

BAKING CLUB,
FRESH ON
CAMPUS

SEE A2

DATE NIGHT
MOVIE RE-
VIEW:
"COMPANION"

SEE A4

CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP
BRINGS
COMMUNITY

SEE A7

THE

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New Anatomage table brings digitized cadavers to WCC

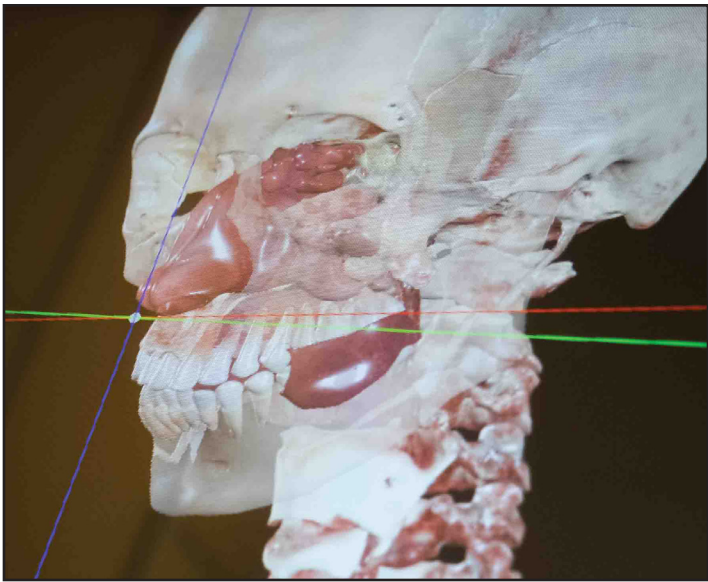
SASHA HATTINGER
Staff Writer

There is a national cadaver shortage—institutions like hospitals, colleges and universities have resorted to resolve what has become a pressing issue with new, cutting-edge technological advancements.

Dean Tracy Schwab of the Math, Science and Engineering Technology Division at Washtenaw Community College happily shared her excitement for the new Anatomage table that will be available for WCC students to use during the Spring/Summer semester.

“We actually have had a cadaver lab here at the college for a number of years,” Schwab said. “It’s working with a strong agreement with the University of Michigan,” she added.

The nation-wide cadaver shortage led WCC to consider other options to ensure students will continue to receive the educational experience



COURTNEY PRIELIPP | WASHTENAW VOICE

The University of Michigan currently uses digitalized cadavers. The WCC Math, Science, and Engineering Division were able to purchase an Anatomage table to be used in the coming spring and summer, with help from the WCC Foundation.

that WCC holds itself up to.

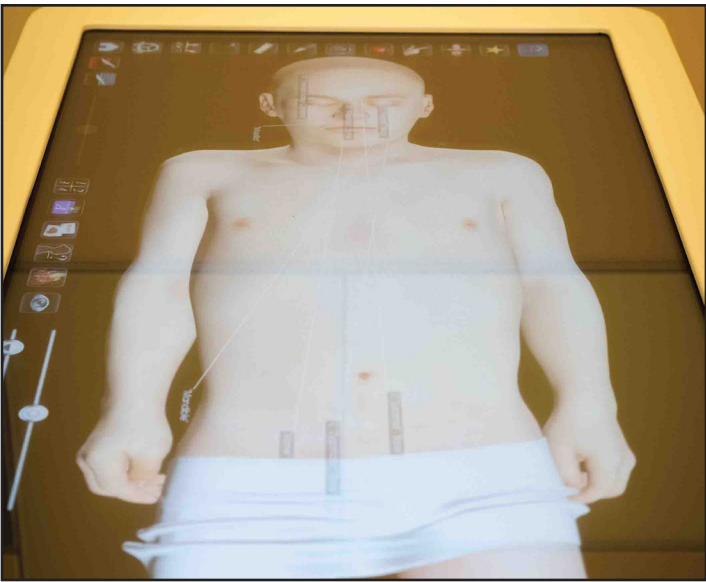
“There is a national cadaver shortage, so we’re not able to possibly secure future cadavers for our courses,” Schwab said.

“And so the Biology Department made the really hard and difficult decision to kind of pivot away from the cadaver

and look at other resources to use in lieu of the cadavers, and one of them is this Anatomage table,” Schwab said.

What exactly is an Anatomage table?

“It is a really, really high end, elite digitized table that is life size,” said Susan Dentel,



COURTNEY PRIELIPP | WASHTENAW VOICE

Currently at the University of Michigan Taubman Health Science Library, an Anatomage table is available for students to reserve a select time. The library currently has one available to the public and students.

faculty member and chair of life sciences and coordinator for the STEM and scholarships program.

The WCC Anatomage table has five real human cadavers, as well as some animals including frogs, cats, dogs, and primates.

“You can separate struc-

gratitude for the funding of the Anatomage table, which she said was over \$100,000.

“The WCC foundation is the one who provided this financial support for the table, and we are very grateful to the WCC foundation for supporting this,” Schwab said.

Are digitized cadavers the future?

“I think that the biology department would have kept using cadavers, if we had the resources to keep obtaining them. I mean, that’s obviously the most optimal, because it’s a real person, real hands-on kind of technology,” Schwab said.

The national cadaver shortage is causing long-term shifts in students’ learning experience with the technological advancements included in today’s educational systems.

“I think the days of cadavers in classes other than medical school are going to be very rare,” Dentel said.

SEE ANATOMAGE TABLE, A7

Schwab expressed her

Dental clinic reopens today



Shabree England (left) and Fan Zhang are operating on a dental simulator.

BECK ELANDT
Staff Writer

WCC’s dental clinic is offering more than just a bright smile in the snowy season.

“I appreciate being a dental assistant, the variety of different patients that I see and the variety of different procedures that I see,” said Tina Sprague, Dental Assisting program director, highlighting the vastness of dental assisting as a field and as a service to the community.

The WCC Dental Clinic is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for the next six weeks starting Feb. 11—not including the week of spring break. Located in the Occupational Education building, in room 106, the clinic offers several services: cleanings, x-rays and fillings, just to name a few.

Sprague explained that, along with treatment, the clinic checks patients’ vital signs—a service some patients don’t receive for a year or more, depending on their visits with a doctor.

“A cleaning is not just a cleaning; it’s a preventative procedure,” Sprague said. On top of this, it’s a restorative measure, different from oral hygiene (brushing and mouthwash), which primarily serves to maintain cleanliness. It’s noteworthy the clinic doesn’t only serve the community, but the college too.

Students in the dentist assistance program are required to complete “community dentistry rotations,” which give them experience assisting dentists in different offices, including the WCC clinic. The program allows students to observe and assist dental practices in the clinic while being supervised by a dentist licensed by the Michigan Board of

Dentistry.

“I feel like, in a way, they help us prepare for the real world outside of dentistry and in dentistry,” said Shabree England, a student majoring in dental assisting at WCC. England acknowledges that becoming a dentist is a rigorous path, but dentistry is a service that feels good to provide—easier than preparing to be one.

Alexis Smith, studying social work said, “they clean your teeth, and sometimes they give you a free toothbrush,” a complement both of going to the dentist as well as the dental clinic at WCC. One downside of going to the dentist, according to Smith, is, “you can’t see what they’re doing.”

To schedule an appointment, call 734-973-3332 or visit the campus dental clinic website for more information. Cash and checks are the only accepted payment methods, and payment is expected at the time of service.

BECK ELANDT | THE WASHTENAW VOICE

- Radiographs (X-rays)-\$15
- Cleaning-\$15
- Simple Fillings-\$20 (per filling)
- Fluoride Treatment-\$5
- Clinic is open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Feb. 7 to March 27.
- Cash payment is expected at time of service.

Assistance phone towers coming to campus soon



COURTNEY PRIELIPP | WASHTENAW VOICE

Assistance phone towers are all around campus. There are 10 assistance phone towers where students can call public safety, and officers will know exactly where the caller is located.

BECK ELANDT
Staff Writer

WCC’s Assistance Phone towers are almost here and aimed to be more helpful than the former emergency stations.

“We want them to be used if we’re going to upgrade, so we are encouraging people to use them as assistance phones,” said Chief of Public Safety John Leacher.

Leacher notes that he contacted public safety peers from universities across the state such as Michigan State, Northern Michigan and the University of Michigan. Most shared that emergency phones were used occasionally, but that people felt much more secure overall knowing they had them.

“The University of Michigan Flint campus,” said Leacher, is where he received the idea for multipurpose assistance phones.

Leacher shares that the new phones will connect directly to the public safety office, where the caller will be connected to an informed dispatcher who can answer ques-

tions regarding WCC and provide assistance in emergency situations. On top of this, the dispatcher will be shown the location of the phone that’s calling, something the former generation of phone towers lacked.

“Any type of emergency situation, I can see myself using it,” Liam Hutchins, a pre-engineering student, said. Hutchins said that, in a situation where he doesn’t have his phone, he would find the assistance phones useful.

There are estimated to be 10 stations total on the campus, eight of which are situated around the main campus and two surrounding the Health and Fitness Center. The speakers will have blue lights on top so they can be seen from farther away and loudspeakers for delivering public service announcements to the campus outside.

James Buckner, who is currently in the radiology program, supports the idea of safety phones. “I can see myself using one if I am in any type of immediate danger,” he said.

Apprenticeship Ambassador initiative expands opportunities for students

ALICE MCGUIRE
Deputy Editor

This past October, WCC was invited to the White House for a ceremony meant to recognize current Apprenticeship Ambassadors.

“The Apprenticeship Ambassador program was something that the United States Department of Labor initiated to help expand apprenticeship in both new occupations as well as to different types of people,” said Kyrsten Rue, assistant dean of career and technical education, who accepted the Apprenticeship Ambassador “Exceptional Achievement Award” on behalf of the college.

The award was given to colleges which met or exceeded the goals that were created when they applied to take part in the government initiative, an objective which Rue played a prominent role in achieving, though she was quick to point out that “it was by no means a single person that was doing all the work we have.”

An apprenticeship gives students the opportunity to gain skills working on the job at the same time as they’re learning in the classroom, all while working under a mentor.

So far, the college’s collaboration with Toyota of Ann Arbor and Subaru of Ann Arbor as well as the Ann



Kyrsten Rue was recently promoted to assistant dean of career and technical Education. Rue was a representative for WCC when receiving the “Exceptional Achievement Award” for Apprenticeship Ambassadors in Washington, D.C.

Arbor YMCA has produced two approved occupations through WCC’s group sponsorship (intermediary): auto service technician and master fitness trainer.

This is a really great pro-

gram for people that want to have a career in the automotive industry,” said Emily Herring, recruiter for WE Auto. “If you have an aspiration to be an automotive technician, we want to help you get there.”

Herring went on to explain that the position is paid and that the goal is for apprentices to leave the program with at least two state certifications as part of the pathway to becoming a “master certified tech.”

Jen Baca, senior director of healthy living at the Ann Arbor YMCA, which just took on its first apprentice through the initiative, said, “I think that, whether a business is looking at partnering for an apprenticeship or a student is looking, it’s a win-win either way. It’s really great to get that hands-on experience—get paid while you’re getting that hands-on experience—and then get the knowledge behind it and be able to combine it together.”

Baca went on to add, “I feel like it puts you a step above some of the other candidates because you’re already in the organization. People know you, they see the work you’re doing, and they’re gonna want to keep you around ‘cause we’re investing all this time into helping you and teaching you that we want to be able to continue that growth.”

Students interested in such opportunities should reach out to the Office of Apprenticeship, whether through the interest form at <https://tinyurl.com/apprenticeatwcc>, by calling 734-677-52, or by emailing apprenticeship@wccnet.edu.

Write—for the health of it

English instructors explain tangible benefits of writing



ABIGAIL GIBB | WASHTENAW VOICE

Sandy Argas and Amy Higgins discussing the poem “We Used Our Words We Used What Words We Had” by Franny Choi.

SASHA HATINGER
Staff Writer

Writing can be viewed in many ways. Whether it be a form of self-expression or used as a coping skill, writing often has many benefits to one’s mental health.

How writing impacts the human mind

“I often write to find out what I’m thinking. So, I think it’s a mirror of what we’re thinking,” said Maryam Barrie, English and writing instructor at Washtenaw Community College.

Expressing feelings or deep inner thoughts with the action of pen to paper or finger tips to keyboard allows for deeper reflection. The intense emotions and passions are no longer being stifled and pushed away. Articulating the most intimate parts of life initiates better understanding and self-observation.

“Even if the topic isn’t personal, there’s usually some glimmer of self-knowledge that’s available...if you’re alert to what you’re writing. When it’s a journal or something like that, it’s easy to see the connection between, ‘this is what I thought and this is what I wrote,’ and it was cathartic, or it was frustrating – or whatever it was,” said Barrie.

Healing through writing

Having an avenue to release difficulties, fear, trauma etc. promotes healing and has a plethora of overall health benefits. In an article on Harvard Business Review’s website, written by Deborah Seigel-Acevedo, the process of how to properly ‘write to heal’ is explained.

“The most healing writing, according to researchers, must follow a set of creative parameters. And most importantly, it can be just for you. It must contain concrete, authentic, explicit detail. The writer must link feelings to events — on the page. Such writing allows a person to tell a complete, complex, coherent story, with a beginning, middle, and end. In the telling, such writing transforms the writer from a victim into something more powerful: a narrator with the power to observe. In short, when we write to express and make sense, we reclaim some measure of agency,” said Seigel-Acevedo.

Self expression through writing leads to self evaluation. Looking at how the actions of others and/or our actions led to how we reacted to situations

and processed them situations is important in the method of moving forward. Writing allows that process to express itself naturally and authentically.

“For many people who’ve experienced trauma, there are gaps in our memory... or you get so far and then a door shuts on the memory, and you can’t go further. Writing can help us sneak open that door or pull out the situation in a way that will help us understand what was so frightening about it, or traumatic, or why we responded the way we did to the trauma that we experienced,” said Barrie.

The solution within writing

Writing can be private and personal – or it can be shared with others to build connections. The connection between feelings, emotions, experiences and reactions can be worked through in a healthy way through writing it out.

“Traumas get into our wiring and through storytelling, we can unravel it,” said Barrie.

Deciding to use writing as a process to heal is powerful – it is encouraged, and it is supported.

WCC’S Writing Center director and English instructor, Tom Zimmerman sends a warm invitation to “anyone reading the article,” to submit their personal work for publication.

Zimmerman recalled the WCC poetry club’s first anthology publication, released around 2006.

“I would encourage anyone reading this article that is interested in writing or visual art to come to me (in) the Writing Center, and talk to me because I might have some opportunities for them to get their work published,” said Zimmerman. Adding, there were four separate anthologies published last semester, fall of 2024.

For students interested in submitting their work, simply email Zimmerman your inoffensive works of art, or visit the poetry club’s website at: <https://wccpoetryclub.wordpress.com/>. The club’s upcoming anthology, Revolutionary Love, is set to take be released on February 26th in the Bailey Library.

“Whether you’re writing a short story, or a poem or keeping a journal – whatever you’re doing, if you’re expressing yourself, there’s a value in that,” said Barrie.

Baking club serves community

New club creates space for learning and building friendships

ALICE MCGUIRE
Deputy Editor

The Hearts and Tarts baking club is new on campus, just in time for Valentine’s Day. Upon a candy-coated PowerPoint slide overlooking a plate of sugar cookies, the club’s goals were outlined as follows: learn to bake, help our community and create friendships.

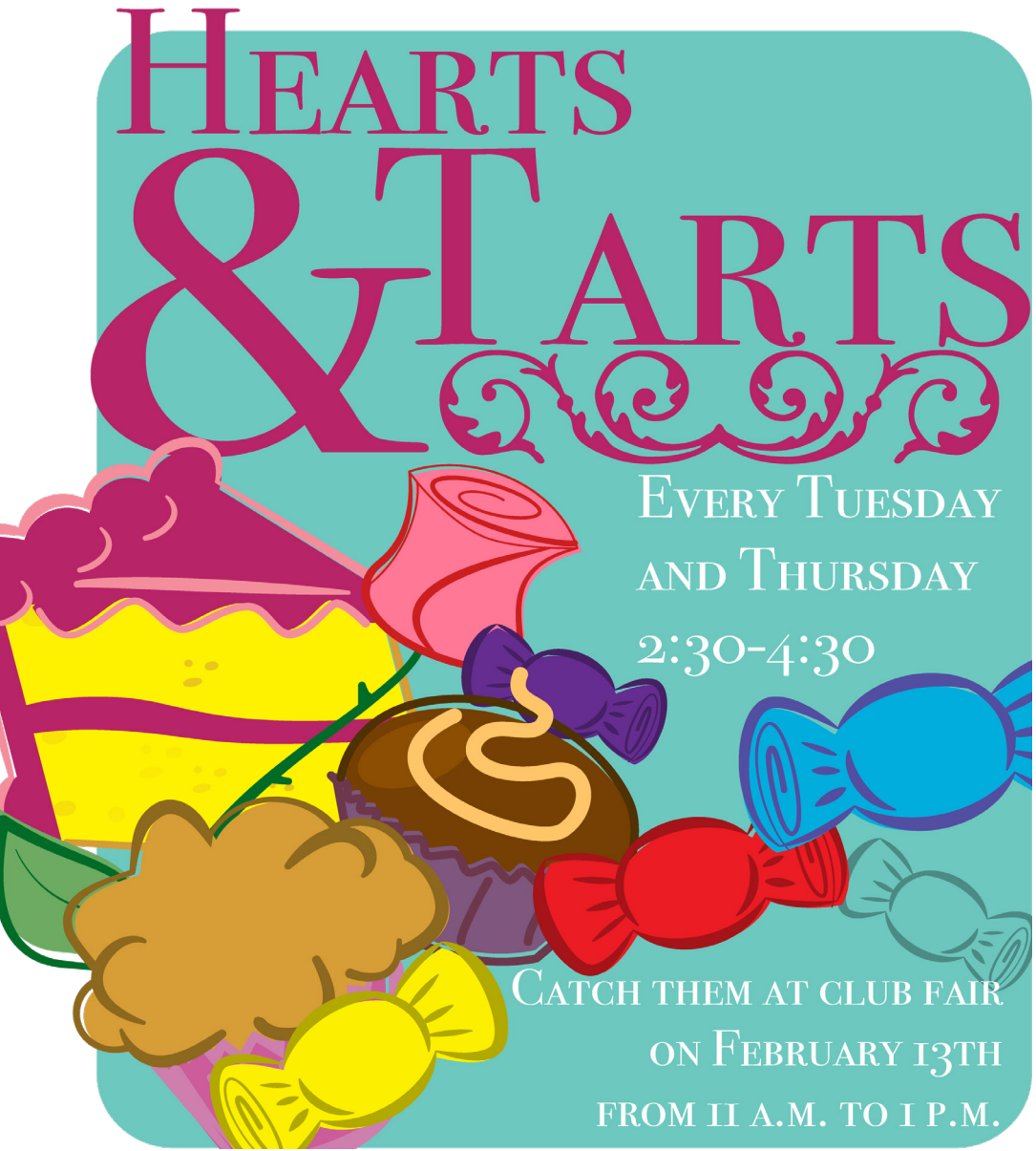
Jessica Little, 23, joined the club about three weeks ago after finding it on Campus Connect. Little said that what she gets out of baking is, “the joy of other people tasting what I made and knowing that I just created something with my own hands,” and that she finds the club “pretty fun” and “laid back.”

The club’s founder Kendall Stacy, 19, a supply chain management major, outlined a wide variety of treats which she hopes to be able to teach members to craft while taking suggestions from members for treats to bake as well as causes to support.

“I wanted to make it so, like, they’re not only harboring the community they live in, but they’re their own community of people,” said Stacy, detailing how the idea of a club came to mind as she thought of how to find a sustainable way to share food with others.

Stacy was told by a teacher that WCC had once had a “really good culinary program,” which spurred hope that she might find someplace on campus to bake.

Stacy explained that her love of baking began during her high school career, which she spent immersed in the culinary arts, working as a sous chef via the Career through Education program at Huron High School, where she gained experience running



Students interested in learning to bake should stop by the Hearts and Tarts club.

events. She further attributed the wide variety of dishes she has mastered to having spent the majority of her time in her culinary classes—baking for upwards of seven hours a day, five days a week.

With regards to whether baking is more art or science, Stacy said, “It depends on what you like,” she said before adding, “if you don’t like decorating, then it’s purely science.”

She went on to say that observing chemical reactions in culinary classes helped her understand them. “You can literally watch it,” she said, explaining, “You can always

tell what you’ve done wrong in baking based on what’s wrong with it.”

Natalie Scarlett, 20, a communication major who woke up one day to find that she had been declared co-founder—though she thinks she’s “just” a member now, has been friends with Stacy since high school.

“Everyone’s super engaged and willing to help each other and even if baking isn’t necessarily your strong suit or something that you’re directly interested in, it’s a great social place to grow,” said Scarlett. “Because we’re so new, we’re

still getting to know each other, getting to know what’s best for us, so it’s an adaptable place that you can make comfortable for yourself as well as the peers in it.”

With regard to why it is that food brings people together, Little said, “Everybody eats.”

Meetings are held every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in LA 130—until they find their forever room, with a kitchen.

The group plans to be at the club fair On February 13th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with sweet treats to share.

SKYE BAWOL | WASHTENAW VOICE



Fashion
WASHTENAW

Jada Hauser | Graphic Designer



"I picked my outfit out because my friend gave me this sweater to borrow. I took this skirt because it created a cool half-and-half kind of shape and split my torso and my skirt part into fourths. I think an important part of making outfits is making a cool shape.

I think my favorite piece that I'm wearing is all of them in different ways. The surf shirt under the distressed sweater creates sort of a glitchy look. It's very fun. This distressed sweater, I like the colors- it's very Halloween. I love this skirt. It has three different patterns on it, you can just switch it around to make a new outfit. I love my tights because they're so convenient for wearing skirts in the winter."

Tetra Epstein
WTMC student, 14

Lyric Lane

Henry Sincic | Contributor

What song makes you feel like you're in love, and why?

"Close to Me" by The Cure



"It just has this atmosphere of eclecticism, but also the lyrics really speak to being close and so comfortable with someone."

Katie Ulinski
English/liberal arts, 16

"Cranes in the Sky" by Solange



"It's about you and your partner; it's y'all against the world."

Tay'Shawn Trent
health sciences, 20

"Love" by Keyshia Cole



"It just makes me feel good; it's just a good song."

Jalil Boston
physical therapy, 29

"Dreams" by Brian Culbertson



"It's a non-vocal jazz arrangement that lets you use your imagination, and the instrumentation is sensual enough that it makes you think of love."

Stacey Brezzell
human services, 50

"It Will Rain" by Bruno Mars



"It's on the 'Twilight' soundtrack, and that's the greatest love story of our generation. And it's from Bruno Mars, and he's the greatest love song artist."

Briana Roland
nursing, 24

VOICE BOX

Teresa Quinones and Inayah Amir Bey | The Washtenaw Voice

For a longer Voice Box, visit our YouTube channel: The Washtenaw Voice
Video edited by Inayah Amir Bey



Who was your first TV, movie, or book crush? Why?



"Probably Austin from 'Austin and Ally' because that was my favorite show when I was like six years old."

Sarah Thompson
Business, 16

"My first crush was Justin Bieber. I thought he was very cute, and his songs were very good."

Ava Dawson
Dental assisting, 17



"I would have to say Ariana Grande. She was on 'Victorious,' which might not be a very popular show. She wasn't the smartest, but she was the most attractive."

Deonta West
Paralegal studies, 25

"My first TV crush was probably Tom Holland from 'Spiderman' because of the appeal of him being a superhero and I liked Marvel as a kid."

Gracie McKnight
Business, 16



"Rachel McAdams from 'The Notebook' cause I thought she was so pretty in the movie."

Julian Hertz
Liberal arts transfer, 16

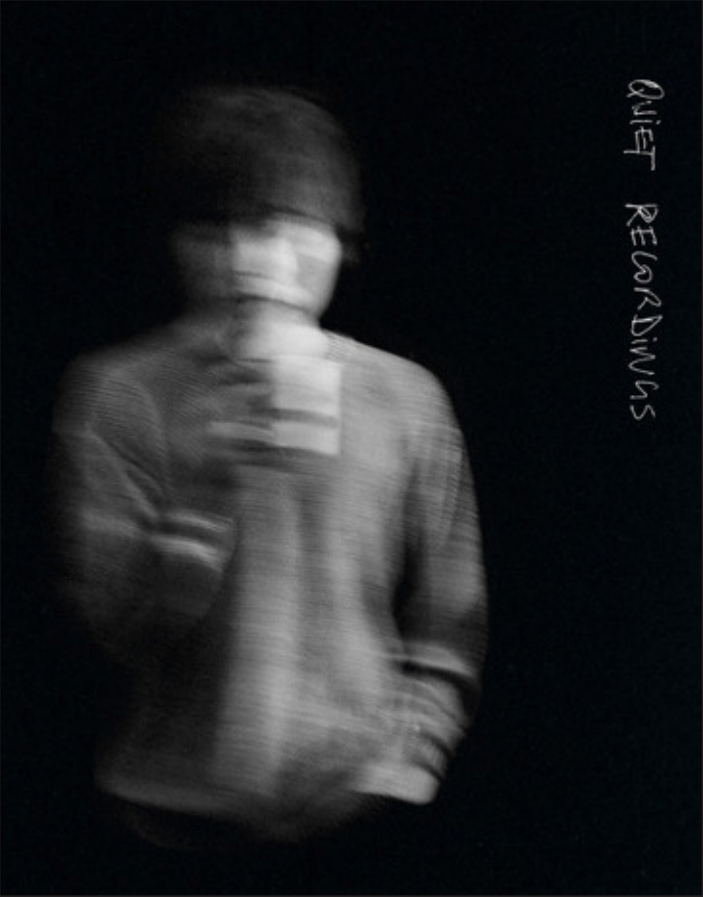
"My first TV crush was Emma Watson. 'Harry Potter' was a big part of my childhood."

Umar Muhammad
Pre-engineering science transfer, 18



REVIEW

Matt Maltese: Master of pulling on your heartstrings



COURTESY OF NETTWERK MUSIC GROUP INC. 2022

Matt Maltese has been releasing music since 2015. His EP "Quiet Recordings" features instrumental tracks from the album before it, "Good Morning It's Now Tomorrow." "Quiet Recordings" was released on 8 April 2022.



LILY COLE
Editor

Towards the end of the pandemic, whenever my friend Kalin got into my car, she would play "Like a Fish" by Matt Maltese. It was a silly joke because Kalin loved any type of fish and wanted to be an ichthyologist. We loved him.

Thinking about it now, there's so more much to love about Matt Maltese than just driving around in my car at 16. His lyrics are about love and heartbreak, and there's even a song about the idea of 2019 UK Prime Minister Theresa May and U.S. President Donald Trump deciding to spend a night of romance together before triggering atomic warfare—very classy, Matt.

Matt Maltese, a British-Canadian singer, became famous after the reassurance of his 2017 song "As the World Caves In" (the song about Theresa May and Donald Trump's fictional romantic fling). "As the World Caves In" became popular on TikTok. Maltese started on SoundCloud in 2015 and signed to Café Bleu Recordings, a subdivision of Atlantic Records. He's released EPs and albums from 2018 to now. Some standouts from his album, "Driving Just To Drive," are "Mother," "Hello Black Dog," and "Widows."

Maltese is a mix of indie

pop, jazz and soul, with introspective lyrics and smooth, piano-driven melodies. His earlier work leaned toward melancholic themes, while his recent music embraces a lighter, more playful tone. He describes his inspiration as drawing from Leonard Cohen, Nina Simone, Chet Baker and Paul Simon.

My friends and I saw Maltese in March 2024. The performance was amazing, and his stage presence was introverted—not introverted in the way that he was quietly singing, brushing off small talk between sets and interactions with fans. Oh no, the whole venue was sobbing. His sound was small but gradually increased to a chorus of emotions. My friends and I were in awe from the moment he opened with "You Deserve an Oscar."

His live vocals were something that I couldn't get over—10 times better than Spotify, and they had me reminiscing about high school relationships at the barricade of Saint Andrew's Hall. Yikes.

Maltese says he's been writing his own songs for so long that it's less challenging than earlier in his career. No wonder his albums just keep getting better and better. If you're looking for a singer who isn't afraid to pull on your heartstrings in a raw, real, melancholic way, Matt Maltese is for you.

I don't recommend listening to him right after a breakup, but it's great to think about someone "Less and Less." To me, exposure therapy works the best, and Matt Maltese is pretty much the best exposure therapy out there.

REVIEW

"Companion" provides a good time, but overstays its welcome



HENRY SINCIC
Contributor

RATING



The hook of this film is classic science fiction: a robot, built by man to be the subservient girlfriend of the paying customer, has gained autonomy and can no longer be controlled. Under the stewardship of a great writer, this concept could lend itself to some great social commentary, dark humor or both. In "Companion," we get a serviceable helping of both, but one wishes that it were more substantial.

"Companion" takes cues from the classic "cabin in the woods" trope that pervades modern horror and slashers in general. A man named Josh (Jack Quaid) is visiting his friends for the weekend in a luxurious house, surrounded by miles of wilderness in all directions. He is joined by his girlfriend, Iris (Sophie Thatcher), who seems a bit off in her sincere aloofness. She seems sad and distant, while nonetheless being devoted to her boyfriend. We learn, before she does, that she is a robot.

The film seems to take place in our not so distant future, where self-driving cars are proficient and, as we learn, realistic, programmable robot "companions" are mass-produced. Iris is one of these. One character derisively terms them "f*ckbots" and, regarding Josh's view of Iris, it doesn't feel too off the mark. One wishes that the world the film presents to us would be more fully-explored, as we don't know whether we're supposed to be aghast at the reality of programmable life



JADA HAUSER | WASHTENAW VOICE

'Companion,' a film about an android love bot, arrived in theaters on Jan. 31.

being enslaved to the whims of consumer enjoyment, or if we're supposed to take it as a darkly comedic backdrop to what COULD happen in our near future.

Sophie Thatcher continues her reputation as an austere voice of reason from last year's "Heretic" and, as in that film, she is excellent. Really, her performance buoys the movie, filling one with empathy at her sad state of servitude and subordination. When she gains autonomy and is allowed to get her payback, it really DOES feel great, and empowering.

Jack Quaid plays the awkward, sniveling, self-serving jerkwad to perfection, though the writing can create a bit of a disconnect between his character and his actions. It's hard to believe that Josh would have the gumption to deal with such a quickly unraveling situation himself, once Iris does begin to act out. The other friends are stereotypes, to be sure, but they're strangely likable in their narrowness. It's a shame

there isn't more time spent with them in the film.

Perhaps this movie's greatest flaw is that it doesn't ever explore far enough in any one direction. No character is quite explored enough for this to be seen as a gripping social drama, and the movie doesn't contain enough laughs, though it does have a few good ones, to constitute a dark comedy.

It really operates best as a thriller. The first act and a half contains enough twists to keep things interesting, even if a shrewd watcher would likely predict most of them, but even they seem to dry up the more the movie goes on.

It is often the case that a movie needs to focus on making at least one element truly sublime in order to achieve greatness, and the unfortunate truth is that, even though this movie is more than serviceable in every regard, it doesn't truly stand out as something much more than any number of the previous "good enough" movies that come out all the time.

The problem is that the

writing is too bland, especially for Josh and Iris. The movie had the opportunity to analyze not only a broken, abusive relationship, but what it means to HAVE autonomy and what, if anything, this contributes to the broken, abusive relationships that exist in our reality. "Poor Things" did much better with this concept of a woman made by men to serve for their gratification finding autonomy.

Make no mistake: the movie is STILL worth seeing. It is a better-than-average thriller with some great performances and interesting social concepts. The timing of the movie's release to coincide with the "month of love," though, remains a curious oddity.

"There might be some special, interesting couples that want to see it together," said Hope Bernard, WCC Film Instructor, pre-release. "In general ... people don't get the overt irony and humor."

Maybe "Heart Eyes" has a better shot of being the de facto Valentine's slasher this year. Eh? Eh?



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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.

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“Gladiator II” snubbed at the Oscars

Would using historical facts help grab nods?



YANA MCGUIRE
Staff Writer

Looking upon the settled dust in the Colosseum, I find myself questioning if “Gladiator II” would have made more of an impact on the masses if it had been more historically accurate.

As of Jan. 31., “Gladiator II” wrapped up its theatrical run. Although the long awaited sequel brought in a whopping \$460,525,536 in box office sales worldwide, the film was disregarded by the Academy Awards, according to Forbes. The only nomination the film managed to get was for Best Costume Design.

This is a huge disappointment considering that the original “Gladiator” received 12 nominations, including Best Supporting Actor for Joaquin Phoenix.

Perhaps if the plot were based on the true story of Marcus Opellius Macrinus, the character Denzel Washington portrayed, it would have resonated with more people.

Who is Macrinus?

Macrinus was born into a wealthy equestrian class family who lived in North Africa, according to National Geographic. His family held a status similar to knights. While the equestrian class had



ZEINAB AGBARIA | WASHTENAW VOICE

North African Marcus Opellius Macrinus, the character Denzel Washington's role was loosely based on, was the first emperor that was born into a non-senatorial family.

money, they had no noble path to the emperor's throne.

Quick wit and legal training helped Macrinus gain popularity. He served as a lawyer before entering lower-ranking positions in the Praetorian Guard.

Despite his Africaness, Macrinus was able to quickly rise up the ranking to become commander of the Praetorian Guard during Emperor Caracalla's rule in A.D. 212. However, his rise didn't come without some adversity.

“It (Rome) was more of a class based society,” said Ian

Rush, WCC history instructor. “He (Macrinus) wasn't so much looked down on because he was from North Africa. It was because he was not from the highest level of aristocracy.”

During a campaign against Central Asia around 217, Emperor Caracalla supposedly heard a prophecy that Macrinus would succeed him. This led to a plot to take Macrinus' life. Upon hearing about the plot, Macrinus allegedly ordered one of his guards to stab the emperor to death. The guard was immediately killed,

so Macrinus' involvement was never proven.

Macrinus seized the throne and ruled Rome for a little over a year. He managed to establish peace with the kingdoms his predecessor warred with. However, his attempt to stabilize the economy was cut short after he was violently murdered by supporters of Caracalla's family.

How could Macrinus' true story improve the film?

“Honestly, I'm not a big fan of sequels,” Darrick Lee, WCC film instructor said.

The recent Hollywood

trend of “recycling ideas” bothers Lee. “I just crave new stuff,” he added.

Lee is not alone as sequels often leave most moviegoers craving something new, according to The Spector.

Maybe if the film's director, Ridley Scott, had taken a different approach and used the true story of Macrinus, it would have received more nominations.

If fiction must be used, then adding a plot twist, such as allowing the guard used to kill Emperor Caracalla to survive, become a gladiator and

fight his way to expose Macrinus' evil deeds could have provided a nostalgic feeling the writers were looking for.

Unfortunately, writers of epic historical films tend to completely rewrite history to give fans what they think fans want.

“In their (film directors) minds, they're trying to make it more marketable,” Rush said. “I think it's all about money for them.”

If you would like to read a full review on “Gladiator II”, visit <https://tinyurl.com/4m-7h23xw>

COLUMN

This Valentine’s Day, learn to love yourself



LEXI STEPHENS
Contributor

Love is in the air! But not for me. If it is for you then, hey, congratulations. If you're anything like me, however, you get unlucky at love year after year. Now, is that necessarily a bad thing? Absolutely not!

In my opinion, it's better to be single on Valentine's Day. We don't have to go through the stress of picking out the perfect gift for our significant other, we don't have to make extravagant plans and, most importantly, we have more time for self-care. Whether you have a valentine or not, it's important that we all practice self-love.

WTMC counselor, James Cockles, gave lots of ways myself and others can show ourselves love, not just on Valentine's day, but all year round. James told me via email, “giving yourself grace is a form of self-love.”

It can be tough being the only one out of your group of friends without a valentine so, this year, instead of stalking your favorite couples on Valentine's day and feeling bad about yourself, try journaling! Journaling is a great way to express your feelings if you're not completely open to the idea of expressing your feelings to others.

Not a good writer? No problem! Simple tasks such as listening to music, watching your favorite movies or making yourself a tasty snack are all other valid ways of giving yourself grace.

Now, I know giving yourself grace is easier said than done, but it's important not to put yourself down during the Valentines season. If you're feeling lonely and want some ideas on how to distract yourself from feeling isolated, you can try connecting with friends and family, planning for the future and even treating yourself like your own Valentine.

Hanging out with your friends is something that will almost always make you feel less lonely whether that's having them over for a galentines/ palentines day party or just talking on the phone.

Planning for the future can be fun. Riley Cruz, a WTMC sophomore, said, “This Valentines day me and my friends are getting together to dress up and take pictures. ”I thought that was a great way to plan a get together with friends and be creative.

Try creating a vision board of things you'd like to do, places you'd like to visit or even plan out your dream life. Treating yourself with kindness is so important this time of year. Go out and spoil yourself by buying that really expensive thing you wanted but couldn't justify the price of. Or finish that show that you swore you were going to watch months ago.

Valentine's day doesn't just have to be for couples, it can be for everyone! Practicing self love is just as important as loving others.



SKYE BAWOL | WASHTENAW VOICE

Daily affirmations improve how you perceive yourself and are a great way to practice self care.



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Solution to puzzle available on washtenawvoice.com

“DON’T TELL ME TO HANG IN THERE, BABY.” BY JADA HAUSER



"It was in that moment Fluffy regretted skipping arm day."

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 X: @WCC_Careers | Facebook: @WCC.CenterforCareerSuccess | LinkedIn: WCCCenterforCareerSuccess | Instagram: @wcccenterforcareersuccess

Career & Internship Fair is February 12

The WCC Center for Career Success will host its Winter 2025 Career & Internship Fair from 4-6 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 12, in the Morris Lawrence Building. Come prepared with multiple copies of your resume and questions to ask company representatives. Make new professional connections, gain insider information, stand out as a great candidate! Attend one of our career fair series workshops in preparation for the event. All are welcome.

Marketing Intern. Original Moxie, LLC.

The Marketing Intern is an invaluable part of our Marketing Outreach and Development Team. This role requires excellent organizational and communication skills, the ability to multitask, and initiative in developing and managing our marketing strategy across various channels, including social media and special events. The ideal candidate is hardworking and task-oriented, able to take direction, and collaborate on projects and goals. For successful candidates, this position can serve as a stepping stone to a permanent role within our Marketing Team.

Hospital Donation Advocate. Gift of Life Michagan.

Manage active organ referrals within assigned hospitals. Understand that hospital presence is vital to Gift of Life's

core purpose and includes daily education at assigned hospitals and response to referrals. Establish relationships with key physicians. Develop and implement customized strategic plans for targeted hospitals. Conduct timely referral and donor follow-up to assigned hospitals. Collaborate with Palliative Care, or its equivalent, as it relates to donation in situations of withdrawal of life-sustaining therapy. Maintain awareness of current healthcare literature concerning organ and tissue donation.

Preserve Stewardship Associate. Legacy Land Conservancy.

Implement stewardship activities such as ecosystem restoration, habitat management, and invasive species removal. Maintain and improve public accessibility at preserves in accordance with approved plans. Assist in routine maintenance of preserve infrastructure, such as a caretaker residence, board walks, signs, parking lots, etc. Support Preserve Stewardship Manager with guiding and collaborating with the crew and other members of the preserve stewardship team. Assist in the creation and updating of Legacy's Preserve Management Plans in accordance with Land Trust Alliance Accreditation. Commission standards and practices. Assist in the maintenance and regular inventory of preserve equipment and vehicles. Participate regularly as part of Legacy's "Land Team" to help plan and implement Legacy's organization-wide land protection program.

Promotions Supervisor. Ann Arbor District Library.

Under the direction of the Communications & Marketing Manager, the Promotions Supervisor works as part of a team to inform Ann Arbor District Library patrons of the events, exhibits, and major expos and festivals offered by AADL. Supervise members of the Communications & Marketing team and support their efforts in organizing and promoting AADL events. Plan and execute the marketing, advertising, and publicity of AADL's major expos and festivals. Work with Library events, production, and festival team members to help manage the logistics involved in putting on AADL's expos and festivals. Draft press releases, manage media contacts, and seek earned media for AADL events and exhibits.

Caregiver. Eisenhower Center.

Eisenhower Center is seeking to hire Direct Service Professionals' (DSP) at our Ann Arbor location. If you have a passion for caregiving and providing support to help individuals achieve their goals, then this is the job for you!

Senior Care Companion. Care Management by Natalie.

At Care Management by Natalie, we are looking for compassionate and dedicated Companions who are passionate about making a positive difference in the lives of the elderly. As a Companion, you will be a key part of our team, providing emotional support, social interaction, and assistance with activities that enrich our clients' daily lives. We know you take pride in the care you provide for your clients. We strive to provide you with the time, resources, and training to help you excel.

Part-Time Technical Assistant Internship. Wayne RESA.

Assist with desktop, AV, and voice-over-internet protocol phone equipment and provide technical support. Assist with the support of end-user desktop and laptop systems and mobile devices with peripherals, including device operating systems, application software, and imaging. Monitor the help desk system and respond to requests in a timely manner. Assist with installation, maintenance, and support of all desktop software associated with LAN/AV equipment.

School Social Worker. Partner Solutions.

CSA is seeking strong candidates with strong character, a passion for excellence, relentless commitment to the academic success of all students, excitement for teaching/learning and a commitment to growing their craft. We hire teachers who work together, learn together, and do whatever it takes, day in and day out to engage students through an interdisciplinary model which emphasizes understanding of the whole child and supports the growth of intrinsic motivation.

Engineering Intern – Summer 2025. Stellantis - FCA Fiat Chrysler Automobiles.

Interns will be assigned to a department based on the candidate's background and skill set. The assignments are project-oriented, meaningful to the department and allow the

intern to provide valuable contributions. Interns experience a sense of personal accomplishment and learn about the corporate business culture through work assignments, structured activities, and exclusive intern networking events. Interns that demonstrate outstanding qualities may be invited back for a return internship the following summer or may be considered for full-time positions.

Automotive Technician/Infotainment Technician/Radio Technician. Yochana IT Solutions Inc.

High School Education or Trade School Certificate. 3 + years of experience in Product Support and Technical Assistance. Proficiency in automotive hardware and software systems with its functionality. Experience in handling complaints, driven to deliver an excellent customer experience through resolutions and adherence to response times. Experience working and managing communications, with multiple cross-functional teams/stakeholders. Has experience in participating with process improvement projects (contributor/participant). Trouble shooting Automotive controls.

Youth Sports Coach. The Explorer Club.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and responsible youth sports coach to provide a fun and safe sporting experience for our youths. In this role, you will be responsible for designing and implementing basic sports strategies and teaching the fundamentals of the sport.

Wealth Management Team Intern. Mercer Advisors.

As a Wealth Management Team intern, you will work collaboratively with fellow colleagues in a Mercer Advisors to provide and ensure the highest level of service and positive experience for our clients. Applicants should have strong verbal and written communication skills with background and/or interest in client service, financial planning and/or sales. The success applicant will be comfortable with a client facing role and working on the phone. Your 10-week long summer internship will be filled with opportunities for professional development, mentorship, the chance to apply coursework to real-world experiences, and some fun, too!

Paraprofessional, Special Education. Lincoln Consolidated Schools.

The Paraprofessional assists professional staff by supervising and helping students during classroom instruction and implementing individualized student programs, collaborating with professional staff.

Advocacy Leader Environmental Organizer. Clean Water Action.

Train, develop, and manage a crew of canvass staff to do high quality community organizing. Report to and work with the Canvass Director to recommend who is hired, fired, promoted. Analyze crew and individual performance, make recommendations for improvement. Carry out administrative, logistic, and financial management responsibilities as necessary to run efficient and safe crews. Meet/exceed all canvassing and organizing standards. Understand, educate, and hold staff accountable to organizational policies and procedures.

Development (Fundraising) Coordinator. Ecology Center Inc.

Organizing the Ecology Center's annual fundraising event. Developing and coordinating online fundraising campaigns. Managing data on Salesforce CRM development database. Identifying and soliciting new businesses to sponsor the annual fundraising event. Creating outreach and fundraising materials. Analyzing donor data and identifying donors for solicitation and stewardship. Attending community events to represent the organization.

Superior Branch Manager. Ypsilanti District Library.

Supervises the day-to-day operation of the Superior branch, including the development and administration of its programming and collection budgets. Coordinates the branch's slate of activities for YDL's annual Summer Challenge. Communicates effectively with and actively supervises branch staff, including scheduling, assignment of tasks, training, conflict resolution and performance appraisal. Serves on the library's management team and participates in system-wide planning. Coordinates branch services and operations within the total library operation. Proactively communicates branch needs with YDL administration and other departments, including Information Technology and Facilities.

Customer Support Representative. Opus IVS.

Utilize internal CRM to set RAP

service appointments. Answers inbound calls from customers. Document and create a record for the CRM of all customer and client interactions in a complete and accurate manner. Uses documented policies, procedures and guidelines for carrying out the duties of the position. Troubleshoots product failures and escalates when necessary.

Front of House Team Member. Jerusalem Garden.

Greeting: Welcoming guests. Seating guests: organizing seating charts, and accommodating guests. Taking orders: Taking food and drink orders accurately and efficiently, and communicating any allergies or food requirements to the kitchen. Serving: Serving food and drinks to guests, and ensuring water glasses are filled. Bussing: Clearing tables and running food to tables. Payment: Handling cash and credit card transactions.

Plumber. Fathom Plumbing Solutions.

Are you ready to dive into a career where your growth and potential are the top priorities? Fathom Plumbing Solutions is on the lookout for enthusiastic individuals to join our dynamic team in Ann Arbor, MI. We're a close-knit, family-owned, quickly growing business that are passionate about transforming the plumbing industry with creativity, integrity, and top-notch service. Whether you're just starting out or have years of experience, we've got a spot for you!

Junior Server/Network Analyst. Wayne RESA.

Assist with the installation, configuration, and maintenance of servers, network devices, and associated hardware. Monitor server and network performance, identify potential issues, and escalate as necessary. Perform routine system and network backups and ensure disaster recovery readiness. Support the Network team in managing firewalls, switches, routers, and other network components. Provide technical support to RESA and local educational agencies (LEA) end-users for network or server-related issues. Assist with implementing and maintaining security protocols and patches. Maintain documentation of IT systems, processes, and troubleshooting procedures. Collaborate with senior analysts and engineers to ensure optimal system performance and uptime.

Finding Christian involvement on campus, in the community

BECK ELANDT
Staff Writer

Among the places students at WCC call home, the Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship is dear to many. The national organization, recognized through the Assemblies of God, holds meetings every Wednesday, providing a window into Christian involvement, through the community. The discussion-based meetings start with snacks and conversation, followed by an open discussion of everyone’s highs and lows from the past week. “It’s welcoming,” said Prince Uwandu, a biology major from Eastern Michigan University, who stops by WCC to attend Chi Alpha meetings. “The way we do it, it’s not like we’re pressuring anybody to do anything. You can really just come sit, listen, and ask questions.” When asked about the meaning of the club, President Lucas Desmyther, currently minoring in general studies, had an answer: “Chi Alpha’s goal at WCC is to build good community and show people the love of Jesus.”

After everyone settles in, they review Bible verses and a short video—opening a can of discussion. After sharing personal experiences and interpretations, the club comes to a point of closure and concludes the meeting in prayer directed toward one another. Tavis Tonlaar a WTMC student said, “With our faith in Christianity, we incorporate Jesus into every part of our lives.” Multiple Chi Alpha members, such as Tonlaar, noted that it’s important to feel comfortable around other people and that belonging is crucial for not only education, but also



With the classroom filled with members and guests, everyone grabbed snacks and chatted before the meeting began. The Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship meetings every Wednesday at 3 to 5p.m. in LA 235.

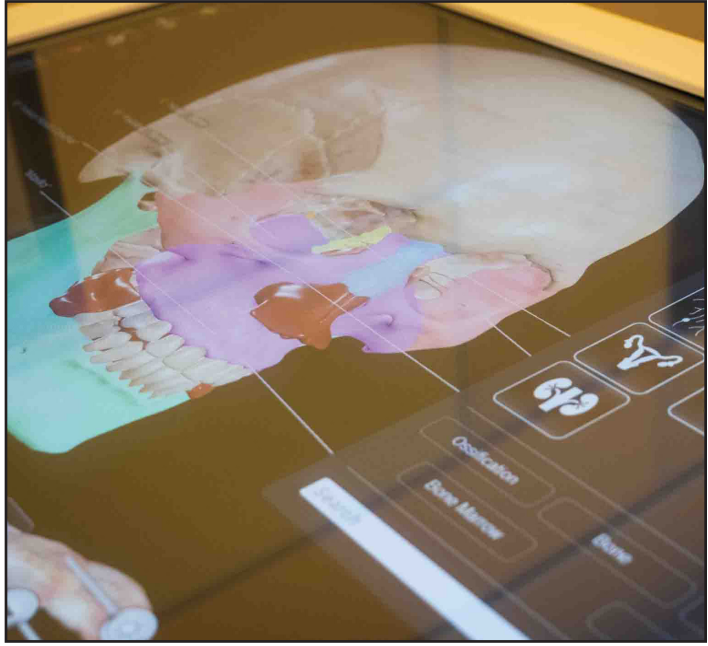
individual well-being. An example of this kind of structure is Concordia University, WCC’s neighboring Christian college, which is downsizing due to financial struggles. According to an M-live article, “Concordia University Ann Arbor will transition a large number of its academic programs to online-only learning after the next school year in an effort to cut costs.” On the CUAA Website, Claudia Grepke, class of 2025, stated, “Concordia is a great place to apply if you’re looking for a family atmosphere.” Grepke’s major is nursing, one

of the programs that will still be running despite the downsizing, and one available at WCC. “The small campus allows for a tight knit community that starts to feel like home fast.” Chi Alpha acknowledges spaces like Concordia as an important niche for students. Chris Payne, a Minister visiting the club from the University of Michigan said, “Some kids have a need to nurture their spiritual side of life, and some people feel like secular education is gonna work better to pursue their goals.” This isn’t to say that one is more or less spiritual depending on

their choice of education. “One of the things we believe in at Chi Alpha is reaching the world,” Payne said. “We should do everything with excellence.” The fellowship, which extends beyond the club itself, holds meetings where members spend time exclusively learning and studying the Bible. For more information about Chi Alpha here at WCC, visit the student clubs page Student Clubs (Student Life), or email wccchialpha@gmail.com.

Anatmage table

CONTINUES FROM A1



COURTNEY PRIELIPP | WASHTENAW VOICE
The table allows the user to remove layers of the body such as muscles or veins.

Schwab highlighted that the decision wasn’t made overnight. “The Biology Department did a lot of research, kind of looking at other schools, because we weren’t the only school that pivot(ed) away from cadaver labs,” Schwab said.

Discovering the power of the Anatmage table.

The Anatmage table accurately and effectively represents digitized cadavers. “All of the information in this table comes from real cadavers. These are not artistic renderings,” said Schwab. “All of that work was digitized, and actually..put back together and reconstructed,” Schwab said. The donated bodies of the Anatmage table offer students a one-of-a-kind learning experience. “These are people who donated their bodies that were preserved fixed. They were fully imaged with CT and MRI scans and then sliced,” Schwab said. “All the arteries, veins and capillaries are completely, fully traced as they were in that cadaver, pre mortem, from head to toe.” Students will have the opportunity to get up close and personal with the Anatmage table to maximize their learning experience. “Some of those tissues were stained to show different parts of the cell, histological differences between cells,” said Schwab. “They can show how a muscle moves, what muscles are needed to move the elbow,

and cardiac—so it’s super cool. Bodies can be flipped upside down, moved around.” The Anatmage table offers a unique and advanced learning experience. “That’s going to be a real advantage. So I think this is going to just be such a phenomenal, phenomenal resource for our students to use,” Schwab said.


Advice for students “Use it. Use it to the best of your ability. Don’t be afraid,” said Schwab. “Don’t be afraid to experience the table. I always, always really encourage students to use whatever resource they have available to them, to use them. This is just another resource, another tool in the students’ tool kit to help them learn anatomy, learn physiology, how all of these organ systems work together in a human body, I think it’s just going to be phenomenal, and I cannot wait to get up there and watch students interact with this. I am so excited for our students here at WCC.”

A true appreciation for learning “We’re just so excited to have this wonderful resource here,” said Schwab. Free upcoming events will be available for students and community members to get a hands-on experience of using an Anatmage table. “I’m really hoping to kind of get that out and get the community involved. I’m just ecstatic,” Schwab said.



how well do you know these girls?

Learn more about your **breast health** at **KnowYourGirls.org**



The following events were reported by WCC Public Safety on Jan. 14.

LARCENY

On Jan. 14, public safety responded to an incident of a laptop being stolen in the TI building. The professor reported he had his laptop stolen but it was recovered a day later.

As of Feb. 7, Public Safety reports that the professor reported the computer stolen to the WCC IT department on the day it went missing. The IT department got the computer locked and put a message saying return to TI 227. The professor recovered the computer later that day. Public Safety had a malfunction with security footage and was unable to review any video.

Compiled by Yana McGuire | Staff Writer

events

MUSIC & FUNARTS & CRAFTSON CAMPUS

VALENTINE’S DATE NIGHT: MUSIC, COCKTAILS, CANDLE LIGHT
Feb. 15 | 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Ann Arbor Distilling Company | 220 Felch Street, Ann Arbor
Enjoy two handcrafted cocktails and light appetizers with your valentine in a cozy candle-lit ambiance filled with good music. Tickets are \$39. First seating is from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Second seating is from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

CREATIVES’ NIGHT
Feb. 21 | 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
HOMES Campus - Beer Garden | 112 Jackson Plaza, Ann Arbor
Connect with fellow like-minded artists of all skill levels. Three presenters will offer unique advice about the business. Dress to impress for the red carpet photo opportunity. Tickets are \$10

MUSTAFA: LOST IN DUNYA TOUR
Feb. 18 | 8 p.m.
The Ark | 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor
The Toronto-based R&B/Folk artist will stop by The Ark during his Lost In Dunya tour. Tickets are \$25. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. The show starts at 8 p.m.



JOE DESOUSA | WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
The key to having a great dinner date is to keep the conversation light-hearted. You can use facts to start discussions about your interests, hobbies or travel experiences.

KUSUDAMA ORIGAMI FLOWERS
Feb. 12 | 6 p.m to 7 p.m
Ann Arbor District Library Pittsfield Branch | 2359 Oak Valley Dr, Ann Arbor
Artists of all ages are invited to make flowers out of origami patterns. The flower could be a perfect handmade gift for your loved one. This event is free.

OUTSIDE THE LINES: COLORING FOR GROWN UPS
Feb. 13 | 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Ann Arbor District Library Malletts Branch | 3090 E Eisenhower Pkwy, Ann Arbor
Teens to elders are welcome to come and color on detailed coloring pages. Multiple coloring utensils will be provided. There will be Prismacolors to play with as well. This event is free.

MINIATURE PAINTING WORKSHOP
Feb. 21 | 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.
Ann Arbor District Library Downtown | 343 S 5th Ave, Ann Arbor
Paint miniature figures for games or hobbies. All supplies will be provided and explained completely. You can keep what you paint. There is no cost for this workshop.



PLEXI83 | WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
Indian literature heavily influenced the original use of miniatures, which was used to tell stories through art for those who could not read.

WICKED MOVIE NIGHT AT WCC
Feb. 12 | 6 p.m to 9 p.m.
LA 140
The Office of Student Activities is hosting a screening of the movie “Wicked!” This event is free. Snacks will be provided. RSVP on Campus Connect: <https://wccnet.campuslabs.com/engage/event/10933498>

AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY
Feb. 12 | 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
Bailey Library - Learning Commons via Zoom
Learn the importance of genealogy from the renowned genealogist, Jean Winborn. This event will be held on Zoom. Register in advance through the WCC event calender: <https://tockify.com/washtenawevents/detail/4809/1739383200000>

OPEN IMPROV JAM
Feb 13 | 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
LA 140
Students are invited to play improv games. No experience required. This event is open to all, including onlookers. Email Dr. Hope Bernard with questions at hobernard@wccnet.edu.



UKINUSA | WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
Paul Tazewell, costume designer for the film “Wicked” was inspired by the 1939 MGM film “Wizard of Oz”.

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!