

Deadly H1N1 virus hits close to home

By James Saoud Staff Writer

The H1N1 flu virus is alive and strong in Washtenaw County this season, and it's aimed directly at college students.

"People have the stereotype or stigma that it will only affect kids and older adults. That is not the case" Sarah Dion, a medical assistant at the Ann Arbor Urgent Care on Stadium Boulevard, said. "It seems to be affecting college students

Two flu-related deaths have been reported in Washtenaw County. Though the cases here were associated with adults over the age of 65, many flu related hospitalizations and deaths around the country this year have been connected to adults as young as their early 20s.

While it may be true that the seasonal

H₁N₁ CONTINUED A6

A NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD NEWSPAPER

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WASHTENAW

January 27, 2014

Always Listeniņg

The customer's right?

College keeps SOQs confidential; students say it's their right to know

If the SOQ results were available online, would you use them to register for classes?

"I wouldn't have to drop so many RateMyProfessor classes." Taylor Sinila, 21, Ypsilanti, liberal arts

"I would use it as a factor... We

all have to deal with customer service if we're providing a service, and the teachers' customers are students."

Cheryl Grestein, 48, Ypsilanti Township, computer science

"YEAH, I TOTALLY WOULD. THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL, ESPECIALLY AS A FRESHMAN. I JUST HAD TO WING IT." Kayla Mays, 18, Whitmore Lake, zoology

"Yeah, I would use it. I would go on there every time I register."

Jasmine Hudson, 19, Ypsilanti, pharmacy

"YEAH, IT **WOULD BE GREAT** TO GET A **HEADS-UP.**"

Rob Bucklew, 41, Britton, computer networking

"YEAH, I'D PROB-ABLY USE IT, CLASS, BUT FOR THE IMPORTANT **ONES, THE ONES** THAT I REALLY

CARE ABOUT." Lesley Blackwell, 18, Ann Arbor, general education

"I THINK THAT'D BE GREAT - VERY INFORMATIVE FOR STUDENTS. A LOT OF STUDENTS

GO ON RATEMYPROFESSOR. IT'S A VITAL TOOL FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS, BUT THIS WOULD

use it. I use a lot, but it has a huge voluntary sample bias."

Grace Fisher, 19, Ann Arbor, neuroscience transfer

"We should know who are good teachers. So, if that's how they measure them, we should "That would be useful know too."

Stephanie Gary-Adams, 24, Ann Arbor, arts management

"I think that would be really helpful in understanding what a professor is like. If there are multiple for one class, you can pick the one who's ratings are most tailored to how you

Haily Hastings, 19, Saline, graphic design

"Yeah, I think we should be able to see them, oh yes." Vanessa Love, 36, Belleville, criminal justice

"That'd be helpful. That'd be really helpful."

Justin Brookins, 18, Taylor, graphic design

know what kind of teaching style and lecturing style they have. RateMyProfessor is the main tool I use to pick classes, but I think this IS THE BEST FIT FOR THEM." would be a lot better, more valid." Tarenz Arnold, 22, Ann Arbor, general Same Kruger, 32, Ann Arbor, business

because some teachers don't work for me so I rely on tutors." Levi Jones, 21, Ypsilanti, GED

"Actually, yes. Right now I just ask friends who they liked."

Darryl Mundrick, 36, Novi, health science

"You really don't know what you're get-

ting into until you get to class, and I don't want to pay for classes if a professor isn't **good.**" Tatiana Cooper, 19, Ypsilanti, forensic science

"I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE "I'd definitely use it. It's nice to USEFUL, ESPECIALLY FOR STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES TO SEE WHO

"Any additional information is helpful."

Alec Hocking, 19, Canton, philosophy

"Yeah, I would look at it. I think it might be better than RateMyProfessor; it wouldn't be just the extreme cases that have their say; you'd get more of the middle."

Jordan Semer, 30, Plymouth, liberal arts

BE MORE LEGITIMATE." Caesar Sabuda, 21, South Lyon, pathologist assistant For more comments, visit http://www.washtenawvoice.com

WCC students say they deserve access to instructor evaluation results; college, faculty say 'no'

Managing Editor

If you're a student at Eastern Michigan University, you can log in to the school's website and find faculty and course evaluations, written by other students, for every teacher and every class since 2003. This tool helps students registering for classes choose an instructor who best fits their needs, said Desmond Miller, EMU's student body president. At the University of Michigan, students may soon be able

Here at Washtenaw, students evaluate their instructors and classes in Student Opinion Questionnaires

to do the same.

By NATALIE WRIGHT (SOQs), but they are not able to see and use these evaluations when registration time comes.

> If students want to share and read instructor evaluations, "RateMyProfessors is the best method for that," said Jennifer Baker, president of the Washtenaw Community College Education Association (WCCEA).

In November, *The Voice* requested the last five years of SOQs via the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), in order to publish them online as a tool for students.

WCC denied the request, and in a letter to *The Voice*, cited two reasons: First, "the results are considered

the property of the individual faculty member." Second, making the information public would have a "chilling effect" on the student body, and stop them from filling out the SOQs

Not according to the students.

STUDENTS HAVE THEIR SAY

To address the latter, the newspaper surveyed more than 100 students around campus, and found that, in fact, making the SOQs public may have the very opposite of the "chilling effect" the school was concerned about.

Out of the students surveyed, 98 percent said they would fill out their SOQs exactly the same, or better. 42

percent of the total said they would turn others away or give that instrucdevote more time and thought to giving honest, meaningful answers.

"I would definitely fill it out more honestly," said Angie Eliana, a 19-yearold neuropsychology transfer student from Ann Arbor. "I usually just B.S. it. I'd be sure to be more honest if I knew it would affect other people."

"Knowing it was going to be used that way, it would motivate me to be more honest," said Sophie Downes, 21, an international relations student from Ann Arbor. "People would be less apathetic about them."

Two percent of the students said that they would hesitate to criticize instructors out of fear that it might tor a bad reputation.

And 96 percent said that they would use the evaluations when registering

for classes, if they were available. "I think that would be really helpful in understanding what a professor is like," said Haily Hastings, 19, a graphic design student from Saline. "If there are multiple choices for one class, you can pick the one whose ratings are most tailored to how you learn."

"It would be way easier to pick classes," said Tatiana Cooper, a 19-year-old forensic science student

CONTINUED A3



Can Michigan be the next trail'blazer?'





Car show revs up Detroit

A8



WHAT DO YOU SEE?

Walsh grads see great old brands up to new tricks.

We love our pets. In 2012, Americans spent \$53 billion on pet food, supplies, over-the-counter medicine, vet care, and designer products like Paul Mitchell dog shampoo, Omaha Steaks pet treats, and Harley Davidson collars. What pets are most popular? Freshwater fish, then cats and dogs and birds, oh my.

Walsh grads see business in everything, and impact great companies everywhere.

See more at livebreathebusiness.org/DogTreat.

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complete YOUR COLLEGE experience!

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STAY CONNECTED! HTTP://TINYW.CC/SDA Be the first to find out about new tickets and activities!

Ticket: U of M Hockey Games! Penn State and Ohio State

Only \$10
February 21st and 28th
6:30p.m.
Yost Ice Arena
Purchase tickets at the Cashier's Office

Ticket: Skate at Yost!

Bring your friends and family! Ticket includes: Pizza or hotdogs/pop Optional skate rental \$1
Only \$5

March 8th
Yost Ice Arena

Purchase tickets at the Cashier's Office

Darwin: Beetles, Books and Blasphemy

Join Biology Professor David Wooten for an insightful and unique seminar on the legacy of Charles Darwin.

Please RSVP

http://tinyurl.com/wccdarwin

February 12, 2014 Morris Lawrence Building 6:30p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

OF WATHALLIES

Talent Show Auditions

If you can dance, sing or wow a crowd with a talent, we need you!

Thursday, February 13, 5-9 p.m.

Towsley Auditorium, Morris Lawrence

Building
Sign-up here:
http://tinyurl.com/WCCTalentMarch2014

Lunch with the President

Enjoy a delicious lunch with the President of Washtenaw Community College.

Lunches will occur on selected days between 12-1p.m.

om/WCC- Enter Contest: http://tinyurl.com/wcclunchcontest

Charter One Bank – Budgeting for a Better

Life

Thursday, February 6th 12p.m.-1p.m. SC Community Room Free!

Sign-up: http://tinvurl.com/charteronew14

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Sports Opportunities!

Club Wrestling First Practices:

Dates: Tuesday January 28th and Thursday 30th Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm. Where: Morris Lawrence Building room ML110 .The team will practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00pm-9:00pm and will have matches on weekends.

Club Men's Soccer Tryouts:

Dates: Monday February 10th and Thursday February 13th Time: 9:15pm-11:00pm. Where: Pioneer High School in the Varsity Gym. Practices will be Mondays and Thursdays 9:15pm-11:00pm until mid-March. The practices will then be from 5:30pm-7:30pm. Games will be on Sundays in Brighton (11v11).

<u>Club Women's Soccer Tryouts/First Practices:</u>

Dates: Monday February 10th and Thursday February 13th Time: 9:15pm-11:00pm. Where: Pioneer High School in the Junior Varsity Gym. Practices will be Mondays and Thursdays 9:15pm-11:00pm until mid-March. The practices will then be from 5:30pm-7:30pm. Games will be on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings.

Club Women's Softball First Practices:

Dates: Monday March $31^{\rm st}$ and Thursday April $3^{\rm rd}$ Time: 5:30pm-7:30pm Where: WCC Softball Diamond. The team practices on Mondays and Thursdays and will have weekend tournaments.

Club Men's Baseball Tryouts:

Dates: Monday March 10th, Tuesday March 11th, Wednesday March 12th, and Thursday March 13th Time: 4:30pm-7:00pm Where: WCC Baseball Diamond Games will be on Wednesdays and Fridays. The team will practice all weekdays that the team does not have games.

Intramural Billiards:

There is no registration needed.

Dates: Monday February 3rd through Thursday February 6th

Time: 5:00pm-7:00pm Where: Community Room

Where: Community Roo

Intramural Table Tennis

No registration needed. Dates: Monday February 10th through Thursday February 13th Time: 5:00pm-7:00pm Where: Community Room

SOQS FROM A1

from Ypsilanti. "You really don't know what you're getting into until you get to class, and I don't want to pay for classes if a professor isn't good."

Many students noted that they already use RateMyProfessors.com, but that SOQs would be a more accurate measure.

"I use RateMyProfessors a lot, but it has a huge voluntary sample bias. I think this would be more personalized and accurate and would possibly lessen how students are swayed by that voluntary bias," Grace Fisher, a 19-year-old neuroscience transfer student from Ann Arbor, said.

"I think it would be better than RateMyProfessors," Jordan Semer, 30, a liberal arts student from Plymouth, agreed. "It wouldn't just be the extreme cases that have their say, you'd get more of the students in the middle."

PROPERTY OF THE FACULTY

The reason that the evaluations are not made public at WCC, as they are at many other schools, is because confidentiality was written into the Letter of Agreement that established the SOQ procedures between the WCCEA and the college's Board of Trustees. Confidentiality was one of the faculty's terms to signing on to the letter, said Baker.

This letter established the SOQs as the primary means of evaluation for faculty, meaning enough bad SOQs can be grounds for firing.

Because of this agreement, the administration is leaving it up to the faculty to decide whether or not they

want the SOQs released.

"The administration is not releasing this information at this time due to our obligation with the faculty to withhold the information," said Jason Morgan, director of government and media relations. "The administration would support the faculty if they would choose to release the information," he said.

But the faculty is determined that the SOQs should be kept confidential.

"One of the reasons we wanted to keep them confidential is because students will know that they can fire faculty by it," David Fitzpatrick, chief negotiator for the WCCEA, said.

"WCC is unique in how they use them as the primary means of evaluation. The extent that the college uses them is further than other schools and the confidentiality agreement is a big part of that," Baker said. "It has to be confidential because it's such a huge part of the evaluation system," she said. "You can't have it both ways."

A RELIABLE MEASURE?

Baker also noted that she doesn't believe the SOQs are the best way for students, or the school, to measure an instructor's value.

"There is a question as to what makes a good instructor. It means a lot of things to different students. As many different forms of instruction as there are, there are also that many types of students," Baker said.

And many students acknowledged that point as well.

"Everyone has their own opinion and I wouldn't want to scare anyone off from taking a certain instructor," Brandon Rice, 26, a networking

student from Saline, said.

Several noted that, while they would use the SOQs during registration, they would take them with a "grain of salt," and use the comments more than the ratings.

"I would use it as a factor, but not as a determination. It really depends on the student, how they liked someone," Cheryl Grestein, a 48-year-old computer science major from Ypsilanti Township, said.

"Any additional information is helpful, but it might be a lot of fluff opinion. I'd be careful how much I weigh on it," said Alec Hocking, a 19-year-old philosophy student from Canton.

THE CUSTOMER'S RIGHT

But, while students acknowledged that these evaluations are not black and white, they still want the information.

"We should know who are the good teachers. So, if that's how (the college) measures them, we should know, too," Stephanie Gary-Adams, a 24-year-old arts management student from Ann Arbor, said.

"We all have to deal with customer service, if we're providing a service and the teachers' customers are students," Grestein said.

This oversight will not only help students to choose the instructors that best fit their needs, but will also mean a higher success rate for them and fewer dropped classes, they said. It will also make the college better.

"It would benefit both the students and teachers," Caesar Sabuda, a 21-year-old pathologist assistant student from South Lyon, said. "It can only make the teaching here better."

Would you fill out your SOQs differently if you knew the results would be available to students?

"Yeah, I'd actually care." Amaria Bledsoe, 19, Detroit, pre-med

"I usually just B.S. it. I'd be sure to be more honest if I knew it would affect other people."

Angie Eliana, 19, Ann Arbor, neuropsy-

"People would definitely take the SOQs a lot more seriously." Sam Kruger, 32, Ann Arbor, business

"Probably, I would be more specific about how they taught the class. I wouldn't just breeze through it." Spencer Williams, 20, Ann Arbor, journal-

"I would actually fill them out. I feel like they're pointless now." Taylor Sinila, 21, Ypsilanti, liberal arts

"I'd definitely fill them out better. I'd

want to tell people if I got my money's

Caesar Sabuda, 21, South Lyon, pathologist assistant

"I might actually add something to the comments.

Darryl Mundrick, 36, Novi, health science

"Knowing it was going to be used that way, it would motivate me to be more honest. People would be less apathetic about them."

Sophie Downes, 21, Ann Arbor, interna- "I'd write a lot more." tional relations

"Would it change how I approach it? No, it wouldn't change how I approach it."

Ricardo Knott, 44, Canton, digital media production

"I think a lot of people just check them off as fast as they can, they don't really think about them. They would fill them out better definitely if they knew it affected other people who might take that teacher."

Tommy Lepley, 19, Ann Arbor, biology

"I fill it out pretty well, but I think other students would make it a point to judge more critically to help others." Alexa Lukowski, 20, Dearborn Heights, early childhood education

"It would really add value and give students a reason to fill it out." Eric Loveless, 19, Ann Arbor, sports man-

"It would make me fill it out more accurately."

Monique Hudson, 30, Ann Arbor, nursing

"I always fill them out, that absolutely

wouldn't stop me." Chris Young, 25, Ann Arbor, computer se-

"I would definitely answer better or more thorough if that were the case."

Haily Hastings, 19, Saline, graphic design "I wouldn't fill it out different if it's

still anonymous. I try to be as honest as possible." Kelly Lambeth, 30, Ypsilanti, math and

"I'd still fill them out the same." Jacob Fountain, 20, Plymouth, general education

Roderick Comer, 20, Ypsilanti, business

management

"No, I put my honest opinion on there and it would change just because it would be published."

Tricia Gary, 18, Pinckney, welding

"I would fill it out better, more comprehensive." Louis Flanders, 20, Ypsilanti, undecided

"No, as long as my name wasn't on it." Kayla Mays, 18, Whitmore Lake,

For more comments, visit http://www.washtenawvoice.com

HOW ARE SOQS USED?

Students fill out Student Opinion Questionnaires in each class toward the end of the semester. They rate professors in several categories on a scale of 0-5, with 5 being the highest. When full-time instructors receive a mean SOQ score of 3.75 or lower, they are flagged.

First flag: The instructor's dean analyzes the SOQ data and recommends key areas for intervention. It

WCC Career Services Series: Resume Learn tips on how to improve your re-

Get a free cuppa joe from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Job Search Techniques Workshop Learn about the job search process and

how to find the job that is right for you. Food

and beverages will be provided for those

who RSVP. From noon-1:30 p.m. in the SC

Study Abroad International Meeting

Study abroad meeting for all AHA

International programs and for Costa Rica:

Tuesday, Jan. 28 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in SC

310 and Wednesday, Jan. 29 from 5:30-6:30

Learn how to prepare for an interview,

how to research companies, and how to

successfully interview using appropriate skills

and behavior. From noon-1:30 p.m. in the SC

Learn how to cope with climate change

Test your knowledge against fellow

and how to reduce your carbon footprint

from noon-2 p.m. in the SC Community Room.

Interview Skills Workshop

sume. Improve your odds of getting the job.

From noon-1:30 p.m. in the SC Community

Monday Jan. 27

Coffee Night

Tuesday Jan. 28

Community Room.

p.m. in SC 328.

Wednesday Jan. 29

Community Room.

Thursday Jan. 30

Trivia Night

Low Carbon Diet #1

in the SC Community Room.

Room.

CAMPUS EVENTS

is solely the faculty member's choice as to which interventions to take.

Second flag (within 36-months of the first): The instructor's dean develops a "more comprehensive plan" for key areas of intervention. It is solely the faculty member's choice as to which interventions to take.

Third flag (within 36-months of the **first):** Grounds for termination. A panel of three deans including the instructor's own dean considers whether mitigating circumstances justify not terminating the instructor. The panel forwards its recommendation to the vice president of Instruction who makes the final decision on whether or not to terminate the instructor.

If instructors are not terminated after three flags, their continued employment is contingent on up to four semesters without an additional flag. If they receive a flag during this time frame, they are immediately terminated, subject to final approval by the vice president of Instruction.

WCC will host forum that 'could shape Michigan's future'

Thursday Feb. 6 Charter One Bank: Budgeting for

a Better Life

students and compete for prizes. From 5-6

Learn the basics of building a LinkedIn

profile. View examples of fellow students'

profiles and learn from their success. RSVP

is required at to www.wccnet.edu/careercon-

p.m. in the SC Community Room.

LinkedIn Workshop

nection, events, workshops.

Wednesday Feb. 5

Learn tips on budgeting for a better life from noon-1 p.m. in the SC Community Room.

COLLEGE VISITATIONS Madonna University

Monday, Jan. 27 from 9-11 a.m. in the SC first floor

Tuesday, Jan. 28 from 9-11 a.m. in the

SC first floor **University of Michigan-Flint**

Tuesday, Jan. 28 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the SC first floor

Art Institute of Michigan

Tuesday, Jan. 28 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the SC first floor

Concordia University Wednesday, Jan. 29 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

in the SC first floor

Eastern Michigan University

Thursday, Jan. 30 from noon-4 p.m. in

Wednesday, Feb. 5 from 1-5 p.m. in SC

SECURITY NOTES

From redacted incident reports provided by Campus Safety and Security, and interviews with **Director Jacques Desrosiers.**

Hit-and-run

The Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department is handling a case of a hit-andrun that took place on campus on Feb. 21 at 12:50 p.m.

While at a stop sign near the BE building, a student's blue 2014 Ford Fusion was struck from behind by an unknown driver, who then fled the scene before exchanging any information.

Community, lawmakers gather for important conversation

BY JON PRICE Staff Writer

Washtenaw Community College President Rose Bellanca is inviting students, staff and community members to join her in a "community conversation" this week to discuss hot-button issues Michigan will face in 2014.

The college is partnering with the Center for Michigan, a nonpartisan think tank, to gain insight from students, faculty and members of the community, on what issues are important to them.

The meeting is set for Jan. 29. "They want to create a friendly

atmosphere," said Steve Kwasny, 26, of Whitmore Lake, a leader of the school's Political Science Club. "The Center for Michigan is actually a survey group who will ask a wide range of questions, on anything from prison reform to taxes and use a hot or cold scale to decide what the states priorities are."

Jason Morgan, the college's director of Government and Media Relations, explained that a forum like this could very well shape Michigan's future.

"The goal is to listen to what people have to say all across the state," Morgan said, "and create a report to give to legislators and say: 'Here are the priorities of the citizens."

The forum was open to the first 50 people to reply to the invite sent via email to community members earlier this month on behalf of Bellanca's office.

The smaller forum is intentionally used by focus groups and politicians to better understand the needs of a community, according to Jenifer Jackson-Nkansah, a communications instructor at WCC. "It's easier engaging and getting a response from small-

And students seem ready to engage. "I would like to get to the bottom of the marijuana law," said Paul Erlandson, 24, of Ypsilanti, a behavioral science major.

Erlandson believes in marijuana reform, but said he wouldn't necessarily smoke himself.

"I want to know when I can legally grow hemp," he said, calling it "a very useful commodity."

Other students, like Kwasny, have more traditional concerns.

"I want to know what's happening with student loans that are a common issue for a lot of people who walk through these halls," he said. "I know it's a federal issue, but there are states' rights involved as well."

Kwasny sees meetings like the Community Conversation as critical in citizens having their voices heard by legislators. Morgan says it's equally significant for lawmakers.

"It's important that they're getting a thorough view of what their constituents are feeling across the state," said Morgan, who helped organize Wednesday's event.

The meeting is scheduled to take place in the Morris Lawrence building, Room 150, from 4-5:30 p.m., for those who responded to the invitation in time.

Treasurer recommends financial committee

Members to come from Board and community

> By MARIA RIGOU Editor

Washtenaw Community College's Board of Trustees is looking into the creation of a three-member financial committee that will deal with financial and audit responsibilities.

The recommendation comes from Board Treasurer Pamela Horiszny and will include two trustees – the treasurer and an individual appointed by the treasurer – and an additional member selected by the two members of the committee in consultation with the CEO and the CFO. This third member would come from the community.

"This does make a lot of sense," Horiszny said. "We are all elected officials, and we cannot be sure that we have financial expertise among us. This is a great opportunity to have interested people from the community."

The committee members would serve for two years and would have the chance to renew their appointments twice after the first term.

According to Horiszny's presentation at the Jan. 14 board meeting, the idea is that the committee meets on a monthly basis to review the financial reports submitted to the board and look at the overall financial position of the college. The committee would also meet at least once a year to deal with relevant matters of the operational budget.

"I'm glad that we are doing this; it is long overdue," Trustee Diana McKnight-Morton said. "We had a financial committee before but it was not into this depth."

EDITORIAL

Ethicality for all

As journalists, we strive to give our readers the truth. This is what moves us, what makes us search for more, what motivates us to keep going.

But sometimes this doesn't happen exactly as planned, as in all aspects of life. It all came to light last summer when Edward Snowden, a computer specialist and a National Security Agency contractor, disclosed top-secret NSA documents that revealed details of a global surveillance scheme run by the NSA and other companies. The reports were based on documents that Snowden leaked to The Guardian and The Washington Post.

Snowden has been called a traitor, a hero and a patriot, among other vivid adjectives. But the main issue for us at The Voice is whether the NSA, a national government agency that is supposed to care about the well-being of Americans, was doing the right thing in the first place.

Was the NSA being ethical?

People worry about newspapers and news outlets not being ethical, and harming the population. But what about the government?

Snowden's sole motive for leaking the documents to the media was "to inform the public as to that which is done in their name and that which is done against them," according to an article published in The Guardian.

The disclosure of confidential information fueled debates over mass surveillance, government secrecy and the balance between national security and information privacy. In December, a federal judge ruled that the government had "almost certainly" violated the Constitution by collecting metadata on nearly every phone call within or to the United States.

It was even rumored that the NSA, sparking more debate onto the already heated issue, tapped Germany Chancellor Angela Merkel's phone.

Was this ethical? Was the NSA doing something for the greater good and to protect Americans? Or were they spying, unethically, on American people and their allies?

This certainly makes us think that the media has a definite influential role on how things are shaped.

In November, *The Guardian* said that it had only published one percent of what it had received from Snowden, and that "the worst is yet to come."

As journalists, we have to be aware and conform to a code of ethics to protect both the readers and sources. We have to do everything we can to be fair and just. Yet we see that the government is tapping into our phone calls, our private lives and we think that the abuse of power hurts.

President Obama addressed Americans last week and announced new limits on NSA surveillance saying, "the work has begun."

Over the last six months, Obama created an outside review group to make recommendations for reforming the surveillance system in order to use the system as an advantage to "approach intelligence in this era of diffused threats and technological revolution."

We are certainly not attacking the government, but we think that having a good role model will make us better.

We promise to adhere to the principles of truthfulness, accuracy, objectivity, impartiality, fairness and public accountability, hoping that our role models will do so, too.

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The Washtenaw Voice is produced fortnightly by students of Washtenaw Community College and the views expressed herein will not imply endorsement or approval by the faculty, administration or Board of Trustees of WCC.

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 employing the best habits and practices of free inquiry and expression.

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The Voice welcomes letters to the editor from its readers and will make every effort to publish them. We reserve the right to edit letters for space considerations, and ask that writers limit their comments to no more than 400 words. All letters must include a name and contact information, such as an email address or phone number, so the letters can be verified before they are printed.

The Voice is committed to correcting all errors that appear in the newspaper and on its website, just as it is 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, phone 734-677-5405 or email thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com.

A copy of each edition of The Washtenaw Voice is free to everyone. Additional copies are available at The Voice newsroom, TI 106, for 25 cents each.

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Always Listening

When seeking truth can be a serious religious experience



MARIA RIGOU

Sometimes, when we think about journalism, we only think about news, about reporting what happened. And sometimes, this can be tricky.

Last week, Pope Francis celebrated with RAI (Italy's national radio and TV broadcaster) the 90th and 60th anniversaries, respectively, of their first broadcasts.

During this event, the pope reminded journalists and broadcasters of their responsibility to maintain

the kinds of stories that promote hu-

As a journalist, it is obvious that what we publish has to be true, but sometimes, for those who are thirsty for fame and success, it is very easy to fabricate sensational stories, fabricate sources, events. It is easy to be unethical. Just Google Stephen Glass and you'll know what I am talking about. Or Jayson Blair. Or Janet Cooke.

It is just a matter of having a little bit of imagination, one or two close friends who are willing to bend the truth for you, and you might have a Pulitzer Prizewinning story.

But if you like that, then you should be a fiction writer and not a journalist.

Every day we are reminded that when we choose to become journalists, we are also promising to be truthful, accurate, objective, impartial, fair and accountable.

And so this made me think. It made me think of what I do every day to bring

high ethical standards and to produce truth to readers. We find and check sources, seek all sides of the story and give everyone a chance to express their opinion. Sometimes this does not happen, but it doesn't mean that we don't try.

> I, at least, try. And I am completely sure that my team at The Voice tries as hard as I do.

The pope, of all people, reminded me of my responsibilities with the profession I chose in his words: "In addition to being informative...(journalism) is a public service, that is, a service for the common good, a service for truth, for goodness, and for beauty."

I have a responsibility to my readers to be truthful and to be ethical.

And I promise that I will, every single day of my life.

Now if I could only get that deadline thing down...

Contact Editor Maria Rigou at drigou@wccnet.edu and follow her @

Students have a right to know more



NATALIE WRIGHT

Students want access to the Student Opinion Questionnaire results. After discussing the subject with more than 100 students, I can say this with full confidence.

But the college is hesitant to re-

The administration says that it's the faculty's decision, as the SOQs are their "personal property."

The faculty say it's the administration's prerogative to choose whether to release them or not, but if it does, the contract establishing the SOQs as the primary means of faculty evaluation, and a justification for termination, is null and void.

I even heard one faculty member, at Welcome Day last week, say that the faculty would love it if the administration released them becuase then they could throw the contract out the window.

Both parties have been quick to circle the wagons and protect their own interests. Both parties are washing their hands of the responsibility

stead choosing to guard themselves, and their still fragile relationship with each other, from the consequences.

But, this college exists for us, the student body. As a member of the student newspaper at a school with a noticeable lack of organized student leadership, I feel a heavy responsibility to stand up for students' interests – and this includes the disclosure of the SOQ results.

The faculty's reluctance is understandable. SOQs do not paint a perfectly accurate picture of an instructor's ability. But it's the only picture we have.

Students who pay for the faculty's salaries through tuition and tax dollars (and community members who spend their tax dollars for the students) are both the consumers and the employers, and as such, deserve some oversight in how that money is being spent.

That means knowing how teachers are performing.

Students deserve to know what they're getting into before they pay for a class. They need as much information as possible to ensure that they get the best education they can for their money.

With so much talk from the faculty in the past year about transparency, and the need for open honest communication it baffles me that they don't feel they owe students the same.

The sense that I have gotten from the faculty is that they are very uneasy about the SOQs leading to terminations, which is understandable. As Jennifer Baker, president of the Washtenaw Community

of responding to students' request, in- College Education Association, put it, "The students here are very empowered."

> Students have the ability (kind of) to fire instructors if they're not doing

Some have said that this is too much power and students don't take the evaluations seriously enough. Others would say that this is exactly how it should be, because students are the customers, their feedback should affect change.

However, the SOQs' use in terminations is not the point that students are arguing. They just want to be let into the conversation. Transparency.

The faculty maintains that because the evaluations are used as reason for termination, they cannot be made public. But I don't understand why one affects the other, and no one seems to be able to give me an answer.

Unless the terms of the Letter of

Agreement have been violated somehow, and faculty who should have been terminated have not been, or vice-versa, how does making the scores public affect this process?

Both the faculty and the administration are here to provide a service to the students. That is the reason for the existence of this school and their jobs.

Maybe they should stop focusing on how releasing this information would affect them - and think about how it would affect those they are here

Contact Managing Editor Natalie Wright at nkwright@wccnet.edu and follow her @NatalieKay6

JANUARY: HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

We the people will not be bought or sold



HANNAH REAUME

As history tells us, the 13th Amendment brought an end to slavery on Dec. 6, 1865 - a law brought to action by then-President Abraham Lincoln. One man standing up and fighting against injustice created a path for others to do the same. But, many are unaware of the injustice that affects more than 30 million people worldwide, today.

Slavery is not dead.

Human trafficking is a global crime that brings in \$32 billion annually. It is the second largest and fastest-growing criminal act in the world, according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Recently, Michigan citizens have begun to step up to bring change in implementing policies to charge traffickers in our state, as well as protect the victims of this heinous crime.

The 10th Annual MLK Leadership Conference held this month at Michigan State University, brought students together to inspire one another to be proactive in the fight for social justice. A speaker at the conference

- a socially conscious hip-hop artist from California - NomiS, informed a crowded conference room about a global campaign that fights against human trafficking.

The Not For Sale Campaign, whose

president and co-founder is a professor of ethics in California, David Batstone, is just one piece of the puzzle in the fight to combat this modernday slavery.

In the U.S., slavery is not at the forefront of our worries. Too often we are quick to believe that this is only what occurs in countries where education is lacking and the people cannot speak on their own behalf for fear of arrest, brutality or even worse.

The painful reality is that we are not invincible to this. The very act that takes away more than 30 million people's basic human rights, also grows from American soil.

With the growing awareness of human trafficking, members of Michigan legislature, law enforcement, state government and anti-trafficking activists rallied together. The Michigan Commission on Human Trafficking was created in March 2013, with two primary goals: "to assess the threat human trafficking poses to Michigan residents, and develop policy recommendations to promote its exposure and prevention."

After months of research and meetings, the 2013 Report on Human Trafficking was released, informing us that although the amount of data is insufficient in fully assessing the threat, human trafficking does exist in our own backyard.

The women and children of human trafficking are often forced into prostitution. They are brought from other countries through our border with Canada, from other states, and some are even being pulled from our own cities. At a press conference last spring, state Sen. Judy Emmons, R-Sheridan, said on human trafficking, "...two of every three victims are female and 80 percent of victims exploited sexually with 40 percent of cases involving the sexual exploitation of a child."

The goods we purchase touch many hands before we have them in our own. Raw materials used in this process are often made with hands that have been forced into slavery, working in unsafe, illegal environments.

Those targeted are often entire communities lacking any options to climb up from their economic standing. Loans are given without the victims knowing that the lender is charging exorbitant interest rates. These victims are forever indebted to the same people who have promised them a better life.

The reality is painful, but change is possible. Whether it's through joining a local or global anti-slavery campaign, rallying other socially conscious minds, or the promise to discontinue support of companies known for slave labor, we all have a voice.

"Standing up for all Michigan residents also means doing all we can to free victims from the bondage of human trafficking," Sen. Emmons said earlier this month. The problem we face is one we must face together, with a united front.

Assaulting women's reproductive health care: Get over it, guys



CHRISTINA FLEMING

In the last year, more legislation has been passed limiting a woman's access to complete reproductive health care than in the previous decade all

More than 30 states have passed about 205 pieces of legislation restricting a woman's access to abortion, according to Rolling Stone magazine.

If our lawmakers spent half the time they spent on these laws looking at economic trends or the line items in the government budget we would be fathoms ahead in job growth and a balanced budget.

Honestly, I don't want to spend

time on this topic. I don't want to waste my time having to put pressure on my elected representatives to stop assaulting my reproductive health care choices.

When I think of the hours these men are spending talking about women's reproduction and the rampant ignorance surrounding it I just want to bang my head against the wall. They clearly just don't get the real issues that concern women.

Last week, a group of congresswomen wrote a scathing memo to the GOP stating, according to huffingtonpost.com, that it was intended "in the spirit of moving past partisan politics and working together to ensure America's women and their families have the economic security and opportunities they need to succeed."

I couldn't agree more with the sentiment. I would rather they spent time studying economic issues. I would rather they convened committees and spent hours interviewing the greatest economic minds to learn about

how we can build a solid foundation for jobs, education, family leave and myriad other more important things.

I would rather they took the time to attend a seminar on art history than spend one more minute worrying about my uterus.

But what I absolutely expect of my government is to take care of our infrastructure to see that roads and bridges are maintained and safe. I expect them to observe our water treatment facilities and ensure clean safe drinking water. I expect them to legislate food safety, ensure schools are operational, and make our services efficient and cost effective.

I expect them to keep laws off my body. There are thousands of things I could list out that I'd rather our government spent time on than these absurd laws on abortion and birth control.

Bottom line: I don't need my government interfering with my reproductive choices. I got it guys. It's



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A sugary ban or bitter bane?

'We have rights' no argument for lousy nutrition and health problems



M. M. DONALDSON

The war on obesity has incited a controversial coast-to-coast battle on sugar-sweetened beverages. San Francisco and New York City both have attempted to wage their own assault on the sweetened liquids ubiquitous to many Americans diets. Most recently, the University of Michigan Health Systems banned the sale of regular soda and sugar-sweetened beverages.

These attempts have resulted in heated push-back by the public. Complaints augmented with such arguments as, "We have our rights to make our own decisions," and, "We're adults: it's up to us if we make bad decisions" accuse the government of being intrusive and creating a nanny state.

While both municipalities argue the restrictions are for the greater good, UMHS has used the most eloquent defense, professing to promote healthier beverage options by stepping up as a role model in the community.

But despite regulations or bans on sugar-sweetened drinks, people will not become healthy as a result.

Another accommodating population, specifically grade schools, has offered scientists ideal groups to compare. According to an article by Daniel Taber in the Archives of Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine journal, schools that banned soda pop did not have an impact on children's total soda consumed outside of the school day.

Taber also noted that governmental and health entities are unable to control beverages sold outside the federally funded school meal program. In states where schools banned sugarsweetened beverages, children consumed just as much pop, sports drinks and high-calorie fruit drinks as children who were able to consume these beverages on school property.

Although each side of the sugarsweetened beverage debate has its

defenders, neither side has pursued nutrition education as a reliable tool for combating obesity.

Understanding the risks of consuming sugar-sweetened beverages and recognizing options for healthy drinks will change people's behavior. According to a study published in the Journal of School Health, researchers, led by Alicia Powers at the Alabama Cooperative Extension Nutrition Education Program, concluded that nutrition education created a significant change in children's efficacy to eat healthy.

Additionally, most people do not consider beverages as calorically dense as solid food. Those who consume soft drinks intake more calories than those who do not, even after taking out soft- drink calories. The American Journal of Public Health published a study led by Lenny Vartanian at Yale University that concluded the increased consumption of soft drinks decreases the amount of essential micronutrients and in-

Most people do not know what amounts are OK for sugary drinks. Furthermore, Vartanian found that soft drink consumption is reflective of one's overall nutrition. The more they drink, the poorer their nutrition.

Therefore, regulations on sugary drinks will not reverse people's health. If regulations and bans on sugary drinks are permitted, people will still be unhealthy and unaware of health risks. Nutrition education is the most successful way for people to make healthy decisions whether a beverage is readily available or not.

The medical profession taking a more aggressive approach to nutrition education would be an excellent starting point. Healthcare workers may very well argue that they already encourage this, but too many people say their doctor tells them to lose weight, but gives them no direction on pursuing diet and exercise. Another opportunity to impact a large part of the population is to reinstate physical education classes in elementary schools, but add the component of nutrition education, therefore linking the two in children's minds.

actment of a soda tax in France, sumption than government entities.

Pitie-Salpetriere Hospital in Paris uses nutrition education to combat obesity. The hospital does not put patients on a diet but provides cooking lessons, encouraging the patients and giving them the knowledge and skills to eat healthier.

Whether we have been for or against regulations and bans on sweetened beverages to make our country healthier, we do agree nutrition education is a smarter policy strategy. Using the "we have our rights" approach is a juvenile argument that is short-sighted for making bad decisions.

If we want to have the choice, we must act like adults and make appropriate decisions.

The most mature thing we can do for ourselves is to adopt healthy eating habits. Picking up a book on nutrition is an easy option to start informing ourselves.

Other positive steps include taking a nutrition class or asking a health care provider for a referral to a registered dietician. Armed with knowledge, we will be better equipped to make deci-Even with the successful en- sions on our sweetened-drink con-



By ERIC GARANT Staff Writer

A new semester is under way. It's another opportunity to get things right, to make an advancement in life. And the beginning of a new year is always cause for introspection.

Here at *The Voice*, we are always looking for answers. Who is out there? What is on their minds?

On a Tuesday afternoon, we ran across Allen Hicks, a 24-year-old animation major from Ann Arbor in the coffee shop. He was gracious enough to answer a few questions.

Washtenaw Voice: What do you think about the NSA?

Allen Hicks: It's really unfortu-

nate that spying on citizens is being

done. It's really not necessary. I remember hearing on the radio they had the information to stop 9/11, they just didn't act on it properly. So their justification (for spying) isn't proper. I think the worst part of it is that people are apathetic about their information being recorded.

WV: What was your favorite movie of 2013?

AH: The Hobbit. I liked that it had more of a childish tone to it. I thought it was more true to the story (than the Lord of the Rings films). The Hobbit was closer to what Tolkien would have told his kids.

WV: What do you hope to accomplish in 2014?

AH: The only goal I have this year is to get all As. (I study) animation. I never really did well in school, so it's

kind of my main goal here.

WV: Do you think marijuana should be legal?

AH: Yea. I'm not really, I don't really smoke it, but I know the legal problem it causes for people is a lot. It's really blown out of proportion for what the drug is, so I think they should legalize it.

WV: What do you watch on Netflix? AH: "Mad Men" and "Parks and Recreation." "Parks and Rec" is just a really good character-driven comedy. I think the characters in that are my favorite part. "Mad Men" is more of my girlfriend's show, but I like the way they to portray life in the '60s. The whole Civil Rights movement was going, they had a very homophobic culture, gender bias. It's just interesting to see how much America has changed.

Toice Box

INTERVIEWS AND PHOTOS BY EMILY ROSE VOICE CORRESPONDENT

What are you plans for 2014?

REGGIE KINCER, 20, Ypsilanti, engineering



I just joined the Air Force, so I'm excited to go to basic



SAVANNAH GAINES 18, Ann Arbor, psychology



I plan to volunteer for Big Brother/Big Sister.



EMILY STADELMAN,

CARLY BROWN,

18, Ann Arbor, math and science

I want to get a job at Webber's

I'm taking a road trip to

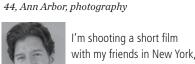
Traverse City with my best

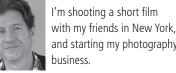


NICHOLAS LOPEZ 17, Ann Arbor, undecided



want to go back to Columbia and visit my family.





SHELBY SALISBURY 18, Tecumseh, nursing

I hope to get accepted into the nursing program at WCC.

KEVIN CASEY 35, Ann Arbor, graphic design



I plan to hang out with my nephew from California and build a website.



Get hip with handwashing

M. M. DONALDSON

One good habit can change your health.

Every new year, people are bombarded with messages to resolve to

be healthy. And with every new year, wintertime seems to brew the perfect storm for illness and we are overwhelmed by germs.

Hand-washing is one habit that is easy and affordable. Those pesky germs are invisible to the naked eye, but what you can't see can hurt you. When your hands look clean, they aren't, unless you just washed your hands.

Several studies cited in by the Centers for Disease Control showed that hand washing education showed a 21-58 percent reduction illnesses that can be prevented through hand

Nothing fancier than soap and water is needed to do the job right. Twenty seconds of lathering up between fingers, under nails, the backsides of hands is a great investment of time that may keep you from missing work or school and feeling miserable.

Washing your own hands is so important because other people cannot be relied on to do such a simple task. The American Society for Microbiology and the American Cleaning Institute found an astounding low percentage of people who washed their hands. In their observational study, they found only 39

percent of people wash their hands after coughing or sneezing.

If you don't have access to soap and water, hand sanitizers are a good choice, but they have their shortcomings. The CDC lists other studies that document how low or no alcoholbased sanitizers are unable to kill all kinds of germs and may even encourage germs to develop a resistance to the sanitizing product. Hand sanitizers should not be used instead of scrubbing up with soap and water for the prescribed 20 seconds.

Researchers at the RAND Center for Domestic and International Health Security have found that hand washing is effective in combating influenza pandemics where the supply of vaccines may be limited. Most health professionals would not advocate skipping the flu vaccine, but the study published by the lead researcher, Julia Aledort, in the journal, BioMed Central Public Health in 2007, showed how effective and simple hand-washing is.

Trudi Hagen, director of the Children's Center on the Washtenaw Community College campus, stated that licensing requires everyone, staff and children, to wash their hands at various times. Typical times include before and after preparing food and eating, and after playing outside, blowing one's nose or using the bathroom.

"We're washing hands all day long," Hagen said.

More of a testament to good handwashing habits resulted from a study that the Children's Center participated in two years ago with Michigan State University.

Some of childcare centers in the study were given training on handwashing. The Children's Center was in the control group and did not receive the training. Toward the end of the study, all hard surfaces were swabbed and analyzed for different contagions.

Hagen stated that the staff's regular efforts at the Children's Center resulted in a perfect report, with no germs found.

M. M. Donaldson is a correspondent with The Voice and is currently a Journalism student at WCC. She has a BS in Family and Community Services from Michigan State University, and has several years experience with nutrition issues affecting infants through older adults.

She can be reached at mmorrisdonaldson@wwcnet.edu



CJ SOUTH | WASHTENAW VOICE

H1N1 FROM A1

flu is particularly dangerous for children younger than 5 and adults older than 65, H1N1 is different than the seasonal flu.

According the Centers for Disease Control, H1N1 is a type of influenza that causes respiratory disease in pigs. Though there are multiple viruses attributed to the term swine flu, the H1N1 virus is the only one known to circulate in humans as well.

However, based on the symptoms alone, it is difficult to tell the difference between H1N1 and the seasonal flu. Because of this, Dion pleads to students to always take caution this time of year.

While the threat lingers over college students to protect themselves and get vaccinated against the flu, some students believe H1N1's dangers are being blown out of proportion.

"It's something that happens every year, so I think people just need to be cautious and stay calm," said Eric Jones, a 25-year-old automotive service major from Ypsilanti. Jones added that he wasn't worried about getting the vaccination because he's not susceptible to colds and influenza.

"It's a little scary," said Katie Arbuckle, a 32-year-old nursing major from Chelsea. "I'm usually not very squeamish about stuff like that, but I did hear they had some people in the hospital that were close to dead."

Though Arbuckle acknowledged this year's flu severity and noted that she always makes sure her kids receive the vaccine, she admits the only reason she was vaccinated herself this year was because she had to for work.

Some students may have also struggled to find somewhere to get the vaccination; many places in the Ann Arbor/ Ypsilanti area have been running out due to the recent outbreak of the virus.

"A lot of students have been in to get their vaccination, especially in the past two weeks," Dion said. "That has played a part in the recent vaccine shortage."

Dion adds that Ann Arbor Urgent Care is one of the few places in the area that still has a large supply.

Even though the flu season seems to be hitting its peak right now, Dion encourages all students to get their vaccinations.

"It is definitely not too late to get vaccinated," Dion said. "Better safe than

FAST FLU FACTS

H1N1 AND SEASONAL

- **FLU SYMPTOMS**
- -Runny Nose
- -Headaches -Chill

-Cough

- -Sore Throat
- -Fatigue
- -Fever of 100 degrees or more

How to prevent H1N1 and **SEASONAL FLU**

- -Wash hands consistently
- -Use alcohol based hand sanitizer
- -Stay hydrated
- -Get exercise
- -Get vaccinated

Source: Flu.gov



Fatima Oumar (Left), WCC history instructor Thornton Perkins and Aissata Traore began Thursday's event with a brief history of South Africa and a slide show documenting Mandela's many triumphs. JON PRICE | WASHTENAW VOICE

HONORING MADIBA

Big tribute for a bigger man

Staff Writer

the world's most celebrated leaders, Washtenaw students spoke reverently of a man and the life he led.

"We wanted to do something to honor the great man he was," said Fatima Oumar, "my super power, my superhero, is Nelson Mandela."

Oumar, an early childhood education major from Madagascar, and Aissata Traore, a business student from West Africa explained the profound effect Mandela's legacy had on each of them in a ceremony Thursday to honor the South African leader who died recently. The two founded a WCC club in Mandela's name.

The tribute was truly a celebration of Mandela's life, with bright colors and traditional music that kept spirits high throughout the presentation. It was well-received by the 50 or so in attendance who seemed to embrace the notion of a man who made it his

By JON PRICE life's work to bring people together.

"This was my first time being exposed to this club," said Maxwell In a stirring tribute to one of Nkansah.46, a dual communications/ psychology major, "I think it is an important legacy to carry on."

"We need people to come together to make wrongs right," said Latonya Motley, who works in distance learning at the college. "Nelson Mandela has been an inspiration to me."

The event, which began with an overview from club adviser and history professor Thornton Perkins, was held Thursday in the Community Room of the Student Center. The club served dahbleny, a sweet, South African hibiscus-juice drink, and flour balls, a

fried snack. The Nelson Mandela Club meets every Tuesday at 5 p.m., in the Business Education building, Room

For more information, contact atraore@wccnet.edu or foumarribier@wccnet.edu

Enrollment continues to drop

BY NATALIE WRIGHT Managing Editor

Enrollment is down this semester, as of Jan. 16, compared to the same date last winter by almost 3,000 credit hours and 330 students, according to the college's enrollment summary.

This is consistent with a downward trend that Washtenaw has seen since enrollment peaked in 2010.

Community colleges across Michigan are seeing a decline in enrollment, according to the Michigan Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers' Community College Weekly Enrollment Report. Out of the 27 community colleges that voluntarily submitted enrollment information since Jan. 3, all but two are seeing a drop in credit hours, and all but three in headcount.

One area is looking up at

Flex Ed courses, which include online and blended courses, are up by 423.

Last winter, the college's final enrollment summary showed that credit hours fell short of the budgeted number by more than 4,000. This year, so far, credit hours are short of the budgeted number by 2,706.

But it is important to note that this is not a final number, said Vice President of Student Services Linda Blakey.

A more accurate picture will be available on the profile date, Feb. 10, she said. The number could go up, as more students enroll in late-start classes, or down, as students drop

"Historically, we have seen that weather affects drops," Blakey said. Severe winter weather at the beginning of the semester, such as we have seen this year, can dissuade the more "casual students," she said, and in-Washtenaw, though: Enrollments in crease the drop rate.



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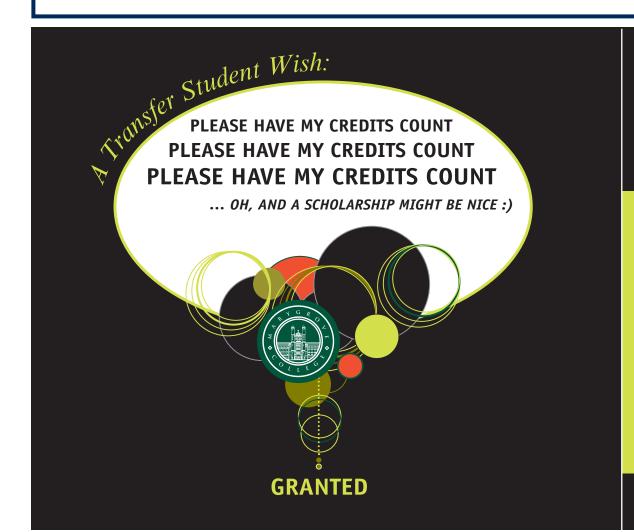


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TOTOLE BUTO

TORTH AMERICAN INTERNA

COLD DAYS, CAR CRAZE

PHOTOS BY BRIAN AUTEN AND KELLY BRACHA

Words by Kelly Bracha
Photo Editor

Seventy-five cents is all it takes to hop on the People Mover in downtown Hockeytown for a double scoop of entertainment found only in Detroit.

On a hockey night, you'll run into countless Red Wings fans headed toward Joe Louis, but stay on the train for one more stop, and you'll find yourself at Cobo Center, home of the 2014 North American International Auto Show.

It's been an unusually harsh winter, but the freezing conditions haven't stopped thousands of consumers, manufacturers, dealers and enthusiasts from attending the annual exhibit, which was open to the public Jan. 13-26. The show is particularly important to Detroiters, many of whom work for the Big Three automakers, General Motors, Ford and Chrysler, and the hundreds of other companies connected to the industry.

Many see the show as a forecast for the American auto industry, and the city it all revolves around.

This year, Ford introduced its new line of F-Series pickups. Its best-selling F-150 comes with a major transformation – an aluminum-alloy body and steel frame, which reduces the weight of the popular pickup by roughly 700 pounds.

Ford is also celebrating Mustang's 50th year by displaying the first concept and production model, along with the new 2015 model.

The show introduced more than 50 worldwide concept and production vehicles, including the newest models of the GMC Canyon, Chrysler 200, Lexus RC-F, Honda Fit, Stingray Z06 and Hyundai Genesis.

This year at the North American International Auto Show the Chevrolet Corvette Stingray and Silverado were named car and truck of the year. From top: 2014 Porsche 911 Targa, Toyota FT-1 concept, SRT Viper, 2015 Corvette Z06, 2014 Mercedes-Benz S-Class concept, Dodge Charger SRT8, Ford 2015 F-150.













oney can't buy love? Don't be so sure

By JON PRICE Staff Writer

When a 21-year-old University of Nevada-Las Vegas student wanted a little help making ends meet, she turned to a popular "relationships" website and found just what she needed.

She wasn't looking for a husband. She didn't even want a serious relationship. She wanted money, and she got it.

"Right now my allowance is a \$1,000 (a month)," said Laura, who requested her last name be withheld for privacy. She is now 22, and very much enjoying the perks of her "sugar daddy."

And that monthly figure is low, according to officials at seekingarrangements.com, a site that exists solely to unite young women with men willing to pay for their company.

"The arrangements are very open, it ranges from platonic, just friends, to more serious relationships and even getting married," said website

spokesman Leroy Velasquez. "The main difference between this and other websites is a monthly allowance that averages about \$3,000."

Which may explain why the two largest universities in Michigan are among the fast-growing universities in the country, based on co-eds signing on to use "sugar daddies" to help pay for their education. Michigan State ranks 19th in the nation; the University of Michigan ranks 36th.

With statewide tuition increasing by an average of 3.45 percent and certain student-loan rates doubling last June, seekingarrangments.com saw a 54 percent growth in signups from the previous year.

"Don't waste precious study hours at a minimum-wage job," the site says on its home page. "Connect with generous benefactors on seekingarrangements.com."

So what's in it for the guys? Apparently, that varies.

"I mean it's just a dating website," said Laura, the UNLV student. "I find that a lot of guys are willing to wait, or

not be sexual at all."

Seekingarrangements.com was founded by Massachusetts Institute of Technology graduate Brandon Wade, described by those who know him as a nerdy-type who didn't have much luck in the dating game. Then he came to the stark realization that with enough money, anybody could date an attrac- I was not letive young woman.

In 2006, Wade left his Fortune 500 job at Booz Allen Hamilton, a leading tech-consulting firm that once employed NSA whistle-blower Edward Snowden. Wade launched the website to try his hand in the matchmaking industry.

Since then, according to Velasquez, a 25-year-old Indiana University graduate, the site has exploded with traffic. More than one million college students visited it in the last year.

But not everyone finds happiness, or even financial security, on these

In a video posted on Youtube.com, Josie Kurkowski recalled her experience with a similar dating site, and

how her "perfect arrangement" ended up being the date from hell.

"I started when I was 17. gal yet," said Kurkowski in her 2012 online confession. "I made the site think that I was 18."

Kurkowski said that she initially joined the website with the hopes of getting a new vehicle, in exchange for a romantic relationship with an older man.

"I Googled sugar daddy dating. I thought, 'My life is going to be so set if I can do this," she said. But Kurkowski's dream soon turned into a nightmare when her "sugar daddy" became very aggressive

SUGAR BABIES

CONTINUED **B6**

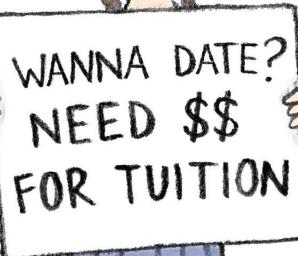




ILLUSTRATION | EJ STOUT



'High' five for the mitten?

By JON PRICE Staff Writer

With the legalization of recreational marijuana the new normal in Colorado, Michiganders seem ready to follow suit.

"It needs to be legal," said Katie Sinclair, a former Washtenaw Community College student and a "bud-tender" at People's Choice, a medical-marijuana dispensary in Ann Arbor.

"And I think it will be very soon," she added. "Marijuana is medicine, but if it were made legal it would be safer and more accessible for those treating conditions."

Sinclair, 24, of Ypsilanti, is a patient herself, and she recognizes the risks in using marijuana while it is still illegal on a federal level.

"The police actually conducted a raid in August," said Sinclair. And though no arrest was made, the federal Drug

Enforcement Agency is still investigating the small "potshop" on Liberty Street.

"There is no uniformity in the state and federal laws," Sinclair said, "and for patients and businesses it's really scary and confusing."

Amendment 64, as it became known to those in Colorado, was a ballot measure that was passed in early November of 2012, which legalized the personal use of marijuana for adults over the age of 21.

New Year's Day marked the start of the new legislation, and more than 20 marijuana stores opened for business in and around Denver.

With the perceived success of the legal reforms in Colorado, supporters of marijuana reform in other states

are wondering when theirs will do the same.

"It's going to happen," said Jamie Lowell, co-founder of 3rd Coast, a medical marijuana co-op in Ypsilanti. "When it actually came to fruition in Colorado, it gave other states hope."

Lowell sees a shift in the national consciousness, and he believes that Michigan will eventually legalize the recreational use of marijuana.

"When other states start doing this, the dominos will eventually fall on the federal level," said Lowell, adding that "over 50 percent of the nation is now in favor of legalizing marijuana."

He also reflected on recent remarks made by President Obama, who said he believed that marijuana was not any more dangerous than alcohol.

"Those comments are absolutely significant, following a distinct shift in policy by the Department of Justice," said Lowell. "They don't want to in-

> terfere with the states any longer, as long as they comply with policies to make sure

it's being used safely," Lowell said the federal government is concerned with keeping

marijuana out of the hands of children and dangerous drug cartels, and if states can enact policies to prevent those things from happening, he believes the feds will no longer concern themselves

with prosecuting store owners and users in states where marijuana is legal. Not everyone is on board with the changes to the law, Michigan Senator

Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), a former sheriff, has been an outspoken

> **MARIJUANA** CONTINUED **B5**

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AIM HIGHER















WCC encouraged by Jordan partnership

By DAVID FITCH Staff Writer

Even as educators at Washtenaw Community College are getting started with a new semester here at home, a small group of them have been hard at work at another community college, but this one is thousands of miles away in the kingdom of Jordan.

They included several faculty members and Dean of Business and Computer Technology Rosemary Wilson, and they recently returned from a trip that was meant to continue a project between WCC and Al-Quds College, a private community college located in Amman, the capital and most populous city in Jordan with just over a million people.

The project, which has been under way for the past three years, is largely an effort to present younger generations in Jordan with the skills and knowledge they need to build businesses. The main push was to facilitate collaboration between WCC and Al-Quds faculty to incorporate entrepreneurial ideals into curriculum and to establish a business incubator in which young entrepreneurs can make their start.

Funds for the endeavor were provided by U.S. Agency for International Development through a grant from Higher Education for Development. The initiative was overseen by the William Davidson Institute. WCC applied for the grant and was given more than \$450,000 in order to meet

But there's plenty to benefit both colleges, Wilson emphasized.

"There has to be mutual benefit," she said, "even though the partner in the Middle East is really the focus."

Scott Shaper, a WCC Internet professional instructor who got on board with the program recently compared to other instructors, said that he is already feeling the effects of the new principles in the way

"It really did change my direction,"

The focus at Al-Quds was due to the large population of young Jordanians going to school, and ultimately struggling to find work or end up working for others. The process was meant to give tools to this "youth bulge," so that they can "stop waiting for jobs" and actually create them, said Wilson.

This was achieved, in part through the creation and integration of what Wilson called "toolkits." These were ideas and plans to get entrepreneurial thinking and planning into programs which typically wouldn't have that component.

Culinary arts, digital media arts, and computer information systems were among the departments involved. The challenge was creating a way to insert such content without a major overhaul or significant disruption to the typical flow of curriculum.

Wilson made efforts to pair instructors from WCC with other instructors from the same disciplines at Al-Quds, a process that resulted in effective collaboration and great results, said Wilson. Especially for Al-Quds.

"They're really getting into it,"



(Left to right) Computer instructor Khaled Mansour, Digital Media Arts instructor Matt Zacharias, Internet Professional instructor Scott Shaper, Dean of Business and Computer Technology Rosemary Wilson, Culinary Arts and Hospitality instructor Derek Anders Jr. enjoy a meal in Jordan during their recent trip there to continue their work with Al-Quds college in Amman, Jordan. MOHAMMAD MANSOUR

WCC computer instructor Khaled Mansour came back quite encouraged by the effects of the endeavor.

"We saw so many success stories there," he said.

Digital media arts instructor Matt Zacharias, too, was encouraged by

"It was an amazing experience," he said, "to see what they have been doing with students."

Deadline nears for HRR entries



KELLY BRACHA | WASHTENAW VOICE

By JON PRICE Staff Writer

The end of January marks a deadline for submissions to Washtenaw Community College's annual literary publication, The Huron River Review. The magazine is a collection of short stories, photography, poetry and art.

Tom Zimmerman, English instructor and creative director of the Huron River Review, urges young writers to take advantage of publications such as this to "validate creative efforts and become a part of a community of writers."

The magazine was first published in 2002, and gets about 200 submissions annually. Since its first issue, it has received 55 national and regional awards, including honors from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association at Columbia University, New York.

Zimmerman encouraged writers who are on the fence about whether to submit their art or not, to go ahead and do so. The selection process is anonymous.

"If in doubt, send it," he said. "A good thing for all submitters to keep

in mind is the people who evaluate and read the art do so without the name of the artist attached."

Zimmerman said he enjoys seeing the creativity of the submissions, and one of his favorites was the cover of the 2013 edition, an artwork entitled "Catharsis" by WCC student, Kyle Johnson. The black-andwhite photograph, depicts a woman in a dress carrying an umbrella, wearing a military-style gas mask.

"This is an excellent example of the kind of enhancing college experiences we seek to provide for our students," said WCC President Rose Bellanca said in a news release. "The value of enrichment opportunities like this cannot be measured."

Zimmerman agrees. "My guess is virtually every major writer today got their start in a publication like this," he said.

The deadline for submissions will be the last day of January, so would-be artists should be putting the finishing touches on their projects, if they want to see them land a spot in this year's Review.

The magazine will be available for purchase later this year at the WCC bookstore for \$6.

Groups target health insurance incentives

By M. M. DONALDSON Staff writer

Many people are still unsure of what they need to do to sign up for health insurance. Groups, both national and local, are finding a significant need to inform the consumer. Confusion is not surprising given the complexity of the Affordable Care Act, these groups say, and sorting through the many sources of both accurate and inaccurate information can

The Washtenaw Health Plan has identified three key points of which consumers may be unaware. Ruth Kraut, program administrator for WHP, said people are unaware they have until March 31 to sign up on the Health Insurance Marketplace. Secondly, those who have not qualified for Medicaid in the past may be eligible through Michigan's Medicaid expansion, Healthy Michigan. Lastly, she stressed that Washtenaw Community College students 19-24 years of age can stay on their parent's insurance, if available.

The two main phases of the ACA revolved around consumers signing up for Marketplace if their employer did not offer health insurance coverage, or signing up for Medicaid through the expansion.

Enroll America recently released its survey findings for the Marketplace enrollment. The most predominant finding was 69 percent of consumers were afraid they would not be able to afford health insurance because they do not realize they may qualify for premium tax credits. The national non-profit used the public opinion research organization, PerryUndem, to administer the survey in late December. They also found that 34 percent have not visited the website because of the fear.

Premium tax credits, or subsidies, are tailored to each individual consumer's income and family size. This creates insurance premiums, the monthly costs, that are lower than what a Marketplace policy may advertise. Enroll America also found 82 percent would purchase a health plan on the Marketplace if they felt it was affordable. A premium tax credit calculator can be found on the Kaiser Family Foundation website. Angie Holan of PolitiFact has noted the site for its reliability.

The problems with the national website rollout have overshadowed all other information regarding the options for people who do not have health insurance through their employer. Despite the website glitches, enced technical problems but were not deterred from continuing.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recently reported more than 2.1 million have enrolled for a Marketplace plan, with more than 75,000 enrolled in Michigan.

An estimated seven million people being enrolled in the Marketplace for 2014 has been widely criticized. The Congressional Budget Office released that number in a February 2013 report as a projection. HHS is hesitantly pulling away from this number as a goal, attempting to be non-committal, and instead is focusing optimistically on enrolling more people in the Marketplace.

During a visit to Detroit this month, HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius attempted to clarify Medicaid expansion for Michiganders, encouraging them to sign up.

Due to Michigan delaying the start of Medicaid expansion coverage, there is no overlap of time between that and open enrollment for the Marketplace. This has many people worried they will find out too late that they are not eligible for Medicaid expansion and unable to then sign up for the Marketplace.

Kraut said the way for people to make sure they do not fall through that crack is to sign up for a Marketplace plan on healthcare.gov, regardless of what they think they are eligible for, the Marketplace or Medicaid expansion. When consumers apply for the Marketplace and the process recognizes that they may be eligible for Medicaid expansion, a prompt will ask for their permission to send the information to the State of Michigan.

If the information is sent, the state will contact the consumer with information to enroll in the Medicaid expansion. This is a good way for consumers to determine if they are Medicaid expansion eligible.

On the heels of Sebelius' Detroit visit, many argue that it is private insurance coverage that has been jeopardized for Michigan residents. There have been many sensationalized

reports of people losing their insurance, when in-fact, their current policy was non-compliant with the 10 Essential Benefits required by

Kraut has found that most of which have been largely resolved, these people had a policy that had to Enroll America reported that more be phased-out, and in most cases the than half who used the site experi- health insurance companies offered policies with better coverage.

The Washtenaw Health Plan has been doing outreach with its Community Resource Navigators at Washtenaw Community College and is looking for opportunities to continue during the winter semester.

Unlike the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University, WCC does not have a student health clinic. This leaves a high potential for an underserved population, which is why Kraut has prioritized outreach to the WCC student body.

For more information on signing up for the Marketplace or Medicaid expansion, contact:

Will Cheatham Community Resource Navigator 734-544-9747 cheathamw@ewashtenaw.org

Enroll America is a nonpartisan organization whose mission is to maximize the number of uninsured Americans who enroll in health coverage made available by the Affordable Care Act. Enroll works with health insurers, hospitals, doctors, pharmaceutical companies, employers, consumer groups, faith-based organizations, civic organizations, and philanthropies, among other partners to engage many different voices in support of an easy, accessible, and widely available enrollment process.

For more information on resources available, visit www.enrollamerica.org

'The Boss' refuses to slow down

By ERIC GARANT Staff Writer

Bruce Springsteen, 64 years of age, is an American icon like no othwer. Throughout a career that has spanned five decades, Springsteen and his message have remained remarkably constant.

He's gotten older during an age

of cynicism, yet Springsteen's earnest idealism has never wavered. Though now rich and beloved, he still sings about social injustice and a uniquely American brand of loneliness, and you never doubt that he means what he says.

He can pull off songs that from another artist would sound sappy or self-righteous because his sincerity is beyond reproach.

His latest work, "High Hopes," is a compilation of old material recorded with help from Rage Against the Machine guitarist Tom Morello and slapped into al-

bum form. There isn't as much of a unifying theme as most of Springsteen's other records, and Morello's contributions sometimes don't seem to fit

An extended version of "The Ghost" in response to the death of Amadou

of Tom Joad," in particular, suffers from Morello's electric guitar solos. The original, bare-bones guitar and harmonica recording from the album of the same name is a

much more powerful song. Morello's guitar here is like loud dramatic music during a key moment of a movie that unnecessarily highlights and distracts

Grade: B

Genre: Folk Rock Runtime: 56 minutes **Label:** Columbia

Diallo, who was shot by police who mistook his wallet for a gun.

"It ain't no secret / No secret my friend / You'll get killed just for living in / Your American skin,"

> Springsteen sings. Time has not robbed the song of any of its power, or relevancy.

"This is Your Sword," an Irishstyle rocker, is a great example of a song that few other artists could get off

"If you find yourself staring in the abyss / Hold tight to your loved ones and remember this / This shield will protect your sacred heart / The sword will defend from what comes in the dark / Should you grow weary on the battlefield / Well do not despair, our love is real."

the ground.

It's not exactly Shakespearean, but it doesn't need to be. It's presented with such naked sincerity that its affect precludes any suggestion of its naiveté.

Ditto for the closing track, "Dream Baby Dream." It's about as simple lyrically as a song can be, but it works, and it works because when you hear Springsteen sing "Yeah I just wanna see you smile," you believe him.

In 2012, "Wrecking Ball" proved that The Boss was not finished as a serious artistic force. "High Hopes," while not on that level, is considerably better than 2009's "Working on a Dream."

And it serves as a reminder of why Bruce Springsteen is an important figure in modern America. In a time when irony is the mode of discourse and coolness is the highest aspiration, Springsteen reminds us what lurks below our layers of blithe sophistication.

I'd like to thank the Academy (for nothing)



JAMES SAOUD

As 2014 begins, we are deluged by an endless stream of year-end lists and awards ceremonies in the entertainment industry. This includes the Golden Globes just a couple of weeks ago, as well as the recent announcements of the Academy Award nominees.

As pious and futile as an awards ceremony for achievement in any art form may seem, as a student filmmaker and self-righteous movie buff I am guiltily drawn towards these formalities. That said, I seem to get no greater pleasure than exposing my dissent with organizations like the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, the Screen Actors Guild, or the most famous of all: the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences.

Every year as I sit and watch these cinematic festivities, I am disgusted by the idea of Hollywood A-listers gathering to commend one another. What relevance could the awards possibly serve? Do they mean anything?

The primary objective of the Academy Awards, and similar awards shows, is to perpetuate worthy cinema toward the future of film lovers. It is a way to remember the winning films and to enjoy them years down the line. But just how accurate are these ceremonies? Do the winning films, filmmakers and performances actually live on?

It seems silly to me that Celine Dion has an Academy Award, but Stanley

Kubrick, arguably one of the best American filmmakers of all time, was never honored with one. The film "Harry and the Hendersons" managed to bag an Oscar, but Hitchcock's classic "Psycho" walked away from the awards ceremony with zero. And cinematic legends Mia Farrow, John Goodman, and Brian De Palma have never even been nominated by the Academy.

This year's Academy Award nominations are some of the most absurd I've ever seen. "Inside Llewyn Davis," one of the best films produced by the Coen Brothers, was almost completely skimmed over. "Blackfish," the fascinating documentary about killer whales at SeaWorld, was left out of the best documentary category. And Joaquin Phoenix was snubbed in the best leading actor category for his performance in "Her."

However, it is nice to see the Academy acknowledging smaller films like "Nebraska," "Philomena," and "Her" with nominations for Best Picture. Without a venue like the Oscars, perhaps these films would only be seen by a handful of people. This is where the real importance of the Academy Awards comes into play.

While the awards themselves may serve no deep meaning or purpose at all, the ceremony is a time to celebrate the movies. Perhaps the best publicity for a movie the size of "Nebraska" is an Oscar nomination. And I've heard more conversation about "Blackfish" being snubbed than I'd heard about the film beforehand. The truth is, being snubbed may earn a film as much attention as a nomination itself.

While the Academy's nominations may not always be an accurate representation of cinematic art, the ceremony is not at all about accuracy. It is about celebrating a year's worth of film, whether or not the films are nominated.

Playful and lovely 'Wig Out at Jagbags' is vintage Malkmus

By ERIC GARANT Staff Writer

As the front-man of the band Pavement. Stephen Malkmus re- wisdom and all the restrictions,"

guard Brandon Jennings and his former coach, Scott Skiles, mocking Jennings for his perceived hot-dogishness.

"I don't need your windbag minded the 1990s Gen-Xers that music Malkmus sings from Jennings' point

of view. "Actually / I'm not contractually / obliged to care."

COURTESY PHOTO | BRUCESPRINGSTEEN.NET

from the emotion of the event itself.

though. "American Skin (41 Shots)"

is one of the album's high points.

Springsteen wrote the song in 2000

Most of the other songs work,

Malkmus is known for taking jabs, but he never lets himself off the hook, either. Here, he makes fun of his advancing age and still-youthful style on "Rumble at the Rainbo."

"Come and join us in this punk-rock tomb / come slamdancing with some ancient dudes.

"No one here has changed / and no one ever will."

The album opens with"Planetary Motion," probably the al-

> bum's most conventional track, a classic rocktype number set over a simple drum beat and heavy on the guitar work.

The highlight is "Houston Hades,"

Malkmus' wide array of talents. It opens with a guitar solo before settling into a jazzy piano melody, and features some of Malkmus' sharpest and funniest lyrics.

"I could see you falling in love / Every day people need love / With all their better halves / Do the math / Everybody needs it long enough to

On "Lariat," he reveals what ap-"You're not what you aren't / You

You won't have a religious experience listening to Stephen Malkmus, but you'll be hard pressed not to have a good time.

'Fruitvale Station' - a second chance for race-themed movie

By M. M. DONALDSON Staff Writer

Six months after being released on the big screen, "Fruitvale Station" is Big spoiler alert: Grant now available on DVD. This is a sec- died on Jan. 1, 2009 af-Festival award-winning movie that Area Rapid Transit ofshowcases the talents of the first-time director Ryan Coogler.

It is also a second chance for viewers to consider the movie's statement that discrimination is alive and well, despite too many people believing everyone is on a level playing field.

USA Today recently received flak for inappropriately describing a movie as "race-themed," but "Fruitvale Station" is truly race-themed as it exposes, from a young black male's perspective, the fear white people have of people like him. Based on the true events of a young Oscar Grant III, the movie pushes the viewer to consider how society views this demographic.

Coogler, also a young black male, made his directing debut with "Fruitvale Station." He distills Grant's 22-year life by proposing what his last 24-hours of life were like.

Coogler makes the viewer appreciate who Grant may have been by using what he really was. Grant was a father, son and boyfriend who had made some poor life decisions, but wanted to do good by those he was closest to. Grant was also flawed, so when he attempted to change, even his baby mama didn't believe him.

Coogler creates scenes to give the viewer examples of who Grant might have been. Coogler makes viewers fall in-love with Grant's on-screen character without making him into a "magical-negro" that other recent movies with black actors have done by forgiving "whitey" for some slick slavery trickery or how a black man can be considered noble for knowing his place as a service-provider.

Michael B. Jordan and Octavia Spencer provide acting portrayals that are so realistic one wonders if they have used their lifetime of experience to study their characters so well. They are supported by the equally effective Melanie Diaz and the expressive child-eyes of Ariana Neal. Watching the intimate scenes between characters are uncomfortably voyeuristic when remembering the real-life notso-happy ending.

Part of Coogler's artistry with the

movie incorporates the use of the cell phone, reinforcing how recently the real-life events that ended Grant's life were. ficer. Actual cell phone footage of the shooting opens the movie and sets the stage for suspense through scenes of mundane activity of Grant getting gas, making the bed and brushing his teeth.

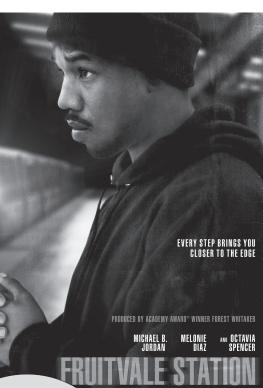
Coogler allows the viewer to see Grant's even more mundane texts, but for the effect of how ordinary and like everyone else Grant was.

But why is this a "racethemed" movie? "Fruitvale Station," in 85-minutes,

shows how this society portrays the young black male as being a person to fear. With Grant's first en-

counter with a white person in the movie, the white woman physically puts space between them, showing fear of his approach to her. In Grant's stroll to pick up his daughter in daycare, ominous music plays, making the viewer wonder if he's "gonna pop a cap in someone's a** with all these kids," when really there's nothing to fear; he's just picking her up from daycare. There's even a scene where Grant's group of young black males tense up at another group of young black males coming into their space. The irony is some will use this to justify why the white BART officers escalated the scuffle, using physical force to dominate the young black males they feared, ending with Grant being shot in the back while pinned to the ground.

There was much irony noted over the past summer, when "Fruitvale Station" was released on the big screen, as it coincided with the State of Florida vs. George Zimmerman verdict. A jury acquitted Zimmerman in the shooting death of Trayvon Martin,



COURTESY PHOTO | APPLE TRAILERS . COM

Some will argue that Grant in real-life got what

he deserved because of his

flaws, bad choices or being

in the wrong place at the

a young black male.

Grade: B+

Genre: Biography/Drama Runtime: 85 minutes Rating: R

> wrong time. But "Fruitvale Station" is not about the individual, Oscar Grant III, but of the fear many have of young black males today.

> And it is not easily interpreted, like slavery or Civil Rights of the past. This is now. This is how we are dealing with this fear by exterminating one black male at a time, through laws and attitudes.

> "Fruitvale Station" is not a chronicle of change and justice, but rather it explores the myth of how equal opportunities continue to set up the marginalized and disenfranchised even more. When people fail to succeed, they really are a failure.

> With lots of competition for the Oscar Awards, some consider commercial Hollywood overlooking "Fruitvale Station." Being tagged as an Indie film, and the fact that the movie is more social commentary than entertainment, may have kept it from being a box-office hit.

The only thing DVD viewers may miss is the end experience, checking themselves in the theatre bathroom after watching the movie, where the air-conditioning bounces off the tile walls, making it feel morgue-like.

COURTESY PHOTO | WIKIPEDIA.COM

could be fun.

Amid the self-seriousness of the grunge era, Pavement's brash irreverence, playfulness, and simply kick-ass jams made the band Indie rock gods.

Now 47 years old and almost 15 years removed from Pavement's breakup, Malkmus' approach hasn't changed all that much. His tunes are rarely deep, but they're absolutely irresistible. A melodic genius and clever songwriter, Malkmus makes music that you can't help but smile at.

"Wig Out at Jagbags" is his sixth solo effort and maintains the high quality established by the first five. It's a bit more experimental than his earlier work, largely eschewing guitar solos and throwing in some occasional brass.

And Malkmus has given himself total freedom to be as lyrically goofy as he wants. A huge sports fan, Malkmus wrote the song "Chartjunk" about the relationship between Pistons' point

Grade: A-

Genre: Indie Rock Runtime: 41 minutes

Label: Matador

a song that shows

pears to the album's target: hipsters. aren't what you're not / ... People look great when they shave / Don't they?"

WCC getting ready for 'RecycleMania'

By DAVID FITCH Staff Writer

Washtenaw Community College will go head-to-head against more than 300 other colleges and universities to compete for green titles in this year's "RecycleMania," starting Feb. 2

RecycleMania pits schools against each other as they attempt to slim their waste stream mainly by making a concerted effort to recycle more. Colleges and universities track and report waste figures from Feb. 2-March 29, and winners are calculated based on categories like waste minimization, paper used per person, and an overall Grand Champion category.

And no one is more committed to competing well than Recycling Operations Manager Barry Wilkins, who is already getting ready for the Michigan State University. "pre-season," a period in which practice measurements are taken, which runs Jan. 26-Feb. 1.

Wilkins says that he tries to be levelheaded about the competition.

"I have fun with it, and I try not to take it too personally," he said.

But he's serious about doing well this season, especially in light of the school's previous success.

WCC has placed quite well in the Waste Minimization category, earning fifth, sixth, and seventh places in the past three years. This figure is calculated by as a percentage of the total recycled materials compared to the total amount of trash and recycling produced.

The results are "very telling" when compared to other schools in Michigan, Wilkins said. Among the other Michigan participants are The University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and

"And there's little Washtenaw Community College," said Wilkins, chuckling.

In the other categories, Washtenaw performed less impressively, placing 141st out of a reported 165 schools in the Grand Champion category.

Many of the other schools have higher populations and on-campus living situations that give them a decided advantage, said Wilkins.

Students can help by simply doing their part to recycle and reuse materials as much as possible. This keeps materials out of the trash, can help to generate recycling revenue for the college, and it just might push WCC towards the top when the end of March rolls around and the RecycleMania results are final.

For more information, visit http:// RecycleManiacs.org/.



Recycling bins are all throughout the college, and students can help WCC compete in the RecycleMania competition by being environmentally conscious of putting waste in its proper place. MORGAN FILSINGER | CONTRIBUTOR

The opportunity to discover the different resources and opportunities available for students is what the winter semester's Welcome Day is all about. KELLY BRACHA | WASHTENAW VOICE

Welcome Day offered some serious fun

Staff Writer

With free food, soft drinks and face-painting providing a "carnival" vibe, just as advertised on its website, Washtenaw Community College gave its students a warm reception on a bitterly cold January day to commemorate the annual Winter Welcome Day.

Sponsored by Student Development and Activities and held throughout the first floor of the Student Center, Welcome Day is a great way for students who are new to the school become acclimated to their surroundings and explore the different services and opportunities the college provides.

With a few steps in any direction last Wednesday, students could learn about scholarship opportunities, tutoring services, the Health and Fitness Center and the many active clubs and other student-led groups on campus.

"This is a great way for students get involved with something new," said Jay Mannis, who studies social work. "It gives people options and a chance to see what they might like to do or become involved with."

Among the student organizations represented at the event were the Nelson Mandela Club, Intervarsity (a Christian fellowship group for college students), WCC's club and intermural sports teams, the Political-Science Club, and many others.

"This is a great way for us to be able to show what we do," said Theresa

By JON PRICE Perez, a second-year student in Washtenaw's physical-therapy program, and a member of Intervarsity. "We are more able to share Bible studies and tell people about Jesus,"

> Perez said that Welcome Day is very important to student organizations because it gives them exposure on a scale they might not otherwise find.

Also at the event were local businesses. Local banks offered sign-ups for financial seminars, while Jimmy John's handed out small sandwiches to the hungry masses.

The U.S. armed forces also had a presence. Marine recruiters were there to discuss potential careers in the service with students.

"People think we just pull triggers" said Ben Berson, one of the Marines' representatives. "The truth is, we have

a lot more to offer now." Career Services and some of the school's professional programs were in attendance as well, helping new students find direction in their educational goals as well as those students who are preparing to graduate and

explore the job market. The atmosphere was often fun and sometimes silly. But the opportunities' for career exploration and social benefits offered to students was anything

Welcome Day might have been a time for students to make new friends and explore new activities, and maybe even score a free T-shirt. But there was some serious learning going on as well.

It's FAFSA season again

By DAVID FITCH Staff Writer

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid helps direct \$150 billion in federal aid every year to higher education students in the form of loans and federal grants, among others, via the U.S. Department of Education, according to the Federal Student Aid website.

FAFSA is critical when applying for financial aid at Washtenaw

Community College as well as many other colleges and universities.

Director of Financial Aid Lori Trapp said that students should fill out the application even if they think that they won't qualify for aid. The form, while it may seem daunting, isn't insurmountable, she said, and should be taken "question by question."

A new FAFSA must be completed every year in order to receive federal financial aid. The new application is available Jan. 1 of each year.

Trapp recommends using IRS data from taxes, as is available via the online form, to fill out income information easily. Making sure information is correct and complete can help to ensure that aid is not delayed, which makes February the perfect time for many to complete this task.

In addition to helping to pay for future terms, FAFSA can be used to seek reimbursements for past semesters. The 2013-14 form is used for semesters prior to the fall 2014 semester.

WHO: Students looking for financial aid.

WHAT: Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA

WHEN: (All deadlines midnight, Central Time)

DEADLINES: For students applying for aid for the 2014-15 school year

Federal deadline: June 30, 2015 State deadline: March 1, 2014

WCC deadline: none, applications accepted year-round

WCC NUMBERS: (Figures are approximate; all figures from wccnet.edu) 40 percent of WCC students receive financial aid. \$50 million in aid distributed per year



COURTESY PHOTO | TWITTER.COM/FAFSA_MAN

FOR MORE INFORMATION: And to fill out the FAFSA, visit http://studentaid.ed.gov/.

Or for more WCC financial aid help, visit http://tinyurl.com/laryvnr, contact finaid@wccnet.edu, call 734-973-3523, or visit the financial aid office on the second floor of the Student Center.



EJ STOUT | WASHTENAW VOICE

MARIJUANA FROM B1

critic of the legalization of medicinal marijuana. Jones had recently introduced Senate Bill 736, which would make it easier for the state to remove children from the homes of medical marijuana patients.

Activists like Lowell and Sinclair aren't intimidated; they note that Jones is currently the sole sponsor of the bill. But that doesn't mean they aren't taking the perceived threats to

their movement seriously. "The horrible thing about it is a judge or court could order an independent medical evaluation, assigning a doctor selected by the judge, to determine if the medical use is necessary and proper," said Lowell. He also knows voters can change lawmakers' minds with local ballot initiatives.

"Politicians want to side with the majority, and the majority is in favor of legalization at this point," said Lowell.

The next state scheduled to vote on the legalization of marijuana use for adults is Alaska. But for people like Lowell and Sinclair, Michigan's time can't come soon enough.

One for the ages: NFL hits Super Bowl jackpot

Seattle's No. 1 defense vs. Denver's No. 1 offense in classic showdown

By ERIC GARANT Sports Writer

Sometimes the cards just fall perfectly. That is the case for the NFL, where the Super Bowl matchup between the Denver Broncos and Seattle Seahawks could scarcely be more ideal.

The Broncos, led by quarterback Peyton Manning, were the best offensive team in league history by most metrics, becoming the first team ever to score 600 points in a season and the first to have four different receivers catch at least 10 touchdown passes.

Meanwhile, the Seahawks boast by far the league's best defense. Built around a secondary that features three Pro-Bowlers, Seattle gave up only 273.6 yards per game, 27.7 yards better than the second-place Carolina Panthers. The Seahawks are athletic and physical across the board.

This sets up a classic matchup of elite offense vs. elite defense. Nobody has been able to slow the Broncos down this year, but if any team can, it certainly would be Seattle.

The team ranked first by a mile in defensive DVOA (defense-adjusted value over average), a statistic tracked by Football Outsiders. The Seahawks' minus-25.8 percent DVOA means that any given offensive play for a Seattle opponent is, on average, 25.8 percent worse than a given play against a league-average opponent.

"Worse" here basically means that the play has a lower success rate, which is how well it advances the team in the down and distance; a 2-yard run on first-and-10 is a "bad" play, but a 2-yard run on third-and-1 is a

That minus-25.8 number is staggering. It means that an average play against the Seattle defense is less than three-quarters as good as a play against a league-average defense. Over the course of a game, that is a huge difference in expected success.

As great as the Broncos have been offensively, it seems unlikely they'll be able to light up this Seattle defense. Their path to victory will probably hinge on their own defense.

That might not be a bad thing, though. Seattle's offense bears many similarities to the New England one that Denver shut down in the AFC Championship Game. Both the Seahawks and the Patriots have strong quarterbacks but lousy receiving corps, and they rely heavily on the run game. Denver loaded the box against New England and dared its motley crew of receivers to beat them. The same strategy could work against Seattle.

Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson is the game's biggest X-factor. The second-year man has looked shaky at times during the playoffs, but his mobility could be the offensive element that allows Seattle to move the ball if Denver shuts down running back Marshawn Lynch.

The health of Seahawks receiver Percy Harvin is another swinging point. Seattle has mostly gone without the injured Harvin this year, and the lightning-quick flanker got hurt almost immediately in a divisional round matchup with the New Orleans Saints. His presence would be a tremendous boon to Seattle's pedestrian passing game. Coach Pete Carroll said he expects Harvin to play, but that could well be misinformation.

The coaching matchup between Carroll and Denver's John Fox is

ILLUSTRATION | ERIK MORRIS

another example of these teams being polar opposites. Carroll is notoriously aggressive, while Fox is among the league's most conservative coaches. It will be interesting to see if Fox, with the league's best quarterback in Manning, will be willing to roll the dice a little should the Broncos fall behind.

The early Vegas lines peg this as close to a toss-up, with no casino book favoring either team by more than two

points. Each team is so dramatically better than any other on one side of the ball that it's very hard to predict how they'll fare against each other.

Seattle has seen nothing close to Denver's offense, but Denver hasn't played a team even half as good defensively as Seattle, per DVOA.

One thing does seem certain though: it should be a heck of a football game.

SUGAR BABIES FROM B1

and controlling of her, she said.

Velasquez emphasizes that all applicants are screened and must pass a criminal background check before they can ever engage potential matches on the website.

"We screen for every type of

In addition to seekingarrangements. com, Wade also runs four other websites that offer similar services.

ar babies" can connect with "generous travelers who are seeking travel partners, ening the pot until terms are agreed upon travel buddies or local tour guides," ac- by both parties. cording to the homepage.

more local, nameyourprice.com lets mem- browse "aspiring" singles who are looking bers name a bottom-line-auction price for an evening out, and "generous men" bid for the date, against one another.

misdemeanor and felony," he said, "and if they pass, they're on."

The website is free to "young attractive types" and charges a \$59-monthly fee to the "daddies," plus the initial cost of a background check. To encourage college students to create profiles, the website offers a free premium version to emails at an .edu domain.

Carrotdating.com is a website and mobile-device application. The premise: wealthy members are encouraged to bribe Misstravel.com, is a site where "sug- prospective dates, so the benefactor is more likely to get his first choice, by sweet-

Seekingmillionare.com is for the wom-For those looking to keep things a bit an who wants it all,. Paying members can for romance – and a whole lot of zeroes.

Eat, drink, support veterans, disabled

By ERIC GARANT Feast Catering, Tropical Smoothie Staff Writer

On Monday, Jan. 27, Washtenaw Community College will host taste fest, a fundraising event for Michigan Ability Partners. The group, a nonprofit that has been in business for 25 years, raises money to help veterans and the disabled find housing, employment, and jobs, and provides them with other services.

The event will run from 5-8 p.m. in the Morris Lawrence building. Tickets are \$30 per person or \$20 for students with an ID and can be purchased at the door.

Taste fest promises to offer good food and a good time for a good cause.

Food from several restaurants in the area, such as Seva, Paesano's, Cuppy's Best Soul Food Deli, Katherine's Catering. The Movable want in on this).

Café, Ugly Mug Cafe and Insomnia Cookies will be available, and is included in the price of a ticket.

There will also be a raffle, silent auction, and a cash bar. Community High School's jazz band will provide entertainment.

This is the first time the taste fest will be held at WCC, and organizers hope to loosen things up.

"In the past, we've had it at hotel ballrooms, and it felt too restricted," MAP Housing Supports Team Leader Misty Hendershot said.

"It's an excellent location, centrally located," Rob Coley, MAP Communications Integration Coordinator, said.

Hendershot said that in addition to the other festivities, there will be games, including a ring toss whose Bone Heads Barbeque, TeaHaus, prize is liquor (bring your ID if you

The event is also a great opportunity for students going into the social services to interact with professionals in that field.

"Social workers could have a chance to meet team leaders and ask about internships," Monica Mann, MAP Human Resources manager said. "We're very needy for volunteers."

Donations can also be made at www.mapagency.org via Paypal.

WHAT: Taste Fest, sponsored by the Michigan Ability Partners

WHEN: Monday, Jan. 27 from 5-8 p.m. WHERE: Morris Lawrence building

FOR MORE INFO: Visit http://www. mapagency.org

COST: \$30, or \$20 for students with ID



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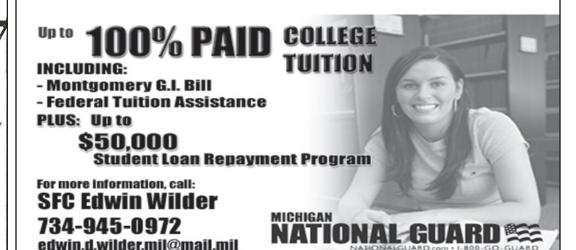
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Sandi Trombley Ind. Sales Director www.marykay.com/sltrombley 734-260-9208

OR

Tina Salisbury Ind. Beauty Consultant 517-902-2690



LA Times Crossword

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Across

- 1 Apply, as with a cotton swab
- 4 Dinner bills
- 8 Defeat decisively
- 14 Dean's email suffix
- 15 Overlook
- 16 "Respect" singer Franklin
- 17 Hitchhike 19 Rented
- 20 Write back
- 21 Amazement
- 23 Pod fillers
- 24 Out of the wind
- 25 Far from being in agreement
- 28 More in need of moisturizer
- 30 _ noire: dreaded thing 31 Before today
- 33 Contact lens care brand
- 35 Indian prince
- 39 What a pep talk is meant to do 43 Pixieish
- 44 Strong veiny cheese
- 45 Chanced upon
- 46 Chess corner piece
- 49 Pizazz
- 51 Graduation garb
- 55 Quantity of 53-Down
- 58 Grifter's game
- 59 Diminish 60 Prima __: opera star
- 61 Schoolchildren 63 Time relaxing in a chalet, and
- where the first words of 17-, 25-, 39-,
- and 51-Across may appear 66 Some nuclear trials
- 67 Earth's natural satellite
- 68 Archaic
- 69 Nobel Prize-winning poet Pablo
- 70 Graph's x or y
- 71 Nintendo's Super __ console

Down

1 Actress Messing of "Will & Grace"

- 2 "I challenge you to __!"
- 3 Took out, gangland-style
- 4 Conservative Brit
- 5 Bordeaux boyfriend 6 Offer at Sotheby's
- 7 Great bargain
- 8 "Honor Thy Father" writer Gay 9 1,000-year Eur. realm
- 10 Come back into view
- 11 In a total fog 12 Use wool clippers on
- 13 Owned, in the Old Testament
- 18 K.C. Royal, e.g. 22 E.B. White's "Charlotte's __"
- 25 Ball-_hammer
- 26 Normandy river
- 27 Naturally lit courtyard
- 29 Clothing patch type
- 31 Pale or malt brew
- 32 Baseball's Hodges
- 34 PC-to-printer port
- 36 "Sesame Street" puppeteer
- 37 Had a meal
- 38 FDR successor
- 40 Italian dessert sometimes made
- with espresso
- 41 Like much post-Christmas
- business 42 Drudge
- 47 Black Sea port
- 48 Old USSR spy gp.
- 50 Golf instructors 51 TV from D.C.
- 52 Sharp, as an eagle's eyesight
- 53 Photocopier supply
- 54 Only U.S. president born in
- Hawaii
- 56 Foot-to-leg joint
- 57 Hotel cleaning crew
- 60 Cozy rooms
- 62 U.K. business abbr.
- 64 Chicken_
- 65 French king

Sudoku

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puzzles.ca

Answers

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Students and WCC employees: Classified ads in *The Voice* are free. **Local business owners:** Looking for help? Post your free help wanted ads in *The Voice*. Send ads to thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com.

Note: Deadline for the Feb.10 issue is Tuesday, Feb 4,at 5 p.m.

SERVICES

VOLUNTEER TUTORS: Washtenaw Literacy needs volunteers to tutor adults in basic reading, writing, math and English as a Second Language. If in Help change lives – one word at a time! Contact info@ washtenawliteracy.org or call 734-879-1320.

NEED HEALTH CARE? Are you between the ages of 12-22? Contact the Corner Health Center at 734-484.3600 or visit online at: www.cornerhealth.org

HELP WANTED

SEASONAL PART-TIME POSITIONS AVAILABLE: Canton Leisure Services is now hiring for seasonal part-time positions that start in April-June 2014. Positions may include: lifeguards, summer camp counselors and supervisors, therapeutic recreation camp staff, special events coordinators, park laborers, Pheasant Run Golf Course staff,

Canton Sports Center staff and more. If you enjoy a fast-paced, exciting work environment, don't miss this opportunity to join a great team this summer! Students, here's your chance to gain valuable work experience in your field of study. Apply today at www.canton-mi.org/humanresources/jobs.asp. For more information, call 734/394-5260

ROCK STARS WANTED! Jimmy John's in Ann Arbor is now hiring the best sandwich-makers and delivery drivers. Must have a killer work ethic, rock-star personality and be ready to learn! To apply stop by 3365 Washtenaw Ave or e-mail your resume to washtenaw@jimmyjohns.com.

Below is a sample of recent employment want ads which have been posted with WCC Career Services. Students are invited to read these ads and to contact Career Services to find out how to apply for the openings. Career Services is located in ML 104. For more information,

phone (734) 677-5155, email careers@ wccnet.edu, or visit www.wccnet. edu/careerconnection/.

Security Officer. Valor Security Services at the Briarwood Mall in Ann Arbor is currently seeking applicants for a part-time security officer position. The position would be anywhere from 16-32 hours weekly with a starting pay of \$10 per hour.

Light Service Tech. Perform maintenance and repairs on vehicles. On-thejob training. Advancement opportunities available.

Office Staff. Infinity Gymnastics Academy in Brighton is looking for office staff to support its front desk operations. Individual must be reliable, have basic computer skills and be able to work with a diverse customer base. Position requires availability during the evenings and on Saturday and Sunday.

After School Classroom Caregiver. M & M Extra Care, a schoolage program located within elementary

schools, is looking for several qualified and motivated Classroom Caregivers. Applicant must be at least 18 year of age, have experience working with groups of children, such as in a childcare setting, church youth groups, summer camps or coaching sports teams.

Bakehouse Evening Sorter/ Delivery Driver. Zingerman's Bakehouse is seeking a full-time evening sorter/delivery driver for the 2-10 p.m. shift. This position sorts customer orders and delivers them locally here in Ann Arbor while providing the "Zingerman's experience." Expectations: Sort customer bread orders, deliver customer orders, provide excellent service to customers, slice bread products.

Coffee Barista. You should love fixing up a cuppa joe or crafting beautiful espresso drinks and providing great service. You should be able to think on your feet while you meet and greet our regulars and new guests alike. You should want to work like your ass is on fire because you love what you do. Full-time, 30-40 hours/ week. Our performance expectations are: maintain priorities in managing guest experiences and workspace; taste all coffee products and learn about them actively; maintain coffee's service reputation; participate actively in huddles, meetings and events; handle cash, phone, and beverages; move quickly and with purpose; work

constructively with all staff.

Infant Teacher. Assists the lead teacher in an assigned classroom. Responsible for assisting with the implementation of curriculum which includes lesson planning and child assessment. Assists in maintaining a clean and orderly room and school.

Auto Porter. Clean interior and exterior of vehicles. Keep vehicle lots neat and orderly, moving cars as needed. Clean driveway and sidewalks, removing snow and debris as necessary. Drive vehicles to and from service lane, service stalls and parking lot as needed. Assist manager as requested. Make key tags for vehicles. Perform other duties as assigned. Must follow all company safety policies and procedures and immediately report any and all accidents to a manager or supervisor

Cook and Server. Olga's Kitchen is looking for cooks and servers. Up to 40 hours a week . Hiring immediately

Machine Builder. Plastipak Packaging, Inc. is seeking a motivated, driven machine builder who is seeking the opportunity to assemble innovative, cutting-edge machines within a unique industry. Expected to handle multiple projects in our fast-paced environment and drive toward results and work closely with a small team. Strong communication, relationship and management skills are essential.

Winners announced in second Student Art Exhibition

By DAVID FITCH
Staff Writer

This year's Student Art Exhibition showcased 53 pieces of art created by Washtenaw Community College students, ranging from well-defined pencil drawings to abstract ceramic pieces.

The exhibition was sponsored by the newly formed WCC Drawing Club, which began mid-fall semester. This is the second year of the exhibition.

First place went to Logan Kesling, 22, a human services major from Ann Arbor. Her winning piece was a face drawn with splattered ink on canvas. The inspiration, Kesling said, came when she couldn't sleep one night.

"I got a canvas, broke some pens and... dripped some water on it," she said.

What resulted was a startling visage of an upturned face in mid-scream. The piece, she said, took about 30 minutes to create.

Second place went to Tatiana Kondrashova, 66, of Ann Arbor, for her impressionist vision of a forest with light beaming through the trees done in oil paint. Elyse Childress, 20, an art educa-

tion major from Ann Arbor, brought home third place for her piece "Astral Projection," which depicted melting faces before a starlit sky.

Drawing Club President Lorena

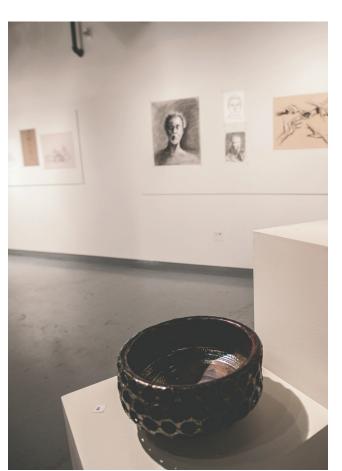
Drawing Club President Lorena Ganser, 24, of Ann Arbor, was encouraged by the turnout, considering how new the club is, she said.

Art Instructor Nick Reszetar, who serves as advisor for the drawing club, was excited about it as well, especially by the diversity of the pieces entered. He said students involved with organizing the event would bring away some great experiences that could serve them in their future art careers.

"This exhibition helped gel them together," he said.



First-place winner Logan Kesling created her piece using broken pens on canvas. Her inspiration came during a sleepless night, she said. KELLY BRACHA | WASHTENAW VOICE



GalleryOne hosted an array of student art involving various mediums. KELLY BRACHA | WASHTENAW VOICE



Drawing Club adviser Nick Reszetar announces the three winners of the exhibition. Only about half of the art submissions were voted into the the final display, he said. KELLY BRACHA | WASHTENAW VOICE

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