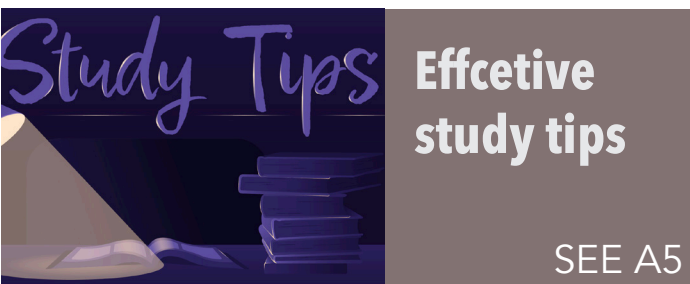




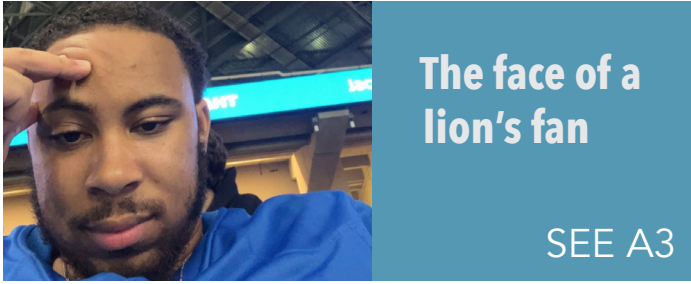
Where are they now?

SEE A2



Effective study tips

SEE A5



The face of a lion's fan

SEE A3

# THE WASHTENAW VOICE

VOL. 32, No. 1

A NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD NEWSPAPER

Tuesday, August 30, 2022

The student publication of Washtenaw Community College

Ann Arbor, Michigan

www.washtenawvoice.com

## Welcome to fall 2022: Message from the editor

By RJ HUNT  
Editor

The fall 2022 semester is upon us. Hopefully you all had a great summer whether it was working, vacationing, or taking classes. Maybe you were like me and did a combination of all three. Regardless, with the semester here, it's time to get focused on the task of getting one step closer to that degree we are all chasing.

For those who are new to WCC or have simply never read The Voice before, I am RJ, and I'm the editor of The Washtenaw Voice. The Voice is WCC's student publication. I am entering my third semester as editor and it has been a great opportunity to work with new people and embrace the community at WCC.

Unfortunately, this will be my last semester at WCC, which also means this is my last semester at The Voice. Things are bittersweet because while I'm looking forward to the next chapter, it's



(From left) Jesus Cariaga-Zamorano and Caleb Mason registering for their fall 2022 semester classes.

PAULA FARMER | WASHTENAW VOICE

hard leaving the school that really molded me into the person I am. Anyway, I still have a few months until I leave, so let's focus on "the now."

For my last semester, I'm looking forward to a lot of things when it comes to WCC. I'm looking forward to seeing more faces. Accord-

ing to WCC's media relations director, Fran LeFort, masks will be optional this semester. The school will offer more in-person classes, which correlates to more students being on campus.

Another thing I'm looking forward to is what stories The Voice will put out over

the course of this semester. When I came to The Voice, I said I wanted to put emphasis on feel-good stories. While certain stories are necessary for the public to know, I got tired of all the negative things I would read and see in the media. Stories that display positivity will still be a pri-

ority for this semester, but I want more student and faculty involvement this semester. I would love to get the community at WCC involved more this semester.

A lot of time and effort goes into the work The Voice puts out. While we have been awarded for our work, I want

the campus at WCC to appreciate the work we do, too, because it would mean even more to myself and my colleagues. I want to know what you as readers want to hear about or if you have stories that haven't been told.

I've prided myself as being an editor who is easy to reach. My email address and phone number are published online and in print.

I'm putting this into the universe now, this will be a great semester. Not only will it be a great semester in the classroom, but a great one for the Voice, and a great one for the campus of Washtenaw Community College.

### How to get in contact with RJ:

Office Hours: Mondays 2-3 in the newsroom (SC 109)  
Email: rchunt@wccnet.edu  
Phone Number: 734-664-1874 (send a text first please)

## Faculty wins new contract: Bellanca's term extended



(left) Julie Kissel, WCCFA president and faculty member, oversaw negotiations for a new contract that went into effect August 23. President Rose Bellanca received a new contract by unanimous vote that will extend through August 2025.

By JORDAN SCENNA  
Deputy Editor

After a month of negotiations, the Washtenaw Community College Education Association settled on a bargaining agreement that took effect Aug. 23 and extends to August 2025. The contract, which has 98% approval from WCCFA membership,

was unanimously approved by the board of trustees on July 19. Julie Kissel, faculty member and president of the WCCFA, was satisfied with the outcome. In an email Kissel said,

"Any contract work is dynamic. I can say that our effort was to be sure our contract represents and supports how we all do our jobs, and we feel like we succeeded in that effort."

Among the benefits secured in the negotiation is a wage increase of 3% in 2022, 2% in 2023, and 2% in 2024.

A full-time instructor at WCC can earn anywhere from \$62,849 to \$107,539 per year depending on years of experience and education. An instructor is placed in a "step," ranging from 16-30. The low end represents the

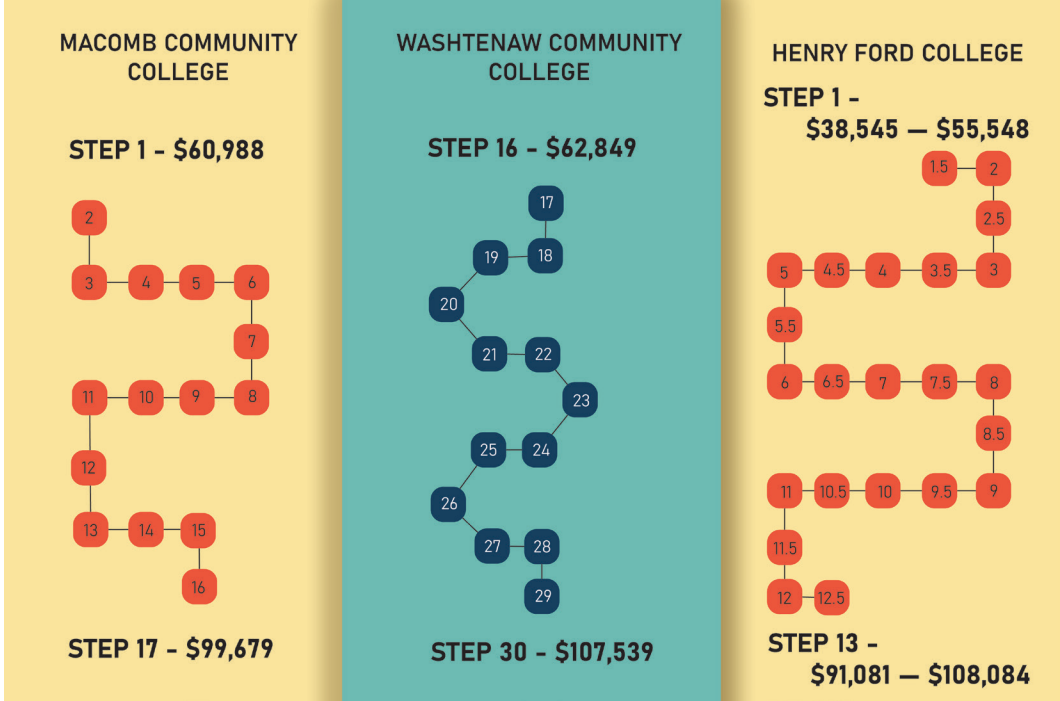
minimum entry salary, while the high end is based on years of full-time teaching experience with the college, as well as additional education or certifications.

Most instructors are hired at step 22 because of their credentials, Kissel said.

Step 22 will come with a salary of \$82,001 in the 2022-2023 school year. Human Resources applies a formula to designate step placement.

WCC instructors are some of the highest paid in Michigan, edging out other schools such as Macomb Community College, which has the largest enrollment in the state, and beating out Henry Ford, where an instructor with a master's degree needs five years of experience to earn \$61,458 per year.

continued on A5



WCC begins at step 16. Henry Ford breaks up salaries into education levels for each step with the top end needing a doctorate. WCC and Macomb use multiple factors, including awarded degrees, earned credit listed on transcripts, experience, certificates, and licenses to determine step placement.

## Local bookstore extinguishes the flames of censorship

JACOB KUIPER  
Staff Writer

On a warm August evening a small group of literary rebels gathered to discuss the controversial book Speak, published in 1999 by author Laurie Halse Anderson.

The book focuses on fictional highschool freshman, Melinda Sordino, as she navigates the challenges of friendship, loneliness, and mental illness after a traumatic event. This book was the fourth most challenged in 2020, according to the American Library Association Office for Intellectual Freedom, for containing a "political viewpoint...to be biased against male students, and for the novel's inclusion of rape and profanity." According to the ALA, "challenged" means documented requests to remove materials

from schools or libraries.

Never-the-less, Booksweet, a local Ann Arbor book shop owned by Shaun Manning and Truly Render, is determined to bring contentious titles to the community through their Banned Book Club.

Shortly after opening their store in August 2021 book censorship caught their eye when a ban of Toni Morrison's "The Bluest Eye" was talked about in the Chelsea School District. Mrs. Render reflects on her surprise at this moment, "This is a problem that people think happens somewhere else...This happened in our county."

Their attention was brought to it again in January 2022 when a school district in Tennessee voted unanimously to ban Holocaust memoir and graphic novel, "Maus." It was shortly after this that

they started to think seriously about starting a banned book club, "so many of our favorite books were being banned and challenged....We had so many orders for 'Maus,'" Render said.

When asked why they wanted to start a community discussion Mrs. Render expressed her frustration with the current state of dialogue online, "I'm frustrated with conversations on the internet. It's important to me that real people talk about real books in real life in real time. This is not a conversation I want to have digitally. They're important conversations and they need to happen in real life." Mr. Manning added saying, "we want events that bring the community together.... [The club] makes for a really grounded and interesting conversation."

To explain their deci-



Booksweet owner, Shaun Manning, stands outside his store and poses for a photo.

JACOB KUIPER | WASHTENAW VOICE

sion to not only carry, but promote controversial material, Mrs. Render voices confidence in the books to speak for themselves, "We trust the

books to do their job and they come through everytime."

She goes on further to say that the heated emotions that some books elicit are some-

thing that more people should embrace, "It's ok to be angry. It's ok to be uncomfortable."

continued on A5



WASHTENAWVOICE.COM

WASHTENAWVOICE | WASHTENAWVOICE



# WiFi on Campus: What to Know

By Willow Symonds  
Staff Writer

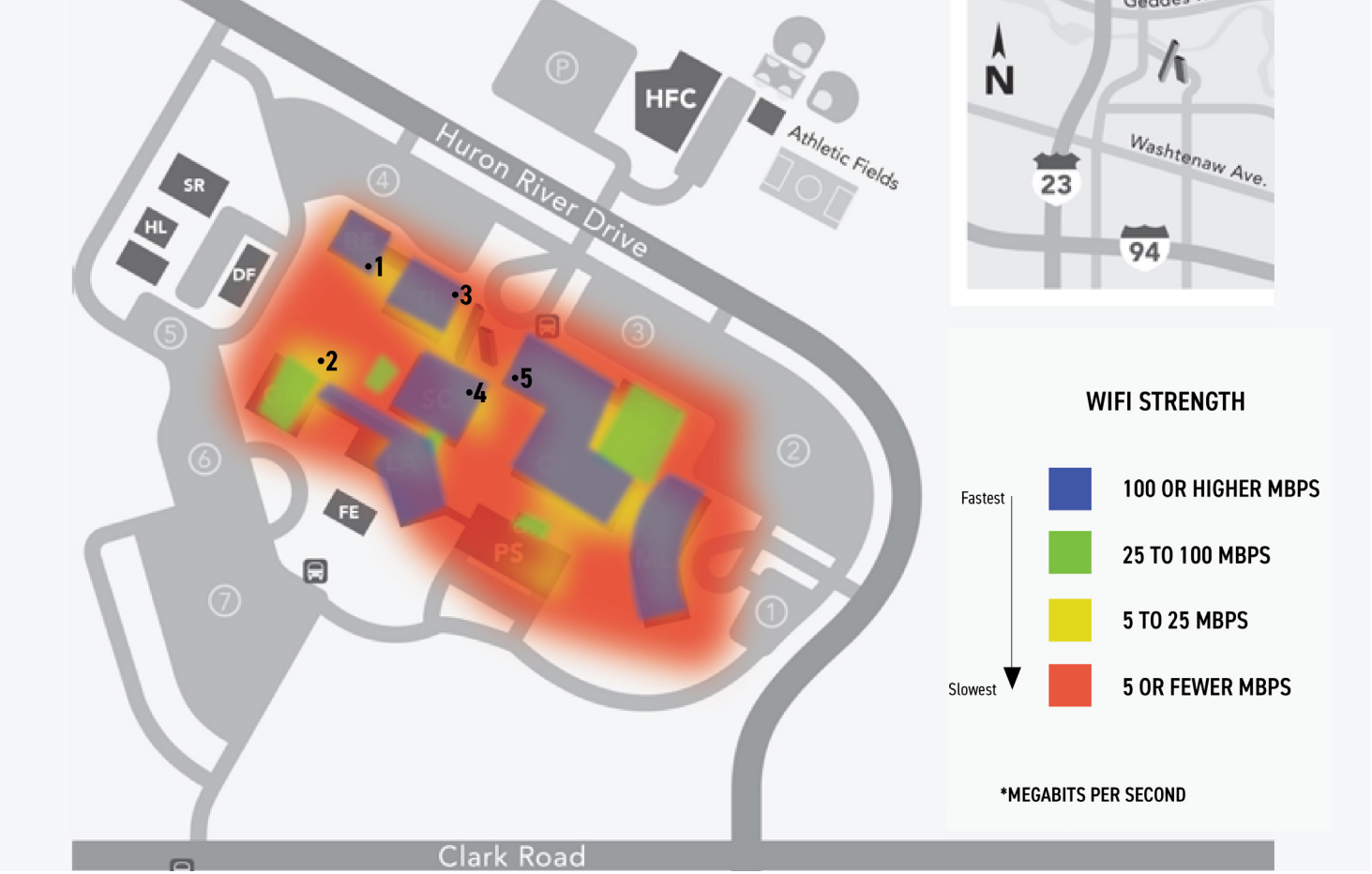
Wi-Fi - which stands for Wireless Fidelity - is as essential to daily American life as a morning cup of coffee. Students and teachers need Wi-Fi more than ever before, with many classes and assignments adapting to the internet. Unfortunately, cell coverage on WCC's campus is poor. "Providers like AT&T, T-Mobile and Verizon, whose towers are located away from WCC campus, provide cellular technology," said WCC's Chief of Information, Todd Kreuger. "The majority of WCC's buildings are concrete. This makes it difficult to get a cellular signal to reach inside the building."

To help with cellular coverage inside, students can turn on the Wi-Fi setting on their phones, which will use WCC's wireless network to make calls, scroll through social media, and do their homework.

If you're wondering how to connect to this Wi-Fi, then the answer is pretty simple: If you have an Apple product, go to your Settings app, click on Wi-Fi, then select WCCWiFi [check what it's called]. [Add the Android version.] No password needed.



WILLOW SYMONDS | WASHTENAW VOICE  
The entrance to the Business Education building has some of the best outside WiFi.



GRAPHIC BY JANANI MURUGESANI WASHTENAW VOICE.  
Each color on WCC's map represents a different download speed, blue being the fastest (over 100 Mbps) and red being the slowest (less than 5 Mbps). Green means 25 to 100 Mbps and yellow means 5 to 25 Mbps.

This article will explain which places have better Wi-Fi and introduce readers to the most connected spots on campus.

The Federal Communications Commission defines 25 or greater Mbps (megabits) as broadband, which means fast internet. Lawmakers today want to increase that definition to 100 Mbps. The FCC recommends 5 Mbps or higher for internet browsing. For this reason, the accompanying graphic shows 0 to 5 Mbps as the red zones, 5 to 25 is highlighted in yellow, 25 to 100 is colored in green, and 100 and above is in blue.

Measurements were taken on an iPhone 8 during an uncrowded evening. Keep in mind that the amount of people trying to connect at once may affect downloading speeds.

The worst internet connections

were typically outside, such as in the parking lots and even within several feet of the buildings. In some places, the Speedtest app struggled to run at all. Luckily, not all places outside struggled to get bars.

Students looking to study in the fresh air can sit down at the tables outside the Student Center in front of The Java Spot windows (number 4 on the map). This spot is the best of any outdoor tables, having a download speed between 10 and 15 Mbps. Other outside study spots include the table outside the Business Education building (number 1) with a 6 to 10 Mbps speed, and the stone table across the street from the Gundar Myran building (number 3).

However, the faster connections happened inside, and even then, each location had varying speeds. Unsurprisingly, the

Technical Industrial building has a very strong Wi-Fi connection, especially in the lobby area (number 2) with a Mbps speed of 189. The high desks along the wall are the perfect place to study, as the chairs have their backs turned to any distractions.

Other good places to connect to the WiFi include almost anywhere in the Occupational Education building, such as its lobby area (number 5) with 147 Mbps (and coffee!). The Morris J. Lawrence building also has a strong connection, though you hopefully won't be checking your phone during a presentation in the auditorium.

However, public WiFi does come with security risks all students should be aware of. Cyber-security provider Kaspersky explains on its website, "The biggest threat to [public] Wi-Fi security is

the ability for the hacker to position himself between you and the connection point." The experts advise against doing confidential business on public Wi-Fi. For example, check your bank account at home, not on campus. If you must do so in public, then use a VPN (virtual private network) such as Duck-DuckGo.

Another safety measure to take is turning off sharing. Make sure the virus checker is running, and on laptops, make sure the firewall is enabled, which stops other people from connecting to one's device.

All students can use the WCC Wi-Fi, free of charge. Anyone can use any public WiFi to their advantage if they are equipped with the knowledge of where and how it works best.

- "WCC Wi-Fi is compatible with 2.4GHz and 5GHz devices," Todd Krueger said. "WCC Wi-Fi supports thousands of simultaneous connections from new and old devices."
- "During this past winter break, we upgraded to redundant Cisco Catalyst Wireless LAN controllers," Todd Kreuger explained. "[This] means we have redundancy in the event one Wi-Fi controller was to fail. These are new wireless controllers, which basically means the central controls - the brains - of Wi-Fi have been updated."
- "WCC does have plans to upgrade wireless technology throughout campus," Todd Kreuger said. "Some of these installations require campus downtime, which means they can only be completed over the winter break if the supply chain allows timely delivery of newer equipment including cabling, switching and wireless access points."
- "Additionally, during the recent Morris Lawrence renovation project, data cabling and fiber infrastructure were upgraded to Wi-Fi 6 technology," Todd Kreuger said. "This supports higher bandwidth, thereby expanding wireless coverage throughout the entire building. This included adding additional exterior wireless access points to provide coverage to the new patio area and the open grass areas by the Occupational Education Building and the parking structure."



COURTESY OF DEAN BATTAGLIA

Winners of the International Apprenticeship Contest pose for victory photo. From left: Alex Svetz, Ronald Amen, Camron Little, Carin Dahlin, Cole Rodgers.

## Union Instructor Training Program returns to WCC

JACOB KUIPER  
Staff Writer

The annual Instructor Training Program returned in-person to WCC August 13-19 with nearly 3,000 United Association members.

This partnership between WCC and The United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United

States and Canada has been happening since the 1980s, and attracts thousands of attendees from as far off as Australia. Welders, plumbers, pipefitters, sprinkler fitters, heating, ventilation and air conditioning technicians gather from around the world to work with the next generation of skilled tradesmen.

While the ITP has been virtual the past couple of years this doesn't stop some from returning again and again to be a part of this event. Members like Al Garcia of Oakland, CA have taken part many times. "I've attended 10 times now. It's wonderful....There isn't anything more I can be certified in," he chuckled. This year Mr. Garcia was working in one of several sophisticated mobile learning trailers on campus. His trailer was specialized in green tech and plumbing where students could learn everything from pipe fitting and HVAC to low flow toilets and smart heating and cooling.

The real action, though, happened on Wednesday, August 17 during "Industry Day"

when UA members got to hear from union leaders as well as Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

Also on Industry Day is the coveted International Apprenticeship Contest where contestants from around the world compete in various disciplines to show off their trade expertise. Zach Robichaud of Canada competed in the refrigeration and HVAC competition and explained the event and how to qualify, "You basically do a bunch of small tasks to show off your skill.... I first competed in a local competition and then moved on to my district competition and then a Canada-wide competition. After that I got to come here." He goes on to explain that if you win you get a gold ring and get to come back next year as a helper. That however is a minor goal in the larger picture for him, "It's really all about the networking and career opportunities."

At the end of the program 154 UA members earned ITP certificates, the largest class ever, and 40 received an associates degree from WCC.

### Where are they now?

## WCC alum inspired by father

Bonds with peers in a criminal justice class and a father who spent 30 years as Customs and Border Protection officer, put Andrew Tower on his path.

By Willow Symonds  
Staff Writer

Andrew "Drew" Tower felt comfortable at Washtenaw Community College due to the "small size and friendly student environment." The short distance from his home to campus also allowed him the flexibility to commute while working part-time.

In the fall of 2011, he took the Introduction to Criminal Justice class.

"The subject fascinated me [...] and I found a good group of friends during class," he told The Voice. "We had diverse backgrounds. We talked about our classes, our interests, our pasts, and where we saw ourselves in the future. We formed a great bond throughout our journey at WCC."

His favorite classes were taught by instructors with work experience in the criminal justice field.

"For example," he explained, "I had police officers, judges, and attorneys teach many of the classes I took. [...] The instructors had interesting stories to draw from in support of the class material."

Tower graduated with honors in December 2012 with a Criminal Justice Associate's Degree.

With his newfound credentials, he worked jobs in this field, such as a police cadet in the Novi Police Department, an intelligence operations center technician for Schoolcraft Community College, and more. He held these jobs before and during his transfer to Eastern Michigan University in summer

2013. A year later, he graduated with his Bachelors in Criminology, Cum Laude, and he became a Trooper for the Michigan State Police.

Today, his job title is customs and border protection officer.

The Department of Homeland Security created the U.S. Customs and Border Protection branch (C.B.P.) in March 2003 in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Tower's father, Anthony Cozza, retired last year as a Supervisory Customs and Border Protection Officer after 30 years of service.

"I feel honored to follow in his footsteps," Tower said.

Tower began working as a C.B.P. officer three years ago, and he says that every hour of the workday is different.

In the same day, he could interview and inspect people traveling from Canada and also search vehicles, merchandise, and luggage referred for closer examination. When they find illegal drugs and weapons, they seize these objects and arrest the travelers who'd attempted to

smuggle prohibited goods across the border.

Tower said that he is, "still learning and probably will be until [he] retires."

Sometime in the future, Tower hopes to work overseas in any of the countries C.B.P. allows, such as Ireland, Aruba, the Bahamas, Bermuda, or the United Arab Emirates. He would like to expand his job knowledge and take the opportunity for him and his family to experience life in another country.

He credits WCC for where he is now.

"It was a good balance of learning and fun," Tower said. "I had really cool instructors and great friends I made there, and I have [...] a college experience that I look back fondly on."

"I feel honored to follow in my father's footsteps"  
-Andrew Tower



Al Garcia of Oakland, CA stand next to a rain flow harvesting system.

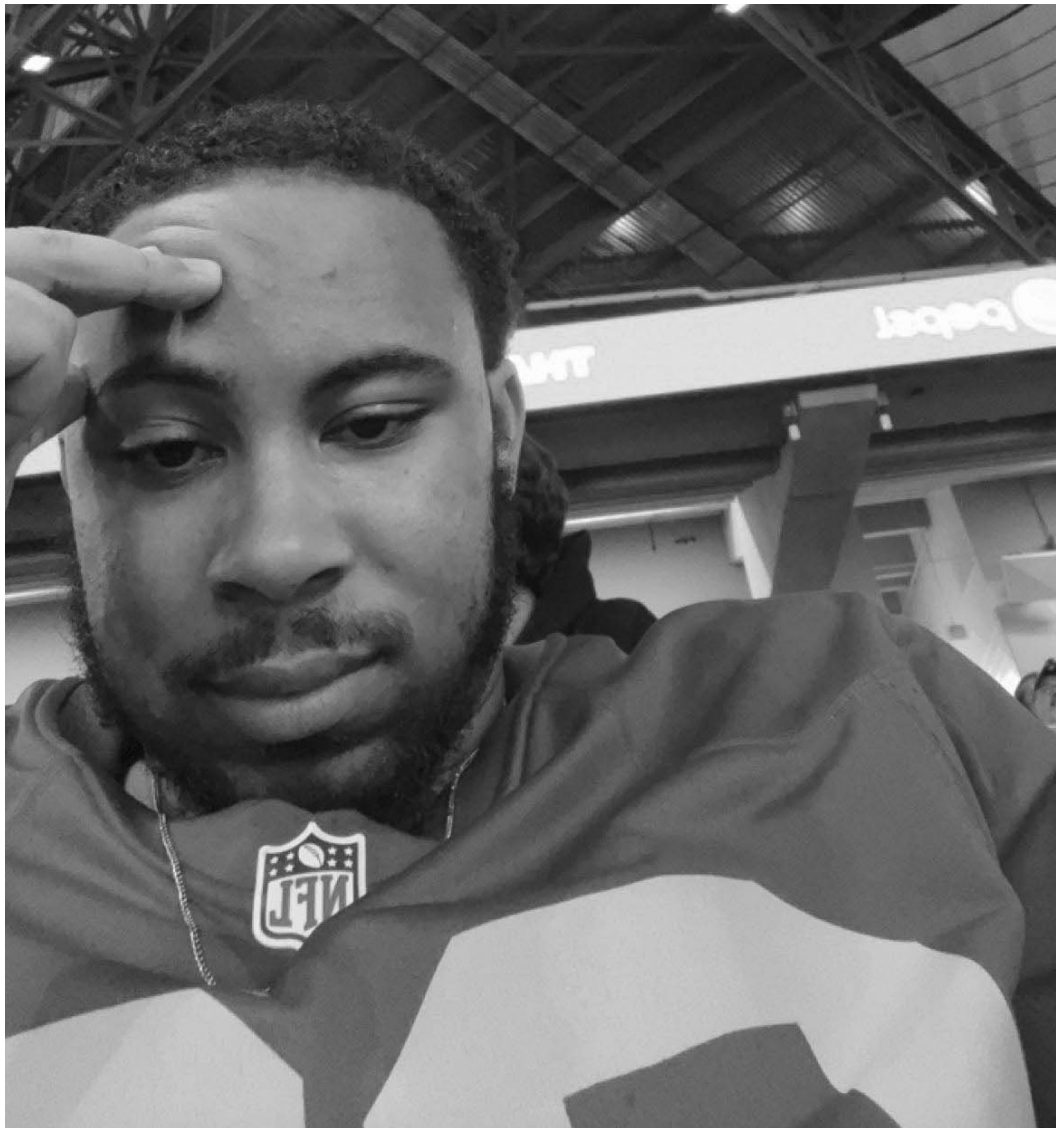


COURTESY OF LUIE ESCALERA III

Andrew Tower (left) and his father, Anthony Cozza, stand under the Blue Water Bridge in Port Huron, November 2022.



# The face of a Lions fan: A lifetime of loss and pain



RJ' contemplates his life choices after another disappointing loss from the Lions.

RJ HUNT | WASHTENAW VOICE



By RJ HUNT  
Editor

It was an August Friday night and I was at Ford Field to watch the Detroit Lions take on the visiting Atlanta Falcons. As a die-hard Detroit sports fan, I had to be at the first preseason game of the year. Preseason games are typically laid back as many of the star players don't play past halftime. Therefore, you would think the crowd at Ford Field would be laid back.

Nope. No matter what these Lions fans have gone through over the years, they show up and show out.

I enjoyed myself, until the game reached the final two minutes. The Lions are known for miraculously blowing a game in the closing minutes. This game was no different. The home team was up three points with two minutes left and they had possession. A fumble on their side of the

field, a Falcons touchdown on 4th and 9, and an awful last possession caused the Lions to lose the game. Even though it was just a preseason game, the Lions gave the first impression of the season that they are the "Same ole Lions."

Walking to the car after the game, a parking attendant quipped that if they took off the last two minutes of every game, the Lions would be a 14-win team every year. I had to agree.

The Lions have endured so many painful seasons, I don't know how one team – or town – can endure it. They are the first team to go 0-16. They've never played in a Super Bowl, let alone won one. They haven't won an NFL championship since 1957 (The league championship was not named Super Bowl until 1967).

I mean I'm only 20 years old and I have seen the Lions lose in the craziest fashions. Remember the hail Mary on an expired clock? The 66-yard field goal that hit the crossbar then went through? How about the picked-up pass-interference flag in Dallas. That's just a sample.

I often think to myself, why do I put up with the Lions? Why don't I just find a new team? As bad as I want to leave sometimes, I can't. I was simply born into this. On Sundays at 1 o'clock, my family watched the Lions. It's been like that for as long as I can remember. I've put so much into them at this point, that I don't want to turn back.

Being a Lions fan is not for the weak. You have to have tough skin. The experience definitely will test your loyalty

and patience, though I'm sure the stress kills off brain cells. Regardless, I'm stuck with this team. All I want is one Super Bowl before I die. I will take a Super Bowl win in the next five years if it means not making the playoffs in the 40 years that follow. At least I'll be able to say I saw one win. I'm riding with the Lions until the wheels fall off and I really hope it will be worth it one day. It definitely will make that one Super Bowl win meaningful WHEN it happens.

**"Being a Lions fan is not for the weak. You have to have tough skin."**



Ford Field with a nice crowd during the Aug. 12 preseason game.

RJ HUNT | WASHTENAW VOICE

## VOICE BOX

How did the high gas prices affect you?

By Willow Symonds | Staff Writer

"I live 45 minutes away, and I commuted here every day in the fall semester. Instead of filling my gas tank in one day, I would fill half of it one day and then fill the other half the next. I don't do that anymore, but I also get paid more now. I use an app called GasBuddy."

**Aidan Majorprice,**  
Science Transfer



"I have to think about where I'm going now. I have family that lives an hour away, and I've barely seen them since prices went up to \$5.60 a gallon."

**Kayla Bergen,**  
Social Work



"It was just annoying to go out. You don't want to waste any money by using too much gas."

**Bailey Nowak,**  
Graphic Design



"I think I only drove when prices were high. I would walk to school before then, but once I got a job, I had to drive. I'm used to it."

**Jake Bacigal,**  
Project Manager



"I had to quit one of my jobs, because it was over an hour away and it underpaid. My paycheck went straight to the gas tank. It's not so bad anymore."

**Julia Szubielak,**  
Marketing



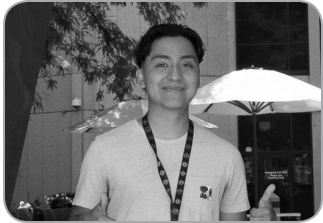
"It was too much! It took too much money from my account. I had to stay home, only do one-way trips."

**Erick Mobley,**  
Audiologist



"When it came to my family taking places, it either had to be delayed or I couldn't go. At that point, my top priority was going to work then going back home."

**Jesus Cariaga-Zamorano,**  
Math and Science



"Me and my family's paying \$50- \$60 to fill up our Durango. We used to drive and cruise around. Nowadays we can't do that anymore."

**Caleb Mason,**  
Computer Science



WASHTENAWVOICE.COM

WASHTENAWVOICE | WASHTENAWVOICE

### 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.

### FIRST COPY'S FREE

A copy of each edition of the Voice is free to everyone. Additional copies are available at The Voice newsroom, SC 109, for 25 cents each.

4800 E. Huron River Drive  
Room SC 109  
Ann Arbor, Mich. 48105  
thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com  
734-677-5125

EDITOR.....	R.J. Hunt	rchunt@wccnet.edu
DEPUTY EDITOR.....	Jordan Scenna	jscenna@wccnet.edu
DIGITAL EDITOR.....	Santone Pope-White	spopewhite@wccnet.edu
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS...	Grace Faver	gfaver@wccnet.edu
	Janani Murugesan	jmurugesan@wccnet.edu
PHOTO EDITOR.....	Paula Farmer	pgfarmer@wccnet.edu
WRITERS.....	Willow Symonds	wsymonds@wccnet.edu
	Jacob Kuiper	jkuiper@wccnet.edu
	Danny Oh	hyoh@wccnet.edu
VIDEO EDITOR.....	Robin Wyllie-Scholz	mylliescholz@wccnet.edu
ADVISER.....	Judy McGovern	jumcgovern@wccnet.edu



# Faculty and Bellanca new contracts continued

Continued from A1

WCC enjoys salaries well above the national average. According to Ziprecruiter.com, the average salary for a community college professor in the United States is \$45,754 per year. The site is an online employment marketplace and gathers data from job postings and third-party sources.

Adjunct instructors separately negotiated compensation in the amount of \$992 per contact hour. A three credit course is equal to three contact hours.

**President Bellanca receives new contract**

President Rose Bellanca received a contract extension that's in effect until 2025. Bellanca is set to make \$249,000

per year, which, according to community college daily, is above the national median of \$241,727.

This seems to be on par with some of her peers, as James Sawyer, president of Macomb Community College is scheduled to make \$249,350.

Bellanca's extension was the result of a unanimous vote by board members, who cited some of her accomplishments as the reason behind their support.

Board member Richard Landau was impressed by Bellanca's anticipation of the need for a tech upgrade and her handling of the transition to virtual learning during the pandemic. In an email, Landau said,

“...she anticipated the

need for vastly upgraded IT infrastructure by onboarding Ellucian (a higher education software company) in 2019. Without this enhanced IT capability, I'm not sure how we would have been able to make the transition to virtual as seamlessly as we did.”

Bellanca's other accomplishments include opening and expanding an automotive cybersecurity lab, continued workforce development with a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) focus, passage of two millage ballot proposals, and the \$13.5 million renovation of the Morris Lawrence building.

**Instructors return to campus**

Also discussed in the negotiations was the return to campus. This semester offers

more in-person classes and faculty members are ready to come back after two years of teaching from home, according to Kissel.

“Faculty are happy to be teaching and working at home or on campus. They appreciate the flexibility we've made clear in the contract to be on campus if needed or teach/advise remotely. We all realize that there is an opportunity to continue to rethink how we teach and determine what course might be best on campus/in person versus online.”

Dave Waskin, a journalism instructor and WCCEA member who voted in favor of the new contract is ready to return to campus. In an email, Waskin said,

“I'm looking forward to it; after two years off campus

I'm happy for the change in routine.”

Waskin was also pleased with the changes made to office hours. With this new contract, instructors can have some virtual office hours, as opposed to five mandatory on-campus hours. This is fa-

**“Faculty are happy to be teaching and working at home or on campus. They appreciate the flexibility we've made clear in the contract to be on campus if needed or teach/advise remotely. We all realize that there is an opportunity to continue to rethink how we teach and determine what course might be best on campus/in person versus online.”**

vorable for those that teach both on-campus and virtual classes.

Definitions for online learning were fine-tuned with “virtual” learning being added, as it didn't exist in the last contract.

# Local book store fights book ban continued

Continued from A1

I wish people knew that. And the best way to do that is with a book. What's it going to do?... You can walk away at any point.”

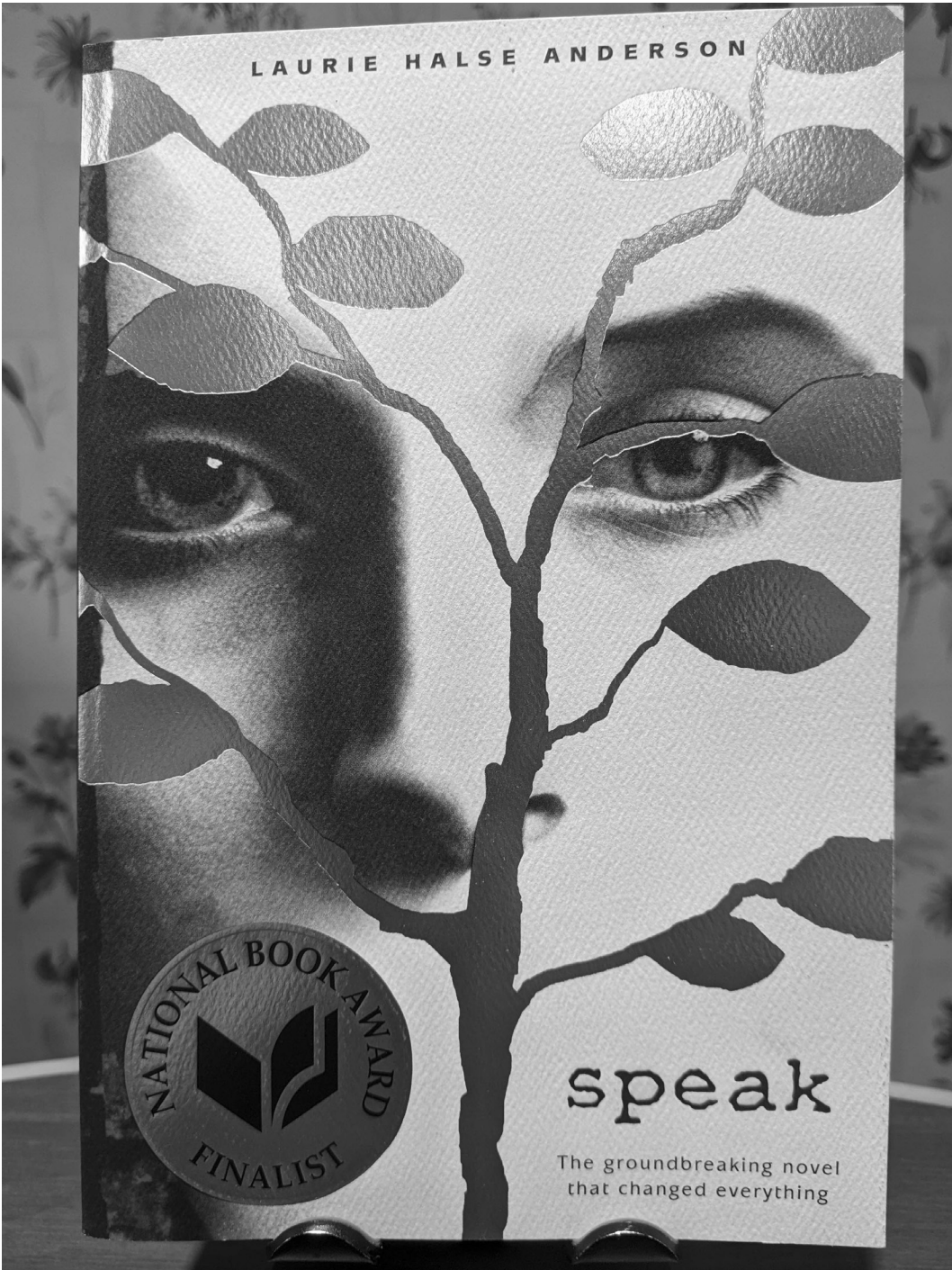
Still, as seen throughout the country recently, many people are uncomfortable with books like Speak and want to see them eradicated from campuses and libraries. When asked if book bans really do protect children Mr. Manning responded, “Protect them from what?” He goes on to offer a defense for children who can relate to these stories,

“How does this protect a child who has had these experiences...? [What is it like for a] child to never see themselves in any literature?... If a book is not for you it's not for you, but don't stop other people from experiencing it.”

Even if you can't relate to a story, Mrs. Render explains that a reader can still learn from the experiences of others, “The best thing about books is that they are not you. It's a privilege to live in someone else's mind. That's all a book is; you get to live someone else's experience. [You get to] see the world anew; it's

distinctly not you sometimes.”

The next Banned Book Club will be September 16 with “Stamped” by Ibram X. Kendi and Jason Reynolds. They will also be going over “Gender Queer” by Maia Kobabe at the Kerrytown Bookfest on September 18. Booksweet will donate 10% of the profits from Banned Book Club reads to the ACLU during Banned Books Week in September.



“The Bluest Eye” by Toni Morrison 1970

“Gender Queer” by Maia Kobabe 2019

“Speak” by Laurie Halse Anderson 1999

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

## BUZZED DRIVING IS DRUNK DRIVING





# Set the curve this semester with effective study habits

By JORDAN SCENNA  
*Deputy Editor*

As debate over politics and civil freedoms rage, the one thing that most Michiganders can agree on is that summer is too short. You'd be hard-pressed to find anyone who is a summertime denier. All the pumpkin carvers and skiing enthusiasts are, at this moment, welcomed to keep their two cents to themselves. The

brevity of summer break is above contention. With that being said, fall semester has begun, and some students might need to shake off the cobwebs after a few months living in academic absentia. It's going to be a long semester full of quizzes, essays, and tests. The uninitiated will soon learn the joys that accompany a weekly discussion board, but whether you are a returning student, or new to the halls of higher

learning, starting the semester off strong will help pave the road to achieving your academic goals. The best way to do this is with solid study habits. Learning about effective study methods and understanding what works best for you could be the difference between the grade you want and the grade you earned. Finding out what you don't know

Metacognition is the process of thinking, well, about thinking. It's realizing what you know and what you don't, and, most importantly, how to find out the things you don't know. Confused yet? It's times like these when consulting an expert is a good option. Sandra Yancy McGuire is the director emerita of the center for academic success and retired assistant vice chancellor and professor of chemistry at Louisiana State University. She also spent 11 years at Cornell University where she received the Clark Distinguished Teaching Award. In other words, when it comes to learning, she knows what she's talking about. In her 2018 book "Teach Yourself How to Learn," McGuire discusses the importance of metacognition when it comes to learning and provides a framework on how to study effectively. Her book is used by many colleges, such as the University of Washington, and McGill University, which has built a seminar from her work.

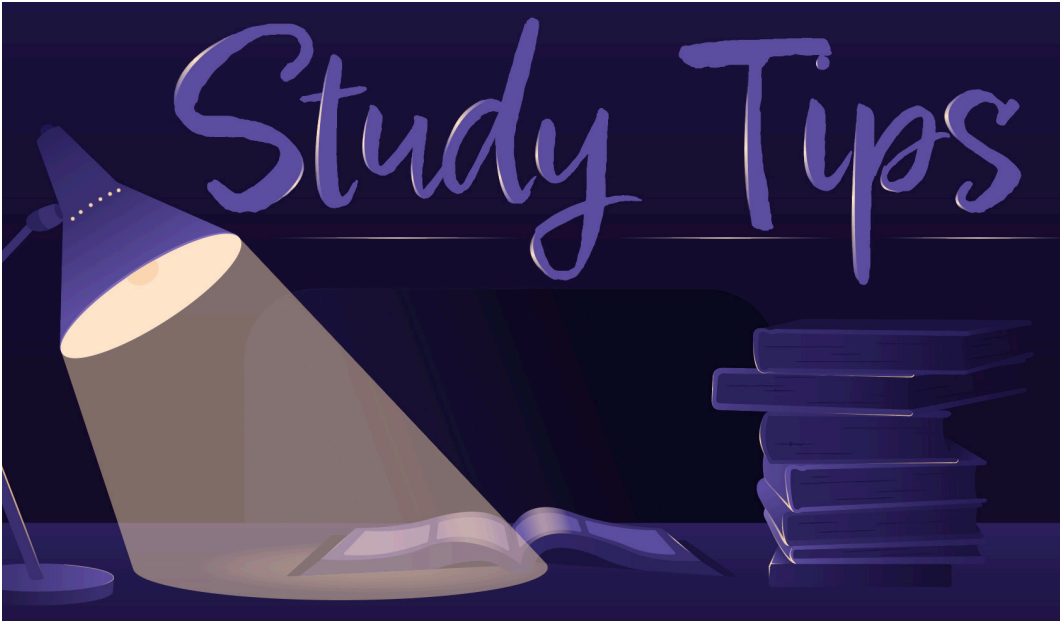


Illustration by: Grace Faver



Illustration by: Grace Faver

Here are some of the methods presented by McGuire. **Prepare for class:** preview material and come up with questions. Attend class and be actively present (take notes, ask questions, engage with students/teachers). **Critical reading:** includes any combination of previewing material and coming up with your own questions, then reading supplemented by recitation. **Effective note-taking:** take notes by hand to facilitate selectiveness about what material is recorded. You can find a study about the benefits of taking notes by hand here. **Teach:** present what you've learned to another person. If you don't have anyone to do this with, pretending to teach to someone is just as effective. **Retrieval practice:** don't just re-read material that you want to remember. Ask yourself a question (a recurring theme) and practice recalling it. Making flash cards is great for this. **Study in pairs or groups:** There are academic, social, and psychological benefits from working in groups as opposed to individual learning. **Compose test-worthy** questions and practice testing. **More tools** The one-minute paper: at the end of a lesson try writing a one-minute essay that addresses a variation of two questions. "What was the most important thing you learned?" "What important questions remained unanswered?" Spaced repetition: The Ebbinghaus Forgetting Curve says we forget 75% of what we learn in the first 24-48 hours after learning it. A way to combat forgetting is to review what you learned (using the above methods) immediately after class, and then space it out. 24 hours later, a week later (or sooner), etc. Common study practices that don't work Toss that highlighter.

Ok, you don't have to throw it away, but merely highlighting important information is not enough. Highlighting can be helpful if you want to easily find a specific passage, but, according to the University of Rhode Island's College for Academic Success, highlighting is not effective for retention. Try note-making instead. Take those highlights and rewrite them in your own words. Re-reading is a commonly used study method that is minimally effective when it comes to retention and comprehension. Active learning is always a better choice. Try adding a few tips to your repertoire from the list above. Everyone learns differently and figuring out what works best for you is the first step toward academic stardom. "When you use metacognition, you become tremendously empowered as a learner because you begin to be able to teach yourself." – Sandra Yancy McGuire. Don't be afraid to struggle, that's just part of the learning process and metacognition.

## Diversify Your BOOKSHELF

By WILLOW SYMONDS  
*Staff Writer*

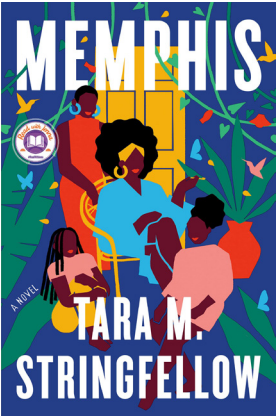
Black Water Sister by Zen Cho Genre: Paranormal Mystery; LGBT Jessalyn Teoh has no memories of Malaysia, but she moves back with her parents anyway, being closeted, broke, and... hearing the voice of her dead grandmother? Jess soon learns that Ah Ma was

a spirit medium for a deity called the Black Water Sister, and even in death she wants revenge against a gang boss who disrespected the goddess. This novel is slow-paced but expertly told and builds up to a tense climax. Memphis by Tara M. Stringfellow

Genre: Historical Fiction This debut novel follows two timelines - the first being of Joan in summer '95, whose family seeks refuge at her mother's ancestral home in Memphis. The second timeline is of her grandfather, half a century before, who became the city's first Black detective and was lynched only days



Black Water Sister (2021) by Zen Cho



Memphis (2022) by Tara M. Stringfellow



The Grief Keeper (2019) by Alexandra Villasante.



Illustration by: Grace Faver

after. While discovering her family history, Joan meets a strange neighbor who knows a lot about curses. Inspired by the author's own life, Memphis explores what passes down from generation to generation: prejudice, violence, sacrifice, faith, and love. The Grief Keeper by Alexandra Villasante Genre: Young Adult Contemporary; LGBT In The Grief Keeper, the US government gives seventeen-year-old Marisol Morales an opportunity to grant her and her little sister immu-

nity, but it comes with a price. This new, experimental procedure causes her to absorb another person's pain. Marisol is assigned to Ray, a teen girl struggling from PTSD, and the two grow closer. This novel uses a speculative device to tell a story of healing from trauma and unlikely first love.



"You have to fight to reach your dream. You have to sacrifice and work hard for it."  
-Lionel Messi

"You don't have to feel the need to put somebody down to make yourself feel better."  
- Nicki Minaj

"I just want to be better every day, to get better every day, not to be better than anyone else."  
- Neymar



events

Compiled by: RJ Hunt | Staff Editor

AT WCC IN THE COMMUNITY

JOB OPPORTUNITIES WITH COMFORT KEEPERS

Wed Sep. 7, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.z

1st floor of Student Center

Comfort Keepers is an award winning in home care for seniors and other adults in need of daily assistance. Learn from them about any job opportunities available.

WELCOME BACK DAY

Wed Sep. 14 10:00am - 1:00pm

WCC's Community Park. Grassy Area between BE and GM buildings

Come out for food, fun, and freebies at this festive event, designed to welcome you (back) to campus! The Voice will be at Welcome Day, come visit us.

WOMEN'S SOCCER VS MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Sep. 17, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

4843 E Huron River Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

WCC club women soccer team will be taking on MSU club women soccer team. Come cheer on your classmates.

YOU CAN DANCE-OUTSIDE! YPSILANTI HIP HOP AND AFROBEAT

Sep. 3, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m

Riverside Park Pavillion (2 E Cross St. , Ypsilanti, MI 48197)

UMS is offering free dance workshops that are open to the public. No need to worry about your dancing skills. Zero experience is needed, so just come out and get your groove on.

3RD ANNUAL RING A BELL FOR ROSIE THE RIVETER ON LABOR DAY

Sep. 5 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

North Bay Park (1001 Huron St., Ypsilanti, MI 48197)

Groups across the nation will simultaneously ring bells to honor the working women of World War II. Join us for some outdoor fun and a chance to meet the real Rosie the Riveters at this free, family-friendly event.

DISNEY TRIVIA

Sep. 7, at 7:30 p.m.

Keystone Bar & Arcade ( 200 W. Michigan Ave., Basement of Bobcat Bonnie's, Ypsilanti, MI 48197)

Sporcle will be hosting Disney Trivia night. If you think you know your Disney Trivia, then test yourself with two rounds of play that includes gift card prizes for the winners.

GORDON HALL TEA AND FASHION SHOW-SUFFRAGETTES: BEYOND THE CORSET

Sep. 10, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Gordon Hall (8311 Island Lake Road, Dexter, MI 48130)

For an afternoon under the big tent at Gordon Hall, you are invited to sip hot or iced tea and nibble at desserts with friends. Witness what women during the early 20th century were wearing during this revolutionary period. Recommendations are recommended; call 734-395-4106. All proceeds support the Dexter Historical Society.

ANN ARBOR PRIDE: PRIDE IN THE PARK

Sep. 11, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wheeler Park (200 Depot St, Ann Arbor, MI, 48104)

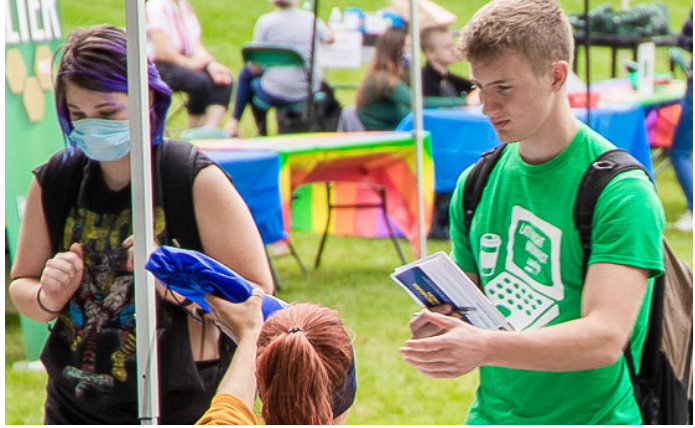
First the first time in two years, Ann Arbor Pride is back. Come out to enjoy the vendors, entertainment, food, and more at this free celebration.

BANNED BOOK CLUB

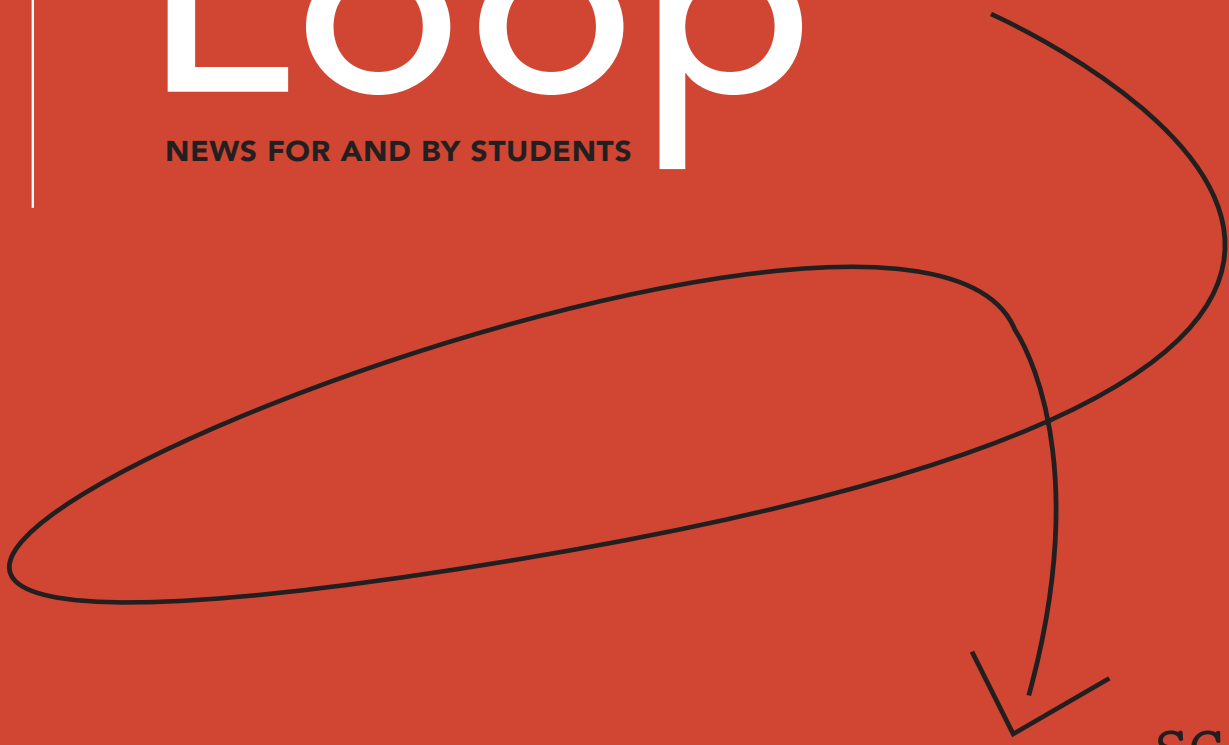
Sep. 16, from 8:00 p.m to 9:00 p.m

Booksweet (1729 Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor, MI, 48105)

Free discussion to talk about the banned book Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi



The Loop  
NEWS FOR AND BY STUDENTS



SCAN ME !

Get Washtenaw Voice headlines

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

Every week in your inbox

