Georgia where he was certified by the National Center for State Courts Consortium. He worked as a contract interpreter for various courts of the State of Georgia including Cobb and Fulton County which are part of the metropolitan Atlanta area. Paul brings with him unique life experiences of growing up and attending school in Mexico in his youth while his parents served as missionaries.

Maite Lopez was born in California but raised in Mexico until 1990 when she returned to live in the United States. She studied communication and has been an interpreter for many years through an interpreting agency and on her own. She has interpreted in both Mexico and Arizona and has done a wide-range of interpreting - from medical interpreting to legal interpreting.

Mayela Trahin was born in Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico but spent her childhood on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border. She attended school in both Mexico and the United States and is the product of both the Mexican and American culture. She moved Tucson, Arizona and then to Long Beach, California to study interior design and finally to Phoenix, Arizona. She was the Lifestyles Editor for La Voz Newspaper for a number of years and honed her interpreting skills working for a law firm for the last three years.

Superior Court Investiture Ceremonies

This year is closing with a flurry of swearing-in ceremonies for the nine most recently appointed Maricopa County Superior Court Judges.

With six investitures scheduled for November and another three in December, the next few weeks arguably could set the record for the most judicial swearing-in ceremonies over the shortest space of time.

The hour-long celebrations, which are open to the public, begin at 12:30 p.m., in the Maricopa Board of Supervisors' Auditorium, 205 W. Jefferson, Phoenix.

The November swearing-in events are:

- Judge Hugh E. Hegyi - Friday, November 2nd
- Judge Susanna C. Pineda – Friday, November 9th
- Judge Joseph C. Welty – Friday, November 16th
- Judge Roger E. Brodman – Monday, November 19th
- Judge Samuel J. Myers – Wednesday, November 21st
- Judge Dawn M. Bergin – Friday, November 30th

Investiture ceremonies scheduled for December include:

- Judge Daniel G. Martin – Tuesday, December 11th
- Judge Dean Fink – Tuesday, December 18th
- Judge Randall H. Warner - Friday, December 21st
- The investiture date for Judge Aimee Anderson, appointed on October 30, will be announced soon

Swearing-in ceremonies of new judges offer a unique opportunity to learn about them through family members and friends, who speak during the program. The judges also address the audience, which provides an interesting insight and opportunity to learn about their accomplishments, backgrounds and personalities.

Lawyers Allowed Web Access for Case Transfer

Felony criminal cases ready for trial but cannot be heard on their trial date by the assigned judge can now be tracked by lawyers through the Superior Court website.

After a lawyer signs in to the secure area of the website, in addition to accessing their court calendar, they will now be able to see the Court's Case Transfer List. The list of cases awaiting transfer to another judge will be posted with the most current status update.

This latest enhancement is the Court's response to feedback from prosecution and defense lawyers received through a committee chaired by Arizona Supreme Court Justice Michael Ryan. Criminal Department Presiding Judge Anna Baca spearheaded this most recent innovation to encourage the efficient management of cases and ensure timely disposition of all felony criminal cases in Maricopa County.

**Story submitted by Bob James
Criminal Administration**

East Valley Students Give Teen Court High Grades

Students from six East Valley schools are learning about the judicial system and ways to hold their peers accountable.

The students are taking part in the first Maricopa County Teen Court regional training at Chandler High School. Teen Court is a diversion program in which youths sentence their peers for minor delinquent and status offenses and other problem behaviors. Court cases are held in Limited Jurisdiction Courts and school settings across Maricopa County.

Jacob Scott, a student at Seton Catholic High School, said, "I liked the use of the Restorative Justice Model in Teen Court better than the punitive model used in the adult court system. Restorative Justice is a concept that allows the defendant, victim and community to work

together to make clear the impact of the criminal behavior to the defendant; repair the harm done to the victim and community and empower victims in their need for closure."

Teen Court is a diversion program that is a collaboration of Maricopa County, the Maricopa County Bar Foundation, the Maricopa County Juvenile Court, the Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department Early Intervention Program, the Maricopa County Limited Jurisdiction Courts and the Valley of the Sun YMCA, Community Initiatives.

The program has been extremely successful with only a 6 percent average rate of recidivism.

Nicole Crane, a Teen Court member from Chandler High School, said, "Teen Court is a great

experience and helps teens gain an understanding of the judicial system. It gives them an opportunity to help the community and play a role in making a difference in a teen's life."

Students who participate earn community service for their time, can use the experience for job and college applications; network with adults in careers they are interested in such as law and criminal justice and earn valuable experience in interviewing skills, debating and public speaking.

If you know of a student that would like to participate in the Teen Court program, please contact Supervisor, Jean Gedney at 602-506-5084 or email her at jeaged@juvenile.maricopa.gov for more information about training and volunteer opportunities.

Story submitted by Frank Groenewold
Juvenile Probation

Research Tip of the Month

The Library Has a New Database

Did you know that our Law Library can be used for historical research too? We frequently mention our practical resources including forms, practice guides, and our reference services. But, we also have a wide variety of online databases for use by local scholars and attorneys with an interest in historical legal research. To boost our resources in this area, the Law Library just acquired a new module to our HeinOnline database called World Trials. In addition to historical trial transcripts, HeinOnline's World Trials Collection also includes monographs that analyze and debate famous trials, as well as biographies of some of the greatest trial lawyers in history. Some sample titles from this collection include:

*Argument of Clarence Darrow in Case of the Communist Labor Party in the Criminal Court, Chicago1 v. (1920) Darrow, Clarence.

*Argument of John Quincy Adams, before the Supreme Court of the United States, in the Case of the United States Appellants, vs. Cinque, and Others, Africans, Captured in the Schooner Amistad, by Lieut. Gedney.

For more information about library databases or any other library services, please contact the Law Library at X63461, or services@scll.maricopa.gov.

Our mission is to provide the Court with timely, efficient, and reliable access to legal information! And, we welcome the opportunity to help you with your legal information needs.

Story submitted by Jennifer Murray
Law Library Assistant Director

Updated Flu Shot Schedule

That's right! There's an improved schedule with more locations, dates, and times for you to protect yourself, and others against the flu!

Do the right thing... and help battle the flu. Remember:

1. FLU vaccinations don't make you sick; only a few people have allergies.
2. EVEN if you show no symptoms, you may infect those you work with or those you love.
3. LEAD BY EXAMPLE; it ultimately benefits us all.
4. ILLNESS costs *everyone!*
5. STAYING HEALTHY is about being proactive rather than reactive.

FLU SHOT SCHEDULE

Wednesday	Oct. 31	8am-11pm	Courts	222 E. Javelina	Judge Dining Room
Wednesday	Oct. 31	2pm-5pm	Adult Pro	245 N. Centennial Way	Events Room
Thursday	Nov. 1	7am-9am	Plan/Dev.	501 N. 44th St	Gold/Platinum Room
Thursday	Nov. 1	2pm-5pm	Jail	4th Ave Jail	Admin Conference Room
Friday	Nov. 2	7am-10am	NW Courts	14264 W. Tierra Buena	Jury Room
Monday	Nov. 5	7am-9am	Courts	101 W. Jefferson	Cordova Room
Monday	Nov. 5	12pm-2pm	P.H.	4041 N. Central Ave	Training Room
Tuesday	Nov. 6	7am-2pm	Admin	301 W. Jefferson St.	Breezeway
Wednesday	Nov. 7	7am-9am	NE Courts	18380 N. 40th	Multi Purpose Room
Wednesday	Nov. 7	12pm-2pm	Adult Pro	6655 W. Glendale	Rm 127/128
Thursday	Nov. 8	6am-9am	Flood	2801 W. Durango	New River Conf. Room
Tuesday	Nov. 13	11am-1pm	P.H.	4041 N. Central Ave	Joshua Room
Wednesday	Nov. 14	7am-11am	Juv Pro	3131 W. Durango	Rm 2167
Wednesday	Nov. 14	2pm-5pm	Juv Pro	3131 W. Durango	Rm 2167
Thursday	Nov. 15	7am-1pm	SE Courts	1810 S. Lewis	SEF Breakroom
Friday	Nov. 16	7am-10am	Admin	301 W. Jefferson	Breezeway

Please call Lindsey Grantham at (602) 506-3758 to schedule your appointment for the following dates.

Courtside

Photo Highlights

In the News



Top Left - (left to right) Grant Kimball Rose (son), Carol Rose (widow) and Laura Kathleen Rose Smith (daughter) unveil a portrait of Judge C. Kimball Rose. Judge Rose served as Presiding Judge from 1990-1995. He passed away on November 28, 2006. The portrait will hang in the Central Court Building breezeway.

Bottom Left - Phoenix residents and students participate at a recent community forum held at Phoenix College. One hundred and fifty guests attended the event.

Bottom Right- Associate Presiding Criminal Judge Timothy Ryan speaks at a Superior Court Community Forum to a group of east valley residents at Mesa Community College. Approximately, 150 people attended the forum.

