Love speaks in speech class



KELLY BRACHA THE WASHTENAW VOICE A tearful Jenny Edwards sits down at her desk after her boyfriend, Josh Markus, proposed to her in the middle of his speech.

By Kelly Bracha Staff Writer

What started out as another boring speech class became a memory Jenny Edwards, Josh Markus and the rest of their class will never forget.

Markus took to the podium for his turn to give his artifact speech, but four verses into a poem he was sharing, the business major presented his girlfriend with the artifact of their affection.

Markus, 25, requested Edwards join him at the podium as he began reciting his poem, "True Love, Honestly."

Reading the verse, "There is no spoken word, no rhyme, no lyric, no verb to express the way I feel so all I can do is kneel," he did just that.

As the classroom filed with gasps, Markus got down on one

knee and took Edwards' hand in his own, removed a humble white box from his pocket and promptly proposed.

More awwws from the class, and a few of the women even began to cry as Edwards covered her mouth in shock. Then she too had tears streaming down her face as she said "yes."

Inside the white box was a straw wrapper tied into a knot, a prominent footnote to their first official date.

"I don't have money for a ring right now," Markus said. "But on our first real date, we went to Red Robin and I tied the straw wrapper around her finger."

Edwards, still reeling from the moment said, "I'm in shock. I was not expecting that at all."

Which is what Markus was hoping for as he prepared his "speech" the previous night.

"I played it off real cool last

night," he said. "I brought her a drink and took the straw wrapper and asked her about the original straw ring and if she still had it. Since she didn't,

I tied this new one." "It has always been a joke since our first date. I completely forgot about it though," Edwards said.

Markus planned the event carefully. Around 9 a.m. on Tuesday, humanities instructor Allison Fournier's speech class was interjected by Markus' romantic ambitions.

"He came in between speeches. I thought 'you are interrupting my class, what are you doing?" Fournier said as she recalled the events before learning of Markus' plan to propose to his girlfriend during his own speech that was due later that day.

"He took me out to the

hallway and I was nervous there was something wrong," Fournier said. "He told me what the plan was and I said okay, anything you need to do!"

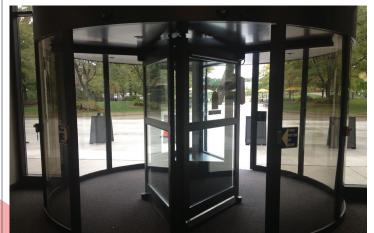
According to the plan, Markus was strategically placed at the very end of the list of speakers and sat in the front of the classroom. And the rest is history.

The couple met in 2003, but only started dating a little more than a year ago.

Holding the white box and looking back at Markus, Edwards said, "He's the love of my life. I wouldn't change anything about him."

While Markus got the favorable answer from his fiancé, the jury's still out about his grade. Fournier joked that she would not dock him for going over time on his speech, for the sake of love.

Failure to revolve



CHARLES MANLEY THE WASHTENAW VOICE

The new revolving door at the Student Center was locked into an open position to allow access recently while the circuitry was being repaired—again.

By Amanda Jacobs Staff Writer

The new revolving doors leading to the freshly renovated Student Center recently had faulty circuits installed on the doors and left some students confused on how to enter and exit the building.

Dane Christiansen, a motorcycle service technology major at Washtenaw Community College, wasn't looking when he walked into the revolving door while it was out of service.

"I thought it was going to move," Christiansen, 22, of Ypsilanti, said. "But I wasn't paying attention and I ran right into it."

Since the installation of the revolving door, minor circuit shortages have left the door working intermittently, forcing some to enter the Student Center through the side doors designated as fire exits.

people run into it," Christiansen

joked. "It's kind of funny." And confusing when the emergency doors that are typically locked are needed for access.

Damon Flowers, associate

vice president of Facilities Development and Operations, said that the doors were designated as fire exits to avoid outside debris entering the SC by incoming students.

"We don't want people to go in these doors," Flowers said. "We don't want leaves and other things flowing in."

Flowers also said that the use of the traditional doors during the winter could bring cold wind to students enjoying the lounge areas near the two side doors. The revolving doors help prevent the escape of heat or air in the building.

The revolving doors still have some temporary kinks that maintenance is trying to work out, such as the "I've just been watching equalization of air pressure

REVOLVE CONTINUED A5

34% Other Buildings \$1,230,000 10% Occupational Education Liberal Arts 17% • Campus Wide \$2,226,000 Student Center Morris Lawrence

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE Total: \$12,570,900

BRITTANY BARNHART DESIGN EDITOR

A chart showing the five buildings with the lowest Facility Condition Index rating and what slice of the \$12 million pie will be used this year to repair them.

Trustees allocate \$4 million for long overdue repairs

By Amanda Jacobs Staff Writer

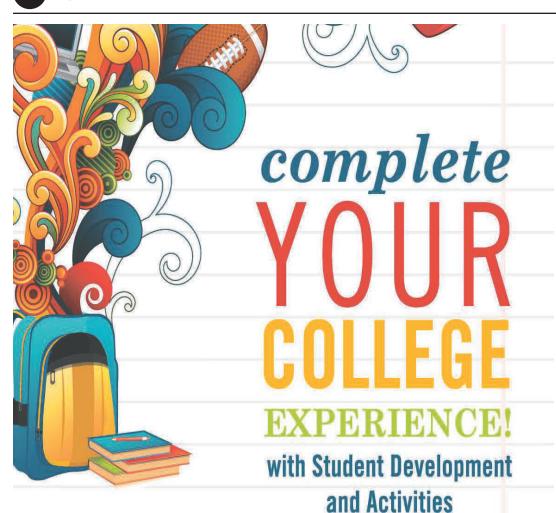
Washtenaw Community College's Board of Trustees approved a grant from the college's general fund for \$4 million toward the \$12 million in deferred maintenance repairs at the Sept. 11 board meeting.

The \$4 million will serve as a basis to begin working on replacement and repair of ceilings, water leaks, heating pumps, boilers, HVAC systems and more, college officials said.

"One of the first things we have to consider is which things have the most considerable damage," Damon Flowers, associate vice president of Facilities Development and Operations said to the board. "The \$4 million will be a good starting point."

DEFERRED CONTINUED A5





UPCOMING EVENTS

National Voter Registration Day Tuesday, Sept. 25

Stop by Student Activities and tell us why you feel voting is important. Still need to register? No worries! Drop by SC 112 for a form—and we will take it to the Washtenaw County Clerk's Office!

WCC Talks: Resources for Transfer Students

Planning to transfer? Plan wisely!
Monday, Sept. 24, Noon-1 p.m.
SCB Community Room
FREE!
Snacks provided

WCC Talks: Who Needs Mythology?

Tuesday, Sept. 25 11 a.m.-Noon SC Community Room FREE! Snacks Provided

Had fun at event?

#WCCSDAROCKS

Hash Tag it!

Ticket: Museum of African-American History and Holocaust Memorial tours and RUB BBQ!

Friday, October 19
Only \$15! Ticket includes admissions, college-van transportation and lunch!

Talent Show Auditions!

Showcase your skills at this annual event. Wednesday, Oct. 10 from 5:00-9:00 p.m. in Towsley Auditorium.
Sign-up:

http://tinyurl.com/WCCTalentShow20

<u>12</u>

Ticket: Kalahari Water Park

Friday, Nov. 2 \$30 includes admission, motorcoach transportation, and pizza/pop!

Tim Skubick: Town Hall Meeting Host of "Off the Record"

Wednesday, Oct. 17
6:30-8:00 p.m.
Towsley Auditorium
FREE and open to the public
Skubick has covered Michigan
government and politics for 42

Purchase tickets at the Cashier's Office, 2nd floor SCB, M-F, 8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Men's Club Basketball Tryouts

Tuesday-Thursdays: Oct. 23-25
9:30-11:00 p.m.
WCC Health and Fitness Center
Must bring WCC ID card with you!
Team will practice on Tuesdays and
Wednesdays (9:30-11:00 p.m.) and
play games on Mondays.

UPCOMING SPORTS

Intramural Arm Wrestling
Registration: October 15-19 in
SC 116

Event: Wednesday, Oct. 24 5:30 p.m. WCC Sports Office—SC 112

Women's Club Basketball Tryouts

Tuesday, Oct. 30, 9:30-11:00 p.m.

and Sunday, Nov. 4, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

WCC Health and Fitness Center Must bring WCC ID with you! Team will practice on Sundays (6:30-8:00 p.m.) and Tuesdays (9:30-11:00 p.m.) with games on Thursdays (7:00 p.m. or later) Stay up-to-date with newest event, ticket, sporting and news

information:

Sign-up to receive alerts from us! http:tinyw.cc/sda and follow us on Facebook: Washtenaw CC



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We are looking for healthy women ages 18 to 40 to participate in a study about how life studies (including sexual ones) affect immunity.

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lifeandbody@umich.edu, or (734)763-7121



van Anders Lab

HUM00025873



Welding student and lab tech Alex Pazkowski, 21, performs a stick weld on a steel plate.

CHARLES MANLEY THE WASHTENAW VOICE

By Amanda Jacobs Staff Writer

The Welding Department at Washtenaw Community College has seen a lot of success, including having three students who have competed in the WorldSkills competition for SkillsUSA.

Now the department may have the chance to root for Alex Pazkowski, who will find out if he is competing for WorldSkills in February.

"We have a series of turn-in projects, which we send in to get judged," Pazkowski, 21, said. "They have a pool of 24 people in my group, and they narrow it down to the top six people, which is what I'm working on qualifying for."

Pazkowski graduated from Saline High School in 2009, and came straight to WCC. He started out in another field, but switched to welding when he felt he wasn't any good.

By Amanda Jacobs

Staff Writer

his education at Washtenaw

Community College, he

never thought he would be

awarded the silver medal in

the international competition

"I took classes here starting

in Fall semester of 2006. I never

liked welding or really knew

what it was," Young, a full-time

lab assistant and part-time

instructor at WCC said. "After

I got the hang of it, I liked it

After practicing and

developing skills for welding,

Young decided to compete

in the SkillsUSA Welding

"Glenn Kay encouraged me

to do the SkillsUSA thing."

Young said. "I placed first in

state and second in national,

but in the international

preliminaries I placed fifth, so

at SkillsUSA.

quite a bit."

competition.

When Joe Young first started

"I loved welding, I don't know why," Pazkowski said. "When you do it, it's really cool, and you always want to get better."

Glenn Kay, an instructor in WCC's welding department, competed in the WorldSkills competition in 1997. He helped mentor Joe Young, who placed second in WorldSkills in 2009. Young helped mentor Bradley Clink, who also won silver in 2011.

Pazkowski has had the opportunity to learn from these WCC WorldSkills competitors, and has made it to the top 24 of the competition. He will know if he is one of the six competitors off to Vegas by the end of October.

"That guy's been going pretty hard. Behind the scenes, people don't see the blood and sweat, the passion it takes to do this," Young, a full-time lab assistant and part-time instructor at WCC said. "We want to have that in this program."

But Young was given a

second chance to compete

when he received a phone

call asking if he would like

to compete in place of a U.S.

competitor who had dropped

Kay kind of encouraged me to

go back. I practiced for a few

months, and then I went to

the preliminary." Young said.

"I ended up winning, and it was

a longshot. Skill trades aren't

viewed overseas like they are

over here. They treat skill

competitor at WCC to go to the

world competition and second

to earn a medal. He got silver,

won a \$40,000 scholarship, and

was able to meet top people

from the American Welding

with an associate degree in

Welding Technology and

Applied Science, and now

He graduated from WCC

Young was the third

trades like the Olympics."

"Coley McLean and Glenn

out of the competition.

I was eliminated."

World runner-up now mentors students

Ashley Webel, a lab assistant who has competed in nationals for SkillsUSA, said that the skills required to win a medal in the WorldSkills competition go beyond the general ability of students to use their hands.

"They have to take exams, make resumes, do interviews," Webel said. "WCC doesn't just focus on hands-on skills, and that's why our departments do so well."

Once six finalists are selected, there is a series of turn-in projects to do. Students work on projects at home and send it in to different testing facilities to test the durability, appearance and other qualities of their

Just by being in the top 24, Pazkowski has already started to make a name for himself.

"Detroit's section of the American Welding Society invites all the schools in the area to hear the AWS president,

Bill Rice to speak," Webel said. "They requested Alex to be a speaker at Schoolcraft on Sept. 20, and they put Alex on the front page."

Paskowski feels that being mentored by Kay and Young has given him the ability to succeed.

"Glenn Kay is not a classic college teacher that went straight from school to teaching. He has real experience," he said. "And Joe (Young) is awesome. It feels more like a friend to friend relationship with him than a student-teacher relationship, and we can relate to him."

Pazkowski said he will continue to aspire to be the best in his career field regardless of where in places in the SkillsUSA competition.

"Even if I win, I know there's always someone who is better," he said. "And that keeps me motivated."

IN BRIEF

Transfer fair set

Washtenaw Community College plays host to a college transfer fair on Oct. 3 featuring more than 50 options for students planning to continue their college educations at fouryear institutions.

The colleges will be spread throughout the second floor of the Student Center building, with representatives available to answer questions for students interested in transferring.

The following schools are expected to attend:

Adrian College

Albion College Andrews University Art Institutes of Michigan Calvin College Central Michigan University Central Michigan University-Global Campus Cleary University College for Creative Studies Columbia University, School of General Studies Concordia University **Davenport University** DeVry University Eastern Michigan University Ferris State University Grand Valley State University Great Lakes Christian College Indiana Wesleyan University International University of Nursing/ Johnson & Wales University Kendall College of Art and Design Kettering University Lake Superior State University Lawrence Technological University Lourdes University Madonna University Marygrove College Michigan State University Michigan Technological University Miller College Northern Michigan University Northwood University Oakland University Rochester College Saginaw Valley State University Siena Heights University Specs Howard School of Media Arts Spring Arbor University Trine University University of Detroit Mercy University of Michigan University of Michigan, College of Engineering University of Michigan, Dental Hygiene University of Michigan, School of Kinesiology University of Michigan, Taubman College University of Michigan-Dearborn University of Michigan-Dearborn, College of Business

CAMPUS EVENTS

TUESDAY, SEPT. 25 RESUME DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

From Noon-1:30 p.m. in Room 287 in the Student Center is a hands-on workshop to learn to develop your resume and cover letter for that next job interview. Learn which type of resume is best for you, what employers look for and how to avoid common mistakes. The development of cover letters will also be discussed.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26 **INTERVIEW SKILLS WORKSHOPS**

This workshop helps take the jitters out of the interview process as well as the opportunity to learn how to prepare for an interview and how to research companies. The workshop will be located in Room 287 in the Student Center, from 10-11:30 a.m.

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY VISITATION

From 1-5 p.m. a representative will be present in Room 206 in the Student Center to provide information to students interested in transferring to Eastern Michigan University.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY VISITATION

From 1-5 p.m. on the second floor of the Student Center will be a representative from Concordia University to answer any questions students may have about transferring.

From redacted incident

When he returned to the table

he was at, the backpack was

school books and a calculator.

missing. The bag contained

reports provided by

and interviews with

THURSDAY, SEPT. 27 **EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY VISITATION**

University of Michigan-Flint

University of Phoenix

Wayne State University

Western Michigan University

University of Toledo

Walden University

Walsh College

From noon-4 p.m. in Room 206 of the Student Center a representative will be on campus to provide information on transferring to Eastern Michigan University.

JOB SEARCH TECHNIQUES

These sessions provide information on the job search process and how to go about finding the job that is right for you. This workshop is especially beneficial for students and alumni who have completed a certificate or degree and are ready to do some comprehensive job searching. The session will be from 3-4:30 p.m. in the Student Center in Room 287.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3 **FALL TRANSFER FAIR**

Representatives from more than 50 colleges will be in attendance on the second floor of the Student Center between 10 a.m.-3p.m. to provide transfer information for students interested.

MONDAY, OCT. 8 **RESUME DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS**

From 2-3:30 p.m. in Room 287 of the Student Center is a hands-on workshop to learn to develop your resume and cover letter for that next job interview. Learn which type of resume is best for you, what employers look for and how to avoid common mistakes.

Voice editor looks forward to January return to work

Society.

By Adrian Hedden Interim Editor

The editor of The Washtenaw Voice, Ben Solis, has returned to his home after spending more than a week at Oakwood Hospital following a stroke.

He is now receiving roundthe-clock monitoring and care a multitude of medical specialists.

After complaining of headaches on Aug. 31, Solis, 24, was taken to the Dearborn hospital, where doctors discovered severe clotting in his brain resulting in the stroke. Although he faces a long recovery, Solis still hopes to return to classes at WCC in January.



He said he appreciates all the thoughts and good wishes sent his way by peers and other employees at the college. A gift basket from the college was delivered to his home last week.

"My doctor says I can go back to work as soon as I feel up to it," Solis said. "I just can't drive quite yet."

Cards and letters for Solis can be delivered to The Voice newsroom, TI 106.

"WCC is one of the greatest places I've ever worked. I started off in Work Study,

University, where he's working

on a bachelor's degree in

"I haven't thought too deeply

technology management.

beyond that," Young said. worked my way up, and got a full-time position at WCC. I think the Skills program got my foot in the door."

Although Young enjoys working at WCC, he feels that he still has a lot more to learn about welding.

"I need to get out in the field and work for 10-15 years before I teach full-time," he said. "I'll go out and venture first."

Many of the staff and students in WCC's welding program say Young has earned their respect for all of the dedication and hard work he has put into the trade.

"Joe Young is awesome," said Alex Pazkowski, 21, a welding student. "When I first

attends Eastern Michigan gothere, he had just won silver in the World. He was kind of like a god. I thought if I could ever be as good as that guy, I would be happy."

> "He inspires everyone around here to do better, including myself. Everybody loves working with Joe," said Ashley Webel, a lab assistant in the Welding Department. "He can explain the most complicated instructions and make them make sense to anyone. He's really energetic, and he cares."

For now, Young plans to stav at WCC until he decides on the opportunities that are right for him. He spends most of his time in the Welding Department, where he helps students progress their own skill levels.

"I'm pretty easy-going, and I'm vocal." He said. "If there's an opinion to be voiced, I'll say it."

And his students listen.

Hartland beats again

Students, staff ecstatic – and surprised – that the extension center has reopened for business

By Kelly Bracha Staff Writer

WashtenawWhen Community College's Hartland extension center closed last August, staff members, residents of the community and students were more than disappointed.

"We were in an uproar," said Sandra Hootman, a member of the support staff. "Some of the staff were lucky and got sent to Brighton. We never found out what the reason for the closure was. The community went nuts."

"Brighton is really nice, but

I had something started here at Hartland... and it felt like home."

Brighton is one of WCC's off-campus extension centers located within Livingston county.

When Hootman was transferred to Brighton, her hours were cut due to the center's limited class schedule.

"Brighton doesn't open until the afternoon... I am paid hourly. It was a trying time," said Hootman. "When we found out Hartland was back, we were ecstatic. We're very happy. We love Hartland."

But for reasons unexplained, HARTLAND CONTINUED A5

A mouse for a Macintosh Campus Safety and Security, computer belonging to WCC was reported stolen from the Computer Commons on Sept. 11. Workers discovered the mouse was missing at 7 a.m.

A rolling-bag containing a

MOUSE STOLEN

Director Jac Desrosiers. **BACKPACK STOLEN** A student reported a theft in the Computer Commons **LAPTOP STOLEN** in the GM building on Sept. 6., at about 5:30 p.m. The student briefly left his backpack unattended in the Commons.

SECURITY NOTES

laptop computer was stolen on the first floor of the Student Center, Sept. 12. The student reported she left the bag unattended to grab something to eat. When she returned to her seat, the bag was missing. The bag was taken sometime from 12-1:44 p.m.

EDITORIAL

Students, wake up and smell the indifference

Washtenaw County is one of the most affluent and diverse communities in the world. People travel from all over to attend our schools and enjoy the worldly atmosphere of a place known for its social and political consciousness.

But the political awareness at Washtenaw Community College is anything but conscious.

Pulling students from myriad of backgrounds and walks of life, Washtenaw should be a hotbed of activism as diverse conversations are generated amid a magnitude of contrasting

Campus officials have even taken it upon themselves, this year, to craft a Student Center that encourages conversation and promotes student collaboration. But what are they talking about?

The war, the election and human rights are all issues that affect all Americans on a daily basis and beg continuous discussion and open discourse. Especially with the election coming up in little more than a month, one would expect WCC to be alive with students who are aware of national events and policies and motivated enough to engage each other in discussion.

But off they stare into space. They do not care; they just want to commute home and get away from the pressures of school to get it over with.

It took Voice reporters more than a week to drum up enough responses from the general population for a decent Voice Box article. It was simple question: What matters to you? What political issues to you care about in the upcoming presidential

As reporters inquired about this, they were met with blank stares. Subjects stared off into space, struggling for an answer. Some eye's drifted toward the food service, but most just looked the interviewer right in the eye, like a deer in headlights, and firmly explained that they do not care.

Some claimed that they had no reason to vote, that whoever is elected, doesn't affect them; their voices do not count. Others hid behind the paranoid delusion that the election is rigged, but most students simply passed on the chance to express themselves, blissful in their ignorance and political inactivity.

But an interesting phenomenon did occur during the canvassing. By far the most intricate and informed comments and ideas came $from\,students\,below\,the\,voting\,age.\,Mostly\,students\,of\,Washtenaw$ Technical Middle College, these non-voting teens showed that they value society much more that their 20-something counterparts.

WTMC has just over 400 students compared to the nearly 12,000 who roam our campus. But the political and social awareness present in WTMC's small student body dwarfs that of WCC's general population. They care more about their country than your average adult on this campus, and yet they cannot vote.

Too many of us assume that the world will be fine without our influence. This is a cheap excuse to be lazily uninvolved in protecting our livelihoods. We can only pray that those WTMC whiz kids can fight off apathy for just a few more years and, through votes and activism, save this country from itself.

The Washtenaw Voice

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thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com

The Washtenaw Voice is produced fortnightly by students of Washtenaw Community College. Student publications are important in establishing and maintaining an atmosphere of free and responsible discussion and in bringing matters of concern and importance to the attention of the campus community. Editorial responsibility for The Voice lies with the students, who will strive for balance, fairness and integrity in their coverage of issues and events while practicing habits of free inquiry and expression.

The Voice is committed to correct all errors that appear in the newspaper and on its website, just as we are committed to the kind of careful journalism that will minimize the number of errors printed. To report an error of fact that should be corrected, please phone (734) 677-5405 or e-mail thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com.

A copy of each edition of The Washtenaw Voice is free to everyone. Additional copies are available at the Voice office for 25 cents each.

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Stay the course, stick to the path and survive the two-wheeled revolution



By Adrian Hedden Interim Editor

Careening down the roads of Ann Arbor, three-ton automobiles pose an incredible hazard to pedestrians and civilians moving at their natural pace of travel. These weapons of mass transportation have remained unabated until now.

Enterbicycles: an alternative means of transportation that provides personal exercise as their riders negotiate the streets at a slower pace. They move closer to the speed of the foot traffic that is naturally present amid a society largely commuting with turbulent

Cyclists have options aside from challenging cars for traffic space. They may seek out and call for more bike paths. These often scenic routes need not be attached to roads built for cars. They can stretch easily as the crow flies for a vehicle that does not impede its environment at

But still, many of these cyclists express a death wish as they weave in and out of the asphalt and their vicious, gaspowered counterparts. These roads were built by a people

who did not consider bikes as a common means of travel.

Are they martyrs battling in passive aggression against the cars and SUVs that co-habitat on the roads? Do they hope to impede a traffic that is driven by an industry many have begun to view as Jurassic?

To protect their favored means of transportation, and their lives, cyclist must avoid car-travel roads at all costs. By needling into traffic that poses certain danger to them, bike riders are jeopardizing the safety of themselves and those who blissfully utilize the roads – in cars – as they have been for eons.

Society is not ready for your martyrdom. It won't help to push the cause of alternative

means of transportation if you die in a gutter, tire marks dragged across your aluminum, two-wheeled apparatuses.

This is a revolution of transportation that will take work and manners to convey.

Just because bikers are right, does not make them smarter or safer. Reckless abandonment will not challenge the carbon footprint of humanity.

Bike travel is an essential arm of the environmentalist movement and sticking to the available paths will make that movement safer and easier to accept.

Discover one of Washtenaw County's most popular bike route on B1

Free Wi-Fi? At WCC, you get what you pay for



By Nathan Clark Managing Editor

I'm not a big fan of technology. Correction, I like technology in a warm-hearted sense, but it seems to have the habit of disappointing me on a continuous basis. Normally, this would be a personal

problem, but there's one bit of tech on this campus I think everyone has the same problem with: the free Wi-Fi.

I love that WCC has free Wi-Fi. It's a tremendous blessing when you need to work on a project and all the computers in the library are in use. But why is the signal so bad in some areas?

There are parts of the school where you will have full Wi-Fi reception one minute, only to have it dropped in a heartbeat. Oddly enough, this usually occurs when sending something important like a late assignment or information for a group project.

At times, the free Wi-Fi

offered here is like a jar of cookies sitting on the top shelf: it looks delicious, but it's just out of reach. Of course I would just knock the jar down with a broom, but I don't think that would work for Wi-Fi.

I can understand signal strength dropping during peak school hours when everyone with a portable device is eating up the bandwidth. I get that. But what I don't understand is why I constantly lose the signal when I'm working on my laptop at 10 p.m..

I know there can't possibly be that many people on campus after dark, and isn't the network server one floor

above the office?

Terrible reception is not a new thing. Be it Wi-Fi or telephone, the Student Center is a dead zone for students trying to make a phone call or surf the Web.

The Board of Trustees recently heard a proposal for a signal amplification system to be installed, so hopefully, the SC building's cell phone reception will soon come to life.

Wi-Fi on campus probably isn't a huge concern that needs to be addressed immediately, but it's still irritating and I know I'm not the only one getting dropped. Or maybe IT hates me.

Hail to the Victors – with a Spanish accent



By Maria Rigou

soccer is passion. There is a religion dedicated entirely to an iconic player named Maradona. Still, my experiences growing up in Argentina were like child's play compared to my first visit to The Big House.

I had been in this country for less than a month, but I could feel a kind of excitement in the air I'd never felt before. And by the time it ended, as adrenaline coursed through my veins, I couldn't help but think that I had just attended the greatest party in my sporting life.

The sun was shining, the sky

was a radiant blue, and I could soccer tournament. sense the fever in the air from the moment I woke up early that Saturday morning. I made my way over to State Street, and I could not believe my eyes.

Hundreds or maybe thousands of people walked along the streets. They wore blue and maize and highto cross. Members of the better. cheerleading team were seen jumping on their backs.

thought I had seen it all.

But then I followed the crowd into The Big House. This crater on the ground harbors more than 100,000 people every home game. And I was one of them.

I had never seen so many people cheer for one team at the same time. I could try and compare it to soccer, but the enthusiasm and the excitement doesn't remotely compare – not even during the World Cup

Every single one of those

people who were standing around me intoned "The Star-Spangled Banner." And then a bald eagle landed on the field! This could not get any better.

But it did. A bat-shaped Stealth bomber flew over the stadium. And now, this fived strangers as they waited definitely could not get any

running up to random men and every yell, every cheer caught my attention. I was more It was fantastically crazy. I concentrated on the amazing marching band – something I had only seen on TV - than on the game. The band led the way and the crowd sang along, whether it was a victory chant or a challenge aimed at the

> Everywhere I turned there was something worth looking at. When the team scored a touchdown against the U.S. Air Force Academy team, men lifted women and threw them up in the air. The

cheerleading team spun and twirled. The crowd went wild. This absolutely could not get any better.

But it did. Students jumped on their seats, yelled, clapped, bumped chests or embraced one another. This was a party, where every single one of the 112,522 spectators was living their own version of it. And I was one of them, a girl from South America so far from home – but enjoying herself completely.

The game came to an end. The band played the team's fight song while the players approached the student section of the stadium to sing. And then they left the victors.

I had just attended my first University of Michigan football game. I stood among more than 100,000 people while the "National Anthem" played – and I sang that beautiful song with everyone else.

And I loved it.

VOICE BOX

What are some political issues that you care about during the upcoming presidential election?

INTERVIEWS AND PHOTOS BY **KELLY BRACHA** STAFF WRITER

"I feel like distributive

ustice is an important

ssue. It bothers me.

You see things are

wrong and when

someone from the

upper class looks

down at the lower

class and says they're lazy, or when

the lower class looks up at the upper

class and says they're all evil... that's

not right. We should all just work

KATHERYNE MESSER

16, South Lyon, Healthcare



CODY CONRY

18, Pinckney, Pharmacy

someone should be elected.

The middle class. I don't like how the rich get richer as the poor get poorer. We need someone that will fix the national debt crises. Our future

The Bush tax

breaks. I don't

think they're fair.

m also for gay

don't think that's

should sway why

really an issue that

marriage, but I

generation will be crap-out-of-luck if we don't take care of it now.'



nto local economy. Globalization and transition one way or the other. It affects everybody far more than social issues. Need to focus on the

Reinvestment

small groups, not the whole.'

DUSTIN MCCUTCHEON 24, Brighton, Technology Management





together."

'Education. Especially higher education. The cost has always been an issue for me and students in general. Social injustice is another thing. We need equality between



'I worry about the middle class disappearing into the lower class. Obama needs to do a better job during he gets elected. I

don't think Romney knows what he's talking about. I don't think he can help the middle class, as he's never been a part of it."

MIKE BOND

18, Bellville, Liberal Arts



"I vote for myself. I write my own name. My one vote doesn't matter. I only vote for local issues. I don't think my vote for president really matters anymore.

30, Ypsilanti, Paralegal Studies

JAZZ WILSON **ROBERT SALISBURY CAROL FISHER** SCOTT BROWN 23, Ypsilanti, Dance 21, Fenton, Social Work 16, South Lyon, Liberal Arts

A5

Laying down the law



Steven Burgess studied law for years but prefers custodial work at WCC

College's building services manager wears many hats

By Amanda Jacobs Staff Writer

Steven Burgess is a man of many careers.

As Washtenaw Community College's Building Services Manager, Burgess takes care of everything from cleanup of 1.1 million square feet of building space to pest control – and that's just on this campus.

"What I do here is very important," Burgess joked as he was informed about trash cans being stolen from campus grounds.

When Burgess isn't at WCC or with his kids, he's the Custodial Services manager at the University of Michigan.

In his spare time, Burgess is an attorney with a practice in Saline.

"I really don't like practicing law," Burgess said. "People lose, and I don't like that. I would love to go back to school to teach law, maybe at Washtenaw, because I really like the academic side of it. I just don't like the cut-throat nature of the practice."

When Burgess graduated from Saline High in 1988, he came straight to WCC, where he took two years of general studies.

"WCC's campus has definitely changed since I went to school here," Burgess said. "It used to be much easier to park, but campus looks different, better."

He married at age 21, and later had five children during his 16 year marriage: four girls and one boy, ranging from ages 3 to 19. Shortly after getting married, Burgess went on to Eastern Michigan University where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in philosophy.

"The philosophy was a prerequisite to go to law school. They recommend that you take either English or philosophy," he said. "English was more for people who were interested in the research of law, rather than

the practice."

After graduating from Eastern in '96, Burgess went to Thomas Cooley Law in Lansing, where he obtained his Juris Doctorate. He then opened his own general law practice.

In September of 2011, Burgess was hired to manage WCC's custodial staff, a job that he feels comfortable with due to 11 years of related management experience.

"I really like this job, and I really like Washtenaw," he said. "We're doing some good things here."

Many of his employees feel that Burgess is the right man for the job.

"He implemented changes that he felt were more efficient," said custodian, Dan Curtis. "And it's working so far."

"He's a nice guy," said Mark Goins, another custodian at WCC. "I think he's the best manager that's been here since I've been here."

REVOLVE CONTINUED FROM **A1**

in the SC and adjusting the speed levels. "Mechanical devices need service and have to be repaired," Flowers said. "We're adjusting the speed – it's a pretty complicated device."

Student Chris Whitefield, 22, preferred the original sliding doors to the rotating ones because he feels that the new doors make students stand uncomfortably close together.

"You've got to slow down and fit in there with other people, and it's awkward," said Whitefield of Ann Arbor, who is working on general studies at WCC. "Some people are bigger than others."

Flowers also said that students may begin to have an easier time with the doors once they become familiar with the speed and how they

"Some people may want to jump in at the last second," Flowers said. "The speed issue is another factor."

Other students, like Ken Rosenberg, 21, feel that the revolving door is a positive upgrade from the previous sliding doors.

"I think it lets a lot of people in without touching the door and spreading germs," said Rosenberg, a computer networking major from Saline.

Although the doors have had a rocky start, maintenance plans to have them working properly in the near future.

"They're tricky," Flowers said about the mechanics of the doors. "This one has a lot of features. This week it seemed to be working fine."

DEFERRED CONTINUED TO A1

Buildings with low Facility Condition Index ratings that are rated "poor" include the Family Education building, Morris Lawrence, the Energy Center, among several others.

Beginning in 2013-14 and continuing for the next three years, the college will transfer roughly \$1 million from the

44 E. CROSS ST

EVERYTHINGS

MICHIGAN BEER WINE

general fund to the new deferred maintenance fund.

Once the fund is established, the Board of Trustees will receive a monthly report, and a more extensive report annually at its annual March retreat.

"An initial list of projects would be nice to see," said

Chair Pamela Horiszny at the meeting. "We would have to approve the allocations of this project."

The Maintenance Priority List and the Deferred Maintenance Fund will be reviewed at the end of 2016's fiscal year, and be revised accordingly, trustees said.

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AND

Ozone water cleans, protects campus health and environment

By Amanda Jacobs Staff Writer

Employees at Washtenaw Community College are always finding better ways to apply environmental awareness to the campus. From solar-powered trash cans to offering multiple ways to recycle, the college provides its visitors with different ways to help protect the environment.

A cleaning agent known as ozone is a new way that the college avoids using toxic chemicals on campus.

"It's stronger than bleach, but there are no chemicals," said Steve Burgess, the Custodial Services manager at WCC. "There's no residue, and it saves us all kinds of money on cleaning supplies."

Ozone generators charge water with electricity, which turns O2 into O3, or ozone. The solution is simply electric water, which is non-toxic, contains no chemicals, and is completely safe for the environment and everyone on campus.

Ozone occurs naturally when thunderstorms charge the oxygen in the air. The ozone generators produce ozone gas mixed in water. The water looks no different than regular water,

and the odor is the same as the outdoors after a storm.

WCC has nine O3 generators on campus, with one in all of the major buildings.

"There's nothing harmful to the kids or anything they can ingest," Burgess said. "It's also good for people with allergies because we don't leave any chemicals behind."

The O3 solution is used to clean everything at Washtenaw, such as carpets, floors, tables, restrooms, and more.

"You name it, we use ozone to clean it," Burgess said. "It performs better than cleaning supplies."

Although the chemicals used on campus directly affect campus health, most students and staff are unaware of the benefits to using ozone instead of bleach and other toxic chemicals.

"Wow, that's really amazing," Terance Gordon, 21, a broadcast arts student from Ypsilanti, said. "I didn't even know that we had that kind of technology."

The ozone generators cost roughly \$2,400 per machine, as well as \$150 replacement filters needed every few months. However, in comparison to the amount of money spent on cleaning supplies and the

success of the water solution, ozone generators can save the college thousands of dollars per year.

"The cleaning chemicals stick to dirt to remove, but they also attract dirt from the bottoms of peoples' shoes, and the spot that was there before comes back," Burgess said. "With ozone, that doesn't happen, which is one of the major benefits."

The ozone solutions expire within four hours for general cleaning and two hours for sanitizing.

"With ozone, timeliness is critical," said Damon Flowers, associate vice president of Facilities Development and Operations. "Unlike chemicals that you can leave mixed with water all day, ozone will deplete in four hours."

After four hours, the solution turns back into regular water, leaving behind no chemicals or toxic substances.

"Now we don't have to buy chemicals," Flowers said. "And the staff doesn't have to do anything but load the machine."

The custodial staff only uses chemical disinfectants in the rare cases of biohazards to prevent students from contamination.

HARTLAND CONTINUED TO A3



KELLY BRACHA THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Cynthia Brown's nursing class at WCC's Hartland Extension Center

But for reasons unexplained, many WCC students weren't aware of Hartland's reopening.

"We're getting 35 walkins and over 50 calls a week," Hootman said. "People are so happy we're back, but they are saying they didn't even know we were here."

Some of Hartland's major appeals are its variety of classes, widely available parking and its

nursing courses.

"There's a tremendous need for nursing classes in this area," said Nursing Skills instructor Cynthia Brown.

"There are several skillednursing facilities in the area that depend on us to provide skilled candidates."

At one point, there were 15 nursing job openings at a single nearby facility.

The nursing prerequisite class consists of 18 class sessions over the course of three and a half weeks. Once students complete the program, they take the state exam and

may become a certified skilled nurse.

"We have capacity for 16 students in each class session," Brown said. "We typically see two types of students in the classroom: The ones that just need their nursing requirements and those people that really need a job."

Once certified, nurses can double their wage and have a position that provides health benefits.

There remain many seats available for upcoming prerequisite nursing classes in November and December, center officials said.

Since WCC's nursing classes fill up rapidly, students like Flavia Kocibelli are glad that there's an alternative to waiting for more available classes to open up or for sitting out an entire semester to try and register again.

"I tried to go to Washtenaw's main campus because I lived 15 minutes away, but they were full. Fortunately they had classes here," said Kocibelli, a 17-year-old Saline resident.

"The parking is also so much easier here," she said. "I had to get dropped off when attending WCC because parking was just so bad there."

Many of Hartland's faculty members were left in the dark as to why Hartland was closed in the first place.

"It was a decision at a very high level. I don't know what former President Larry Whitworth's reasoning was," said Gayann Harris, dean of distance learning.

"All I know is that's what he decided to do. It was fast and quick," said Harris. "But I see the need here. That's why we're back."

The Hartland Center offers classes during the day and evening. The center is open from Monday-Thursday from 8:30 a.m.-8 p.m. and Friday from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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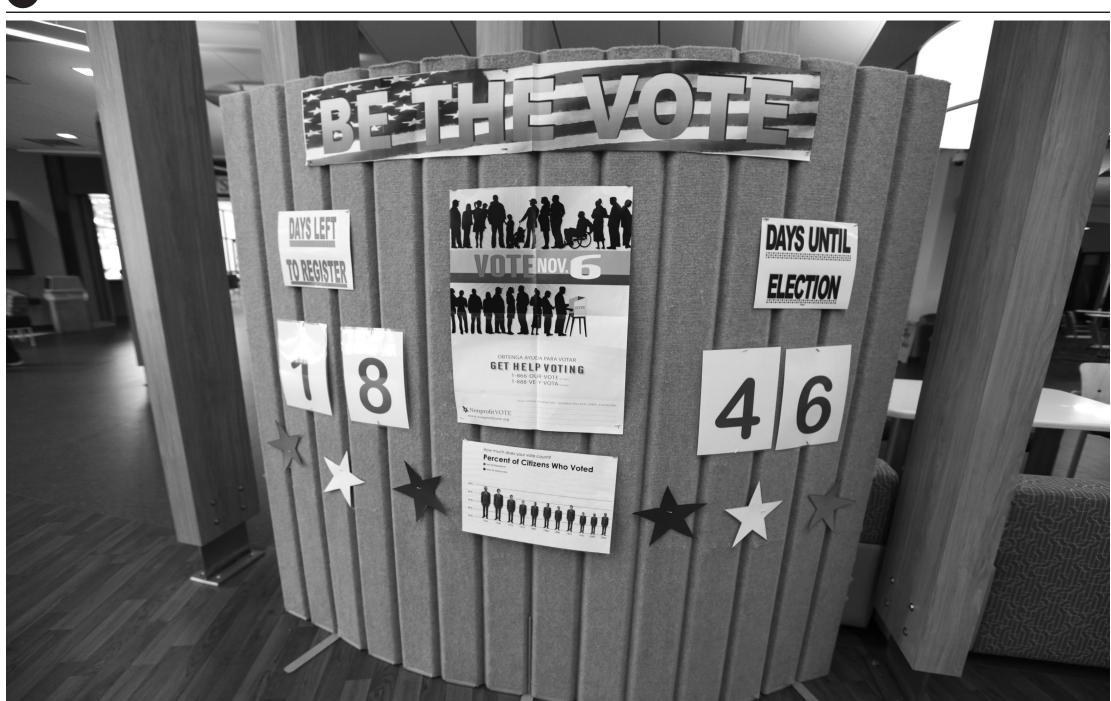
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A voter display at the student center that features a countdown to the 2012 election.

KELLY BRACHA THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Parties make it easy for students to volunteer

By MATT DURR Staff Writer

Republicans and Democrats may not be able to agree on much, but for the two major political parties in Washtenaw County, both agree that student involvement is a key factor in getting their candidate elected.

Both major political parties encourage students to get involved in a variety of ways that allow them to devote as much time or as little time as they wish.

One way is to attend turning the evening into an

phone bank sessions, where volunteers call registered voters to talk about the candidate's platform and to help keep them informed about the issues up for debate during the election process. The majority of these call sessions take place in the evenings to maximize the chance of reaching voters.

At the Michigan Republican Party office on Thursday nights, students from the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University are volunteering to make calls, unofficial "college night."

Other students are busy canvassing door-to-door in the kind of voter outreach that is essential to both campaigns; getting face-to-face contact is one of the best ways to sway voter opinion.

For those not interested in talking directly with potential voters, volunteers are always needed to help host events when speakers come to recruit voters. Both parties hold events like this, but as with most cases, how they go about it is a different process.

At the Obama offices, volunteers meet with one of the senior volunteers to find out what brought them in and what they want to help out with. The new volunteer is then tasked with something that fits their style. The Republican office is less formal and skips the interview process, jumping right into what the volunteer

Those looking to get involved are encouraged to sign up online or by simply walking into either office.

wants to do.

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Washtenaw County office Location: 4695 Washtenaw Ave.

Hours: Mon-Sat 9 a.m.-9p.m.,

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Phone: (517)-898-9998



BOB CONRADI THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Washtenaw Community College's Board of Trustee's usually hold public meetings twice monthly on Tuesday's at 6 p.m in ML 150.

Veteran instructor Figg also on ballot

By Adrian Hedden Editor

After working with his hands at Washtenaw Community College for 37 years in the welding and fabrication department, William Hazen Figg is now ready to take an administrative hand in the school's policy making.

"I'm a veteran employee, so I know my way around," he said. "Nobody on the board has the experience that I can bring. The board really needs that depth."

Born in Ann Arbor, the 64-year-old served for 28 years as the head of the welding department and is running this year for a six-year term on WCC's Board of Trustees.

Figg also served various terms as the chair of the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning department and was instrumental, he said, in bringing the United Association to Washtenaw's campus. He retired as a welding instructor in 2009.

"I was the first person they (UA), talked to from WCC," Figg said. "They walked into the welding shop and knew right then that it was where they wanted to be and I was the person to talk to at the time."

Figg plans to bring his experience dealing with outside businesses and industries in advancing the college's funds and facilities. He hopes to raise funds through events similar to the school's annual Car Show and the WCC Foundation's vearly Golf Outing - both events of which he said he started.

"I'm after generating funds so students can get help," Figg said. "That kind of stuff brings a lot of relationships with business as well as revenue and can become clear assets to the college."

First enrolling at WCC in 1966, Figg has been at WCC since it was only a year old. The

school had just been opened in 1965 and he graduated in 1972. As a student, Figg feels that he understands the importance of student issues such as enrollment and tuition.

"I'd like to bring more fiscal responsibility to the college," Figg said. "To create a savings fund for the students to keep tuition down as well as create more scholarships so that they can get some assistance when they need it."

Aside from calling for better articulation agreements with other schools and continuing to strengthen financial aid, Figg is mainly convinced that his lifetime of experience at WCC is his best asset in relating with students as a policy maker.

"Everything we do, bill or policy needs to be focused on what it does for the student," he said. "I've seen it all and I think I can help the administrators benefit the students more. They don't have what I have."

Landau: pride but much work ahead

By MATT DURR Staff Writer

Having served on the Washtenaw Community County Board of Trustees since January 2001, Richard Landau has seen the college grow in ways that were unimaginable when he assumed his seat.

And while he is very proud on the accomplishments he has been a part of, Landau feels there is still much more to be done to improve the campus.

"I am excited about where we are as a college currently, but I think the future holds a variety

of challenges," Landau said. "I do believe the challenges in online education and the affordability of college are substantial challenges."

Landau said that keeping tuition affordable is the biggest challenge facing the school, thanks in large part to the shrinking tax base and reduced funding from the state. Landau said that passing the buck to the students is always the last resort, but unfortunately for students, tuition keeps rising. Stopping that trend is important to him, he said.

"We need to make sure that our tuition structure is competitive and within reach for every student at the college," Landau said.

As difficult as it will be to keep costs down, Landau points to his track record with the WCC Foundation, trying to find ways for students in need of funding.

Helping the college receive its 10-year accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission is Landau's proudest accomplishment thus far at WCC, along with the accessibility of the school both in terms of navigating the campus and reaching out to new students.

McKnight-Morton: diversity is issue

By Kelly Bracha Staff Writer

When Diana McKnight-Morton first became a trustee member, she believed she could make a difference. Now that she has been a part of the board for 18 years, Washtenaw Community College has become an important aspect of her life.

"I'm running because there are still some issues that need to be worked out. I still want to accomplish a lot, especially on diversity," McKnight-Morton

Through the years, WCC's diversity has been declining, according to McKnight-Morton. "To me, that's alarming, especially when we're such a diverse community," she said. "If we

say we're diverse, we need to show we're diverse. It's going to be worked on, and I'm very pleased about that, and I want to be around to see it."

At the beginning of her career, McKnight-Morton helped establish the Washtenaw Technical Middle College (WTMC).

"There was a vision, and making it a reality and seeing how it has grown it is really beyond description how it makes me feel," she said.

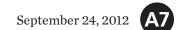
After completing her education at University of Michigan with a degree in Special Education, McKnight-Morton worked for 30 years at various jobs until retiring and returning to Washtenaw County as an employment counselor. She then went to Eastern

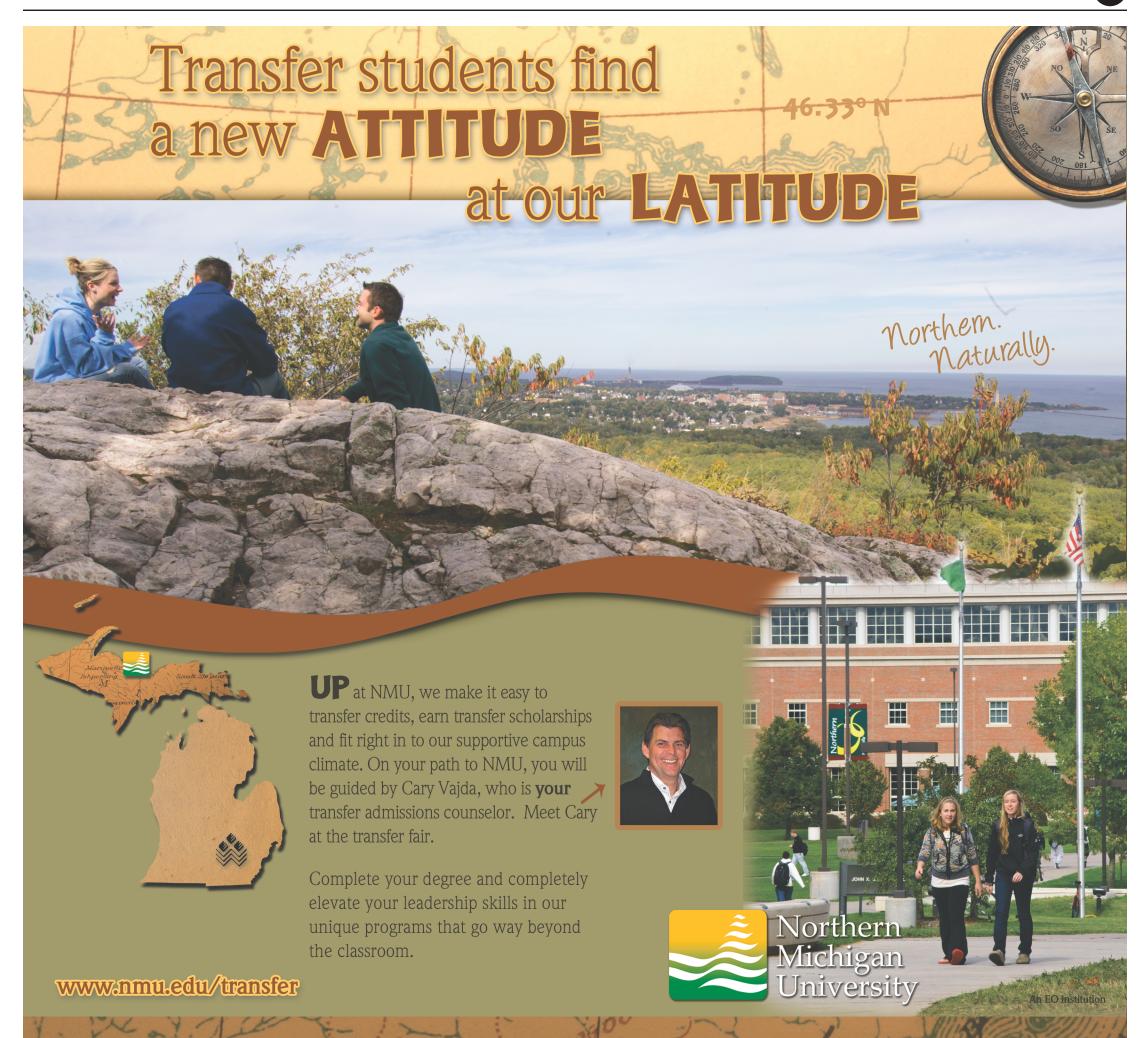
Michigan University to get her master's degree in guidance and counseling.

"Calvin Williams and Marguerite Eaglin influenced me to continue with my education," she said. "At the time, I was recently divorced with two young children. I was scared of going back to school after such a long time, like a lot of people are."

After completing her master's degree, McKnight-Morton was interested in serving on the board. She felt that bringing her experience and interests to the school would help improve it.

"I love my job," McKnight-Morton said. "I see it as making positive changes not just for the community college, but the college's community."







Courtney Keller, WCC '11, SHU '14

"Coming to Siena Heights was the best decision I've ever made. My advisor and I worked together to set up a plan so that I graduate on time and I even received scholarships for my artwork. I thought the process of transferring might be difficult but Siena made it easy and headache free."

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James Barmore, 20, of Ypsilanti, a musical theater major performs for the crowd with Patchwerk Dance Troupe



Jimmhy Johns' Director of Catering Katie Roberts hands out free sandwiches and job applications to students. The free sandwiches were provided by the Jimmy Johns location on Washtenaw Ave.

WCCTHROWSOUT THE WELCOME MAT

By Nathan Clark Managing Editor

othing says welcome like free food, games and meeting new people with like interests - as hundreds do annually at one of the most well-attended, autumn campus events.

Students and staff gathered in Community Park on Sept. 11

for the Fall semester Welcome Day, a day when school clubs, organizations and local businesses set up tables to meet and greet Washtenaw Community College students on a Chamber of Commercestyle event.

The sun's warmth blanketed the park, keeping many students inside the tents avoiding the direct heat.

Students mingled with the

various groups on campus such as the Gamers Club, Video Club and the Phi Theta Kappa honor society.

And they gobbled up everything in their path. Jimmy Johns ran out of sandwiches, handing out 730, and Cottage Inn gave away 600 slices of pizza, running out by 1 p.m.

When not talking to the student organizations or enjoying the food, students

had wax molds of their hands made, spray-on tattoos applied or spun the prize wheel at the Student Activities table. Everyone walked away with a freebie.

There's no way of determining exactly how many students attend Welcome Day, but when the event ended, 541 students had signed up for the SDA Hub. And hundreds more just enjoyed the warm welcome.



tee's pedal-powered-blender for making smoothies under the tutelage of Dale Petty, WCC Industrial Technology instructor.



CHARLES MANLEY THE WASHTENAW VOICE

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THE WASHTENAW VOICE • SECTION B

Students take big leap to form skydiving clubs

By ANNA ELIAS Contributor

Six students, friends and co-workers who span across three different educational institutions - Washtenaw Community College, the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University - are starting three chapters of the Wolverine Skydiving Club.

Among their goals: to form competitive collegiate skydiving teams.

Two WCC students, Kyle Jacobs and Rob Harris, attended a recent UM chapter meeting to learn how to start their own.

Five of the six students in the club are licensed skydivers, with one student on her way to licensing in the accelerated free-fall training progression. The home dropzone and employer for most of these students is Skydive Tecumseh, which will become the home dropzone for all three chapters of the club.

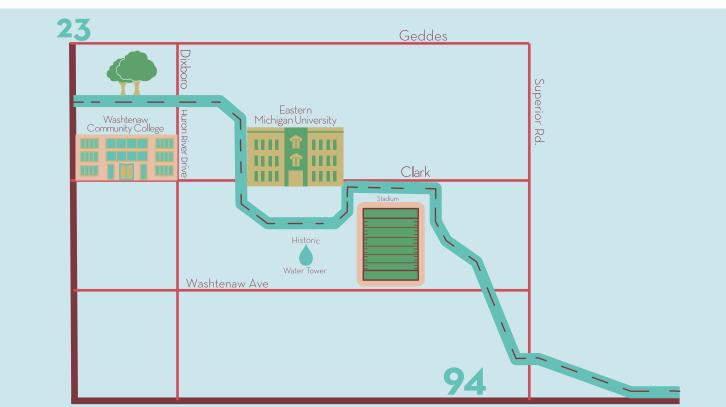
"The primary focus of this club will be to build a community of student skydivers that can compete with each other as well as encourage each other," said UM club president Lisa Miller, 20, of Beverly Hills, Mich., "And to have a group large enough that we can create four-way teams and compete with other schools, and eventually go to the National Collegiate

SKYDIVE CONTINUED B7



Skydive Tecumseh instructor Phil White and student Mackenzie Cushing jump from about 14,000 feet on Sept. 23. A typical jump involves a 60-second free-fall followed by 3-5 minutes under a parachute descending to the ground

The long and winding road



BRITANY BARNHART THE WASHTENAW VOICE



CHARLES MANLEY THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Eastern Michigan University math major Sean Humesky, 24, rides his bicycle on the B2B trail. Humesky uses the trail for his daily commute.

Border-to-border bike trail unifies Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, two wheels at a time

> By ADRIAN HEDDEN Interim Editor

As Andy Claydon makes the winding trek from his home in Ypsilanti to his job as systems engineer for Information Technology at Washtenaw Community College, he is certain of his own safe passage.

Claydon navigates a route born out of collaboration among the people of Washtenaw County. The Border to Border Trail follows the Huron River from the edge of Ann Arbor through Ypsilanti, winding in and out of picturesque and serene nature preserves and parks along the way.

"It's all path, no street," Claydon said of the Border to Border Trail. "It's the perfect route. Pretty much anybody who works in Ann Arbor or

Ypsi that bikes to work uses or knows about the Border to Border."

Another avid cyclist and 2012 graduate from WCC's graphic design program, Josh Chamberlain prefers the Border to Border Trail to perilous street traffic. In his tenure at WCC, the 18-yearold took his bike to and from classes, along the trail, on a daily basis and progressively came to value his safety atop the pedals over all else.

"It's a lot safer than being in traffic," Chamberlain said. "It may seem a little out of the way on the map, but the convenience will save you time."

Originally a project of the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Department, started about a decade ago, the route is now maintained by Friends of The Border to Border Trail, a volunteerbased group that, since 2008, has provided maintenance for

CONTINUED **B3**



By AMANDA JACOBS

Staff Writer

Now that winter is approaching, it's almost time to pack away those prized cars and motorcycles, and prepare for snowy roads that lay ahead. Before the cold weather approaches, however, Washtenaw Community College is allowing community members and students another chance to showcase their treasured vehicles at the Car and Bikes on Campus show.

The ninth annual Car and Bikes on Campus show will be held on Sunday, Oct. 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on WCC's main

campus. Features of the event include open houses in the Automotive, Motorcycle, Welding, and HVAC departments, food and beverages, and a trophy presentation for more than 15

categories.

BEN THOMPSON THE WASHTENAW VOICE

WHAT: WCC's 9th Annual Car and Bikes on Campus

WHEN: Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

WHERE: Main Campus parking lots

COST: Free FOR MORE INFO: Call (734) 973-3443 or email carandbikeshow@wccnet.edu

"We're definitely going to have the open house, and we're going to be raffling off a Chip Foose design welding helmet," said Ashley Webel, a lab assistant from the Welding Department. "We're also going to let anyone who wants to, try a hand at welding."

Students who missed the Sept. 23 deadline to preregister

CAR AND BIKES CONTINUED B6

WCC's nerve center pushed to limit with nearly 6,000 users



The server room contains all the data and information passing through the college's network and is kept cool through

By KELLY BRACHA Staff Writer

On the third floor of the Student Center, a large sign above two double doors reads "Information Technology Services." Beyond those doors is a buzzing world filled with computers, wires and yes, technology.

Lots and lots of technology is used to support a network that includes an average of 3,000 personal computers that students bring every day, including laptops and smartphones and another 2,800 computers scattered about campus offices and classrooms.

With his head in the clouds these days, Amin Ladha, chief information officer, has the task of making sure the buzzing in that data center never stops.

Past a couple more doors is Derek Anders, Helpdesk specialist.

"I'm the frontline defense for any computer problem," Anders said. "When there's a problem, I get a call."

Nearby, Ladha opens a room straight out of Santa's Village - if you're a techie. It's filled vith computers, printers and various boxes with Newegg, Dell and HP logos — toys to replace aging equipment on campus.

"All the machines around the

school have a lifecycle of four or five years," Ladha said. "We clean up the computers, erase all the data and keep them in storage to sell on eBay or in case someone needs a different computer."

The shelves are stocked with Dell computers and large Macs neatly filed between old mice and keyboards.

"We hire students here to work on the computers. Sometimes students get their degree or certification but they have to go complete in the job market," Ladha said. "If they had real experience in data support or computer repair, they'd really have an edge.

"Many of our students who come through here get jobs more easily. Here they get to deal with real servers."

 $Beyond\,the\,large\,storage\,and$ work room is the technological membrane of the campus.

Approaching this room, the sound of several high-powered fans working simultaneously grows louder with every step.

A small inclined ramp leads to the absurdly warm data center. In the center, a black, walled-off fortress sits inside every bit of digital information that passes between the school and its students.

The box-like fortress sits at a comfortable 70 degrees. The method used for WCC's servers

is called cold-air containment. It is meant to significantly improve the predictability and efficiency of data center cooling systems.

The raised floors within the server room allow for large air conditioners placed outside the inner data room to centralize all cold air into the server room through its vented floors. Three square fans placed on the floor blow the air up to more evenly distribute the chilled air.

"Normally the data center room would have to be entirely cooled," Ladha explained. "Why cool the whole room when you can bring the servers $closer\,together\,and\,cool\,them$ separately?"

Outside the data center are the offices of various information technology employees. Many office windows and doors are adorned with odd jokes only a coder could decipher.

Among these employees is Bob Phillips, who is responsible for digitally archiving all of WCC's old paper documents and records.

"We keep everything that's either a photograph or a slide," Phillips said. "Student records and transcripts from students from before 1981 are digitized and stored here."

In a nearby room, two

Can you hear me now?

College finally moves to improve cell-phone service on campus

> By KELLY BRACHA Staff Writer

Eric Adler always has to step outside to make a phone call. So what else is new?

"I never get any signal when I'm in the GM building or the Student Center," said the 26-year-old liberal arts major from Ypsilanti. "I can't even send a text unless I'm in really specific spots."

Like Adler, most cell-phone users are simply unable to call or text when inside many of Washtenaw Community College's buildings.

But Amin Ladha, chief information officer, is well aware of the problem and says the college is finally working on a solution.

Ladha proposed during this month's board of trustees meeting that the school begin to install strategic cell-phone signal boosters inside various campus buildings where cell reception is non-existent.

"We want to add the small dome signal boosters into four areas of the Student Center, covering even the staircase," said Ladha. "I see a lot of students on the first floor. This building is like a fortress. The signal is very bad."

An estimated cost of installing these signal boosters within the each floor of the Student Center is about \$50,000 and would be completed in time for the Winter semester, he said.

Outfitting the entire campus could range from \$300,000 to \$500,000.

"The cell phone amplifiers will work across all networks, like AT&T and Verizon," Ladha said.

The issue is as much about campus safety and security as it is about convenience to the users. Not being able to receive emergency phone calls from family members or make phone calls in case of an emergency on campus was the central concern for the board – and the deciding factor on conditional

approval of the project. The Student Center will act as a proof of concept and help decide if the devices are worth installing in other buildings.

The equipment will take the signal received from the top of the building and transmit it over coaxial cable to the domes placed around the building. The signal is then amplified, repeated and rebroadcasted. The method boosts reception both ways and gives 98 percent coverage within the building.

"I think it'd be amazing... especially in the winter. I don't want to have to go outside every time I need to make a phone call," said Sandra Jackson, 34, an English major from South Lyon. "I never know if I'm not getting a text or successfully sending one because I don't have signal."



KELLY BRACHA THE WASHTENAW VOICE

A supply of ink cartridges, dell boxes and miscellaneous tech-goodies are among the many technological toys found behind the doors of the Information Technology Center.

staffers are monitoring the network. Large screens show the traffic patterns and data coming through the networks. A real-time pie chart shows what a majority of students are surfing.

A large majority of incoming traffic is from various HTTP sites with 26.20 MB of data per second. Just under that is YouTube at 17.50 MBPS, Pandora radio with 2.20 MBPS

and Facebook nears the bottom at 1.30 MBPS. Big Brother is watching

closely. "We know everything,"

Ladha joked. "We're watching everything all day."

Most of the traffic through the network happens between 10 a.m.-1 p.m. With only 200MB of bandwidth for the entire network, 80-95 percent of it is being used at any given

Ladha's next goal is to take a serious look at cloud storage. With cloud storage, there's no necessity for the data center within the school itself.

"But the fear we have is that, vour data, student data on cloud storage... What happens if that cloud-storage company goes out of business? There's always a 'what if?' But that's where technology is going."

Game on: Popular club welcomes everyone



Left, Tyler Villa, 19, a math education major from Saline, battles for world domination in a game of 'Risk' against Alex

NATHAN CLARK THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Left, Huazhi Zhong, 21, a computer security major from Dexter, plays an intense game of 'Magic the Gathering' against Eric Vanwasshnova, 20, computer science major from Flat Rock

By NATHAN CLARK

Koukios, 20, a welding major from Ann Arboi

Managing Editor

With more than a dozen student organizations on campus, finding a fun club to hang out in and meet new friends is easy as can be. The WCC Gamer's Club is a place for gamers, young and old, to unwind with friends and play a few games after school.

"We want the club to be open to creative minds and give people a place to go," said club President Matt Vancena, 37, environmental science major. "It's a club for gamers to meet other gamers and have fun. The club is open to any WCC

student."

"It's a club were people with similar interests can meet up," said Eric Vanwasshnova, 20, computer science major from Flat Rock.

The Gamer's Club has been around for a few years now. In previous years, club meetings and events were typically a maelstrom of chaos and noise. When Vancena took over as president, he took it upon himself to bring order back to the club.

"The club had a lot of noise complaints in the past," Vancena said. "It was really hectic, with little to no control

during the game nights. There was times when non-students were at the meetings."

Expensive gaming consoles, games and other equipment are available during game nights. Non-students in attendance left the club vulnerable to equipment being damaged, with no accountability for who would pay to replace or repair the damage, or worse, stolen, added Vancena.

The club meets three nights a week, 6-9 p.m. Mondays, 6-10 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays with a different game genre dedicated to each night.

Monday is video game night in the Community Room where students will have access to all of the games in the room.

"We're working with Pete (Leshkevich, Student Activities director) to try to make all the games free," Vancena said. "It's a work in progress.

While there is no word as to whether the games will be freeto-play during game nights, the room will be open for the club.

"We're letting the gamer's club have their meetings in the Community Room on Mondays but the room will be open to the public," said Leshkevich. "The school is paying someone

to work the room, so we can't limit the room to just the club.'

Wednesday nights are dedicated to table-top gaming, when students can play a game of Risk or start an adventure in Dungeons & Dragons.

Thursdays is card night, when students can enjoy a game of Magic the Gathering, Pokémon or Yu-Gi-Oh.

"We had tons of students signing up for the club during Welcome day," Vancena said. "We would love to have as many people as possible to come check out the club and have some fun. We're open to everyone at WCC."

THE GAMER'S CLUB MEETS:

Mondays from 6-9 p.m. in the Community Room in the Student Center for video game night.

Wednesdays 6-10 p.m. in LA 370 for table top night. Thursdays, 6-10 p.m. in LA

370 for card night. For more information:

contact Student Activities

NHL shuts out fans while greed scores again



By MATT DURR Sports Editor

Have you ever known people who are in a relationship that just isn't good, but they refuse to get out of it? That's how I feel about my liaison with the National Hockey League.

I have become that guy whose girlfriend constantly cheats on him and devalues him, while the girlfriend does what she pleases.

Well, I'm here to say: Enough is enough and it's time for a change!

The next time the NHL calls me up sobbing in the middle of the night to tell me it didn't know how good I was, I won't pick up the phone.

For the fourth time in the last 20 years, the NHL has failed to come to a collective bargaining agreement with its players, and so the owners of the teams have locked the players out from competing.

And the ones who are truly paying the price are, once again, the fans.

Fans like me — who grew up in a house where hockey was not only the most beloved sport, but if I spoke too much during games, I had to leave the room. I still remember my father taking me to my first game when I was 7 years old. Steve Yzerman scored on a penalty shot and the Detroit Red Wings tied the Buffalo Sabres.

Sadly, many fathers won't be able to create a memory like this for their children because millionaires and billionaires are fighting over who should

get a bigger chunk of an \$18 billion pie.

Since the last lockout in 2005, the game has struggled to bring fans back and keep them interested. Unless you live in a country where English is not the only official language, no one cares about hockey.

And it's because of people like NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman, who refuse to accept the fact that they are a dying league and the bad publicity is going to continue the downfall of hockey.

Star players like Pavel Datsyuk are going to go play in Russia and other international leagues, and if they were smart they would stay there.

The NHL used to be a way for international players to escape the dictator-like states they lived in. Now, the NHL has become a ruthless dictator who cares not for the people who make it strong, but only for what keeps him happy at night

It's barely the same game that I fell in love with. The physicality of the game has all but evaporated unless someone takes a cheap shot at another player. Everything is a penalty, and the referees never have to own up to doing a sub-standard job.

So this is my way of telling the NHL that I think we should start seeing other people. Sure, we had some great times, and I'll never forget how special you made me feel in the summer of 2002.

But you've changed, and because of that I know I mean it when I say that we're done and it's because of you, not me.

Pinning a dream



WCC wrestling Coach Scott Lucas(left), 45, of Westland shows Chase Snider 20 of Hartland and other members of the wrestling team a hand technique.

Wrestling team gives grapplers a second chance on the mats

> By MATT DURR Sports Editor

John Barajas thought his wrestling career was over. The 21-year-old journalism major from Westland hadn't competed since his high school days at John Glenn High School. But thanks to the newly formed club wrestling team, Barajas has been given a second chance at the sport he loves.

"I missed it a lot," Barajas said. "It gives me motivation to do something again. Wrestling was all I knew in high school. I missed the competitiveness, and this brings back good memories."

Barajas was one of nearly 20 students who attended the team's first practice last Tuesday night. While the practice didn't involve much grappling, coach Scott Lucas was happy to see the turnout and get to know his team.

"I couldn't be more excited with the opportunity for wrestling in general and for the young men and women in this area," Lucas said. "Wrestling in the state of Michigan, the opportunities are few and far between."

Lucas, 45, is a retired fire chief from Westland who also spent seven years as an assistant coach at Eastern Michigan University. He competed at Michigan State from 1985-87.

Although in its infancy, the club team will be able to compete against other club teams, according to Lucas.

"We'll be able to compete with Grand Valley, U-M Dearborn and Mott Community College," Lucas said. "We'll also be able to compete with varsity programs at open tournaments."

While competing against other schools is a welcomed opportunity, for the grapplers the opportunity to get back on the mats is the only thing that

I wrestled for two years in high school, and I felt like I didn't have enough years," said Prince Kapoor, an 18-year old engineering major from Plymouth. "So this is cool that I'm a wrestler again."

Chase Schneider, of Hartland, qualified for the state tournament all four years he was in high school. The 20-yearold criminal justice major is hoping to recapture his favorite aspect of the competition.

"The feeling of accomplishment, getting your arm raised after a match is always a nice feeling. It'll be nice to have that back," Schneider said. "I've wrestled for so long in my life, when I saw the flyer I thought 'why not go and get back on the mats?"

As enthused as the team is to get going, Lucas said the first couple weeks will be a feelingout process as they learn more about what the wrestlers' skill levels are and how they can

"We're going to work in slow, we don't want to run anybody off," Lucas said. "We have everything from people who have never wrestled before to young men that were quite accomplished in high school.

"We have a wide variety and we want to really keep and develop everybody. If we can keep the guys that are new and develop the ones that have been around, it will make us a better team in the long run."

As the season progresses, Lucas expects the number of competitors to continue to grow.

"I expect that after these guys get out and talk to people they know that wrestle, that we'll have even more interest," he

The team practices every Tuesday and Thursday from 7p.m. - 9 p.m. in ML 110. There are no costs to students, and the team is open to anyone who meets basic standards for competing in Club Sports at WCC.

BIKE FROM B1

the trail as well as outreach that the path can prove hairy commuting by bike, Krzewinski programs to build awareness at times, but views its use is certain that the Border to

for the path. Locals along the trail work in collaborative efforts to support and encourage use of the Border to Border. Organizations set up in communities along the route provide clean up on the trail as well as give talks and setup informational tables at various institutions in the area.

"It's not only great for recreation," said coordinator of the Friends of the Border to Border Trail, Bob Krzewinski. "It's important to transportation and WCC is a great example of that."

Krzewinski estimates that traversing the route would allow bikers to reach WCC in 20 minutes from Ypsilanti's Depot Town and 30 to 45 minutes from downtown Ann Arbor. An entrance to the trail can be found along Huron River Drive near WCC's Health and Fitness Center.

"Trying to get everything off-road is one of the main goals," Krzewinski said. "It's about safety. Keeping the path separate from the roads also makes it easier and more enjoyable not having to deal with traffic."

Industrial technology instructor at WCC, Dale Petty, travels to work along the path

and functions as essential to addressing growing climate and environmental concerns.

Petty takes the route through Gallup Park in Ann Arbor, and follows it as the path runs into the Huron River, no cars in sight.

"It's very accessible from Ann Arbor, a very scenic route," Petty said. "Sometimes you have to go a little bit out of the way, but every time you bike, you help lower our carbon footprint."

Cyclists peddling from Ann Arbor must ride briefly ride under US Highway 23 and those coming from Ypsilanti make passage over Interstate Highway 94, before reaching WCC.

Chamberlain points to the ease of travel afforded by the Border to Border Trail when recommending its use. He sees the avoidance of busy automobile traffic as paramount to effective

transportation on a bike. "You're going to be miserable on Washtenaw Avenue, stopping at all the lights," Chamberlain said. "This is cheaper, safer and makes for good exercise. You'll actually

be awake when you get to class." Despite the complexities

from Ann Arbor. Petty admits and dangers associated with Border Trail is an asset to Washtenaw County.

> "It (bike travel) adds a quality of life," he said. "It's really something people will fight, but they soon realize that their property values are going up. It gives a neighborhood that recreational aspect, which poses economic benefits."

Claydon estimates that an average person can comfortably travel one mile by bike every five minutes. He has taken his message, calling for more bike travel, to WCC's campus. Claydon manned an informational about bike passage to WCC table at Sept. 11's Welcome Day celebration in the school's community park.

"You'll be able to park right in front of your classroom," Claydon said to potential users of the route on WCC's campus. "For people, who think they'll get too hot and sweaty, ask yourself: Do you run everywhere you walk? Bike riding doesn't have to be strenuous. You can easily go at a pace that is comfortable for you."

Claydon recommends that new cyclists start off peddling to school once a week until they get used to the route and build stamina.

Freshman playing an unexpected role for U-M

MATT DURR Sports Editor

One of the great advantages to being a football program like the University of Michigan is having the ability to recruit toplevel talent and letting them develop in the background while your current talent plays each week.

When Brady Hoke took over the University of Michigan football team in January 2011, one of the first things he had to do was to recruit players that fit his vision. He was successful as he first recruited a top-10 class, according to Rivals.com, a top recruiting website. What he didn't know is how important those players would be in their

first year with the program. A string of injuries, offfield troubles and some lessthan-stellar performances for veteran players have forced Hoke and his staff to rely on the freshman early on in their careers. A time when most freshman are able to concentrate on growing in practice and not in front of 110,000 critics each week.

For Hoke, getting younger players ready for what is expected of them both on and off the field can be a challenge.

"Well, you know, we had 17 true freshmen go to Dallas (against Alabama). Some of them hadn't flown. The schedule that we keep, there's an itinerary, when we meet, what we wear, all those things," Hoke said. "I don't want to call it babysitting, but it's a lot of educating. Our upperclassmen have done a good job, so the young guys understand what is expected."

At least 12 true freshman have played in the first three



Michigan's Devin Funchess (19) gets a high-flying bump from teammate Fitzgerald Toussaint after his touchdown against Massachusetts at Michigan Stadium

games for the Wolverines, and a few of them, such as linebacker Joe Bolden and tight end Devin Funchess have played more than just a couple of snaps.

Funchess has scored two touchdowns since taking over the starting job when Brandon Moore injured his ACL in the season opener.

"Obviously we recruited him, so we thought he had some ability. He's done a nice job, I will say," Hoke said. "He's bigger than when he got here. He's not afraid, which is good, because blocking's a big part."

Bolden recorded 10 tackles during the Sept. 8 game against Air Force and recorded his first career sack a week later against Massachusetts. Both Bolden and fellow linebacker James Ross saw plenty of snaps against Air Force.

Each was effective during the game, Hoke said, adding, however, they were far from complete at linebacker.

"There's a lot they need to get better at, from drops to coverages, footwork, all those things. But that's no different with the guys that have been playing," Hoke said. "They're both very instinctive, football players. At that position, being instinctive is a big plus."

Hoke admitted he has never had to rely on so many freshman this much in a season, but that doesn't necessarily mean that it's a bad thing to get players some experience. Creating depth is something Hoke thinks can help his squad as the season progresses.

"Well, I think that's always an important part in your development of your depth," Hoke said. "I think we've been able to do that a little bit. That's something that we got to keep the competition very healthy and very lively in practice and at the same time be able to feel confident in the guys who are going out on the field."



CHARLES MANLEY THE WASHTENAW VOICE

'2016: Obama's America'



By MATT DURR Staff Writer

Hailed as the Republican's "Fahrenheit 9/11," Indian author/documentarian Dinesh D'Souza's "2016: Obama's America," provides us with an in-depth look at how President Barack Obama's unstable upbringing shaped the policies that helped him get elected and possibly reelected as president.

Based on D'Souza's book "The Roots of Obama's Rage," the film does a wonderful job of exploring Obama's nontraditional childhood and the radical influences on him during his college years in a variety of ways.

Tries to predict the future by looking at the past

D'Souza travels to the various places where Obama lived during his youth and teenage years to get a better perspective of what Obama was like as a child and more importantly, the people who raised him.

Viewers may be shocked to learn some of the finer details of Obama's personal life and how very unstable his life was during his formative years.

The filmmakers cleverly used clips from the audiobook "Dreams From My Father," (which are read by Obama himself) to use the president's own words against him. It's hard to deny the brilliance of the technique, when you hear

exactly what was said and how it was meant to be said, as they are used against the man speaking.

The main focus of the film is based around the idea that Obama is an anticolonialist who is trying to make America into a country that doesn't believe in its own "exceptionalism."

Like most political documentaries, there are times when the film is clearly going to the extreme in order to drive home the overall message. And I am almost certain at one point that clips of a riot in Canada are used to showcase growing tensions in the Middle East.

Critically acclaimed

producer Gerald R. Molen and director John Sullivan were crucial to the film's development. Sullivan cowrote and co-directed the film.

WASHTENAW VOICE

Already one of the highest grossing documentaries of all-time, "2016: Obama's America" is an interesting, informative and albeit sometimes radical look at formation and execution of the ideas that shaped Obama's presidency.

Rated: PG Runtime: 89 minutes Category: Political documentary

воок

'No Easy Day'

THE
FIRSTHAND ACCOUNT OF
THE MISSION THAT KILLED
OSAMA BIN LADEN

OSAMA BIN LADEN

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A NAVY SEAL

By MATT DURR Staff Writer

If you haven't heard about the controversy surrounding the release of "No Easy Day," an insider's account of the mission to kill Osama Bin Laden, you may have been living in one of the caves detailed in the this book.

Written by a former Navy SEAL, "No Easy Day," describes not only the mission to kill the world's most infamous terrorist, but also the author's experience in making his way through the ranks to be selected for the mission.

Author Mark Owen recalls his own personal struggles on his journey to becoming a Navy SEAL author's book is an easy, elusive read

member of Seal Team Six with vivid detail at times and others with a vague, if not boring overview.

I was pleased to see that Owen goes out of his way to explain things in more basic terms so that those unfamiliar with military terminology can follow the stories easily.

For the protection of those involved in the book, Owen uses fake names while recounting the specifics of the missions he outlines. He even uses a pen name for this book, though other news outlets have identified his real name.

I didn't really care about his past and what it took for him to become a SEAL, and that made

the first half of the book rather tedious to read.

But once the focus shifted to the mission on Bin Laden, it really picked up.

Owen does a wonderful job of building the drama of everything from putting his gear on prior to leaving for Pakistan, to what he saw as he climbed the stairs to Bin Laden's bedroom. I felt stressed just reading the first-hand account of what exactly happened when Owen saw Bin Laden peek out of his bedroom.

Considering all the hype surrounding the book, I have to admit that I was pretty disappointed with the overall content. I was expecting more about what went into the planning and how the events all came together. Unfortunately, Owen was not as involved with that side of the mission, and readers are left with a simple overview of the events from one man's perspective.

"No Easy Day" is definitely worth a read for those interested in military history or current events. But if you're on the fence about picking this up, wait until it appears in bargain bookstands.

Publisher: Dutton Penguin Genre: Non-fiction (Military) Page count: 336

MOVIE

'Finding Nemo'



By ADRIAN HEDDEN

Interim Editor

The vast, magnificently barren sea serves as a colorful but deadly backdrop to the Disney Pixar smash, "Finding Nemo." Now re-released utilizing Disney's Real-D technology, the scenery hopes to take viewers down into the depths of the ocean under modernized effects.

Although a refined soundtrack and an expanded array of speakers provide for heightened auditory immersion in the remake, its visuals suffer from an excess of shadows and motion blur.

Unlike the stark, 2D

Iconic movie's 3D remake swims in murkier waters

animation that served as the launching point for the wildly successful 3D conversions of "Lion King" and "Beauty and the Beast," the added effects, on top of the already complex animation and movement present in "Finding Nemo," exhausted movie-goer eyes.

Retinas were burned to the point of torture before the short kid's flick was through. It was simply too bright to look at and the added effects made it hard to follow even the simplest of movements without squinting or blinking in the glow.

Real-D technology has been seen to burst with additional complexities when applied to 2D animation and lend uncharted realism to live action. But when added to films that were already crafted using the state-of-the-art, three-dimensional imagery of the time, it becomes overbearing the point of abrasion.

Audiences can be grateful, however, that the iconic and heart-warming tale of a clownfish in search of his lost son is back in theaters. The diversity of character voices, design and the wide expanses of beautifully detailed marine locales combine for a treasured tale of family love and dedication. "Nemo" is simply one of Disney's grandest stories

ever told.

Luckily, the original version is available as well, enhanced

sound included.
Stick to the original, glassesfree release this time. "Finding
Nemo" is best left un-smeared
by Real-D effects. Although
it splashed blinding special
effects deep into the eye
sockets of the audience,
"Finding Nemo 3D" was unable
to dive any deeper.

Genre: Drama Runtime: 100 minutes Rated: G

MUSIC

Insane Clown Posse



By ADRIAN HEDDEN
Interim Editor

Chanting obscenities while ranting of violence and prejudice is no new practice for the Insane Clown Posse. The Detroit-based group's legions of fans agree that ICP's mean spirit is actually its biggest selling point.

Since ICP's brand of minimalist, belligerent rap was introduced in the late '80s, the crew has, album after album, torn the social conscience and relevance from hip-hop with tragically immature arrangements and abrasively childish wordplay.

Now in 2012, the posse is back in its standard, expectedly grotesque, lyrical form. "The Mighty Death Pop!" released on the eve of the infamous

Returns to suck the dignity from rap

Gathering of the Juggalos festival earlier this summer, does feature slicker production from the now-wealthy group

from the now-wealthy group. It's at least clear that ICP's cash has come a long way.

But a crisper, more expensive sound can't hide the perverse sociopaths behind the rhymes. Songs such as "Chris Benoit" and "Hate Her to Death" are insensitive and vile as they reference, jokingly, the recent double-murder suicide of a deceased professional wrestler's family and merely beating up women who don't want to date them, respectively.

want to date them, respectively.

Beats are simplistic to the point of amateurish and they are overwrought with heavy, guitar-laden samples.

The cheesy rock influence is

painfully reminiscent of hip-

hop godfathers Run DMC.

But any attempt by these infantile wannabes to take influence from such royalty is heresy. A heresy they force onto listeners akin to the oppressive words portrayed on the disc.

To make matters worse, this latest offering was repackaged twice. A "Red Pop," Black Pop" and "White Pop" version are all available with exactly the same tracks, save their bonus discs.

"Red Pop" presents more blasphemy as the duo ruins many classic and historical hip-hop tunes. "White Pop" offers remixes of the album tracks and "Black Pop" takes listeners through an exhaustive,

non-stop, hour-long freestyle.
Upon observing a young listener enjoying the sounds of "The Mighty Death Pop!" any mature adult would slap the phones from the child's ears.

Admittedly, hip-hop does often contain language and references that are gritty and considered inappropriate for children. But the best artists are able to use these violent realities in crafting poetry and music that reaches the soul of humanity, expressing the darkest secrets and dishonesties of society.

ICP exploits the honestly of hip-hop, reaching into a naïve, impressionable fan base and sacrificing the beauty of their chosen genre along the way.

This latest release is more of the same with even more aggressive marketing. The posse must be stopped.

Genre: Hip-hop Label: Psychopathic records Length: 62:14

'Detropia' director says Motown is 'the city to watch'



After watching the film 'Detropia,' audience members ask director Heidi Ewing questions in a Q&A session at the Michigan Theater, Sept. 16.



NATHAN CLARK THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Editor of the Metro Times, W. Kim Heron, left, leads a Q&A session with Ewing after the screening

Is shrinking middle class a microcosm of the nation?

By Nathan Clark
Managing Editor

Few films have the power to pull on the heart-strings of an entire city. Until now.

For many people around the world, Detroit is a symbol of downsizing, economic failure and the butt of many jokes. But a new documentary film about the city, "Detropia," sets out to dispel the many stereotypes and urban legends that surround it.

The movie was played at the Michigan Theater in downtown Ann Arbor as part of the theater's Motor City Movies series with a special Q&A from its director, Heidi Ewing.

The movie is a documentary

about the people of Detroit and how they are living their lives in a city that has become a shell of its former self.

The film follows several Detroit residents and documents how they are dealing with hard times. They include a video-blogger, an aging nightclub owner who lost much of his business when the auto industry downsized, a union president trying to prevent more union jobs from disappearing and a young artist who is thrilled he can afford to live in a huge loft apartment in a major city.

Anticipation in line for the premier was high.

"I'm curious to see what's going on in Detroit, Belle Isle in particular," said Carey Jernigan. "I'm just anxious to see it. I don't know what to expect."

As the movie began, the sounds sadness could be heard

throughout the crowd when scenes of Detroit's hardships played, followed by laughter when one of the documentary's subjects said something whimsical or unexpected.

When the credits began to roll, the sound of thunderous applause bellowed throughout the historic theater.

Ewing came out onstage to answer audience questions, accompanied by the Editor of the Metro Times, W. Kim Heron.

"People should see this film," Heron said. "It's a powerful movie that shows Detroit still has hope."

Ewing is proud of the work despite some unusual practices in the early stages of planning for the film.

"We broke the cardinal rule of documentary filmmaking, which we tell other filmmakers not to do," Ewing said. "We went into this with an agenda and a title already.

"We were going to call it "Detroit Hustles Harder," which was a great slogan Detroit had," he said. "It was going to be like a phoenix rising kind of story. Other cities would look to Detroit for solutions for their own problems. That was the original idea for the film."

But as she started filming and talking to people, the filmmakers started to see other themes emerge. Ewing decided to see where it would take them.

"A lot of people hadn't heard of the revitalization of Detroit. We started filming people who could leave Detroit, but chose to stay for whatever reason."

Ewing was asked how they found all of the people in the film. She said she started talking to people they already knew

"I would ask people, 'if you

were to make a film about Detroit, who are the 10 people you would absolutely not miss, tell me who I am going to miss and who I shouldn't miss," she said.

The problem with filming a large city like Detroit is that you are never going to get the whole story, Ewing added.

Another audience member asked why the film didn't bring any attention to the education system in Detroit.

"We went down that road. Education is a problem that is affecting all of America, not just Detroit," Ewing said. "But in the film, we had to make some choices, so we chose to feature the decline of the manufacturing base in Detroit."

The film is about the middle class and people who thought they didn't need a

DETROPIACONTINUED **B7**

Also showing

"Detropia" is part of "Motor City Movies: Discovering Detroit" at the Michigan Theater, located on East Liberty Street in downtown Ann Arbor playing through November.

Movies in the series: "Out of Sight," "The giant Mechanical Man," "The Myth of the American Sleepover," "Robocop," "Rodger &Me," "Blue Collar," "Gran Torino," "True Romance," "Narc," "Louder Than Love: The Grande Ballroom Story" and "Standing In The Shadows of Motown."

For more details and show times, visit michtheater.org

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AIM HIGHER



WASHTENAW VOICE



WCC will also be sponsoring the High School and College Nationals at the Milan Dragway on Oct. 20, starting at 9 a.m.

"High school drags is an event that we host. Some schools have students race," said April Holloway, a student employee at Washtenaw. "We always have a few vehicles. We'll definitely have the Mystic Cobra."

The requirements for visitors who would like to race are a valid driver's license and student identification. All racers must wear long pants and sleeves and have helmets rated for 13.99 E.T. and quicker. programs is that we promote Racers under 18 must have a signed consent form from their parents or guardians

"It's a really cool event," said April. "We're racing all day. There's going to be food, and it's really good advertisement for all the schools."

 $Those who \, visit \, Washten aw's$ display at the Milan Dragway can also find more information about career opportunities in Auto Service Technology, Auto Body Repair, and Motorcycle Service Technology, as well as in HVAC Technology, Welding and Fabrication, and Advanced Manufacturing Technology.

"The great thing about our

the whole school," Vanschoick said. "We push academia on our end. There are tons of jobs here; we've got employers knocking down our doors."

WHAT: High school and **College Nationals**

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 20,. gates open at 9 a.m.

WHERE: Milan Dragway COST: To Race \$25. spectators \$15; kids 12 and under free

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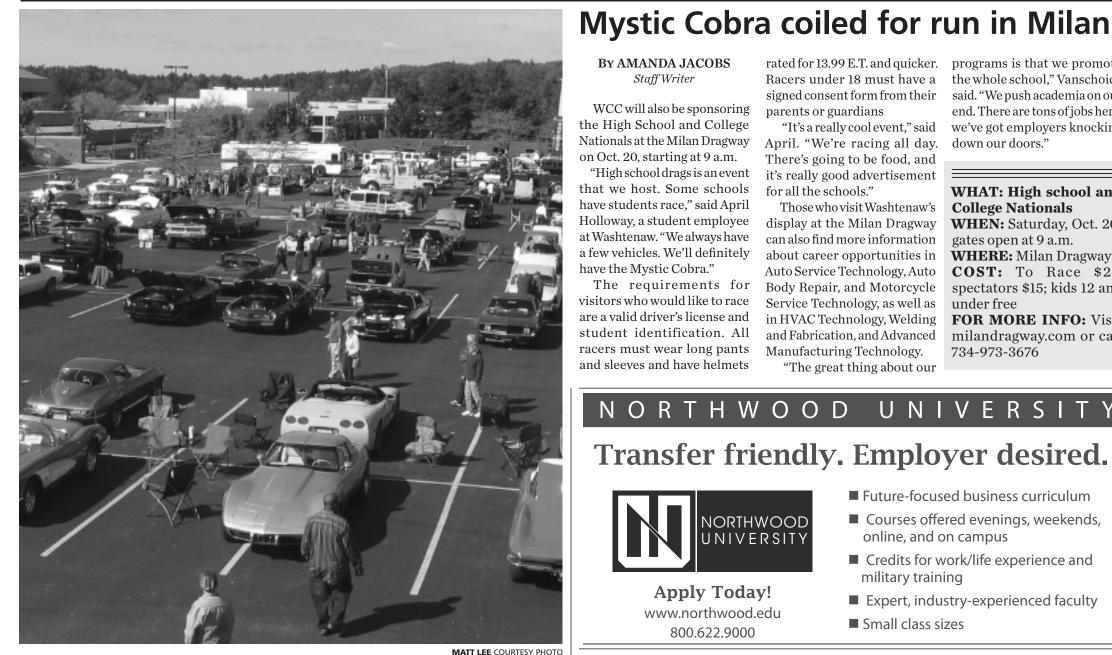
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STUDENT LIVING AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE!



Hundreds atended a recent Car and Bikes Show on the campus parking lot.

CAR AND BIKES FROM B1

their vehicles can register on the day of the show for \$10 between 9-11 a.m.

"They can also bring bikes in, and as long as they're deemed safe, test them on the Dyno," Tim Vanschoick, an Automotive Body Repair instructor at Washtenaw. "Last year we had 200-300 cars, and a couple thousand people show up every year."

The show will also feature activities for kids, which is new to the event. But organizers ask that no dogs, strollers, or bicycles are brought to the Car and Bikes Show.

"This year we're doing kids' stuff as well," Vanschoick said. "We'll have spark plug races, and see which kid can get the spark plugs in and out the fastest."

The proceeds go toward the WCC Vocational Technologies Scholarship fund, which will help students who cannot afford an education.

"It's been really nice to give back to the community," said Vanschoick. "Any way we can try to make money for students, we'll do." "There's nothing better

than to be a student that helps someone else go to college." Webel said. "And it's a good way for the visitors to come in and see that their taxes that pay for these programs are going toward something positive for the community.



flint, michigan kettering.edu

SKYDIVE FROM B1

Parachuting Championships." Miller works manifest at Skydive Tecumseh when school is not in session. She has more than 100 jumps and, as a student, concentrates on women's studies and statistics.

Other jumpers are optimistic about the club as well. Jacobs, in his first year at WCC and uncertain about his major, is a video editor at Skydive Tecumseh. He has 32 jumps.

"I'm hoping the club will allow anyone interested a chance to pursue their interest," said Jacobs, 23, of Tecumseh.

All skill levels are welcome to join, from seasoned skydivers to those wanting to learn about the sport to determine whether to try it.

Those who want to make a jump before the commitment to licensing typically begin with a tandem skydive, which entails an instructor being strapped to the student's back. The instructor does all the work while the student enjoys the

the club will meet and plan about 1,600 jumps.

DETROPIA FROM **B5**

middle class."

Ewing added.

manufacturing market to keep

it alive to sustain a middle class lifestyle and, unfortunately,

haven't found anything to

replace the millions of jobs lost. "The country is trying to

find a way to prevent the

middle class from becoming

the working poor," Ewing said.

"Detroit is the city to watch to see how policies affect the

Detroit has a well-

intentioned, uncorrupt, smart

man in office. But being the

mayor of Detroit is the most

thankless job in America,

night, someone asked Ewing to

show the film to presidential

For the final question of the

events for the new season. The events will be geared toward developing lasting relationships with fellow club members.

"The amount of opportunities that it can bring into people's lives are endless, whether they end up traveling the world or just growing from the overall experience to become a greater individual," Jacobs said.

Licensed skydivers have the ability to jump across the country and world as they travel. Traveling to other dropzones around the country may become a possibility as members become licensed.

"We're looking to provide students the opportunity to make new friends while learning about skydiving and possibly discover a new hobby,' said Harris, 22, of Clinton.

And he knows how life can be altered by skydiving; his primary job for the past two years has been jumping out of airplanes. A business major, Harris comes from a skydiving family and is a tandem jump instructor and videographer During the off-season, at Skydive Tecumseh. He has

ROB HARRIS COURTESY PHOTO

candidate, Mitt Romney.

"That's funny, I heard he

saved Detroit," Ewing said. "I

think both Obama and Romney

would reject this film right

now because it doesn't fit into

anyone's feeling about the city

optimistic about a comeback.

single one of our subjects (in

the film). Detroit is a tough city

for its 713,000 residents. I think

the revitalization may happen,

Cen 4 in Detroit. For a complete

list of where to see the film, visit

"Detropia" is screening at Ren

Detroit may be in a slump right now, but Ewing said she

"I think there's hope in every

right now."

for real."

Tandem student Ashley Jwad jumps from 14,000 feet with instructor Jim Pilinyi at Skydive Tecumseh on Sept. 1.

Crossword

Across

- 1 Out-and-out 6 Mushroom tops
- 10 Yawl or yacht 14 Contest venue
- 15Run amok
- 16 Not taken in by 17 Contaminant measure
- 20 Stately tree
- 21 America's uncle
- 22 Decorated anew
- 23 Pep rally cry 26 Trait transmitters
- 27 Overly ornate
- 30 Ring-tailed primate 32 "Gotcha"
- 33 Blossom
- 34 Reggae relative 37 Unofficial end of summer
- 41 Early hrs.
- 42 Caravan stops 43 Chilled down
- 44 Orators' spots
- 45 Sudden bursts
- 47 Largish combo
- 50 Fancy flapjacks 52 Pokes around
- 54 Itinerary word
- 55 Some laptops

6

9

2

1

6

8

58 Inflation consequence, perhaps

- 62 Black-hearted
- 63 Goatee site
- 64 Throng
- 65 Turn down 66 Superman's alter ego
- 67 Hooked up, as oxen

Down

- 1 Shipping department supply
- 2 Word-of-mouth
- 3 What to call it
- 4 Industrious insect
- 5 Ropes on the ranch
- 6 Oreo filler 7 Make known
- 8 Small dog, for short
- 9 Move a little
- 10 Not as shy
- 11 Bagel flavor 12 Make reparation
- 13 Vocal qualities
- 18 Biking route
- 19 Peanut, for one
- 23 "Junk begets junk" acronym
- 24 Not seasonal

Sudoku

2

Answers

4

3

5

9

1

- Aristotle

their fathers had.

Cryptoquote

the good, and not merely what

Again, men in general desire

- 25 Cat chorus
- 27 _ monster (large lizard)
- 28 First given name in the Bible

2

7

5

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9 9

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8 4

7 8

7 6

9

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9 L Þ 9

7

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9 6 9 L

1 3 2 8

Last issue's Sudoku

7 8 7 9 4 6 9

4

8

1

4

3

5

- 29 Barbecue fare
- 31 "Simpsons" bartender
- $33\,\mathrm{Fundamental}$ 34 Split-off group
- 35 "Trick" joint
- 36 Tacks on
- 38 Enthusiastic fan
- 39 June honoree
- 40 Cars from Korea
- 44 Full of small stones
- 45 Rotisserie rod
- 46 Fine as can be
- 47 Made a pick
- 48 Hunger for
- 49 Venom, for example
- 51 Occurrence 53 Potato holder
- 55 Exec's extra
- 56 Sign over, as rights
- 57 Floored it
- 59 Revolutionary Guevara
- 60 Family 61 Aussie hopper

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

Cryptoquote

One letter stnads for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letter, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each issue the code letters are different.

HSHTR, GAR TR

SARAOHX LAETOA

YWA SJJL, HRL

RJY GAOAXF QWHY

YWATO CHYWAOE

WHL.

Aristotle

Crossword

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cabinetry (but not required). For more information, email resume to: installation@ creativewindows.com

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U.S. Army is hiring dedicated and motivated individuals to serve and defend. Must between the ages of 17-35, morally and physically qualified for active and reserve duty.

Below is a sample of recent employment want ads that have been posted with WCC's Employment **Services Center. For more** information about these ads, contact Employment Services at 734-677-5155, or visit SC287 to review the complete posting.

CNC Operator/Set-up. experience a plus.

Cook. The Ann Arbor Sheraton Hotel is looking for a full-time dinner line cook. Two years cooking experience, preferably high volume. Some of the duties would include preparing and arranging food that is appetizing and attractive to guests; meeting servicequality standards that affect guest satisfaction with few complaints; maintaining work areas; and meeting service standards.

Entry Level Support Desk Technician. Candidate should be proficient in the following: Excellent phone etiquette and customer service skills, Articulate and can speak clearly on the phone, Must be computer literate and be familiar with common office productivity software applications, Excellent judgment skills to be able to properly evaluate situations and immediately produce effective solutions, Ability to work in a fast paced environment.

Direct Support Staff. Renaissance Community Homes Inc. is hiring caring compassionate students on all shifts to provide services for adults with developmental disabilities and mental illnesses in their own homes in the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti area. These services include, but are not limited to, passing medications, providing personal care, socializing, transporting, cooking, and cleaning.

Server & Hosts. Olga's Kitchen is seeking qualified servers and hosts for its Ann Arbor location. Server positions require: greeting guests with a friendly, cordial welcome; having a depth of menu knowledge; taking and delivering guest orders; asking the right questions and making

suggestions. Hosts positions require: greeting guests with a friendly, cordial welcome; obtaining guest information and using guest list when appropriate; escorting guests to their seats and notifying servers; having a depth of menu knowledge; keeping control of the lobby area and directing guest traffic.

Certified Pharmacy Technician. Must be a certified tech or certifiable and willing to be certified within six months. Prefer experience of at least two years, but willing to train from a pharmacy program in CC. Experience in taking patient calls. Good knowledge of medication names and uses. Commitment to following specific rules and procedures, including clinical and legal.

Retail Support Associate. Macy's is seeking retail support associates. Key responsibilities

may include expediting the receiving and processing of all merchandise shipments. May also include assisting with setting sales and seasonal events, replenishing the sales floor and maintaining a neat and organized stockroom.

Business Assistant. Under general supervision by practice

manager/supervisor or BA coordinator, the assistant is responsible for providing excellent customer services by welcoming guests/patients and assisting physicians. Responsible for all processes related to patient scheduling, check-in and check-out, interviewing incoming patients or representatives and entering information required for admission into the computer by performing certain duties.

HHAs, CNAs and RNs. Openings for HHAs, caregivers and CNAs. Must be dependable, compassionate, comfortable with showering and personal

Window Cleaner. Seeking courteous, self-motivated and friendly individuals who pay attention to detail. Clean glass at commercial and residential locations; including restaurants, stores, office buildings, and malls from 1-3 stories. Some ladder work, travel between jobs, and minimal paperwork are required. Must have reliable transportation, proof of insurance and a valid driver's license.

For further information regarding any of the above employment opportunities, please contact Career Services, at 734-677-5155 or via careers@wccnet.edu.

Deadline for the Sept. 10 issue is Sept. 4 at 5 p.m. **SERVICES** experience with installation Need Health Care? Are you of windows, doors and/or

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Brighton company looking for candidate with mechanical ability. Must be a self-starter and be willing to help out in other areas as needed. CNC



Ben Cowen's art on display in Gallery One on the first floor of the Student Center



NATHAN CLARK THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Students head to Reed Esslinger's performance art piece, 'The Suitcase Darkroom,' in Gallery One, Sept. 17.

Gallery One opens the vear with new and unusual talents

BY ADRIAN HEDDEN Interim Editor

When Ben Cowan's son was born in 2010, the graduate of Washtenaw Community College's graphic design program found his artistic inspiration re-ignited. The resulting works, massive, 10foot paintings are now on display at the college's oncampus art gallery, Gallery One.

"Having kids was an incredible influence," Cowan said. "A person of my own making, growing in front of me – it affects how I assert the meanings behind certain images. I've become more critical of the metaphors."

Cowan began teaching drawing classes at Washtenaw last year after gaining a master's in fine arts from Indiana University and studying art

abroad in Italy. But the 26-yearold first earned an associate degree in graphic design from WCC in 2003.

The locales of Indiana and his native Ann Arbor were comfortingly similar to Cowan. He said his work reflects the domestication of the towns, but also the natural beauty they have been able to retain.

"It's about the experience of living in a neighborhood town that is still a little woodsy," Cowan said. "You could go play in the woods but still hear your dad calling you for dinner. It's about expressing the stories that arise there, visually."

Cowan's latest work includes large paintings of houses and other domestic locals, using a multitude of color paints with other attached, found media. The paintings debuted on Sept. 6 in the initial, Ann Arbor segment of Gallery One's Emerging Artists series. They will be up through Oct. 10.

"I'm thrilled to be involved,"

Cowan said. "It's exciting to come full circle. I hope to inspire students to continue their work as well. I'm on the path and just looking to get my work out there."

The event was organized by Gallery One's director, Anne Rubin who was recommended to include Cowan by WCC art instructor, Elaine Wilson. Wilson served as instructor for many of Cowan's courses and also recommended him for his teaching position in 2011.

"He (Cowan) is one of the single, most-talented artists that WCC has had in the last 12 to 15 years," Wilson said. "He was one of the most engaged, insightful and charming students I've had. As an emerging artist, his work is a little rough around the edges, but he is certainly an artist to watch."

Rubin hopes to organize two more segments of the Emerging Artist series later in the year. She will be pulling talent from Detroit in January and Grand Rapids later in the spring, but Cowan still stands out to her as an artist with a future.

"Ben is a fantastic painter, everyone should watch his career closely," Rubin said.

For her first show of the school year, Rubin also enlisted the talent of Reed Esslinger, a May 2011 graduate with an MFA from the University of Michigan. Esslinger, 31, studied abroad from 2006 to 2009 on Reunion Island, a former French colony off the coast of Madagascar.

She had journeyed to the island to teach a term of English, but Essinger ended up living there for three years, engaging in the native culture and struggling to make friends. As a result of the trip, she said her work expresses the challenges and differing perspectives of immigration and isolation.

"I did adapt a bit, but the longer I stayed there, the more alienated I felt," Essinger

said. "I've pulled a lot from that experience in my work. It's not necessarily a political statement; it's more about general human experiences. We've all been outsiders."

An installation art piece, constructed by Essinger, now occupies the back area of Gallery One. A winding corner is adorned by a thin, fabric screen as projections of anthropological documents are splashed onto the walls. Audio recordings of immigrants discussing their voyages are played over the gallery's sound system in conjunction with the dim lights.

"It's meant to be a dialogue between the institution of studying people and the actual lived experiences," she said. "It (the piece) creates a dichotomy between the immigrants and anthropologists."

Essinger has staged three performances this fall, moving about the dark installation as she adds materials to it, growing the piece before audiences in the gallery metaphoric arm and body gestures. Her first performance was held on Sept. 6 and the second was on Sept. 17. The last performance will take place on Oct. 10 at 5 p.m. in Gallery One.

"We've never had anything like this (Essigner's work) before at Gallery One," Rubin said. "People seem very intrigued. The first performance went very well."

And for the rest of their time together at Gallery One, Rubin is certain that the two artists' works will continue to complement each other physically and in their chosen subject matters.

"They (Cowan and Essinger) are both talking about place, community and how the individual fits into all that," she said. "Thematically it was a good fit, but I'm not unhappy with how it turned out visually either."

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