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Public Safety office highlights security protocols on campus

Download WCC Safe app to ensure preparation for an emergency

LILY COLE
Editor

With a new upgrade to campus security cameras and ten assistance phones/towers, reported by the Voice in a previous article, Public Safety is encouraging students to think about what protocols are on campus.

John Leacher, chief of Public Safety, explains that WCC follows ALICE (alert, lockdown, inform, counter and evacuate), a protocol for addressing an active shooter—someone armed with anything intending to harm.

Faculty and staff participate in active violent intruder training with trained instructors once a semester.

“We explain the concepts of ALICE along with other information presented in the first hour of the two-hour class. Then, for the second hour, we run people through a couple of scenarios where they have an opportunity to utilize the training received in the first hour,” Leacher said. However,



All Public Safety officials are thoroughly trained to ensure the safety of the campus community and encourage students to get involved. You can find information about protocols on the WCC Safe app.

students don’t have any training sessions.

“For the two years I’ve been here,” he said. “One of the biggest challenges I’ve faced is trying to get enough interest in the student body to conduct any training.”

Public Safety conducted a student training session in the fall of 2023, with only a few

participating.

“Trust me, I get that you guys [students] are busy,” Leacher said. “You’ve got class loads. You got things to do. There’s no residential housing. Everybody is coming and going. But, if there’s interest out there, we want to be able to provide that training.”

Leacher said that in ad-

dition to semesterly training sessions, Public Safety participates in annual Table Top exercises with regional partners.

“We bring in Pittsfield Township, Michigan state police, the FBI, Huron Valley ambulance, Trinity Hospital, Eastern Michigan University—all the people who could potentially respond really quick to

The Public Safety department is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week to assist emergency calls.

To report a concern contact the department by:

Phone: 734-973-3411

Email: publicsafety@wccnet.edu

Or anonymous concerns: <https://tinyurl.com/3wxjnmjmc> Visit wccnet.edu/publicsafety for more information.



LILY COLE | WASHTENAW VOICE

room on campus with the push of a button. If we know there’s an emergency, someone calls it in, and we believe the entire campus is affected, we will lock every door and every classroom. It doesn’t lock anybody in but keeps them out,” he said.

“It gives me a really good feeling, and it should hopefully ease the concerns of the student body and as well as the faculty and staff,” he continued.

In the short term, Leacher suggests signing up for the WCC Safe App.

“Everything important you need to know is on that app,” he said.

Information about existing emergency protocols are available on the app, which can be downloaded for free from the Apple and Android stores.

“We are here to make sure you are safe, and you can do what you need to do while you’re here, which is get an education without having to worry about anything,” Leacher said. “If you see something, say something.”

Report suspicious activity to Public Safety at 734-973-3411 or ext. 3411.

an incident that could happen here. We bring them together and go through something. In 2022, it was an active shooter exercise,” Leacher explained.

Leacher believes that WCC is different from other campuses because there’s more in place, specifically access control.

“We can lock down every

All students welcome in updated community room



LUIS PAEZ-CANO | CONTRIBUTOR

Hadasa Cret, Kaylee Aguirre and Grace Lentz-Cockey enjoying the community room together during lunchtime.

SASHA HATINGER
Staff Writer

The upgraded community room, located on the first floor in the Student Center building, now offers students an environment to eat, study, socialize, or relax—away from what some now describe as the noisier, common area of the Student Center.

Allison Trovini, a WTMC Liberal Arts Transfer student describes the Student Center as being, “louder for longer,” they said.

Last April, there was a restriction made to the Quiet Room located on the first floor of the Student Center, which limited all high school students from the Quiet Room.

Chief of Public Safety and Emergency Management, John Leacher, offers his enlightenment on the situation.

“It’s not necessarily a ban for the students,” Leacher said. “We’re just closing that down

to all high school students between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.”

Leacher adds, “The new dedicated space in the community room—with that space being available now, we have places to direct people that don’t want to be out in the crazy end of what is lunch time down there [Student Center common area].”

Regarding why these changes have been made, Trovini said, “It’s nice to have a space dedicated specifically to WTMC,” while also highlighting that they also believe the new community room is for all students.

Dean of Students and Superintendent, Dr. Karl Covert shared what prompted the new community room opening, stating that the college and WTMC are working together to create more seating space for all college students.

“It’s actually quieter in there than the normal Student Center,” he said.

COMMUNITY ROOM, A2

Collegiate Recovery Program educates campus community about Naloxone

YANA MCGUIRE
Staff Writer

The Collegiate Recovery Program’s (CRP), a WCC student club, provides support to students who are suffering from addiction, mental health issues and other similar hardships with peer-to-peer recovery support.

This semester the group is offering three free training sessions, guided by a certified registered nurse anesthetist. The nurse will teach students how to be prepared to administer Naloxone nasal spray, available for free in the Bailey Library.

What is Naloxone?

Naloxone is the antidote to an opioid overdose. Commonly known opioids are heroin and fentanyl. However, prescription drugs like Vicodin or Oxycodone have been the cause of many overdoses as well.

According to overdoseaction.org, a website provided by the Michigan’s Overdose Prevention Engagement Network, when administered either by injection or nasal spray, Naloxone temporarily reverses the life-threatening effects of the overdose. The reversed effect gives a 30 to 120-minute window to seek medical attention. This is a non-addictive medication and will not cause a person to become high.

Data obtained from the Washtenaw Health Department 2023 Opioid Report shows that the number of drug overdose-related deaths in Washtenaw County has seen a steady increase since the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.

86% of the opioid-relat-

ed overdoses have involved fentanyl. As of June 2024, there have been 28 Washtenaw County residents who have succumbed to opioid-related deaths this year.

“Our community has an alarming rate of loss and death from opioid overdose. What we do here in CRP is to make sure everyone knows that lives can be saved,” Teresa Herzog, Collegiate Recovery Program coordinator, said.

“About 70% of the drug supply sold in our community through the black market is tainted with fentanyl. We would be remiss at CRP and as a community college if we were not supporting our health department, hospitals, and treatment agency in the comprehensive strategy to make sure our community is saturated with Naloxone,” she said.

Herzog also stated the CRP has given out around 1,400 Naloxone kits to students and staff over the last few years.

Along with potentially saving lives, CRP’s non-judgmental and unbiased support system has been a help to many.

Zoe Nash, CRP peer recovery support and outreach specialist and student, states that she traveled to Ann Arbor to get sober because she heard about the many levels of support available.

Upon enrolling in classes at WCC, Nash started attending weekly CRP support meetings.

“CRP just opened doors for me to get the most out of being in school. And that’s part of my job too because I know about a lot of resources I can

give back to the students,” she said.

CRP’s next training session on Sept. 25 from 12-1 p.m.

If you or someone you

know needs more information about Naloxone Kits, training, or personal support contact CRP at 734-318-0785 or therzog@wccnet.edu

SAVE A LIFE WITH NALOXONE FALL 2024 TRAINING SESSIONS

@ THE LIBRARY ACTIVE ZONE ON THE 1ST FLOOR

SEPT. 25, 2024
12-1 P.M.

OCT. 23, 2024
12-1 P.M.

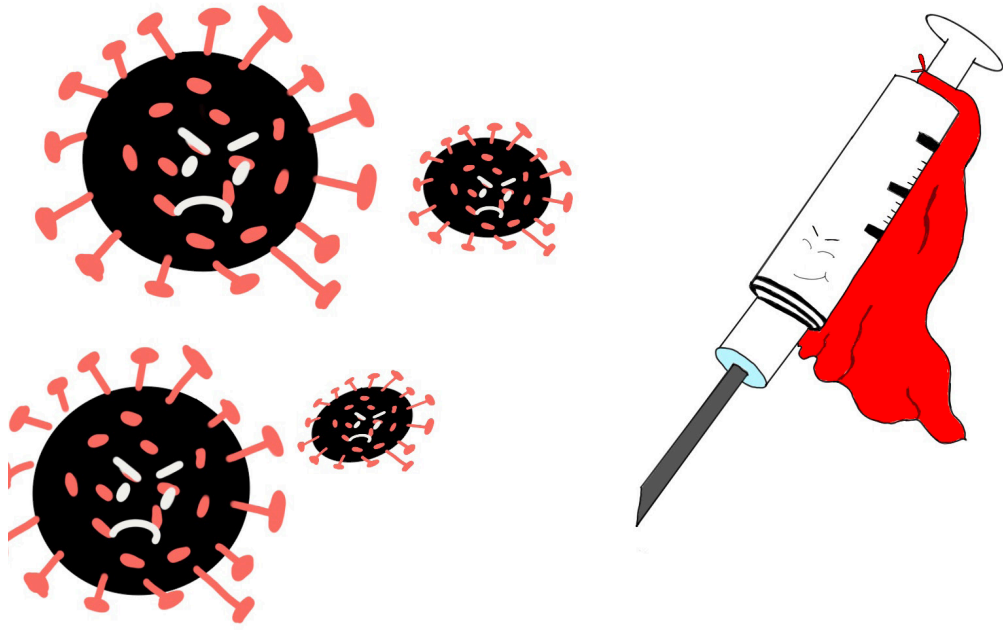
NOV. 20, 2024
12-1 P.M.



JADA HAUSER | WASHTENAW VOICE



The current state of COVID-19 in Washtenaw



The new COVID-19 vaccine can help you spend less time sick this semester.

ALICE MCGUIRE
Deputy Editor

Though fall is here, Washtenaw County continues to experience the impacts of an unusually high summer wave of COVID-19.

According to Susan Ringler-Cerniglia, the Public Information Officer for Washtenaw County Health Department, while rates of “new cases, hospitalizations, outbreaks reported and wastewater” continue to trend in the wrong direction, one positive statistic is the rising number of Washtenaw County residents who have acquired the most recent vaccine.

“If you haven’t had a recent infection with Covid, you probably haven’t had a vaccine in quite a long time, right? So for most people, like, my opin-

ion, would be, if you haven’t been vaccinated in a while, go ahead and get that updated one because there is local activity happening, and we are starting into the wintertime,” said Ringer-Cerniglia.

Henry Sinic, an undecided student with an interest in journalism, found the news about the current spike a “bit scary,” but he found it checked out as he had heard of more people contracting Covid in recent weeks, especially after traveling.

Though his memory is a bit of a blur from the personal and collective trauma of the early years of the pandemic, Sinic still clearly remembers the feeling of invincibility that came from his first round of vaccines.

“It felt like a layer of

armor,” he said. “Like man, I feel so much more protected, you know. Maybe something will come along to break the armor, but I’m good for a while.”

Sinic could not remember when his last booster had been, but he was glad to know that an updated version had been released.

“I can only control what I do and—to some extent—I can advise people around me about what to do. Quarantine if you’re feeling sick, take a Covid test, you know—all that sort of stuff. Make sure you’re up to date on your booster shots, I don’t know. But there’s a certain point I feel like, you know, how much control does an individual really have?” Sinic said.

Kaleb Wieland, a journal-

ism major, found his current concerns gravitating to the mental health impacts of the pandemic and stressed the importance of continued social interaction to our collective wellbeing, saying “It’s unlikely we could survive without such a diverse community.”

There are, however, some new obstacles when it comes to ensuring the general public is vaccinated. In addition to no longer being free without insurance, the Bridge Access Program which exists to cover the gap for uninsured patients effectively ceased running before the latest vaccine had been widely distributed in Michigan.

For those without insurance, the Washtenaw County Health Department does offer free COVID-19 vaccines, but supplies are limited and patients should call ahead to ensure that they are available. There is also a Vaccines for Children program.

“There’s no free vaccine anymore, and people that are in need may still be able to get it, but it’s going to be harder, and it’s going to be at a loss to providers like safety net providers and health departments,” said Ringler-Cerniglia, who went on to stress the importance of updated vaccines to college students who hope to get through the term while spending as little time sick as possible.

The Washtenaw County Health Department can be contacted at (734) 544-6700.

Squaring off at WCC Sports department highlights fall sports for the 2024 semester



COURTNEY PRIELIPP | WASHTENAW VOICE

Annie Gapp is stretching and getting ready for warm ups.

COURTNEY PRIELIPP AND BECK ELANDT
Photo Editor and Contributor

The start of a new school year means new sports are arriving at WCC.

According to WCC sports manager Matt Lucas, on average, 200-250 students participate in sports offered on campus. Club sports, such as women’s and men’s soccer, have many participants each year.

Gutu Kadir, a general math major who played for the WCC men’s soccer team in the Fall of 2023, joined “just to see where I compared against some of these older guys to see the potential next step for me.”

Although Kadir has been playing soccer his whole life, experience isn’t necessary to join, states Marcella Souza-Freitas, a student sports assistant for the WCC sports department.

Starting this semester, flag football will become an intramural sport joining volleyball and 3v3 basketball.

Intramural sports are sports that students are interested in but are not club sports.

When students are interested, they can request a form from the WCC sports department on WCC Connect, where they will look at data and interest numbers to give those students the resources necessary to partake.

Souza-Freitas encourages students to join, saying, “They can meet friends, maintain being active, and probably find a new passion.”

There will also be club sports such as men’s basketball, men’s and women’s soccer, the WCC dance team, men’s and women’s volleyball, cross country, and WCC men’s baseball. Sports such as softball will be offered in the winter.

“Come join us even though you’re not feeling very secure because it’s a safe environment. Some people have never played the sport before, but everyone is here to learn and work out together. There are always new opportunities for new people, and life is too short to stay where we are safe,” Souza-Freitas said.

Students can find more information about the sports offered at WCC or fill out an interest form at wcc.edu/sports.

CRIME LOG

The following events were reported by WCC Public Safety between Aug. 1 and Sept. 12

DRUG LAW VIOLATION

On Aug. 1, public safety responded to an incident in the ML building involving a 27-year-old male who was acting suspicious. He was believed to be an employee as he was found with keys belonging to WCC but that was not the case. This suspect was cooperative. In his backpack were drug substances and a needle. They came back from the drug lab methamphetamine positive. The case has now been turned over to the Washtenaw County Prosecutor’s office.

MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY

On Aug. 6, campus police responded to an incident of a 58-year-old male who reportedly slashed the tires of a vehicle on campus. He is believed to not be a student. There is no status as of right now. This case is being combined together by Washtenaw County as a similar incident happened on another campus. The charges will be through the county.

STOLEN BIKE

On Aug. 27, a male student reported a stolen bike. There are no suspects.

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

On Aug. 29, an incident occurred at the Health and Fitness Center where an 18-year-old former male student assaulted an employee. The individual attacked the employee and resisted arrest. Charges have been submitted to Washtenaw County.

STOLEN BIKE

On Aug. 29, a 24-year-old male employee reported a bike being stolen. There are no suspects.

LARCENY

On Sept. 12, a 50-year-old female setting up for the Foundation Gala in the ML building reported a stolen cell phone.

The case is still open.

Community Room

CONTINUED FROM A1

Covert said the goals of the new community room are “To elevate space concerns within the Student Center” and “create more and different types of spaces for students to eat lunch and study.”

Covert believes in the effectiveness of the new community room in terms of the rooms intended goals.

“Every day it’s becoming more effective. As the word gets out that this is a nice space, [with] new furniture,” Covert said.

The room has been revamped with carpeting and

new banquette seating and tables to help students feel at ease.

Both Covert and Leacher agree, that there hasn’t been any major noise or behavioral complaints of WTMC or any dually enrolled high school students since the limitations of the quiet room last April.

Should students have concerns about noise or behavioral complaints, they can call Public Safety dispatch: 734-973-3411 or dial 3411 from any campus phone.



LILY COLE | WASHTENAW VOICE

The community room is open to all students for studying, eating lunch and quiet time.



Lyric Lane

What song do you sing alone in the shower?

Sasha Hatinger | Staff Writer



'Ride,' Lana Del Rey

TARA BRYANT, ASSOCIATES IN SCIENCE

"It would have to be anything by Lana Del Rey. It seems like the songs that you chill with."

'Freakin' Out on the Interstate,' Briston Maroney

JULIET BRENNAN, PHYSICAL THERAPY

"It's catchy—I like his voice."



'Messy,' Lola Young

CARLOS PLAZAS, CIVIL ENGINEERING

"It's about this woman who's done and sick and tired of letting a man's emotions run her. And in the end, she is saying she's in control of the situation—she has the power."



'It's a Great Day to be Alive,' Travis Tritt

RYAN CONLEY, PHYSICAL THERAPY

"It's a great reminder to be grateful to be alive every day."



'Sailor Song,' Gigi Perez

ZAKIYA FORTNER, PSYCHOLOGY

"It's a really sad song and the beat makes it more emotional. It's one of those songs that really makes you feel. I can listen to it anywhere, any day, any time."



'Purple Gas,' Zach Bryan

JONAH HEIM, UNDECIDED

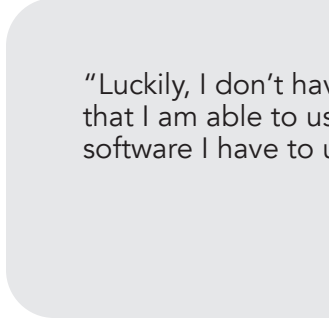
"I like the harmonies between the guy and the girl."



VOICE BOX

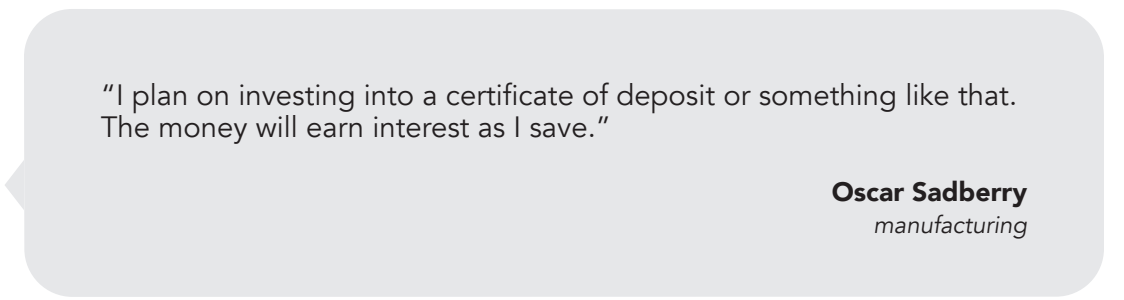
How do you plan on saving money this semester?

Yana McGuire | Staff Writer



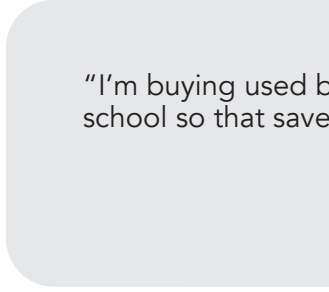
"Luckily, I don't have many books to buy for my courses. It's really nice that I am able to use my student code discounts for things like the software I have to use for my degree."

Salem Karn
audio production and engineering



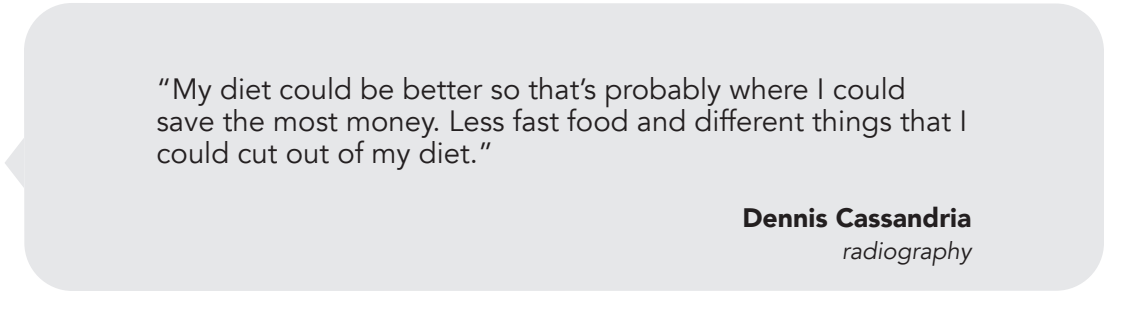
"I plan on investing into a certificate of deposit or something like that. The money will earn interest as I save."

Oscar Sadberry
manufacturing



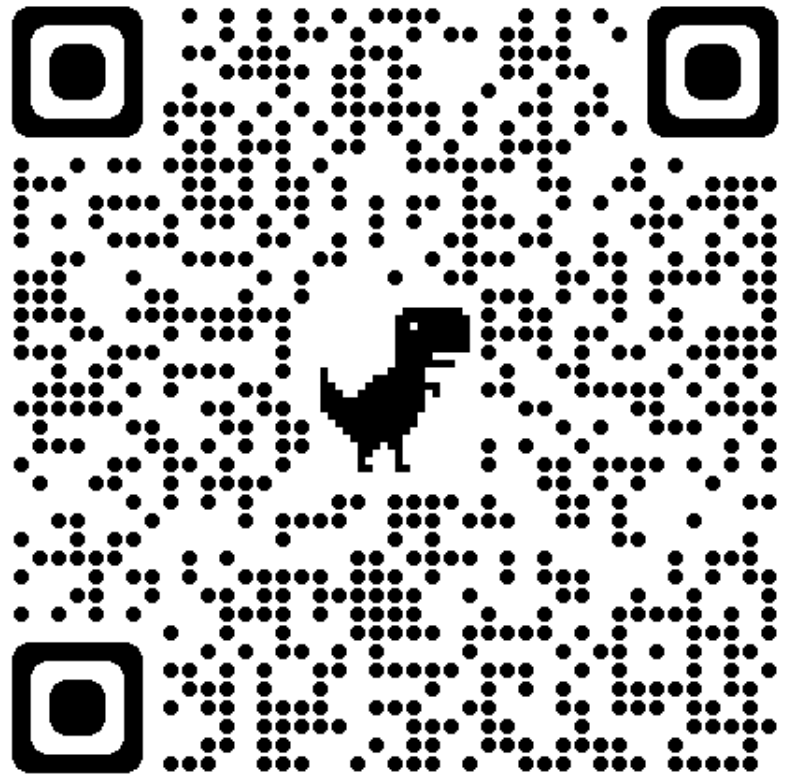
"I'm buying used books and stuff like that. I work two jobs and go to school so that saves money within itself."

Janet Caldwell
radiology



"My diet could be better so that's probably where I could save the most money. Less fast food and different things that I could cut out of my diet."

Dennis Cassandria
radiography



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

LET'S CHAT: ADVICE COLUMN

The road to successfully obtaining your college degree may be a bumpy one. Luckily, you don't have to make the journey on your own.

Need some school advice, have any questions, or do you just want to talk things out to gain some clarity? No worries, we're here to help!

The Voice is pleased to introduce our advice column from contributing writer Yana McGuire: Let's Chat.

We want to know we're hearing from the WCC community. Use your student email and we'll use a pseudonym to keep your name private ("Angsty in A2," for example).

FILL OUT THE GOOGLE FORM BELOW
[TINYURL.COM/53PVPDA5](https://tinyurl.com/53PVPDA5)



COLUMN

Resist the click: media literacy in the time of AI



CHARLIE TRUMBULL
Staff Writer

Media permeates nearly every aspect of our daily lives, from the news we read to the entertainment we consume. With the rise of digital platforms and the proliferation of content, media influences how we perceive information and shapes our understanding of the world.

Most people experience a form of media within the first 24 hours of their birth. A TV show airing in the hospital room, a celebratory social media post, or the soft music played during the drive home—all of these are forms of media that begin to influence us from day one.

Broadcast Media Arts major Jamila Khan first became aware of media at the age of two when she watched PBS kid's shows. "Gen Z grew up with different forms of media as part of everyday life," she said. Kahn also reported that her daily media intake is nearly constant when she shares her attention between her phone, laptop, books and music.

According to the Pew Re-



CHARLIE TRUMBULL | WASHTENAW VOICE

AI can affect our everyday lives from communication to finance. Media literacy is important to understanding how to determine what is real and what is not.

search Center, Gen Z spends an average of 10 hours per day consuming media via social media, video streaming, playing video games and more. Additionally, the study found that 54% of young adults get news from social media.

Media literacy is the abil-

ity to critically analyze mass media stories and determine their accuracy and credibility. This ability is becoming increasingly crucial as online media becomes distorted by fake and misleading information.

"Because everything has

shifted online, it's becoming harder and harder to distinguish between what's credible, what's not credible, what's reliable and what's not reliable," Rayan Salam, an instructor of WCC's Mass Communications course, said. "It's becoming even harder to keep up with

the rapid evolution of technology and the ever-evolving media landscape."

When asked about the most memorable fake or misleading post she saw online, WTMC student Allison Trovini, Liberal Arts, joked, "[Baby] Boomers are always falling for

AI images."

On a more serious note, Khan finds misleading information repugnant. When she saw a fake post slandering Palestinians, she reported that it "boiled my blood."

"Low media literacy skills not only lead to misinformation being spread throughout society," Salam said. "But the way that we form ourselves as human beings—it's how we use media as well that has a great effect on us and others."

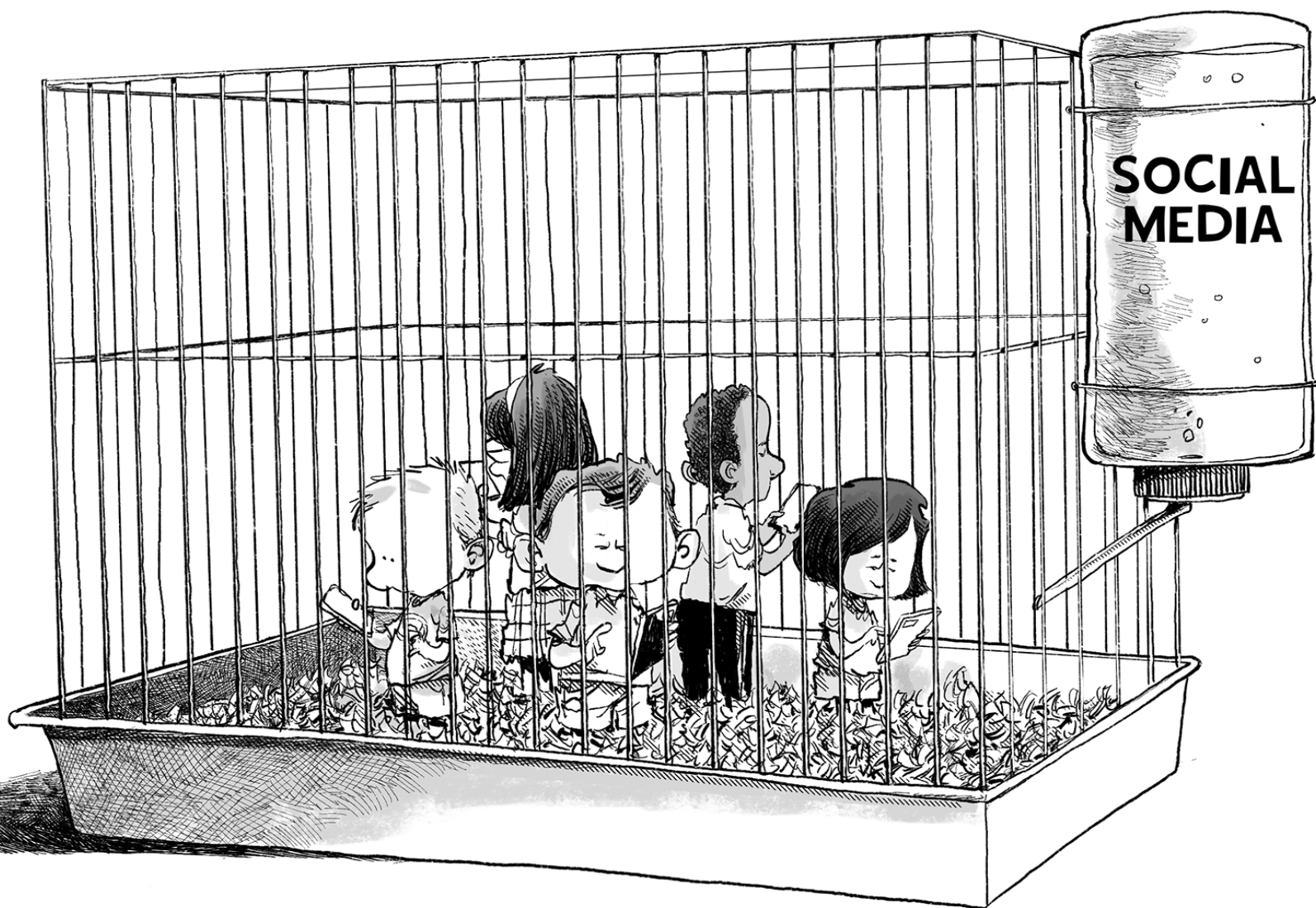
A 2023 report by media content trade association, Digital Content Next found that about 25% of online content is generated by AI, including "both benign and potentially misleading or fake information."

Artificial intelligence has a mixed reception among students. Trovini felt that AI helped with scheduling her classes and homework and could be good for idea generation. "It's a nice jumping-off point."

Khan has a more negative view, arguing that "apocalyptic" science fiction movies are a "warning" of the dangers of AI getting out of control. She doesn't want to see AI take jobs that require a "human touch," such as art, writing and other creative fields.

WTMC student Norman Martin, general studies in math, believes that AI is really cool and can help with homework, though it shouldn't be used for cheating. He said AI becomes an issue "when it's used for evil rather than how it was meant to be used" and that the ethics of AI usage are "intent-based."

SHENEMAN THE STAR-LEDGER



LAB RATS



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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.

YOUR VOICE

The Voice welcomes letters from readers. Letters should be a maximum of 400 words and include the author's name. A phone number and email address are required so letters can be verified before publication. The Voice welcomes news tips and story ideas.

CORRECTIONS

The Voice is committed to correcting any errors that appear in the newspaper or on its website. To report an error of fact, phone 734-677-5405 or email thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com.

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Sociology professor teaches ‘most difficult topic’



Professor Stauffer specifically requests to teach in person sections of SOC 205 whenever possible.

ZAKERIA ALMAJRABI | CONTRIBUTOR

ALICE MCGUIRE
Deputy Editor

Stefanie Stauffer always wanted to teach at the community college level.

“I think here is a better fit because it’s more of a dialog based format, where people get to share their experiences. And I feel like if peoples’ experiences were much more similar, like in another place, maybe at Eastern or U of M, I don’t think it would be as rich of a class experience.”

Stauffer, an adjunct, is a behavioral science professor who has taught at WCC for nearly a decade now, having started in 2015. She has also been the manager of the Ann Arbor farmer’s market since 2020.

Her favorite class to teach is likely familiar to students who have looked into transferring to the University of Michigan College of Literature,

Science, and the Arts—SOC 205: Race and Ethnicity is the only class offered at WCC which fulfills the school’s race and ethnicity requirement.

Starr Burke, the chair of the behavioral sciences department, said “She is teaching the most difficult topic, not only in our department, but maybe across our campus. And she does a fantastic job.” Burke went on to add, “Not everyone could [teach this class] with the sensitivity that she has—that’s the difference she’s made,” while praising Stauffer’s ability to make her students feel comfortable.

When asked how she would sum up social work, Stauffer described the field as being “really diverse,” saying, “I think when people think of social work, they might think of a really specific outcome, like you’re working in a clinical environment with a specific population. And people don’t

necessarily see that the broad nature of it is that you can also be doing participant based research as part of it too. Like, the advocacy is woven into the actions.”

Stauffer went on to explain her own particular focus on food justice, saying, “I’ve always been interested in food since a young age, but it wasn’t really until I was in grad school where I got a lot more involved. The social justice part became food justice in a way, but at the same time, for me, it was also a way to connect with my own heritage.”

At the time, Stauffer was earning her PhD at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she took a class with the late Cedric Robinson, the author of “Black Marxism,” who she credits for sparking her interest in the urban agriculture and food justice scenes in Detroit. Soon after, her research evolved to entail

observing farmers markets in both California and Michigan in order to try to understand the “space of food access that is unique to a community based market that you’re maybe not getting in a grocery store setting or other ways people procure food.”

When asked what she hopes the average student will get out of taking her classes, Stauffer said, “I really hope that they will have a curiosity about other cultures and other peoples’ backgrounds,” noting the importance of developing empathy in oneself as well as strategies to inspire empathy in others.

“When empathy is lacking, it’s because people don’t see the issue reflecting themselves. They don’t see it impacting their own lives. So if you can bring it back to something that they know directly impacts them, it does bring that empathy out.”

Combat gender discrimination in the workplace

Know what rights you have, how to defend them and allies at WCC

CHARLIE TRUMBULL
Staff Writer

In 2020, the Supreme Court affirmed in the *Bostock v. Clayton County* case that discrimination based on gender identity or expression goes against the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which protects against discrimination based on sex.

The landmark SCOTUS case influenced the Michigan government. In 2023, Michigan Senate Bill 4 amended the Elliot-Larson Civil Rights Act of 1976 to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and/or gender identity or expression and defines gender identity as “having or being perceived as having a gender-related self-identity or expression whether associated with an individual’s assigned sex at birth or not.”

“Pronouns should be respected in the workplace because, personally, I just think [it’s] a basic sign of respect,” says WCC’s OutSpace president Ven Medrano. “It’s respecting someone as a fellow human.”



JADA HAUSER | WASHTENAW VOICE

According to the National Center for Transgender Equality, sex-based harassment is unlawful when it is “severe or widespread” and an employer does not take steps to stop it.

Although the amendment went into effect in February 2024, transgender Michiganders continue to be harassed at work. According to the National Center for Transgender Equality, sex-based harassment is unlawful when it is “severe or widespread” and an employer does not take steps to stop it.

This can include jokes or derogatory comments about transgender people, repeated and intentional use of the wrong name or pronouns, as well as invasive, disrespectful personal questions.

When the harasser is a superior, taking steps towards correcting their behavior can be incredibly intimidating.

“I would say something along the lines of ‘we’re working together and we need to work in a professional environment that includes treating me with respect,’” Medrano suggests. “A good way to be re-

spectful of me is by referring to me [correctly].”

2021 was the deadliest year for transgender women in the United States with 45 people being murdered for their gender identity, according to the Human Rights Campaign, which tracks international human rights violations. In 2024 that number is already at 25.

“Trans people have been villainized,” Medrano said in reference to the uptick in transgender violence since 2020. “As if we are a danger and a cause for concern.” The threat of violence against transgender people creates a strong sense of bravery for those who are open about their gender identity in the workplace.

For those who are continuously being harassed or misgendered in the workplace, the first step to take is reviewing the employers Equal Employ-

ment Opportunity procedures and contacting Human Resources.

Filing an internal complaint creates a documentation of the issue and, if it continues further, an employee can use this to file a charge of sex discrimination with the US Equal Opportunity Commission. This can lead to changes in policies and/or discipline.

For transgender students looking for a place to be themselves, OutSpace is always available to create a welcoming community.

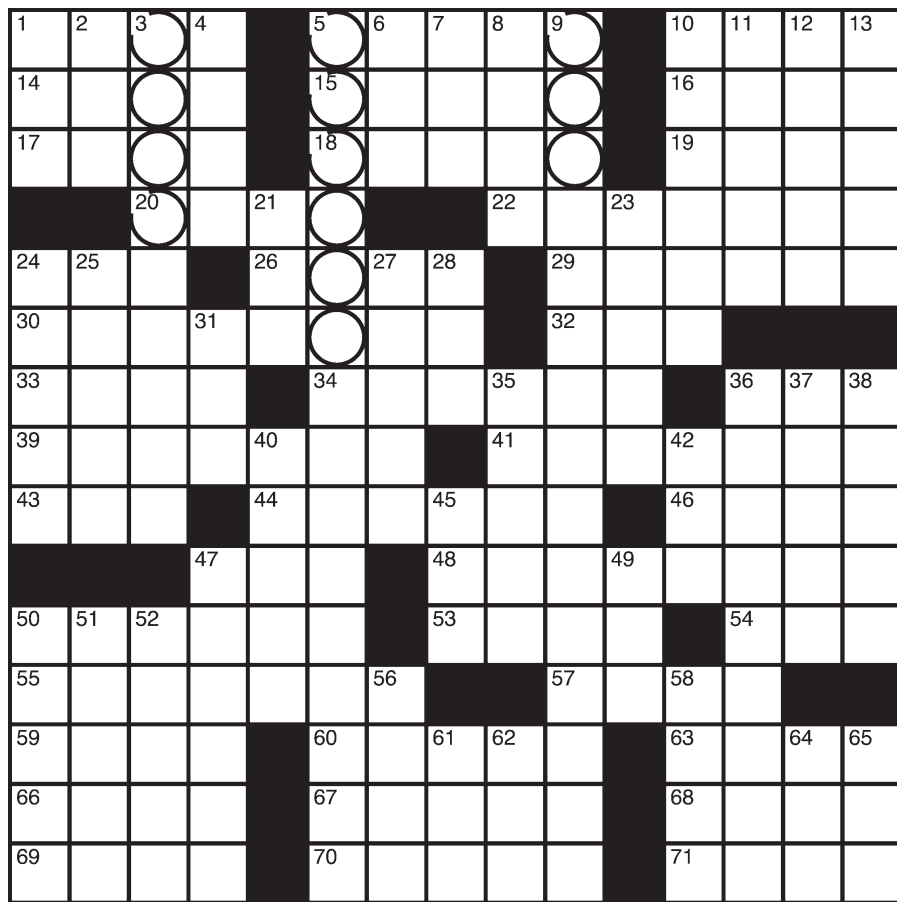
“Our club meetings are pretty relaxed and chill so we try to foster a welcoming environment and we recognize that everyone is on their different paths of understanding [themselves],” Medrano imparts. “We are trying to make a place where queer people can be seen and heard and can feel like they belong.”

I SHOULD
~~PROBABLY~~
GET A
RIDE
HOME.

BUZZED DRIVING IS DRUNK DRIVING



CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Flat-topped landform
- 5 South Pacific island group
- 10 Wraparound dress in Hindi cinema
- 14 Nutrient in leafy greens
- 15 St. ___ Girl beer
- 16 Like most Olympic years
- 17 Super-vision?
- 18 Enthusiastic
- 19 Mr. Peanut accessory
- 20 Congressional helper
- 22 More frightening
- 24 "No seats" B'way sign
- 26 Sch. near Hollywood
- 29 Eggy brunch dish
- 30 Store with printing

- services
- 32 Small quibble
- 33 Under the covers
- 34 Coarse woolens
- 36 Chem. in some plastics
- 39 Cayenne automaker
- 41 Sniffer's boxful
- 43 Approx. affected by weather
- 44 "Be that as it may"
- 46 Online bidding site
- 47 Downtime, briefly
- 48 Like content that can be revised
- 50 Tater Tots brand
- 53 "Ouch!"
- 54 "___ the games begin!"

- 55 Harmonica ancestor
- 57 Smeller
- 59 Sitting on
- 60 "Who knew!"
- 63 "NFL Primetime" network
- 66 Aggravate
- 67 Makeup mishap
- 68 Ballet skirt
- 69 Pond croaker
- 70 ___ down: softens
- 71 Tiff

DOWN

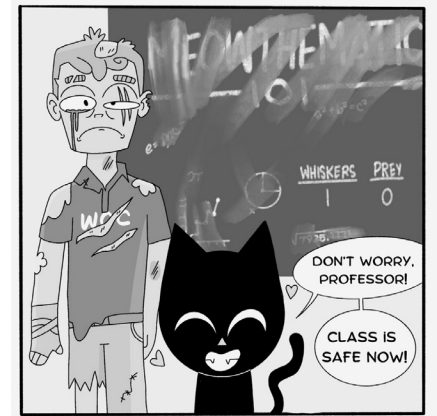
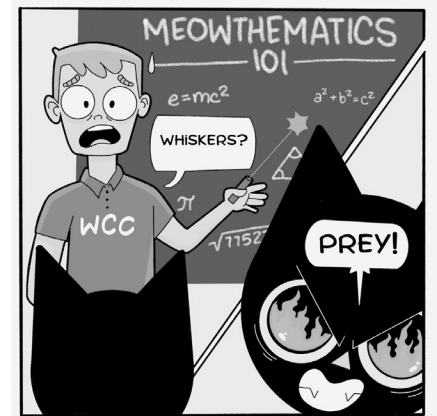
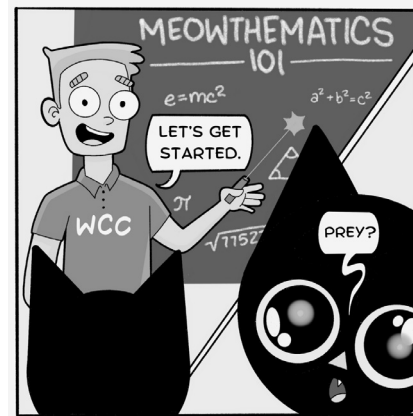
- 1 Stir
- 2 Be off the mark
- 3 Melodramatic series
- 4 Taylor-Joy of "The Menu"
- 5 Professional who helps correct communication disorders
- 6 Duracell size
- 7 Coffee holder
- 8 Fútbol cheers
- 9 Summer coolers
- 10 Hidden
- 11 To no ___: without success
- 12 "Girls5eva" co-star ___ Elise Goldsberry
- 13 Dormant
- 21 Director Van Sant
- 23 Not quite correct
- 24 Garlic stalk available at springtime farmers markets
- 25 Automaton
- 27 Home Depot rival

- 28 Mimic
- 31 Fabric store meas.
- 35 Piano practice piece
- 36 Rises to the top, or what can be found in this puzzle?
- 37 Writer Norman Vincent ___
- 38 Thus far
- 40 Singer Lauper
- 42 Mediterranean ___
- 45 "Queen ___": pop music nickname
- 47 Very muscular

- 49 Pair
- 50 Visually stimulating images
- 51 Quantitative comparison
- 52 Sherlock's teen sister
- 56 Red resident of Sesame Street
- 58 Gels
- 61 Actor Cariou
- 62 Sweetie
- 64 Sch. support group
- 65 Pecan or cashew

WHISKERS VS. LASER POINTER

COMIC BY CHARLIE TRUMBULL



Solutions to puzzles found on washtenawvoice.com

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 place "help wanted" ads in The Washtenaw Voice for free.

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

SEND ADS to wcc.voice.advertising@gmail.com

JOB POSTINGS

Center for Career Success

Below are recent employment want ads which have been posted with WCC Center for Career Success. WCC Students and alumni are invited to read these ads and to apply on Handshake™. For more information or assistance with applications, contact the Center for Career Success, SC 112 at careers@wccnet.edu or 734.677.5155. Follow us on Twitter: @WCC_Careers | Facebook: @WCC.CenterforCareerSuccess | LinkedIn: WCC-CenterforCareerSuccess | Instagram: @wcccenter-

forcareersuccess

Service Technician (Direct Hire). Express Employment Professionals - Ann Arbor, MI.

Proficient in inspecting, diagnosing, and repairing pizza ovens, with expertise in electrical, mechanical, and gas systems to ensure optimal functionality. Skilled at identifying and replacing faulty components, specializing in troubleshooting for enhanced equipment performance and longevity. Experienced in addressing customer needs, completing detailed service reports, and maintaining transparent communication throughout the repair process.

Sports and Race Initiative Curatorial Internship. Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. (Remote).

Desired Majors and Areas of Study: History, African American Studies, Museum Studies, Anthropology, Sociology, and Sports Studies. Supporting the acquisition, cataloging, interpretation, and exhibition of objects and artifacts. Developing, implementing, and evaluating sports-related programs and projects for the SRI. Performing

a variety of duties related to the delivery of sports-related programming by NMAAHC including drafting documents with specified formats and reviewing materials. Working in support of writing and media projects for scholarly and public audiences.

Video Editor. Assists Corp. (Remote).

We are looking for a Video Editor responsible for taking raw footage and turning it into one cohesive video or film. The ideal candidate is able to come up with new ideas and implement them, but also follow an outline and script. In addition to working on meaningful projects, we also offer generous equity packages to our employees, and commissions providing an opportunity for team members to share the company's success and growth.

Information Technologist. US Food and Drug Administration (FDA). (Remote).

The Information Technologist serves as a technical authority and subject matter expert for the CDRH business process. The incumbent leads, coordinates, communicates, integrates and is accountable for the overall success of the program, ensuring alignment with critical agency priorities. Ensure that work efforts achieve the outcome specified within the agency's business strategy, including appropriate strategic, lifecycle management and capital IT investment plans. Work includes project selection, prioritization, evaluation and monitoring, cost schedule management, risk management, quality management and resource allocations.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Spring 2025.

The Washington Center (TWC) Academic Internship Program. (Remote, Hybrid, Rockville Maryland). This full-time and fully funded internship program gives you meaningful work experience and a unique opportunity to chart your career path. During this full-time 10-week Summer and 15-week Fall and Spring program, you will intern five days per week. Fully fur-

nished housing near the internship site is provided by TWC for interns who are selected for on-site or hybrid positions. Housing accommodations can, and typically do, require shared-living arrangements with other interns. Every effort is made to arrange housing near essential amenities like grocery stores, public transit and medical facilities. You may be eligible to receive academic credit for your participation in this program.

Environmental Justice & Political Advocate - Paid Internship. Clean Water Action-Michigan. (East Lansing).

As an advocacy intern at Clean Water Action, you will be working with our organizing team. Our grassroots organizing team speaks to Michigan residents every day about local issues, informing and educating the public, building support and channeling that support into action. Over the past 52 years, we have worked on a wide variety of issues connected to water quality, water access and environmental justice. Our recent victories include passing a drinking water standard for PFAs in Michigan, setting the highest standard for lead in drinking water in the country, and funding lead pipe replacement across the state.

PrideZone Facilitator. Ozone House. (Ypsilanti).

This position is responsible for co-planning and co-facilitating the weekly LGBTQIA+ youth group and related activities. Duties may include organizing community presentations and trainings, coordinating and chaperoning field trips, leading group activities, participating in community events and task supervision of professional interns. Crisis intervention services, suicide assessment and support, conflict resolution.

Lifeguard. Liberty Athletic Club (Ann Arbor).

Come join us as a Lifeguard for Liberty Athletic Club, located in the city of Ann Arbor. Our club is situated on 12 acres with four state-of-the-art fitness training areas, six indoor and four outdoor tennis courts, four swimming pools, and a full-service spa. We seek outgoing and mo-

tivated individuals to join team. UHY 2025 Tax Winter Internship - Michigan, various locations. UHY LLP. (Ann Arbor). Provide general office support for Professional departments (Audit, Tax, SALT, ERAS, FLVS) requiring limited knowledge of office management systems and procedures. Simple tasks may be assigned as needed by department and may include a combination of basic client work, filing and data entry. Position is typically temporary and part-time.

Welder. Huron Valley Steel Corporation (Belleville).

Huron Valley Steel Corporation in Belleville, MI currently has welder positions available. Position requirements include: at least one year of stick/arc welding experience, ability to read blueprints, must be able to work 5 days a week/10 hour shifts, must be able to pass a pre-employment background check, physical exam, and drug screen. Pay rate is \$19.00/hr to start; \$20.00 per hour after 6 months; eligibility for full-time benefits after 30 days of service.

Pro Shop Associate. Georgetown County Club. (Ann Arbor). We are seeking a customer-oriented individual to join our team as a Customer Service Representative in our Golf Pro Shop. This role plays a crucial part in ensuring our customers have an exceptional experience while visiting our golf facility.

Laboratory Animal Care Technician. Michigan Medicine. (Ann Arbor).

Provide for the daily care and handling of laboratory animals, mainly rodents. Identify clinical and behavioral signs of illness in animals and report accordingly. Understand and follow all Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Quality Assurance Standards. Schedule location could vary across multiple buildings. Ability to function independently and positively in a team setting. Ability to communicate and work effectively and professionally with internal and external customers. Provide training support to peers.

Experiential Marketing Associate. Latitude and Co. (Southfield).

We are currently seeking a motivated and creative Experiential Marketing Associate to join our team. This role offers an exciting opportunity for recent graduates who are eager to dive into the world of experiential marketing and make their mark in a fast-paced, collaborative environment.

Parts Processor. Dextech, (Dexter). Dextech is Tier 1 automotive supplier located west of Ann Arbor, Michigan and we have immediate openings for Parts Processors. Primary responsibilities include but not limited to machine set-up, palletizing cartons & performing manual adjustments on packaging machines. Material handling duties including driving a hi-lo. Finance Development Program - Analyst Full-Time. Michigan Medicine - Finance Development Program. (Ann Arbor).

The FDP is aimed at recent college graduates interested in the healthcare industry that are searching for a challenging, yet rewarding, career in a dynamic environment. The goal of the program is to develop the skills and experiences needed by analysts to accelerate and advance their careers at Michigan Medicine. Analysts in the FDP complete rotational assignments within Michigan Medicine, or with Michigan Medicine strategic partners.

Facilities Maintenance Electrical Technician. Roush Industries. (Livonia).

The Facilities Maintenance Electrical Technician will be responsible for inspecting, testing, installing, maintaining, modifying, troubleshooting, and repairing electrical circuits, systems fixtures and related electrical controls and devices. The role will work in compliance with all state and local electrical codes. The Facilities Maintenance Electrical Technician will also support other industrial and commercial building and equipment maintenance repair functions such as plumbing, and machine repair as directed by Facilities Electrical Supervisor.

Digital Marketing Spe-

Evans Distribution Systems. (Melvindale).

Primarily accountable for support of key digital marketing initiatives and data. This role is responsible for producing and managing content calendar, managing social networks, tracking marketing KPIs, reporting on customer survey data, distributing the e-newsletter, and creating automated email campaigns. Other responsibilities include monitoring and reporting on digital ad campaigns and SEO maintenance. Other graphical projects will be assigned on an as needed basis.

Teaching Positions! Part time and Full Time Available. Apple Playschools. (Ann Arbor).

Mentor/Lead Teacher \$18-\$21 per hour, growth opportunities, flexible schedule options, retirement matching, and 4+ weeks of PTO! Join our collaborative, anti-bias focused early childhood team today. Apprentice Teacher \$15-\$15.75 per hour, growth opportunities, flexible schedule options, if working full time receive retirement matching, and 4+ weeks of PTO! Join our collaborative, anti-bias focused early childhood team today. Flex/Float Teacher \$14-\$14.75 per hr, growth opportunities, flexible schedules, if working full time retirement matching, and 4+ weeks of PTO! Join our collaborative, anti-bias focused early childhood team today.

Internships Now Available! POWER Sales & Strategy / Jen E Miller & Associates. (Plymouth).

Calling all college students - keep reading...you might be a fit for our open internships! If you are self-driven, have a growth mindset, are good at figuring things out, like problem solving, want to learn from me and let me learn from you, please apply for any of our open internships here at Jen E Miller & Associates. With my new firm being in its early days, the immediate internship opportunities are all be part-time or project based. And, those chosen will be helping build a business from the ground up! Sales, Marketing, and Staff Internship openings.



Foundation Gala uplifts students with donations and ‘magic’

LILY COLE
Editor

Friday the 13th was anything but unlucky as this year’s annual Foundation Gala was the WCC Foundation’s biggest turnout yet.

“This is for people to give back,” Shana Barker, senior director of advancement, said. She emphasized the importance of student success and the Foundation’s role.

Only 2% of WCC students qualified for Governor Gretchen Whitmer’s Michigan Guarantee scholarship. 98% didn’t because they weren’t full-time, Bhushan Kulkarni, Foundation board chair, said.

The Foundation aims to make it financially accessible for full or part-time students to obtain an education by awarding scholarships of up to \$1,000 to more than 1,000 students. The scholarship amount is based on a student’s number of credit hours and is deter-



Dr. Rose B. Bellenca, WCC president (left), Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (middle), and Michelle Crumm, one of the foundation directors (right), proudly support students’ education. They want all students to have the opportunity to go to school.

COURTNEY PRIELIPP | WASHTENAW VOICE

mined by financial need. Laura Berarducci, a spon-

sor and Ann Arbor SPARK’s senior director of communi-

cations and development, said she’s grateful, “It all comes

back to entrepreneurship and its advances in prosperity. Its

[the Foundation’s] pursuit of growth and forwarding momentum [for students].”

“Magic happened when I received my first scholarship,” Bhushan Kulkarni, Foundation board chair, said. He spotlights all donors and sponsors who attended the night’s event and their support for students.

Debbie Dingell, a U.S. representative of Michigan, enthused, “The Foundation is critical. They help so many people, and these are must events. They’re just wonderful.”

“These people are our unsung heroes,” Dr. Rose Bellenca, WCC President, said. “They believe in students and give their time and money. I think so many students would like to say thank you.”

For more information about the WCC Foundation and scholarships, visit wccnet.edu/foundation.

Quick event to make lasting connections

Student Activities promotes speed friending to garner campus relationships

SASHA HATINGER
Staff Writer

On Sept. 17, the community room was set up with balloon towers outside the door to gather the attention of students interested in joining the event. With pizza and pop for participants to enjoy while mingling, the tables had baskets full of questions to be answered to join students together.

Making friends is a key part of the community college experience, but it is often a challenge as students have classes and often full or part-time jobs to balance.

Luckily, for students at WCC, there are unique opportunities to make friends on campus. “Speed friending” is one of them.

What is “speed friending?”

Student Activities supervisor, Christy Main explains that “speed friending” is “Similar to speed dating,” but is an opportunity for students to mingle to hopefully build lasting

friendships and connections.

Speed friending, according to Main, “Is a great opportunity to make friends.”

Participants of the “speed friending” event agree with Main, with Lauren St. John, a general studies major, adding, “It was really, really fun.” St. John went on to say, “It was set up well, so that everyone was really comfortable with each other by the time it ended.”

The “speed friending” event was a success as the community room was filled with jokes and laughter, stories shared that built genuine connections and memories created to last quite some time.

There are numerous benefits of making new friends, with Main highlighting the importance of having someone with similar or different interests than what you have—someone who “challenges” you with different perspectives.

“In what ways don’t you benefit,” St. John said, laughing. “I’d really like someone to do stuff with.”

Traye Purnell, another participant of the event, who majors in Supply Chain Management, said the event was “refreshing.”

As for how the event could improve, St. John suggests, “More people!”



JERVONTAE CLARK | CONTRIBUTOR

Kyly Long, a general studies major, smiles warmly in a portrait taken during the “speed friending” event where she connected with new friends and explored likeminded interests.



JERVONTAE CLARK | CONTRIBUTOR

Jamila, a broadcasting major, smiles during the “speed friending” event as she connects with new faces. She shares her enthusiasm for storytelling through media.



JERVONTAE CLARK | CONTRIBUTOR

Participants comfortably share various life experiences together at the end of the event, laughing and joking with one another.



Finally, a Bible study group at 3 pm on Sundays @ WCC! DIVINE ENCOUNTER BIBLE STUDY AND CHURCH

Benjamin Foster, Leader

Location: WCC Morris Lawrence Building, Room # ML 150
4800 E Huron River Drive ~ Ann Arbor, MI 48105

 https://www.youtube.com/@DivineEncounter_Ministries

- A dynamic teaching from the Bible just for you
- Prayer for your needs
- Learn about God and the Bible



www.divineencounterchurch.net



deministries2024@gmail.com



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events

Compiled by Charlie Trumbull | Staff Writer

ARTS & CRAFTS

AMERICAN INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOLS: THE MICHIGAN ANISHINAABE EXPERIENCE

Oct. 5 | 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

STAMPS School of Art & Design Gallery | 201 S. Division St. Ann Arbor

Join an open discussion with survivors of Michigan Indian Boarding Schools facilitated by law professors from UM and the Director of the Indigenous Law & Policy Center from MSU. Immerse yourself in the history of the Great Lakes Anishinaabe native peoples.

NATURE POETRY WALK

Oct. 6 | 3 - 5 p.m.

Nichols Arboretum | 1827 Geddes Ave. Ann Arbor

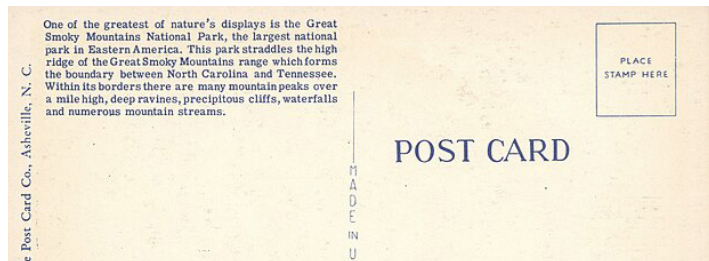
Participate in this writing workshop, which connects nature and poetry. Meditate, write and learn about botanical mindfulness with poet Caroline Harper New. Meets at Peony Gardens entrance.

WORLD POSTCARD DAY: DROP-IN POSTCARD WRITING

Sept. 29 | 12 - 2 p.m.

Ann Arbor District Library, Pittsfield Branch | 2359 Oak Valley Dr. Ann Arbor

Join fellow crafters to decorate postcards for mailing on World Postcard Day, October 1. Postcards and supplies are provided; just bring your creativity!



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS | ASHEVILLE POSTCARD CO.

Postcards were invented in 1869 in Austria-Hungary and are used worldwide.

MUSIC & FUN

FRIDAY NIGHT AI: REDEFINING ACCESS

Sept. 27 | 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Ann Arbor District Library, Downtown | 343 S 5th Ave. Ann Arbor

Join AI and accessibility experts for a conversation on the limitations of AI-powered tools relating to people with disabilities. Learn about the opportunities to turn these tools into adaptive and personalized disability aids for those with diverse accessibility needs.

YPSI FREAK FEST

Oct. 4 - 6 p.m.

Various locations in Downtown Ypsilanti

The second annual Ypsi Freak Fest offers live music and dancing, a plethora of local vendors, costume contests, and more! This is the kick-off event for Ypsilanti's upcoming fall festivals and events.

RIVERSIDE SWINGS

Oct. 4 | 7 - 11 p.m.

Riverside Arts Center | 76 N. Huron St. Ypsilanti

Beginners and professionals of all ages are welcome to join Riverside Swings lessons every Friday night. Beginners classes are offered from 7 - 9 p.m., and the night ends with a free social dance: \$5 for general admission and \$4 for students.



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS | DAVID MCSPADEN

The East Coast Swing is a relaxed form of ballroom dance that is considered one of the easiest swing dances to learn

ON CAMPUS

SAVE A LIFE WITH NALOXONE

Sept. 25 | 12 - 1 p.m.

Bailey Library Learning Commons

Learn how to save someone from an opioid, heroin, or fentanyl overdose with Naloxone. Training is provided by U-M School of Nursing trained peer educators hosted by the WCC Collegiate Recovery Program.

WCC & JCPENNEY SUIT-UP EVENT

Oct. 4 | 4 - 7 p.m.

JCPenney Briarwood Mall | 500 Briarwood Circle, Ann Arbor

The WCC Center for Career Success teams up with JCPenney to offer discounted prices on professional attire. JCPenney also offers salon, beauty, and professional headshot discounts.

WCC MEN'S SOCCER VS. SVSU

Oct. 5 | 3 - 5:30 p.m.

WCC Athletics Fields

Cheer on the WCC Wolfpack against the Saginaw Valley State University Cardinals on our home pitch. Bring your WCC gear to show whose side you're on!



COURTNEY PRIELIPP | WASHTENAW VOICE

After an extended tryout, coach Jonathan Petwiler talks to the team about their performance and expectations.



The Loop

news for and by students



Get Washtenaw Voice headlines in your inbox every week

Sign up for Washtenaw Voice's Newsletter, get a sticker and chance to win a shirt!

