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Published July 29, 2007 [ From Eaton Rapids Community News ]

Eaton County to celebrate Jury Appreciation Week

EATON COUNTY — The Eaton County judges have declared July 23 Jury Appreciation Week.

It is a week to recognize the commitment and sacrifices of all the people who have served on jury duty over the last year and to highlight the honor and importance of serving on a jury. Jury service is a vital aspect of our government.

When individuals serve as jurors, they not only serve our country, they serve as an integral part of the justice system. The Sixth Amendment and the Seventh Amendment to the Constitution guarantee the right to a trial by an impartial jury in both criminal and civil cases.

This concept lies at the heart of the U.S. government system. Patrick Devlin wrote, "No tyrant could afford to leave a subject's freedom in the hands of 12 of his countrymen.

So that a trial by jury is more than an instrument of justice and more than one wheel of the constitution; it is the lamp that shows that freedom lives."

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This lamp shines brightly in Eaton County.

A special program and breakfast for jurors will begin each jury trial date this week.

For more information, visit [www.eatoncountycourts.org](http://www.eatoncountycourts.org) or contact jury administrator Karen Newman at (517) 543-4318.

— *From the State of Michigan 56th Judicial Circuit Court.*

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