

#### THE WASHTENAW VOICE A NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD NEWSPAPER

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# Climate event urges mitigation

BY DANNY VILLALOBOS Staff Writer

The Sustainability Literacy Task Force hosted its first climate summit on March 28 to educate about the effects of climate change and how to mitigate it.

"We can't get rid of climate change," said Emily Thompson, a WCC professor and head coordinator of the Sustainability Literacy Task Force. "All we can do now is learn how to lessen its effect and mitigate it."

The summit was divided into three sessions, each with three speakers.

"The speakers were picked on the idea that it shouldn't just be science instructors," said professor Smita Malpani, a co-organizer along with Thompson. "Each panel had a different





Building on 41 years of activism, "Take Back the Night" participants take to the streets as they march through downtown Ann Arbor.

# Marchers take to the streets to protest sexual violence

Take Back The Night in Ann Arbor celebrates 41 years

BY CATHERINE ENGSTROM-HADLEY Staff Writer

The Ann Arbor chapter of Take Back The Night, a movement to combat sexual violence and violence against women, rallied and marched into its 41st year of activism.

Dozens of volunteers and community nonprofits organized to create an evening of education, awareness and safety. "It takes a long time to plan this, we start in September and work towards it all year," said Kaitlyn Colyer, one of the volunteers for TBTN and a freshmen at University of Michigan. TBTN started in Ann Arbor in 1978 as a rally to speak out against all forms of sexual violence for all people. Nicole Denson, the current vice president of the Women's March Michigan and owner of MOSAIC Collective MC'd the evening. "We have to acknowledge sexual violence in our communities, and we need to do it now," said Denson. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer sent a video message for the activists on campus: "We have a lot to work to do, so lets keep our foot on the gas, and fight for the change we so desperately need."

This year's keynote speaker, Kevin Kantor, a spoken word poet and survivor, talked about using their poetry to "metabolize my trauma." They performed their poem "People You May Know" about seeing their attacker on social media. Kantor discussed their struggle to be the "perfect survivor" and the pressure society and social media puts on sexual violence survivors.

# No tuition increase for in-district students

BY NICHOLAS KETCHUM Deputy Editor

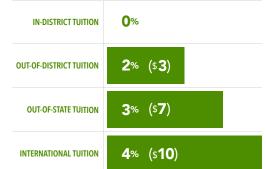
The board of trustees voted unanimously on March 26 to hold in-district tuition rates flat at \$95 per credit hour on-campus and \$108 per credit hour online for a second consecutive year.

A WCC press release characterized the decision as a "tuition freeze."

Small increases will be applied to out-ofdistrict, out-of-state and international students. The largest increase will be levied on international students at four percent, which matches overall inflation.

William Johnson, vice president of administration and finance, cites a strong regional economy and correlated strength in property values that allows flat tuition.

#### 2019 Tuition Increases (Per credit hour)



SOURCE: WCC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

"We have a nice, strong base that's growing robustly with the growth in the economy, so that's really helped us a lot, in terms of the property tax revenue the college receives

VARDAN SARGSYAN I WASHTENAW VOICE

#### WCC professor Kimberly Hill-Edwards speaking at the Climate Summit on campus.

[speaker] that would talk about how they integrate sustainability into their field."

According to both Malpani and Thompson, the idea for The Climate Summit came a week after the climate reports released by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on Oct. 7.

If the global temperature increases more than 1.5 degrees Celsius, the result will be irreversible, the IPCC report said. To prevent a global warming of 1.5 degrees will require rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society, according to the IPCC report.

The window of time to make these changes is smaller than previously thought. The IPCC reports that we now have only until the year 2030.

SEE CLIMATE, A2

"The only responsibilities survivors have is to themselves," said Kantor. "You deserve your joy, you deserve your rage, now get to work."

The men in the room were were given the opportunity to sign a pledge of their commitment to help fight sexual violence and speak up to others against sexual violence. A video of the poem "Masks Off" by Jeremy Loveday was shown before the signing.

"This culture of violence touches us all," said Loveday in the poem. "By dismissing perpetrators as monsters, it allows us not to analyze our own actions."

The crowd got charged up and marched into the streets with live music, a burlesque performer and a reading of demands, to wrap it all up. Take Back The Night is organized by the Standing Tough Against Rape Society and University of Michigan students. through our millages," said Johnson.

According to the college, WCC is the second-most affordable community college in the state.

Nationally, the college's affordability ranks well, compared to other community colleges.

According to the American Association of Community Colleges, WCC's in-district tuition is 38 percent less than average, coming in at \$2,280 at WCC vs. \$3,660 at an average community college, annually.

Johnson credits steady enrollment trends and eager community support for helping keep tuition relatively low.

"We've had steady enrollment. And if you look at the enrollment trends for community colleges in the State of Michigan, we are one of the stronger community colleges, which means that our residents from the area put a stronger value in education and they think that our programs meet their needs," said Johnson.

Johnson says the college doesn't predict budget cuts, deferments or other mitigations will be necessary in order to hold in-district tuition flat this year.

"We're actually forecasting growth; it's going to be right in line with inflation," Johnson said. "We are not forecasting we need to reduce budgets in order to help fund a tuition rate freeze for in-district students."

Johnson said that while risks are always present, planners at the college take precautions to account for them.

"The forecasting assumptions that we make don't assume strong growth; it assumes modest growth. We always err on the conservative side," Johnson said.

However, if the economy—and the correlated property values—significantly weakens or contracts during this period, the college may need to tighten purse strings.

"If the college were to lose a significant portion of their property tax assessed value, as with any institution that runs on property tax revenue, it would have to make some tough decisions," Johnson said. "But both the administration and the board of trustees are very adamant about [ensuring] affordability for our students."

# Film Fest rolls out arthouse features

#### BY ZARA ZANGANA Contributor

The Ann Arbor Film Festival celebrated its 57th year last week, drawing 10,000 audience members to the Michigan Theater to experience more than 200 films screened at the festival.

AAFF is an Academy Award-qualifying festival. Winners of The Ken Burns Award for Best of the Festival, the Chris Frayne Award for Best Animated Film, the Lawrence Kasdan Award for Best Narrative Film, and the Best Experimental Film Award are eligible for an Oscar nomination. This year, the winners of those categories and Oscar nomination-qualifiers were "On Destruction and Preservation" directed by Maija Blåfield, "32-Rbit" directed by Victor Orozco Ramirez, "Flowers (Flores)" directed by Vado Vergara, and "TROPICS" directed by Mathilde Lavenne, respectively.



SEE FILM FEST, B2 The Michigan Theater hosts the 57th annual Ann Arbor Film Festival.





### NEWS



# U-M economists expect slowing local economy

Employment growth also predicted to slow

BY NICHOLAS KETCHUM Deputy Editor

Economists from the University of Michigan's Research Seminar in Quantitative Economics told the Washtenaw Economic Club they are not forecasting a recession in 2019.

Gabriel Ehrlich, director at RSQE, and Donald Grimes, regional economic specialist at RSQE, spoke during the April 28 luncheon at the Morris Lawrence Building on campus.

"We're not forecasting a recession, and that's very important to understand. This is basically as good as you can get, given how tight the labor market is in the county," said Grimes, referencing a competitive job market in Washtenaw County.

Ehrlich suggested that people follow the actions and statements of the Federal Reserve for additional cues on the economy's trajectory.

"One thing to keep your eye on is the Federal Reserve. The Fed is looking at the same data we are... they understand that people are getting worried, and that's why... they're saying we're not going to be raising interest rates as much as we've thought to support growth," he said.

Despite the no-recession forecast, Ehrlich said RSQE is predicting growth will slow, in general.

Climate

Continued from A1

"We're expecting GDP growth to decelerate over the next few years," he said.



Donald Grimes

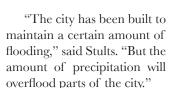
"We're projecting real GDP growth to register a pretty disappointing 1.4 percent at an annual rate in the first quarter of 2019."

Citing stateside employment statistics, Grimes said Michigan has nearly recovered to its pre-recession unemployment rate. Washtenaw County has long since recovered; in 2013 the county surpassed its pre-recession unemployment rate and has held strong.

"Even back then, we knew that Washtenaw County was sort of this special place and that we had no doubt that Washtenaw would exceed its previous peak, and of course it has," Grimes said. "By the end of our forecast [in 2021], we're forecasting that Washtenaw County will be 13 percent higher in terms of employment than it had been in 2000."

However, job growth in Washtenaw County has slowed—and is still slowing according to Grimes.

"We expect [job growth] to continue to slow down in 2019, to about 2100 jobs.



The amount of rainwater that Ann Arbor gets in a year could fill the Michigan Stadium 117 times, compared to 30 years ago when that number was 94, according to Stults. The flooding that Ann Arbor will experience could be an economic disruptor, but despite this Ann Arbor is one of the safest places to live in regards to climate change, according to Stults. "People are coming to Ann Arbor and they'll keep coming, so we have to find a



Gabriel Ehrlich

That slow down reflects a tightening labor market, a slowing national economy, and continued below average growth in state government— which is basically driven by the University of Michigan and Eastern," Grimes said.

Grimes said he expects job gains to reach about 1.1 percent through both 2020 and 2021 in Washtenaw County.

"It's not gangbusters employment growth, which is what we were getting when we were coming out of a recession," warned Grimes, though adding it's "very respectable growth at this stage in the business cycle."

Ehrlich noted Washtenaw County's relatively low unemployment rate in previous years, compared to the statewide rate, might allow the county's currently-low unemployment rate to descend even lower.

"We interpret that history as suggesting even though the unemployment rate is already low in Washtenaw County, it still has some room to [go lower]," said Ehrlich.

way to build better housing in the city," said Stults.

Other speakers spoke about integrating sustainability efforts within various fields and cultures. Music professor Michael Naylor spoke about Native American culture and its connection to sustainable living and the connections between capitalism and global warming. The speakers were chosen to represent not only the science fields, but also included instructors of arts and humanifies. "We are all in this together," said Thompson. "It affects people in many fields."

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but after it was revealed... it was much dire than we thought," said Thompson.

"We thought before the re-

port we would have until 2050

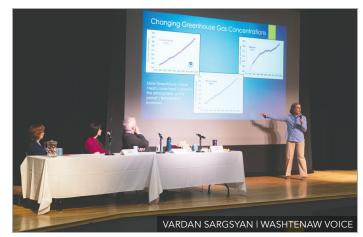
to be a carbon neutral school.

The purpose of the summit is to educate students, staff, faculty and community members about the causes and effects of climate change and how to mitigate these effects.

"There are a lot of people on campus that don't believe [climate change] is happening," said Malpani. "But it's not about a matter of believing or not; we have the data and the science."

One of the speakers, Melissa Stults, the sustainability and innovations manager for the city of Ann Arbor, presented how the effects of climate change will affect the city.

Future problems that will affect the city of Ann Arbor include flooding, inequality, and public health problems according Sults.



From left, Emily Thompson, Morgan Barrie, Matthew Naud and Kimberly Hill-Edwards, at the final session of the Climate Summit.

# SECURITY D NOTES

The following incidents were reported by WCC public safety officials between March 23 and April 5.

#### Telephone harassment: update

The previously unidentified non-student who sent a bothersome text to a WCC student was confirmed to be an Ohioan male, age 17; same age as the student.

The man was contacted by public safety officers and was told not to contact the student again. According to campus security, the text was about a relationship issue.

The student withdrew from pursuing charges.

By Danny Villalobos | Staff Writer



O WASHTENAWVOICE

#### **NEWS**

# A3 April 8, 2019 **Experts offer insight for student writers**

#### BY ADELINE GRIFFITH Contributer

A few dozen people sat in the auditorium, eager to learn the key to becoming a successful writer at the ninth annual "Cool Careers in Writing" event, a panelist discussion hosted by the English department at Washtenaw Community College.

"Folks get to hear from real people who turned their love of writing into making a living," said Hava Levitt-Phillips, English instructor and co-host of the event. "The opportunity to ask questions and get answers directly from professionals in the fields is so great."

Six panelists were featured: a journalist, a self-published novelist, a technical writer, a lawyer, a written communications instructor and an entrepreneurship director.

The panelists discussed different aspects of their careers, everything from how they got started, to their favorite parts, to the struggles they face on a daily basis.

"What I love about my job is that I start every day with a clean slate. There is always a new story to tell," said Matt Durr, a reporter for MLive. Durr became interested in journalism in high school, but attended WCC with the in-



Panelists for the "Cool Careers in Writing" event hosted by the English department at Washtenaw Community College prepare to share the key to becoming a successful writer.

tentions of earning a history degree. However, he rediscovered his love of journalism when he began working for The Washtenaw Voice, and switched his major.

Adrienne Haywood, a technical writer for Thompson-Reuters in Dexter, began her college years with a nonwriting goal in mind as well. She graduated Eastern Michigan University with a double major in anthropology and English.

"I used to have this illusion that as a technical writer, I'd just sit down alone and write. But it's technical communications, so I actually communicate with other people a lot. I work closely with the people who talk to our customers every day," said Haywood. "The biggest challenge is having to argue the value that technical writers have, and getting people to understand what we do."

Technical writers create things such as instruction manuals, how-to guides and other documents that help people understand complex

information.

"When I look for help and it's there, I'm like 'hallelujah!' and that's the feeling I'm going for," explained Haywood. "That's the goal."

Marze Scott, who published her first novel entitled "Gemini Rising" in October, did not start her career until dealing with some personal struggles that caused her to dive into writing.

"I'm probably the least disciplined person here. I write when the mood hits me, and the mood hits me a

couple times a week," said Scott. "On days I do write, I sit down and make character resumes, which is fun because you're creating someone."

Scott continued to describe her process and inspiration. A lot of the characters she creates begin with observing seemingly everyday events. Watching strangers in the hallways or on sidewalks converse and complete mundane tasks are what spark wonder for Scott.

"I like the 'What if?' of it all," said Scott.

Students with an interest in fiction writing were interested to hear from and talk to Scott, even if they were attending for other reasons.

"I came for Marze, actually; I'm always looking for advice," said Charity Ben, a creative writer who attended the event. "It's a great opportunity to network."

As "Cool Careers in Writing" came to a close, attendees were given the opportunity to ask panelists questions individually. Students rushed to the front of the auditorium and crowded around the table to get more personalized inspiration.

Ben was curious if Scott, as a woman of color, felt pressure to make her books diverse. Scott explained to her that she enjoyed writing strong, diverse characters and did not feel any pressure at all.

"I really want to help folks realize that if you love to write, you can make a living doing it," said Levitt-Phillips. "Too often, we think we have to do something more responsible, or that artistic careers don't pay. That's not true. Employers and clients in all industries value written communication skills."

"If you love to write, don't give up," he added.

# New recycling bins hope to combat confusion

BY LILLY KUJAWSKI Editor

Outdoor "Bigbelly" recycling bins on campus have recently been replaced to help improve and make easier the recycling efforts on campus.

The new recycling bins were placed on campus a few weeks ago, according to Rebecca Andrews, recycling operations manager at WCC.

Andrews said she conducted a survey of the Bigbelly bins last year and found that there wasn't very much paper material in the outdoor bins.

as an attempt to collect cleaner recycled content.

"If people have note paper, if they're in the park working or something like that, there's lots of paper stations inside the buildings for that type of paper," Andrews added. "Any paper that's had food on it-like a food tray or a Subway wrapper that's had mayo all over it, paper towels, tissues and napkins-none of that can be recycled, anyway."

Similar recycling bins al-

little more confusing and the bins were smaller and harder to find."

Andrews said that 50 percent of the total wasted produced on campus is recycled-this is higher than the national average, which in 2018, the EPA reported to be about 35 percent.

Many students try to recycle single-use coffee cups, which is a common recycling error, Andrews said.

"My biggest challenge right now is trying to educate people that a paper cup can't be recycled; neither can styrofoam cups," Andrews said. "They'll put it in the recycling bin because they're trying their hardest to recycle as much as possible, so I understand the choice."

what they can," Andrews said. "If you contaminate the whole bin, everything gets thrown out."

Even if students were to rinse out these coffee cups, such single-use drink cups are still not recyclable.

"It's not the students' fault or the users' fault," she said. "The problem is the manufacturers put the recycle symbol on them, because they say technically they can be recvcled."



"The outdoor bins have always been an issue; because they're outdoors, people don't have the ability to wash anything, they weren't labeled very well," Andrews said. "They weren't drawing people's attention as to what goes in what bin."

She said the only paper products she found were usually fast food bags containing food remnants, which was causing contamination to other materials. This prompted recycling staff to switch to a bin for cans and bottles only,

ready exist inside of the buildings on campus and have proven to be more effective, according to Andrews. Recycle Across America, a nonprofit advocacy group, reports that one of the biggest reasons items don't get recycled is due to confusion about what can be recycled, often because of inconsistent or unclear labeling.

"We have definitely seen improvement in the indoor recycling," Andrews said. "Now we have the clearly labeled bins, less bottles are going into the trash because it's far easier to see where the bottles need to go, whereas before it was a

Andrews added that there's an issue of non-recyclables and dirty items being placed in recycling bins.

"If you put a half cup of coffee in the recycling bin instead of the trash, that coffee's going to spill out all over the recycling and the recycle staff are going to be picking through that, trying to save

Andrews said that, however, local recycling facilities do not accept these single-use cups.

"WCC is really good on their recycling; we pretty much do everything you can do in this area," Andrews said. She added that some companies offer "mail-back" recycling programs for these recyclable items that aren't accepted locally.

All of the recycling collected on campus is sorted by hand on-site, which helps the campus ensure items will end up being recycled when sent out to a recycling facility, she said.

Outdoor "Bigbelly" recycling bins can be found around campus to make recycling more convenient for students.

"We've always sorted it on-site, so we really control the product that goes out very well. We pick out anything that's dirty," Andrews said. "So we can... provide materials that we know will be recycled. We have a very low rejection rate on our materials because we sort it in advance."

After the recycling is collected from around campus, it's sorted by recycling staff.

Office paper and cardboard items are bailed and sent to a vendor in Romulus. Nonreturnable plastic bottles are taken to the Recycle Ann Arbor drop-off station. Plastic bottles that do have a 10 cent deposit are redeemed through a collaboration with WCC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society where the proceeds are used to support the WCC food pantry.

#### ISA open mic brings song and merriment

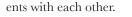
#### BY LILLY KUJAWSKI Editor

The Java Spot was filled with laughter and cheer for the open mic event hosted by the International Student Association on campus.

The event was held on April 4 and drew a crowd to the Student Center cafe. According to Bara Youness, 22, an open mic participant, the ISA hosts similar open mic events once or twice a semester.

"I wish they did it more frequently," Youness said. "A lot of students enjoy going to them."

Youness said ISA open mics create a supportive and welcoming place for students to perform and share their tal-



"There's no judgment," he said. "Whether you can sing or not, it doesn't matter."

"It was fun and scary at the same time," said open mic participant Daniela Rivas, 20, of performing in front of an audience. Rivas is a math and science major at WCC and the vice president of ISA. "When you're surrounded with your friends, you feel like you're just having fun."

"We had a great audience," Rivas added. "What else can you ask for?"

Ian Tubbs, the MC for the event, shared similar sentiments of the audience turnout at the open mic.

"We had people I've never seen before," said Tubbs. "Good turnout, good atmosphere, good crowd."

Participants of the open

mic sang and rapped for the crowd. Bethlehem Yimer, a 20-year-old business major, performed two songs: "Impossible" by Shontelle, and "Halo" by Beyoncé as a duet with Rivas. Another group sang "A Whole New World" from the movie "Aladdin."

Rivas said that ISA hosts other events, too, most of which serve to provide students with information about transferring, scholarships and other academic assistance.

"We try to have fun at the same time," Rivas said. She added that group members also lead presentations highlighting their various cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

At the end of the event, many of the ISA members present gathered to sing "Happy Birthday" in multiple languages to one of the mem-



**Daniela Rivas and Bethlehem Yimer** sing "Halo" by Beyoncé, accompanied by Ian Tubbs at the ISA open mic.

bers who had a birthday coming up.

ISA meets on Thursdays from 4-6 p.m. in LA 160.

#### **Maintenance ongoing** in Morris Lawrence

#### BY DANNY VILLALOBOS Staff Writer

Morris Lawrence is currently under maintenance until early August, according to Charles B. Smith, director of design and construction.

The maintenance of the building will consist of two projects: the replacement of the air handlers and the boilers. Both the air handlers and the boilers have been a part of the building since it was first constructed in 1993, according to Smith.

The replacements will be done by Monroe Plumbing and Heating. The base bid for the air-handler was \$548,914 and the base bid for the boiler was \$455,886. Smaller contracts were awarded to other companies to do the electronic and controls work.

The replacements were prompted due to the both the air-handler and boiler's life expectancy being reached. The life expectancy of the equipment is 25 years.

ASHRAE, the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers, provide guidelines on replacement schedules, according to Smith.

The new equipment will be more efficient, have better system controls, more redundancy, better environmental safety and be more reliable.

Both replacements are funded by the deferred maintenance fund.



**O** WASHTENAWVOICE **F** WASHTENAWVOICE

#### **OPINION**

# **Revolving door revolts me (but we should use it)**



A4 April 8, 2019

BY LILLY KUJAWSKI Editor

If you're like me, you move through the world with an unbridled sense of urgency. I get an extra shot of espresso in my latte. I speed on the expressway. I'm so often late for things (meetings, classes, probably even my graduation ceremony) that I compensate with a fast, well-caffeinated pace.

If there's one thing that really brings me to a halt in my day-to-day life, it's the revolving door in the Student Center. I mean (insert Chandler from "Friends" voice), could it be any slower?

I practically trip over my own two feet when I try to walk through the revolving doorthat's how slowly I'm forced to step. Half the time, the doors don't even start turning, so I am forced to feign speed and trick them into their sedated circulation again.

Some may argue the revolving doors offer students a chance to slow down, catch a breath, stop to smell the flowers and what-have-you. No offense, but I'd rather dictate for myself when I choose to take a breather, not be made as such on my way to a class for which I'm already 10 min-



#### Photo illustration depicting the struggle to get through the revolving doors in a timely fashion.

utes late.

Even so, those of you nodding along in agreement so far may be surprised to hear that, despite the above grievances, I am, in fact, in support of the Student Center revolving door. The fact of the matter is that the overall benefits of the revolving door outweigh my personal inconvenience. For one, its primary function is intended as a sustainability measure on campus, according to Bill Ghrist, manager of energy and system integrations at WCC.

Revolving doors help to prevent air from leaking out of a building when people enter and exit. This helps con-

serve the energy used for heating and cooling, particularly in buildings with frequent door use, such as on a college campus, Ghrist said.

Another positive aspect of the revolving door is its ADA compliance, Ghrist said. There's even a button on the door that slows the rotation to allow for wheelchair users to enter and exit the building.

Ghrist added that the standard speed of the door is set to accommodate the pace of all walkers, which is why it may seem too slow for some.

"The number one thing we're trying to do is make it so all persons can pass through," Ghrist said.

In hasty impatience, have you ever been tempted to push the door to move it faster (even though the sign says "don't")? Evidently, you're not alone. Ghrist said he's had to reset the door panel 40 or 50 times since the installation of the revolving door, due to people pushing on the doors.

I know in the past I've been guilty of sidestepping the revolving door in favor of the regular swinging doors on either side of it. You knowthe ones that clearly state that they're "for emergencies only."

As I said before, the world moves at a rapid tempo, especially for a college student,

I'd call him "Wolverine," but that one is taken.

Bryce Bouer, 17 **General Studies** 

and I'm often going at full

speed. I, like many others, am

at times inclined to cut cor-

ners and take a shortcut if it'll

save me a couple minutes. But

maybe there is some truth in

the old saying of how "slow

tell you to sit back and enjoy

the ride that is life—I'd be a

hypocrite to preach the "stop

and smell the roses" rhetoric.

I know you have deadlines to

meet, tests to study for and a

job to get to. However, I think

we can all afford to slow down

for a moment if it means

contributing to some greater

Opting for the revolving

good.

Look, I'm not here to

and steady wins the race."



very big picture of climate change and environmental destruction, its impact is likely miniscule. But, conscious effort on any scale is a sure-footed step in the right direction (pun definitely intended), and we could really use some more of those in the world. So, next time you're mission-bound and rushing through the Student Center, I urge you to find the patience in yourself to choose the revolving door; I pledge to do the same.

door is a small effort. In the

If nothing else, using the revolving door provides a slightly more creative excuse for tardiness than the overused "stuck in traffic" story.

#### **OUR TEAM AND ITS ROLE**

The Washtenaw Voice is produced every other week by students of Washtenaw Community College. Editorial responsibility lies with the students. The views here are not endorsed or approved by the faculty, administration or Board of Trustees of WCC.

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#### **OPINION**



TRIBUNE MEDIA

social media, resorting to this extreme after her increasing paranoia on the topic.

The last time Lauren was contacted, she had disabled her email address, applied tape to every camera lens she owned and disconnected her phone number. Because of this, she didn't receive any notifications about the

noia, she was heard saying she was "bored" and missed "replying to people with several variations of the heart emojis." To combat this problem, Lauren has since taken to downloading Facebook again; this time with a name she claims won't be traced back to her: Davis Lauren.

# **Slow down and enjoy the process**



BY TANVI SHAH Contributor

All of us have different goals and ambitions. To bring us closer to those goals, we are anxious to get started with our next challenge, often juggling everything at once. Often without realizing, we go overboard; we stress out and assume time is running out to catch the next bus to success. In other words, we are always rushing to achieve more, accomplish and do more. Sometimes, we even

force ourselves to choose the hard way and ignore the comfortable way to do the same thing.

We often make life twice as stressful than it should be. It is possible to smell the roses whilst you are focused on your desired destination. It is practical to enjoy the process because life will always be a work in progress. At the end of the day, everything does work out.

Do you ever look back at your childhood once in a while and wish you didn't

hurry to become so mature? Do you wish you didn't hurry to get things done, and had instead savored that blissful time?

Likewise, whenever we order a dessert, don't we all wish to comfortably enjoy every spoon of the dish without anyone hurrying us to finish the bowl and leave? Treat your life as that dessert: Savor each moment.

I agree it's not as simple as it sounds. There are things to prioritize and there is work to get done. But, it is equally

necessary to take it easy and make time for yourself in the rush of life. Setting out time for yourself in this fast world is a matter of choice. Nobody will give you the chance unless you make it essential.

Next time you are going to college or work, enjoy that walk or drive on your way there. Look up into the sky and notice the beautiful shades of blue. Realize life is all about living each moment as if it was created just for you.







# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS BECOME A STUDENT LEADER AT WCC



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# WCC has over 30 student c TO LEARN MORE: Drop by

# Human library celebrates 2nd year



Al Alsaidy shares with a student what it was like to emigrate to the Unites States and why his family took the risk.



BY NICHOLAS KETCHUM Deputy Editor

WCC's second annual Human Library event occurred Wednesday, March 27, as a special one-day event at the Bailey Library on campus, where visitors can browse topics and "check out" a live person as a "book" who's offered a personal story (and even just open conversation) in a oneon-one dialogue.

According to documents provide by library staff, roughly 25 people signed up to be "books" and share their stories with "readers."



According to the event's website, the Human Library helps "our community through open dialogue and showcasing the diversity we have.... and 'readers' get a chance to break down prejudices."

PHOTOS BY LILY MERRITT



May Watanabe shares her story to a group of students of what it was like to be in college one day and a Japanese concentration camp the next.



Meghan Rose, a librarian, speaking with a visitor during the Human Library event.

#### For video and photos of the event, visit www.washtenawvoice.com.

# Heroes fly in 'Shazam'

BY CATHERINE ENGSTROM-HADLEY Staff Writer

phia. On his last legs in the forms of the seven deadly foster care system, he's sent to sins. Soon, a doctor obsessed a group home, where he in- with absorbing his power and backed by the seven deadly sins, is after Billy/Shazam.

but "Shazam" proves that change may be possible for the DC extended universe.

"Shazam" brings us our first real contender since "Aquaman" for a great movie, with a much better villain (played by Mark Strong) than any of the previous movies. "Shazam" seems like DC's answer to somewhere between "Spiderman: Into the Spider Verse" and "Deadpool." "Shazam" is the perfect Christmas story, which is odd for a spring release. Our main battle ground is the Christmas Village, and the mall Santa from Philadelphia Mills is featured heavily. The film is a story of family, redemption and acceptance. I believe "Shazam" will be the new "is 'Die Hard' a Christmas

movie?" debate for many.

"Shazam" doesn't take itself too seriously, but still manages to be grown up. The point is that Billy





EXTRA

Librarians assist students in finding stories using a large display of available "books" at the Human Library.

"Shazam" is a story for the misfits. The humor in this movie lands on its feet and doesn't overstep the seriousness of the plot points, but adds a realness and richness to it. "Shazam" wasn't afraid of broaching the harder topics without being patronizing.

When we meet protaganist Billy Batson (Asher Angel) as a 14-year-old, he's breaking into a pawn shop. Billy has dedicated his entire life (so far) to finding his mother, whom he lost in a crowd at the Christmas Village in Philadelherits five siblings. Billy rejects the family at first, convinced he needs to keep looking for his mother. But when he sees his new brother Freddy (Jack Dylan Grazer) get beat up by bullies, he steps in to help him and ends up chased into the subway.

On the subway, he is transported to lair of The Wizard Shazam (Djimon Hounsou), who bestows Billy with his magical powers, but without much explanation of what the powers are. Billy is charged with fighting the physical

Later, the protaganist returns as an adult version of the character Shazam (Zachary Levi). Levi was truly a treasure to watch in this movieit seems he was born for this role. The transformation from Billy's childhood portrayal to his adult-self trying to understand his superhero persona was executed perfectly.

In the newer round of DC extended universe movies, the franchise has struggled to bring us a compelling villain,

is more Billy than he is "Shazam," and being a kid gives him more of an advantage over the adults-he thinks differently and dreams bigger. After the success of "Spiderman: Into the Spider Verse" this year, we're remembering who these comics were made for in the first place. Although this movie is family oriented, it earned its PG-13 rating. The monsters are

scary, the fighting is intense and there are a few very violent moments. But for teenagers and teenagers-at-heart, this will be right up your alley.

# **'Closing Time'**

#### A film of beautiful shots that drag on

#### BY ZARA ZANGANA Contributor

Writer/director Nicole Vögele's second featurelength documentary (or what I would call an experimental documentary), was part of the official selection featured in the Ann Arbor Film Festival. Held at the Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor's home for arthouse film, "Closing Time" fit right in.

Vögele's "Closing Time" was, for lack of a better word, interesting-in every sense of the word.

The film consists of very random, beautiful shots compiled to make one long, cinematic journey that doesn't actually go anywhere.

If you got up to use the restroom or accidently fell asleep for a moment during the film, you would not be lost when you returned, because you were already lost before you left. In some ways, "Closing Time" was this halfhauntingly beautiful, halfmysterious thing, that may have been intended to leave us feeling confused or wanting an actual plotline once the credits rolled. Maybe Vögele's intention was to incite curiosity in her viewers.

The film-making of this piece was very beautiful on a technical level. The location shots were gorgeous; I felt almost as if I was there. The shots of Mr. Kuo and Mrs. Lin working in their shop were stunning-I especially liked the shots of Mr. Kuo chopping vegetables. The way the knife hit the counter every time was like music.

The film was shot as if everything was a character: the ocean, the vegetables, the motorcycles, the quarters going in and out of crane machines. Everything seemed alive in every shot, which brought a "Call Me By Your Name" (2017, dir. Luca Guadagnino) sort of vibe to the film.

The symmetrical shots were lovely; I began to see a pattern with these. There were symmetrical shots of beautiful landscapes, which I took to symbolize life.

There were also two specific symmetrical shots of what I believe were dead pig carcasses, which I recognized as symbolizing death. These shots were particularly interesting to me, as I love when filmmakers use reoccurring shots to convey symbolism.

In terms of storyline or plot, there was none. "Closing Time" definitely strays away from any sort of narrative paradigm, even for a documentary.

The film was basically a bunch of random (but gorgeous) shots, and some scenes of the film's subjects speaking with each other. Sure, they were really interesting scenes, but I quickly grew bored of watching the same thing happen over and over. However, I do realize that Vögele's goal may have been to illustrate re-

petitiveness, which is another reason I enjoyed all the symmetrical shots. I interpreted them to symbolize mirroring, or life being the same forever.

Still, I felt like the film was too long. My brain wanted to turn off after an hour or so, and I spoke with other viewers who felt the same.

"Closing Time's" editor, Hannes Bruun, clearly knows what he's doing, but he and Vögele should have ended the film earlier. I would much rather watch a shorter version of this film with the same concept and be left wanting to know more, rather than sit through an hour and 56 minutes and grow bored.

However, this could be a groundbreaking thing for a filmmaker to do-create a film that consists of random shots and piece it together with some dialogue here and there. I really want to like this idea; and to an extent, I do.

"Closing Time" takes you on a journey, but during every journey comes a time when you get tired and just want to go home. Vögele had a wonderful idea with an interesting topic. She just didn't know when to stop. Instead of

leaving her audience wanting more, she spooned more into their mouths after they already said they were full. Still, Vögele has a beautiful eye for film, and her work shows that.



#### COMMUNICATION

# **Chamber of Commerce aims to expand talent pool**

By Catherine Engstrom-Hadley | Staff Writer

If you looked at Raffaele Mautone, former CIO and VP of Ann Arbor's DUO security, you probably wouldn't think he started out in bartending. During his speech at the first annual Workforce Pipeline Summit, he explained how the computer company Dell recruited from a different talent pool and how he landed a job with them.

**EDUCATION** 

"They couldn't find local talent; they decided as a management team to go out and find talent. They focused on retail and restaurants, and they knew they were looking for three things: good problem solving, good communication skills and the ability to fit into their culture," said Mautone. "My hiring class had 120 people; everyone was from the Gap and restaurants."

Mautone would go on to join DUO in Ann Arbor and use similar recruitment policies to tap into a hidden market.

"We need to start looking at hiring through a difference lens," he said. "Look for the people who want to be here and help enable it."

Richard Chang, CEO of

NewFoundry and the chair of the board for the Ann Arbor Chamber of Commerce, organized the Workforce Pipeline Summit. He discussed a desperate need for companies to tap the "hidden workforce," as he called it.

"The fact that we have people that are willing to work, seats that are open for people to work, but they can't somehow get in those seats, that I think is a failure, in part by our community, because we are not helping these people rise up," said Chang.

The chamber's goals for the Workforce Pipeline Summit were to raise awareness of the workforce challenges occurring in the communities and make an actionable plan for the community.

The subject of education came up during the summit, as well. Dr. Scott Menzel, the Washtenaw Intermediate School District superintendent spoke of the concept of a single, county-wide school district, instead of the current model: school of choice, where the money follows the child to whatever school they go to.

"On the surface, our county looks great when we look at the reading levels, but when we dig deeper, we see that's only true for certain parts of our county," said Menzel. "I've been in this community since '94 and I'm tired of the current status quo. I'm glad that AAPS is great, but we need to share that wealth," said Chang. "We need to share that love, and make sure that we're getting equality."

The summit featured talks on a wide range of topics, from continued education to affordable housing, and tapping into the hidden talent pool.

Melvin Parson, executive director of We The People Growers Association, discussed the struggles for exconvicts in our community.

"If I were to go into Mc-Donalds and apply for a job, I would be turned down for having a criminal record that is over 25 years old. Or, if I tried to live in certain housing developments owned by McKinley property, I would be denied the ability to be there," said Parsons. "Either you have a seat at one of these tables, or it's your ass that's on the menu."

To get involved, email info@workforcepipeline.org for more information.

Holocaust survivor encourages students to speak up

ECONOMIC DIGNITY FOR ALL

BY MATTHEW BARTOW Contributor

WCC hosted Irene Hasenberg Butter, a Holocaust survivor, to speak at Towsley Auditorium on March 27, as part of WCC's Global Discussion Series.

The event was called "Never a Bystander: Lessons from a Holocaust Survivor for Today," inspired by the documentary "Never a Bystander," of which she was the subject. Butter began her speech by explaining her interpretation of the phrase "Never a Bystander."

"We all have a responsibility to act, to not be passive, to not be silent when events are immoral, inhumane and contradictory to the values of our American society," Butter said.

Butter was born in 1930 in Berlin. She said she had a happy childhood for the first 6 years of her life.

Two years later, however,

to us because our status was transformed from just being Jews to becoming exchange Jews," Butter said, referring to a policy of the German government where Jews with passports to foreign countries were reserved to be included in a prisoner exchange. "We suddenly had value to the Nazis, and we were no longer at risk of being deported to Auschwitz or another death camp."

A few months later, Butter and her family were sent to an exchange camp in Germany where they would wait to be exchanged. They were told that the camp would be a better camp, one the Nazis called, a "privilege camp."

However, this was not the case. Butter said that environment at Bergen-Belsen was horrible and unhygienic.

"The conditions were absolutely deplorable. For food, we were given a 3-inch piece of bread and a cup of turnip soup. It wasn't enough for



Holocaust survivor, Irene Hasenberg Butter, shares her story during the time when Nazis came into power in Germany.

the Nazis invaded the Netherlands, and the family's dream of becoming citizens were shattered. In 1943, they were deported to the concentration camp Westerbork, a transit camp in the Netherlands where many inmates were held before being sent off to death camps in eastern Europe.

Before they were deported, Butter's family tried to obtain Ecuadorian passports, but they didn't arrive until the family had already been deported to Westerbork. The passports were forwarded to the Westerbork camp. Butter said that this likely saved them from being transferred to a death camp.

"It meant a great deal

#### anyone to survive on for any length of time," Butter said. "Plus, everyone was sick from epidemics of diseases transmitted from lice, including typhus, polio, pneumonia and dysentery."

She said the most difficult aspect was learning to cope with death.

"Waking up in morning toward end of year meant being surrounded by dead bodies," Butter said.

After being in Bergen-Belsen for almost a full year, her family was one of few selected to be part of a prisoner exchange. Butter said by then her parents were both extremely ill.

The family would board a train bound for Switzerland.

On the second night of the train, Butter's father passed away.

Upon arrival in Switzerland, Butter said that her mother and brother were immediately hospitalized; however, Butter was not admitted to the hospital because she was told she was not "ill enough." She was sent to a refugee camp in Algiers in North Africa.

Butter said that for a few months while the war was still going on, she did not know if her mother and brother were alive.

After the war ended, she received a telegram that her mother and brother were re-covering.

Although she desired to either return to Switzerland or for them to come to the camp in North Africa, neither were permitted.

Eventually, family in the United States agreed to sponsor them, but Butter said that the immigration process was slow and complicated.

"I came to the United States after one year in North Africa without family," Butter said. "And my mother and

"The Holocaust was a long time ago, but it's not so far away from us. We see the echoes of the Holocaust reoccurring in our own country and around the world," – Irene Butter

brother didn't come for six currin more months. Altogether, we and a were separated for 18 months ter sa before we could live as a family again."

Butter said that even though the Holocaust happened many years ago, we still see examples of inhumane acts in today's society.

"The Holocaust was a long time ago, but it's not so far away from us. We see the echoes of the Holocaust reoccurring in our own country and around the world," Butter said. "We see phenomena like ethnic cleansing, white supremacy, deportation, persecution, separating children from their families, and other inhumane acts that characterize the Holocaust."

Rabbi Josh Whinston also spoke at the event about the current situation in Tornillo's detention tent city in Texas, where migrant children are being held, and why it's important we stand up in the face of inhumane acts.

"It is all of our jobs to be a better, compassionate country and make sure that our voices are heard," Whinston said.

#### Film Fest

Continued from A1

Thirty films received awards this year. The award for Best Documentary Film went to Cheri Gaulke for her short film "Gloria's Call," a documentary about women surrealist artists.

The Eileen Maitland Award went to "We Were Hardly More Than Children" directed by Cecelia Condit, a moving short film centering on one woman's story about abortion.

The Peter Wilde Award for Most Technically Innovative Film went to "Traces with Elikem" directed by Ariana Gerstein, while the Prix DeVarti for Funniest Film went to "Under Covers" directed by Michaela Olsen.

Jury Awards went to many different shorts. Among these were "Mudanza Contemporánea" directed by Teo Guillem, "Pictured Rocks" directed by Jack Cronin and "Armed Lullaby" directed by Yana Ugrekhelidze.

"The festival was emblematic of what the Michigan Theater represents: a devotion to experimental work," said Sofia Spencer, a festival attendee and University of Michigan student. "The building may be traditional, but the films were not."

Spencer attended a screening of "Closing Time" directed by Nicole Vögele, one of the features being shown at this year's festival. She said the film "felt like the type of film that you have to study to appreciate."

The festival is known for screening artistic, unconventional films made by filmmakers just starting out in their careers. Voted the number one best film festival in North America by USA Today's 10 Best Readers' Choice travel award contest, and named by Variety in its Top Ten favorite film festivals in the world, the Ann Arbor Film Festival is a festival for the filmmaker.

Before each screening, volunteers handed each attendee a ballot on which they could rate the short films or feature film they saw.

The AAFF DVD of the official selection of films shown at the festival will be available for purchase on its website in the coming months.



The crowd waiting in anticipation for the showing of another film at the 57th annual Ann Arbor Film Festival.



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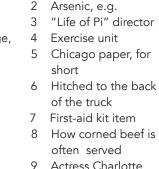
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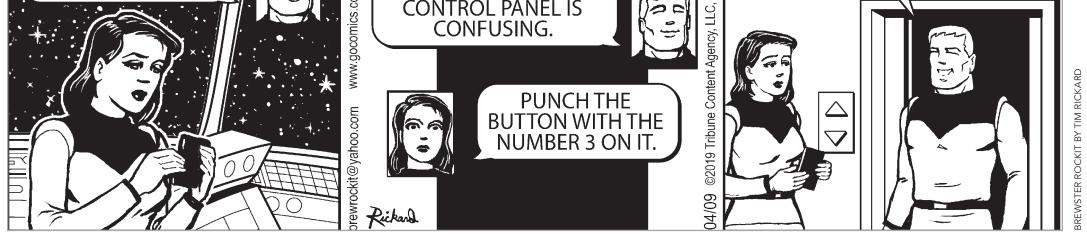


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# CLASSIFIEDS

WCC students and employees can place classified ads in The Washtenaw Voice for free.

LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS Looking for help? As a service to our students, you may places "help wanted" ads in The Washtenaw Voice for free.

THE DEADLINE in 5 p.m. the Tuesday before publication.

#### **Career Transitions**

SC 112 8:00am - 5:00pm. Mondays through Fridays

(734) 677-5155 careers@wccnet.edu wccnet.edu/careerconnection

Below is a sample of recent employment want ads which have been posted with WCC Career Services. Students are invited to apply on the Career Connection job portal. For optimal application results, schedule an appointment today with a career advisor.

#### **CNC Mill Operator**

Company is a Production welding facility. Company manufactures parts for Caterpillar heavy equipment. CNC Mill Operator to load/unload parts for CNC mills and check parts using micrometers and calipers. Must have 1 year CNC Mill operating experience (or education in CNC - recent graduates or current students).

#### Mechanic

Avfuel is Hiring someone to perform heavy truck maintenance and repair on the nation's largest, most diversified commercial aviation refueler fleet. The primary responsibility of the Medium Heavy Duty Truck Mechanic is to repair heavy truck chassis up-fitted with aircraft fuel delivery systems in accordance with manufacturer and

industry guidelines. Assist in the shop maintenance and/or production teams as needed. Aviation experience not required.

#### Hygiene Assistant.

We are looking for a qualified, professional and motivated Hygiene Assistant who is ready to help change the lives of patients, be a part of a team and grow personally and professionally within our Great Expressions family!

#### **Electrical Technician**

Do you have experience with electrical troubleshooting? Due to continued growth, Roush has an immediate need for an Electrical Technician to join our team in our Engine Dynamometer Test Lab. The Electrical Technician will be responsible for troubleshooting and repairing shop equipment, customer-supplied parts, engine harness modifications, test-cell integration, and other duties as assigned. This position is located in Livonia, MI.

#### **Resident Care Assistant**

Staff members provide compassionate care and support to enable residents to develop a comfortable, engaging daily routine with optimal independence. The intimate surroundings offer an easily navigable environment with private, group, and outdoor options to explore.

#### **Electronics Systems Engi**neer

As the Electronics Systems Engineer, you will be the main technical customer interface. Responsibilities will include capturing customer requirements, driving the

design team and communicating the customer requirements to the design team. Authoring and owning all test plans (systems, environment, EMC) and support the testing. This position is located in Novi, MI.

#### **Financial Advisor**

Responsible for personal production goals and customer service objectives for all assigned branches. Works closely with all branch staff (licensed and non-licensed) to help identify investment and / or insurance opportunities to help customers with their long-term goals.

#### **Assistant Teacher**

Seeking loving, fun, responsible caregivers to join our team. Must be at least 18 ears old and pass a background check. Able to work around most college and

high school schedules.

#### **HHA/CNA** Caregivers

Provide client care according to approved Plan of Care, Assist clients with personal care and hygiene, Provide transportation as required, Assist in providing a safe environment for client, Comply with all documentation and record keeping requirements.

#### Welding Associate

Do you want to be part of a dynamic welding engineering and testing facility and work on diverse weld related projects? If so, United Technical in Whitmore Lake is accepting resumes for part time and full time positions. Students in weld related classes are encouraged to apply and start learning hands-on skills.



#### **EXTRA**

#### Compiled by: Kevin Gerych | Staff Writer

#### ENTERTAINMENT

#### LOCAL

#### ENUFF Z'NUFF

Best remembered for MTV-era hits of the late 1980s such as "New Thing" and "Fly High Michelle," Chicago-based glam metal band Enuff Z'Nuff will be coming to Token Lounge in Westland in support of its latest album "Diamond Boy." Tickets are \$15 and up, and the show is 18+ with identification, or all ages with parent/guardian over 21 present.

The Token Lounge | 28949 Joy Road, Westland

April 12, Doors at 7 p.m.

#### JD MCPHERSON

Singer-Songwriter JD McPherson will be bringing his show to the Blind Pig in support of his latest album "Socks." McPherson's influences range from Led Zeppelin and the Pixies to Wu-Tang Clan and Little Richard. The show is 18+ and cover is \$20 at the door.

The Blind Pig | 208 South First St., Ann Arbor

April 17, doors at 8 p.m.

#### HATEBREED, OBITUARY, CRO-MAGS, **TERROR AND FIT FOR AN AUTOPSY**

Connecticut-based Metalcore band Hatebreed will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary in style with special guests Obituary, Hardcore Punk legends Cro-Mags, Terror and Fit For an Autopsy at Harpo's Concert Theatre. The show is all ages. Tickets are \$25.

Harpos Concert Theatre | 14238 Harper Ave., Detroit

#### April 10, doors at 5:30 p.m.

#### SCANDINAVIAN MUSIC JAM

Musicians Bruce Sagan and Brad Battey will be leading an acoustic jam session dedicated to the music of Sweden and Norway. All instruments are welcome to join. For more information, call (908) 721-2599.

Great Oak Cohousing Common Area | 500 Little Lake Dr., Ann Arbor MI

April 8, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

#### **BARNES & NOBLE BOOK CLUB**

Barnes & Noble Ann Arbor holds its monthly book club meeting discussing "The Island of Sea Women." a new novel by Lisa See. A free coupon for \$1 off cookies will be provided. Barnes & Noble | 3235 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor MI

April 9, 7 p.m.

#### UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MUSEUM **OF NATURAL HISTORY GRAND OPENING**

Now housed among the labs in the new Biological Sciences building, the University of Michigan's Museum of Natural History is opening the doors of its new home to the public for the first time. Admission to the museum is free, but donations are always appreciated.

U-M Museum of Natural History | 1105 North University Ave., Ann Arbor

April 14, 9 a.m-5 p.m.



#### **MIND YOUR MENTAL HEALTH AND** WELLNESS FAIR

events

This free event offers students the chance to gather information on mental health and improving wellness. Free giveaways will be held, too.

Student Center, first floor

April 17, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

#### **ENTREPRENEURS ON CAMPUS PANEL:** STORIES FROM SOCIAL MEDIA **BUSINESS OWNERS**

Interested in various opportunities in the social media industry? This free panel discussion will feature five professionals from within the social media industry to answer any questions and give advice from the inside.

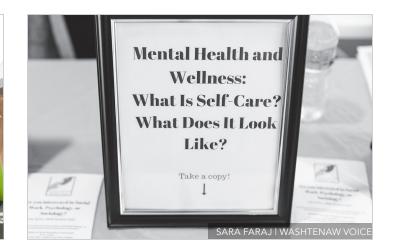
Morris Lawrence, room 150

#### April 17, 4-6 p.m.

#### WCC COLLEGIATE RECOVERY PROGRAM **OPEN HOUSE**

Come out and learn more about WCC's Collegiate Recovery Program at its free Open House. The Collegiate Recovery Program is dedicated to helping students transition into the college community and succeed whilst maintaining sobriety. Garrett's, Student Center first floor

April 18, 5:30-7 p.m.







COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

# **PAYMENT DEADLINES BEGIN** APRIL 25, 2019

WCCNET.EDU/PAY OR **CONTACT THE CASHIER:** 734-973-7703

