

## BLIND PASSION



Shawn Donaldson, of Livonia, 41, began taking classes at Washtenaw two years ago after hearing about the college's long-time music and performing arts instructor John E. Lawrence. Donaldson, who was born legally blind, compares the 'whirlwind' teaching style of Lawrence to the discipline of martial arts. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE

See 'PERSEVERING FOR PASSION'S SAKE,' Page A6

## Trustees debate tuition bump

BY NATALIE WRIGHT  
Editor

At its last meeting, the Washtenaw Community College board of trustees heard a recommendation from the college's administration to increase tuition for the fall semester.

The recommended hike would increase tuition for in-district students by 1.1 percent, 2 percent for out-of-district, 2.5 percent for out-of-state and 3 percent for international students and online courses.

Tuition for current students, who register before July 31, would stay at current rates.

Keeping the cost for in-district students low is "recognition of the strong support the college receives from the residents of Washtenaw County," WCC Chief Financial Officer Bill Johnson said.

The higher increase for international students and online courses is justified by the extra resources the college provides for those students, Johnson said.

While some trustees were quick to sign off on the administration's proposal, others suggested alternatives.

"I'm going to advocate for keeping that (in-district) figure at zero percent," said Trustee Dave DeVarti, adding that since President Obama has committed to

making community college free, "We should be doing our part."

He suggested doubling the increase for online courses to 6 percent to make up the difference.

"When we do that, we're about \$23,000 short of being even with your recommendation," DeVarti said.

While the college's enrollment has seen steep drops and stagnation over the last several years, online enrollment is growing.

Johnson expressed concern with raising online tuition too far. In-district students will likely attend the college regardless of tuition increases, he said, so the college should aim to keep out-of-district and online costs competitive.

Although overall enrollment hasn't grown in years, the administration's proposal assumes slight increases over the next three years.

The case for raising tuition in past years has been that enrollment declines have caused the college's finances to take a serious hit. Keeping tuition low, however, could help enrollment to grow once again, suggested Trustee Ruth Hatcher.

"I think keeping a zero percent increase would be huge for those marketing people going out to high schools," Hatcher said.

But most of the trustees hesitated to get behind a zero percent increase.

See TUITION, Page A6

## A WCC great says goodbye

AFTER 36 YEARS, BELOVED PERFORMING ARTS INSTRUCTOR, JOHN E. LAWRENCE WILL RETIRE



JOHN E. LAWRENCE

BY TAYLOR ROBINSON  
Staff Writer

In a 1962 episode of "The Twilight Zone," a man watches children playing from the window of his nursing home. They shout and laugh, playing kick the can. The man longs to feel young again and believes that if he returns to childish activities, his youthfulness will return. He gathers most of the nursing home inhabitants to sneak out of the house, tiptoeing down the stairs. When a reluctant inhabitant follows out behind them, he sees a group of children laughing and playing. They are indeed young again. This is how John E.

Lawrence, Washtenaw Community College music performance instructor, chooses to live his life. He believes that if he does the same things that he did as a kid, he'll continue to stay youthful. Anyone who knows him will tell you, it worked.

Although he'll be retiring this spring after 36 years as one of WCC's most beloved performing arts instructors, Lawrence has assured faculty, staff and students that he'll be back to visit. But he also wants to get out and enjoy himself.

"I want to retire when I can still have fun. When I can still make a difference in life," Lawrence said. "When I can still grow. I can still learn."

This departure from WCC will mark a new chapter in Lawrence's life, and it just so happens to fall on another life milestone.

The semester will end on May 4, Lawrence's 60th birthday, making him retirement eligible.

When Lawrence first came to WCC, he came as a student. Morris Lawrence, well-known jazz musician and legendary WCC instructor took John

under his wing and became his mentor.

"He was the first teacher I ever had that made education fun, made learning fun," John said. "The guy just had a way of explaining things in a way that made sense."

As John continued to take class after class, Morris approached him and suggested he become an instructor. Baffled, John replied that he didn't know how to teach. Morris pushed, and WCC is lucky that he did. It turns out that John has an uncanny way of getting through to his students.

"Every time I see a student get it, it's like a lightbulb goes off," John said. "They've been struggling and struggling with something, and then, all of the sudden, they understand. And they're able to apply it, and you see the growth instantly."

Since becoming a part-time instructor in 1979 and full-time in 2000, John certainly made his mark on the music program. He's created three certificate programs, 22 new courses and written 16 instructional guitar books, some even for his students.

His students – this is what

John will miss the most about teaching at WCC.

"I'm going to miss the sound of students practicing in the lobby [of the Morris Lawrence building] or sitting on the floor, playing their guitars," John said, lightly laughing to himself in reminiscence.

His students will miss him too. As a child, John Hunter, now a 51-year-old music student from Whitmore Lake, saw John Lawrence perform in one of his previous bands.

"I said to myself, 'If I could ever learn to keep up with that guy, maybe I'll have a chance at it,'" Hunter said. Although Hunter plays guitar, John urged him to pursue singing in his Performance Workshop Ensemble course.

"Johnny, being the kind of person that he is, gets you out of your comfort zone. He puts you in a situation where you're not comfortable or not familiar because that's the way he teaches," Hunter said.

John also approaches each student differently because each student is at a different level musically.

See LAWRENCE, Page A6

## WCC launches social media platform

BY NATALIE WRIGHT  
Editor

Since the days of MySpace, the vines of social media have penetrated every inch of our lives. Every smartphone screen is filled with applications that connect users to everyone they know, everything they like and everything that is going on in the world in real time.

Soon, Washtenaw Community College students will also be able to connect with everything and everyone on campus through a social media site called Campus Connect.

The site, which was opened up to students two

weeks ago, provides each student with a profile and each student organization with a fan page.

"The site not only makes it easier within groups, but it makes it easier to reach out to students," said Pete Leshkevich, director of Student Development and Activities.

Students will be able to browse the pages of more than 30 clubs, 10 sports teams and other student organizations such as the student ambassadors and Phi Theta Kappa. They can express interest in joining a club, request more information and RSVP to events.

As students participate in

See CONNECT, Page A8

### Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

"I am going to keep going to school to get a bachelor's in welding or maybe even a master's, if that's possible. After school, I want to stay in Michigan and be living in a house with a successful job in welding. If I get a better opportunity or a job out of state, I wouldn't have a problem with leaving though."

Jacob Horste, 18,  
South Lyon, welding

SEE MORE ABOUT  
STUDENT'S ASPIRATIONS  
VOICEBOX PAGE A5





**complete  
YOUR  
COLLEGE  
EXPERIENCE!**  
with Student Development  
and Activities

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rachel Barsch   [rbarsch@wccnet.edu](mailto:rbarsch@wccnet.edu)

Earth Day Celebration

Join WCC in celebrating Earth Day and become a solution for some of the environmental problems we face.  
**Where:** Student Center  
**When:** April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Traverse City Trip

We're packing our bags and traveling to Sleeping Bear Dunes and Traverse City, and we'd like you to be our guest!  
**Tickets:** \$125 –going on sale soon!  
**Includes:**  
- Motor-coach transportation.  
- Lodging at Northwestern Michigan College.  
- Hiking at Sleeping Bear Dunes  
- Tubing on the Platte River  
- Fun at Pirate's Cove  
- Dinner on Friday, brunch on Saturday & Dinner on Saturday.  
**When:** 7 a.m., June 26<sup>th</sup> – 8 p.m., June 28<sup>th</sup>

Stress Free Day

Come unwind, recharge and enjoy refreshments courtesy of Student Activities!  
**Where:** 1<sup>st</sup>, floor of Student Center  
**When:** April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
**Time:** 12:30 p.m. -1:30 p.m.

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

Alexandria Judkins   [ajudkins@wccnet.edu](mailto:ajudkins@wccnet.edu)

Digitizers club

A club for students and faculty who enjoy photography and want to enhance their skill set.  
**Where:** GM 20  
**When:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Campus Connect

Introducing the new social network for student life at WCC! Login to win 2 free tickets to the Student Activities Annual Cedar Point trip.  
**Deadline to enter for tickets:** Thurs. April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
**Contest Rules:** Must be enrolled for Winter 2015 classes. Drawing is May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Commit to Complete

Stop by the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the SCB & LA Bridge to commit to complete your certificate and or associates degree here at WCC. Statistics show the best way for someone to land a job is to finish college.  
**Where:** 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of SC & LA Bridge  
**When:** April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
**Time:** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

SPORTS

Matthew Lucas   [mflucas@wccnet.edu](mailto:mflucas@wccnet.edu)

3v3 Basketball:

Want to shoot some hoops on the court? Our 3v3 Basketball starts on Monday, April 13 at the basketball courts next to the baseball field. We will start at 5 p.m. and play until 7 p.m. Other game dates: April 20 and 27.

Ultimate Frisbee:

Frisbee will begin on Friday, April 10, 4 pm - 6 pm on the soccer field. Other game date available is April 17. Please sign up by April 3.

Flag Football:

We are still taking signups for flag football! We will be on the soccer field Wednesdays from 4pm to 6pm. Remaining dates are: April 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Come sign up in the office!

Tickets for shows, trips and events are available in the Cashier's Office, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the SC building!



**STAY CONNECTED!**  
[HTTP://TINYW.CC/SDA](http://tinyw.cc/sda)

Be the first to find out about new tickets and activities!

**Commencement Ceremony  
is May 16**

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Stop in (2nd floor of the Student Center Building) or call 734-677-5006 for more information.



RICHARD LANDAU

# Trustee lets his passions lead



When he's not in the boardroom, Washtenaw Community College board of trustees Chair Richard Landau uses his background in psychology to advocate for people with disabilities through his own law firm. EJ STOUT | WASHTENAW VOICE

## THE FOURTH IN A SERIES OF TRUSTEE PROFILES

BY PAULETTE PARKER  
News Editor

The path Washtenaw Community College board of trustees Chair Richard Landau traveled to get to where he is today is paved with location, career and life changes.

Born in Euclid, Ohio, Landau and his family moved to Ann Arbor when he was 6 years old. He attended Ann Arbor public schools and graduated from Huron High School.

After high school, Landau attended Brown University in Rhode Island where he obtained his bachelor's in psychology. Landau received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology

from the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

After practicing clinical psychology in the New England area for five years, Landau decided to go to law school. Landau's interest for law arose while working at a psych hospital in Boston and learning about the practice of forensic psychology. He also became interested in the rights of individuals with mental illness.

"Since I had gotten my Ph.D. at a relatively young age, I thought, well, my style of advocacy was a little more active than sitting in therapy and talking to people," Landau said. "So I decided to take a shot at going

to law school, and then found that I became more interested in advocating for people with disabilities than being a treating professional," Landau said.

The trustee graduated from the Boston University School of Law in 1985. He practiced law at a firm in Boston for about four years before deciding to relocate to Ann Arbor after having his second child.

Landau practiced at the Dykema firm in Ann Arbor for 17 years, 10 of which he was a partner. There, he met his current wife Kristin, who is also an attorney. They blended a family of six children between the two of them. Despite having two parents practicing law,

none of their children have yet expressed interest in going in the same direction.

"We'd welcome them, but none of them have," Landau said.

Landau's family was not available for comment. They're private people, the trustee said.

In 2007, Landau left Dykema and, with his wife, co-founded RJ Landau Partners PLLC in Ann Arbor.

"I decided to start my own firm to focus on some other interests I developed, chiefly in the area of banking law and mortgage fraud," Landau said. Landau's clients run the gamut of large financial institutions all the way to small charter

schools. He even represents the Ann Arbor public schools on certain matters.

He specializes in education-related issues, banking and real estate.

"Because of my background in psychology, I have always maintained an interest in education law and the rights of people with disabilities," Landau said.

Long before he became a trustee, his father, Henry S. Landau, held a seat on WCC's board and was also a founding member of the WCC Foundation. He was also a building contractor who built more than 700 custom homes in Ann Arbor, as well as the

building that houses Landau's law firm.

"When you read real estate ads they will say, 'was built by Landau,' because he was really proud of the construction that he did," he said. Landau is the WCC trustee liaison for Washtenaw Technical Middle College and has been a trustee since 2001.

"He's not much different than what you see in the boardroom," said WCC board secretary Christina Fleming.

"He's a great guy; he's fun to talk to; he's got a wealth of experiences and knowledge and a great legal mind," said WCC trustee Stephen Gill. "I think highly of him."

# WCC to host Earth Day celebrations

BY SOFIA LYNCH  
Features Editor

Washtenaw Community College's 14th annual Earth Day celebration will be held April 9, on the first floor of the Student Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The celebration will offer information about an array of solutions to environmental problems, presented by WCC departments, local non profits, government organizations and businesses.

"The organizations either talk about how they're serving the community through environmental initiatives, or they're going to tell students how they can help," said Rachel Barsch, the coordinator of

student activities.

Among the multiple organizations represented at the event, three car companies – Nissan, Ford and Cadillac – will have their environmentally friendly vehicles on display in the North Plaza of the Student Center.

The event will also offer a live raptor presentation from the Leslie Science and Nature Center from 11 a.m. to noon, showcasing birds of prey. All of the Earth Day celebratory events will be free and open to the public.

"It's an opportunity to appreciate and be thankful for all that we get from this wonderful environment that we live in, but also a chance to think about what problems there

are and what solutions we can come up with," said Dale Petty, industrial technology instructor and member of the college's Sustainability Council.

WCC's Earth Day event was organized by a committee that consists of Barsch, Petty, Recycling Operations Manager Barry Wilkins, Energy and Systems Integration Manager Bill Ghrist and Alyssa Camp, a student who works in Student Activities.

The committee is also looking for a few volunteers for the day to help organizations find their tables as they come in, according to Petty. Students interested can contact Petty at petty@wccnet.edu or Barsch at rbarsch@wccnet.edu.



Leanne Chadwick of the Leslie Science and Nature Center presents birds of prey at an Earth Day celebration on Washtenaw's campus. This year's event will be held on March 9 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m on the first floor of the Student Center. LAURA CRAWFORD | COURTESY PHOTO

## IN BRIEF

### KERRYTOWN CONCERT HOUSE HOSTS WCC PHOTOGRAPHY STUDENT SHOWCASE

Kerrytown Concert House, located at 415 N. Fourth Ave., will host a WCC photography student showcase: Modernizing Archaic Processes, April 2 – 28, 2015. There will be an artists' reception on Wednesday, April 8, from 5-7 p.m. This is a free event. For more information call: 734-769-2999.

- Paulette Parker

### DIGITAL MEDIA ARTS STUDENTS PREPARE FOR ANNUAL PORTFOLIO GALA

The Digital Media Arts program will show off the work of its students at the annual DMA Student Gala on Wednesday, April 29, in the ML building from 4:30-7 p.m. Video students will showcase their films at the gala in the auditorium from 5:30-10 p.m.

- Paulette Parker

### WCC SPORTS OPPORTUNITIES

#### FLAG FOOTBALL

Intramural flag football continues on Mar. 25, Apr. 1, 8 and 15 on the soccer field from 4-6 p.m. Sign up in the Sports Office in SC 116.

#### ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Ultimate Frisbee begins on Friday, April 10, and will be held on the soccer field from 4-6 p.m. Sign up in the Sports Office in SC 116.

#### 3V3 BASKETBALL

3v3 basketball begins on Monday, April 13 on the outdoor basketball court near the Fitness Center from 5-7 p.m.

Email Matt Lucas with intramural, club or drop-in sports questions at: mflucas@wccnet.edu

- Paulette Parker

### COLLEGE TO HOST HOLISTIC PSYCHIC FAIR

WCC will host the Intuitives Interactive Spring Holistic Psychic Fair on Saturday, April 11, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. in the ML building. Admission is \$10 and includes free presentations and access to various vendors and approximately 30 readers and body-spirit energy workers. For more information, visit <http://www.intuitivesinteractive.com/holistic-psychic-fair.html>

- Paulette Parker

### A2 TO HOST POETRY GRAND SLAM FINALS

On Saturday April 18, at 7 p.m., Espresso Royale, located on the corner of State and North University is hosting its Grand Slam Finals. The top 10 poets from Ann Arbor will compete to advance to the National Poetry Slam in Oakland, California. Tickets are available online for \$10 or at the door for \$15. For more information, visit <http://www.a2Poetry.com>.

- Evan Gerish



EDITORIAL

There is no bravery in blind faith

It takes a great deal of bravery to stand up and challenge those you disagree with, especially when they are better informed than you.

So often corruption is allowed to continue because any would-be dissidents shy away from asking questions for fear that they will look stupid.

The Washtenaw Community College board of trustees does not have a reputation for asking tough questions. When the board takes action, it is always unanimous.

Board Treasurer Pam Horiszny and former Trustee Patrick McLean have both stood out on the board for asking good questions. Not a lot of questions, just some.

When the administration makes proposals to the board, the responses are generally a vacant-sounding “good job.” Sometimes discussion will happen – either about what a good job the administration is doing, or about semantics. Rarely do we see earnest, challenging discussion about important issues facing the college.

It is understandable that the trustees want to avoid controversy. As a board, the trustees must act as one body and appear stable to the community. But simply nodding along and

rubber-stamping anything that hits their desk does not project an image of stability. It projects weakness and complacency.

Since three new trustees joined the board in January, meetings have certainly lived up. While several of the board members are likely fighting to restrain groans every time Trustee Dave DeVarti asks tough questions, the community is cheering him on.

At the March board meeting, DeVarti pushed the trustees and administration to do everything in their collective power to achieve a 0 percent increase in fall tuition for in-district students. He suggested hiking on-line tuition by 6 percent.

Chief Financial Officer Bill Johnson responded thoughtfully to DeVarti, with reasons why it makes more sense to modestly raise in-district tuition than to drastically increase on-line tuition.

But the response from Trustee Stephen Gill took the attention away from the numbers and the facts and brought it to a much more pervasive issue.

The trustees should not challenge the administration’s proposals, Gill said, unless they find some glaring policy violation. The administrators are the experts and know far more than the trustees about the college’s finances.

“It’s my responsibility as a trustee to accept your recommendation,” Gill said. “I don’t

want to be picking at this and looking at it in different ways.”

The problem is, that is exactly the board’s job. It is there to enact oversight. That means asking challenging questions. That means looking at a situation in as many ways as possible to do what’s best for students, employees and taxpayers.

While the board has evaded pleas for help from employees by stating that they are only a “policy-making board,” they cannot escape responsibility for a tuition increase. There is no doubt that this decision falls under their purview. And with an issue that so directly affects students – to the point that it could block some from getting a college education – it seems the board would want to spend as much time as possible considering every scenario.

Even when the experts profess to know everything and to have tried every possible solution, any responsible person still asks questions, still presents alternative solutions.

Those who count on WCC, those who pay the college’s bills and spend every day on its campus deserve representatives who will not just accept what they are told, but who are brave enough to push for the best solution.

The ‘F-word’



SOFIA LYNCH  
slynch@wccnet.edu

What has become of the word feminism? On every social media site and every media outlet, everyone seems to have their own definition. “Man-haters,” “hairy-pitted radicals,” “victims,” take your pick.

“Feminism” has widely come to be treated like a bad word, being labeled “the F-word” whenever the movement is discussed on media outlets. Feminism has gained such a negative connotation that female celebrities have felt the need to take to the media to declare themselves as not feminist.

Most recently, Shailene Woodley from “The Fault in Our Stars” felt it necessary to echo a statement she made in “Time” magazine last May in an interview with “Nylon” this March: She is adamantly not a feminist.

There are so many problems with this declaration. No woman in her right mind should be able to call herself “not a feminist.” Woodley’s reasoning in “Time” for her aversion to the movement was because, “I love men, and I think the idea

of ‘raise women to power; take the men away from the power’ is never going to work out because you need balance.”

Has the whole world forgotten how to use a dictionary? Because the last time I checked, the definition of feminism is, “The belief that men and women should have equal rights and opportunities. It is the theory of the political, economic and social equality of the sexes.”

Nowhere does it say that feminists look to usurp men or that they hate to cook their husbands’ dinners. Nowhere does it say that feminism involves lack of hygiene or the hatred of men. The movement and the word feminism has had its meaning stretched, diluted and soiled.

But what is it about this movement that has left such bad taste in everyone’s mouths? Sure, there are women who associate themselves with feminism that have some radical behaviors, but every feminist woman cannot be held accountable for the feelings of every feminist woman. Just like every Republican doesn’t have to stand by every Republican proposal.

Women in public positions, be it politicians or actresses, should never join in on the demonization of feminism. Woodley has specifically spoken before about being very

conscious of the message she sends to her young female fans.

So then why would she, or any other woman in a similar position, speak out to impressionable young fans against a movement about equality? Saying you aren’t a feminist is like giving men the okay to continue to treat you and your gender as less than. Why would we not want to empower women?

After years spent living in the shadows of men, unable to climb to their ranks, women should be rejoicing in the fact that they might be able to promise their daughters a more accepting world one day.

But if the trends stay the same and the movement of feminism can’t bounce back from the negative reputation it has gained, maybe women are destined to be stuck as second rate forever.

Girls shouldn’t feel ashamed to be empowered by their gender and to speak out for equality. Be proud to speak for what you believe in, girls – for those women who live in a culture where they don’t even have that right.

Equality of sexes should be innate, not rigorously debated. Feminism shouldn’t be seen as a dirty word. So, ladies, let’s start talking. Speak out because every voice is needed to retake control of the conversation.

Indiana backtracks into a state of discrimination



TAYLOR ROBINSON  
taelrobinson@wccnet.edu

Indiana’s recent passage of its Religious Freedom Restoration Act gained national attention, including the attention of our own Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder.

During 2014’s lame-duck session, Michigan’s Religious Freedom Restoration Act was approved by the Republican House, but has not yet reached the governor. This sparked an immediate debate, including a protest on the Capitol’s front steps. However, the bill resides in the hopper.

After Indiana passed its law, which basically states that an individual or group can refuse service to someone simply based on their religious beliefs, the state responded with outrage. The difference with Indiana’s bill compared to other states’ RFRAs is that it extends beyond government establishments and includes privately run businesses.

This became an issue particularly among the LGBT community. Businesses posted signs that read, “No gays

allowed,” “Straights only,” “We serve gays take-out only.” Does this sound familiar?

Separate drinking fountains. Separate bathrooms. Jim Crow comes to mind. Is this where this discrimination will take us, backpedaling decades?

Snyder took a firm stance in the early afternoon on April 2. He made it extremely clear that if such a bill came across his desk, his action would be to veto it if it’s a standalone piece of legislation.

“I thought it was appropriate to clarify my position. There are strong feelings on these issues. We’re working hard to see if there is a better way to address religious freedom and equality,” Snyder told The Detroit Free Press.

Snyder explained that there must be at least two separate bills to ensure avoidance of discrimination amongst the LGBT community when it comes to housing, employment, goods and services.

As a result of the infuriation of many, Indiana’s government worked toward amending the bill throughout Thursday, April 2. Around 6 p.m., Mike Pence, governor of Indiana signed the revised bill, thus protecting the LGBT community.

Yes, it is a beautiful thing when a community, a state, a nation, can come together

and take a stance on an issue that a great number believe is immoral.

Yet, why the praise? Is it too much to ask that individuals treats one another with the same respect and love that one would expect in return?

Is a broken leg not still a broken leg? Should a doctor refuse care to a patient in need just because of a spiritual belief while physical needs of all races, genders, ages, sexual orientations remain unchanged and equally important?

Should a baker of a wedding cake decide whether or not a couple of the same sex doesn’t merit the same amount of love and affection as does the relationship of a heterosexual couple?

We still have a ways to go. America prides itself on the concept that it is a melting pot, consisting of diverse ethnicities and backgrounds. We’ve come so far to fight against racial inequality, gender inequality and more.

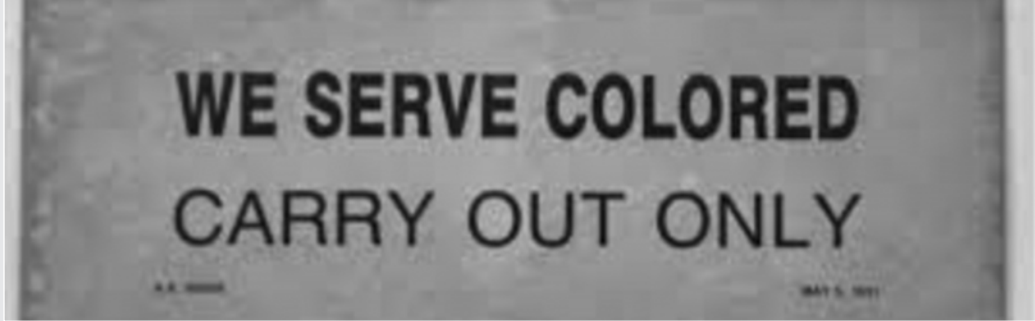
Now, we’re taking backward leaps by legalizing discrimination again.

I’m thankful that the masses can see the problem. But it’s not enough.

A document such as Indiana’s RFRA shouldn’t have even made it to the governor’s desk in the first place. It’s 2015, not 1890.



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THE WASHTENAW VOICE

A NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD NEWSPAPER

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 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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4800 E. Huron River Dr.  
TI 106  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105  
(734) 677-5125

thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com

washtenawvoice.com

@washtenawvoice

TheWashtenawVoice

@washtenawvoice

EDITOR .....	Natalie Wright	nkwright@wccnet.edu
MANAGING EDITOR .....	EJ Stout	estout@wccnet.edu
NEWS EDITOR .....	Paulette Parker	pstanford@wccnet.edu
FEATURES EDITOR .....	Sofia Lynch	slynch@wccnet.edu
ONLINE EDITOR .....	Colleen Mulder-Seward	cmulderseward@wccnet.edu
STAFF WRITERS .....	M. M. Donaldson Erin Fedeson Taylor Robinson Myisha Kinberg	mmorrisdonaldson@wccnet.edu efedeson@wccnet.edu taelrobinson@wccnet.edu mkinbergcowan@wccnet.edu
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS .....	Ben Ellsworth Erik Morris	bjellsworth@wccnet.edu delocuro@gmail.com
CARTOONIST .....	Sanaa Naeem	sanaeem@wccnet.edu
COPY EDITOR .....	Nina Di Mauro	
CONTRIBUTORS .....	Gray Bancroft Noel Eddy Harrison Fischer Evan Gerish Taylor Mabelitini	
ADVERTISING MANAGER .....	Becky Alliston	ealliston@wccnet.edu



# HEALTHY VOICE



## Get your game on with good nutrition strategy



M. M. DONALDSON  
mmorrisdonaldson@wccnet.edu

The spring season brings on busy evenings filled with sports practices, whether it is T-ball for the little ones or community league baseball for the adults. The fast pace of practice can quickly transfer to drive-thru meal options afterwards. But is there a better way?

Nutrition is just as important as good equipment when it comes to performance. Picnic-style meals or multiple healthy snacks can pinch hit for a full meal. Grapes, blueberries, apples and bananas are highly portable fruit snacks. Carrot sticks, cut-up cauliflower and cherry tomatoes fit the veggie category when trying to grab a bite between activities.

For more of a meal, meat, cheese and veggies can be rolled up in a tortilla or pita and does not necessitate cutlery or plates. Good ole peanut butter and jelly on whole wheat bread may not be exciting, but it provides a rich source of protein needed to rebuild muscles and is a good source of fiber to fill you up without feeling weighed down.

When packing snacks, keep in mind that food, such as meats and cheeses must be kept cool with an ice pack.

Hand washing with soap and water is considered the best bet according to the Centers for Disease Control but hand sanitizers work well on the field.

Hydration is important. Keep lots of water on hand and forego sodas. The sugar ties up energy for digestion that could be used for running bases.

Sports drinks tend to have added sugars and electrolytes, specifically sodium, that are not needed except for intense exercise lasting for more than an hour or the athlete experiences excessive sweating due to high temperatures, according to a 2012 Nutrition Reviews article. Marketing companies for

these beverages attempt to link athletic performance with their product, but neglect to inform on what happens when consumed with a sedentary lifestyle. The Committee on Nutrition and the Council on Sports Medicine and Fitness examined the impact of sports drinks and found them to be a contributor to childhood obesity. The meta-analysis published in the American Academy of Pediatrics in 2007 further concluded youth athletes using sports drinks to supplement electrolytes is not necessary in most instances and should not be used in place of water.

Studies have touted chocolate milk as a good after practice recovery drink, providing proteins, carbohydrates and other nutrients.

The study published in the Journal of Exercise Physiology in 2011 stated that low-fat chocolate milk was just as effective as any of the sports drinks with synthetically created nutrients marketed for post workout recovery. Additionally the study concluded that low-fat chocolate milk was less expensive and more readily accessible.

Although this and other

published studies used adult male subjects ranging from trained triathletes to club sports runners and recreational college soccer players, low-fat chocolate milk may provide benefits for athletes of any age or participation level. Youth who participate in recreational sports may find the post work out low-fat chocolate milk consumption as a way to ensure they are getting their recommended three cups of dairy per day.

Kids are not likely to sign on to the idea of healthy snack options when they expect fast food or sweetened treats. Teaching them the value of healthy food as a part of their sports training may increase the likelihood of it becoming part of their routine.

M. M. Donaldson is a staff writer with The Voice and a journalism student at WCC. She has a bachelor of science in family and community services from Michigan State University, and has several years' experience with nutrition issues affecting infants through older adults.



## Higher temperature, even higher fashion



SOFIA LYNCH  
slynch@wccnet.edu



TAYLOR MABELITINI  
tmabelitini@wccnet.edu



After a long, predictable Michigan winter, Washtenaw Community College students, just like all other Michiganders, become reinvigorated at the first sign of the warmth returning. Not just in the sense of raised spirits and heightened energy, but also in fashion.

Just as it seemed you'd never see your figure again, the temperatures spiked back up, and it's away with frumpy sweaters, and hello skin and sunshine.

Campus buildings, usually filled with drab, neutral-color-clad students seeking protection from the cold, become alive with a sea of florals, pastels and other spring colors. As the layers get thinner and the shorts get shorter, WCC students pull the lightest and brightest pieces from their

closets to don while soaking up the vitamin D.

For those readers who want to keep their fashion as high as the temperatures: sheers, whites, khakis, metallics and militant greens are some of the stand-out spring trends that were highlighted at New York Fashion Week this season, according to "Elle."

However, not all high-fashion trends translate very well to everyday fashion. If you find yourself baffled by the looks coming down the catwalk, you're not alone.

All it takes to add some spring to your look is lightening up the colors, lightening up the layers and having fun with colorful patterns. Or just look to your fellow fashionable WCC students for hints.

Miriam Bangean, 19, physical therapy, Ypsilanti

**Pants** — H&M  
**Headband** — Forever 21

**What are some of your favorite spring trends?**

I'd have to say blazers and cardigans.

**What are you looking forward to wearing in the warmer weather?**

Anything but winter coats

**What's your favorite season of fashion?**

Spring and summer

**Do you have a fashion motto?**

As long as I'm comfortable, I'm pretty happy.

**Do you have a fashion icon?**

I'd have to say Blake Lively. She is just amazing all around.

**What is your favorite pattern to wear?**

Stripes

Drew Kindel, 22, business, Milan

**Jacket** — Kohl's, from 5 years ago  
**Star Wars bandana Vans** — PacSun  
**Neff hat** — Sam's Club

**What are some of your favorite spring trends?**

Color blocking. Blazers and jeans — I'm not a fan, but everyone else is. Slim jeans, darker shades this year, I think.

**What are you looking forward to wearing in the warmer weather?**

Linen blazers ... Yeah, seersucker.

**What is your favorite season of fashion?**

Fall

**Do you have a fashion icon?**

This year ... Leonardo DiCaprio killed it in "Wolf of Wallstreet," I just have to say.

**What is your favorite pattern to wear?**

Speckle, it's like where you take similar contrasting neutral colors and blend them in together, and chambray.

## Where do you see yourself in five years?

## Voice Box

INTERVIEWS BY MYISHA KINBERG, STAFF WRITER, AND PHOTOS BY TAYLOR MABELITINI, CONTRIBUTOR



"I'll be a Eastern graduate with a degree as a Pediatric Physician Assistant and maybe be working as a Pediatric Assistant at U of M hospital for a few years after I graduate. I'm from Oregon, and eventually, I want to move back to the Northwest because they really need primary caregivers over there, especially in the rural areas. I will also be married and setting up my life, ready for a family."

**Annika Foreman, 24, Ann Arbor, medical assistant**



"In five years, I will have graduated from Eastern with a degree in athletic training. I want to be doing a paid internship, or I hope to have gotten a job with my degree. I also want to move to Seattle. So, after I graduate, I'll also be looking for jobs out there as well."

**Ryan Bohr, 21, Novi, athletic training**



"In five years, I will have completed my certificate in business and hopefully be working towards a degree in communication and public relations at a good university, and I'll hopefully be doing a paid internship at a public relations firm. I want to go to school in Nashville, and, if I'm not living in a dorm, I want to have a small apartment that I can share with a roommate. My goal for all my summers till I graduate from a university is to be a au pair overseas for a few weeks each summer."

**Maya Koziol, 16, Saline, business**



"I'm currently undecided on my degree, but in five years, I want to have graduated from college and be working on my career. I also want to have a couple of websites up and running and have experience in robotic engineering. I love Ann Arbor, so I'll probably still be living here in five years, and I would really like to move my kids up here because they are currently living in Georgia."

**Prella Hollie, 25, Ann Arbor, undecided**



"In five years, I want to have finished my degree in business and maybe be married. My main goal is to be doing business internationally and hopefully have my own business somewhere in Central America."

**Miranda Hunter, 21, Howell, business and marketing**



"In five years, I'll be in bible school in Florida or in Ohio working in ministry. I also want to be a successful freelance graphic designer. I don't want to be in school for a very long time, so I'll just take enough classes in bible school to be successful and then focus on my career. I also really hope to be married in the next five years."

**Rosie Schrag, 19, Plymouth, graphic design**



"I want to be a journalist writing for an Ann Arbor newspaper. I also want to have graduated from college with a bachelor's in journalism. Right now, there's a lot of problems with journalists overseas, but in the future, I think I might travel to France because there's a lot of fashion, cosmetics and news to report on. I might go to New York because that's where entertainment, fashion and big news companies are located. As a personal goal, I want to make sure to pursue my dreams the best I can because that's what my grandpa would have wanted me to do."

**Chanel Stitt, 17, Ypsilanti, journalism**



"I work at St. Joe's Mercy Hospital right now, and, in five years, I want to be retired. I'll probably keep taking classes at WCC because I'll have time to explore classes and subjects I never had the chance to before. I'll still be living in Canton; I don't plan on moving anywhere. I would really like to start my own business and explore digital asset management."

**Sid Harris, 60, Canton, web design**



"Academically, I want to maintain a 3.8 GPA till I transfer to Eastern University or Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. After I graduate, I want to be a mechanical engineer and a minister at a local church in a warm place. I'll probably go south, maybe to Dallas."

**Steve Wilson, 38, Ypsilanti, mechanical engineering**



# Perservering for passion's sake



41-year-old Shawn Donaldson of Livonia has rediscovered his love for guitar through classes taught by 36-year veteran instructor John E. Lawrence. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE

BY TAYLOR ROBINSON  
Staff Writer

In the Morris Lawrence building lobby, 41-year-old music student Shawn Donaldson humbly sat with his guitar by his side and his beloved golden retriever, Ortega, at his feet. Feeding Ortega peanut butter cookie treats, he told the story of how playing guitar became his passion, despite being born legally blind.

At the age of 10, Donaldson created a comic strip called “Orville the Janitor.” Due to his artistic talent, the cartoon was published. However, as he grew older and his vision faded rapidly, other kids in class started catching up to his abilities.

That’s when his enthusiasm switched gears. At 14, he picked up a guitar and has been playing ever since.

“I always wanted to do something artistic; that’s how I turned to the guitar,” Donaldson said. “It’s still an expressive medium,” he said, which he can explore despite his blindness.

He wanted to get a degree in music, but people talked him

the door, you never know what craziness is going to ensue every day.”

Unable to find a job in the history field, he accepted a computer job with a concentration in website programming. Eventually, his job included configuring computers for others who were blind so the device would talk to them. Although he didn’t necessarily mind his work, something was missing, he said.

“I was just not really happy doing it. I wanted to be an artist ... not wanted to, but needed to,” Donaldson said.

Moving back to Michigan, Donaldson continued to practice music, looking to fulfill his dream. Inspired by a variety of musicians ranging from the smooth jazz of Miles Davis to the edgy sounds of Jimi Hendrix’s electric guitar, Donaldson loves it all.

“I’m not a snob when it comes to music,” Donaldson said smiling. “I like any kind of music almost. You can learn something from anything.”

Not only did he learn from music itself, he learned from fellow musician Marc

really good ear,” Michaud said. “He’s got really good stage presence, and he’s just the nicest guy in the world. We stay in touch. Usually, I don’t do that with most of my students, but certain students I do.”

Donaldson also stays in frequent contact with most recent bandmate, 21-year-old William Bennett. Bennett graduated from WCC with an associate’s in music production. He’s the main piano player at Weber’s restaurant and hotel in Ann Arbor.

“We play together all the time,” Bennett said. “He’s always been a great guy and a great musician. He never complains.”

Donaldson heard about Washtenaw Community College instructor John E. Lawrence from a fellow jazz musician. Lawrence, a longtime music and performing arts instructor, was the reason Donaldson started taking classes at WCC two years ago. Because of Lawrence’s connections with Baker’s Keyboard Lounge in Detroit, Donaldson’s had the opportunity to play at the world’s oldest operating jazz club.

He explains that other schools just have the students learn about music and theories. Because Donaldson learns by ear, he appreciates Lawrence’s style of teaching. He compares it to the discipline of martial arts, another hobby the two share.

“Johnny’s guitar class is a whirlwind. If you miss one class, you miss a lot,” Donaldson said. “I take it as inspiring, while others can take it as discouraging. If you want to play like he does, you’ve got to practice a lot.”

Because Donaldson has dedicated more time to his musical passion, he’s found himself faced with opportunities he wouldn’t have had in the past including being featured on Channel 4 News earlier this year. He’s recorded a few songs and even contributed to Giving Songs in Plymouth, a charity that records songs and gives the proceeds to children with disabilities.

“That was fun, and I hope to do more with them,” Donaldson said.

Donaldson reached down, gently stroking Ortega’s head, and talked about all the two had been through together, lamenting the 10-year-old seeing-eye dog’s approach to retirement age.

“He doesn’t want to. If I leave him at home, the poor guy just sits at the door staring at it,” Donaldson said. “Ortega’s probably been one of the greatest things ever for me.”

But long after Ortega retires, Donaldson will push on. With his passion illuminated by every strum of his guitar, he says there’s no way that he’ll be putting down the instrument any time soon.

## “I wanted to be an artist ... not wanted to, but needed to”

out of it. He turned to another interest – medieval history – and obtained a bachelor’s degree from Western Michigan University. Shortly afterward, Donaldson spent a few years in San Francisco.

“I loved it there,” Donaldson said. “Every time you walk out

Michaud. A private teacher of guitar lessons, Michaud resides in Donaldson’s hometown of Livonia. Donaldson took lessons for two years, and Michaud learned from him as well.

“The thing that stands out about Shawn is that he’s got a

Donaldson plans on soaking up as much as he can from Lawrence. “I do feel like I’ve learned a lot practically that I wouldn’t get from a more traditional music program,” Donaldson said. “Johnny throws you right out there in gigs it’s like sink or swim, man.”

### TUITION, From A1

Board Treasurer Pam Horiszny suggested upping the in-district increase to 2 percent, while keeping the other increases in line with the administration’s proposal.

Trustee Stephen Gill defended the administration’s proposal and suggested the board pass it as-is.

“The college administration does a lot of work on this,” Gill said. “When you come to us and make this recommendation, I feel like I’m listening to the experts, that they know more about this than I do, that they’ve done their homework.”

“As a trustee, I believe that the only way I can challenge that is if you’ve gone up against policy in an extraordinary way,” Gill continued. “Otherwise, it’s my responsibility as a trustee to accept your recommendation.”

“I don’t want to be picking at this and looking at it in different ways because I think you’ve done your job,” Gill concluded.

But DeVarti held his ground. “With upmost respect, I propose zero percent,” DeVarti restated. “My responsibility is to those (constituents and students), not to the administration. Now I trust that you, the experts, can deliver a plan

to give us a zero percent increase.

“I see this as a policy issue. The reason I’m looking at this is to put on the table a demonstration that it can be done,” DeVarti continued. “I may not have found the best way; I found a way.”

Keeping tuition level for county residents could help the board and the college to build trust within the community, DeVarti said.

“For those of you who are worried about a millage, this is a way to build trust,” he said. “Let’s build trust with the taxpayers.”

Board Chair Richard Landau said that he was uneasy with the idea of not increasing tuition, because if enrollment goes south, future students could face much larger increases.

“I’m very nervous about the entire concept of enrollment projections,” Landau said, although he echoed Gill’s faith in the administration and its projections.

The trustees decided to postpone further discussion and a vote on tuition to its April 28 meeting. In the meantime, DeVarti asked Johnson to put together a proposal that would show a zero percent increase for in-district students.

### LAWRENCE, From A1

“The way that Johnny teaches is phenomenal because he takes you right where you are and, dog gone it, he’s going to make a musician out of you,” Hunter said, smiling.

33-year-old broadcast arts student Rachel Elliott-Golema couldn’t agree more.

“He is just the most knowledgeable instructor, I think, at this school. He’s so passionate about what he’s teaching, and it’s a very warm environment,” said Elliott-Golema. “He’s a good guy.”

Among the students, John will also miss those he credits for his success. Larry Whitworth,

former WCC president, hired John as a part-time instructor, and John says he wouldn’t be here without him. Roger Palay, former vice president of instruction, helped hire John as a full-time instructor 15 years ago, after being part-time for 21 years.

Now a part-time math instructor, Palay’s grown closer to John over the years.

“He’s been a fantastic faculty member who’s gone out of his way for the school and the students,” Palay said. “He’s always been wonderful and thinks of his students first.”

One of the many who impacted John’s career, Joy Garrett, director of

curriculum and assessment, said John has shown a strong commitment to his students and the college.

“John’s been a wonderful colleague. He’s shown a dedication to the needs of students and preparing them for their future career,” Garrett said. “I’ve always been impressed with his willingness to go the extra mile for the college by performing at so many different events. He’s been a pleasure to work with and will be greatly missed.”

John plans on staying busy after he retires.

“Turning 60 is monumental. I wanted to retire while I still had energy to pursue some

other things,” John said.

An artist also by hand, John commented that he has put drawing on the back burner for too long.

Jon Lockard, long-time art instructor at Washtenaw encouraged John Lawrence to indulge in more than one passion. Lockard recently passed away on March 25 and will be greatly missed by John Lawrence.

In retirement, John Lawrence hopes to have more time for the hobbies he has practiced since childhood – playing pool, practicing martial arts and listening to records for hours on end. In these activities, he will always stay young.



STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS

John Lawrence’s greatest honor at WCC is being asked to be one of the “giants” represented in a stage play honoring African-Americans who’ve made an impact in Washtenaw County, he said. Fifth-grade through high school students will portray the life of Lawrence.

“Even people in the community have respect for him, which is pretty cool,” Maria Johnson, a 29-year-old part-time student from Ann Arbor, said. Johnson volunteers for a ministry that promotes the arts in Ypsilanti.

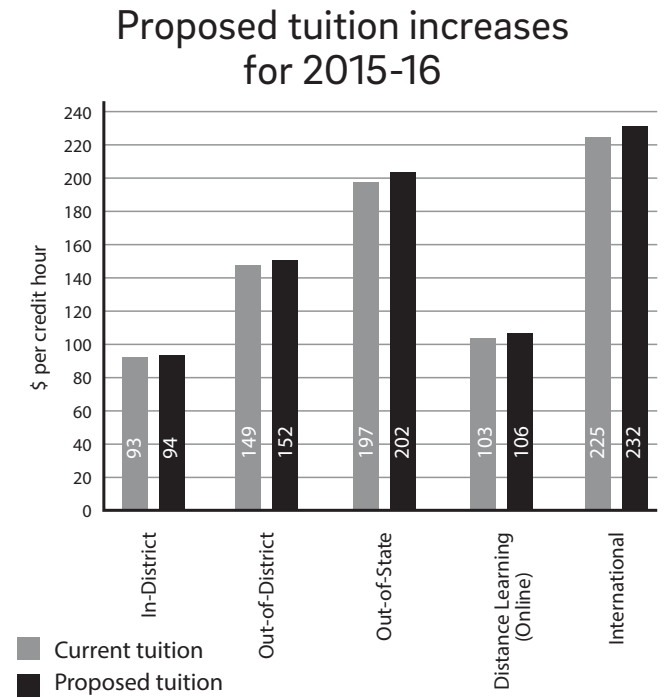
WHAT: History Alive: Standing on the shoulders of giants

WHERE: Towsley Auditorium, WCC Morris Lawrence Building

WHEN: May 9, 5 p.m.

MORE INFO: Contact Minister Debby Mitchell 734-709-8800 after 5:30 p.m.

WCC legend Morris Lawrence, left, who forged the college’s music program and its close connection with jazz, plays with John E. Lawrence, right, who followed in his footsteps, leading the jazz band and teaching music at the college for 36 years. JOHN E. LAWRENCE | COURTESY PHOTO



WHAT: John E. Lawrence retirement reception

WHERE: Morris Lawrence building

WHEN: April 21, 3-5 p.m.



# Washtenaw County bans indoor e-cigarette smoking



21-year-old videography student Ian O'Harris, of Ypsilanti, enjoys a drag from his e-cigarette. HARRISON FISCHER | WASHTENAW VOICE

**BY NOEL EDDY**  
*Contributor*

Last Wednesday, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners came together at the Washtenaw County Administration Building to vote on a proposal that bans indoor smoking with e-cigarettes. With a vote of 7-2, the proposal was accepted and will be put into legislation in six months. The legislation states that e-cigarette smoking will be prohibited in all locations that previously had smoking restrictions in Washtenaw County.

Washtenaw Community College already includes e-cigarette smoking in its Smoke-Free Campus policy, which prohibits smoking on all areas of the campus.

Harlowe Shannon, a 32-year-old student, who is attending his second semester at WCC, says that he has been smoking regular cigarettes for 16 years. Although he doesn't smoke e-cigarettes, he disagrees with the new legislation. "It seems, to me, to be less of a law about safety, but forcing a personal preference on everyone," Shannon said.

He understands that, when it comes to smoking regular cigarettes, the laws are put into place for health issues, but when it comes to e-cigarettes, it doesn't make as much sense to Shannon, as it is just water vapor, he said.

There are, however, other students on WCC's campus that do agree with Washtenaw County's new legislation. Samantha Greenlee, a 30-year-old student, who has been attending WCC for two years, has her suspicions about e-cigarettes. Samantha described that e-cigarettes do not seem as safe as they're said to be, agreeing with the new legislation that prohibits smoking indoors.

Even though Greenlee is a non smoker, she believes that for all types of smoking, "It can wait."



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PETE LESHKEVICH | COURTESY PHOTO

Leshkevich also hopes to introduce an app over the summer that will join the other little squares on every student's smartphone screen that keep them connected with the world around them.



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FLIPSIDE

Vol. 21, No. 12 — April 6, 2015



Hanaa Abouzahr, 20, a psychology student from Ann Arbor, is one of many taking advantage of the free classes provided by Washtenaw's Dance4Unity. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE

# Dancing in unity

Music blares over laughter and the occasional clatter of hula-hoops hitting the floor. One hula-hoop swings in a steady rhythm around the waist of Hanaa Abouzahr, of Ann Arbor.

Meanwhile, 20-year-old Jasmine Steele kicks a hula-hoop up from the floor and over her head. It settles around her neck, continuously spinning. Abouzahr and Steele practiced their hula skills at the

weekly Wednesday hula-hoop class in ML158 from 4-5:30 p.m. This class is one of the free dance offerings students can participate in through Washtenaw Community College's Dance4Unity.

Krissy Frazier founded Dance4Unity 15 years ago when she attended WCC, taking lots of dance classes, explained Noonie Anderson, a WCC dance instructor. Frazier wanted the

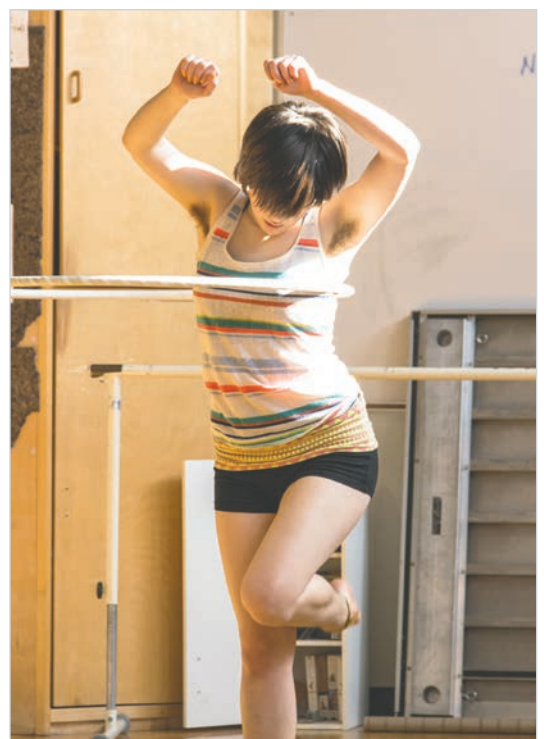
opportunity to hone her teaching and performance skills, Anderson explained. Now, Dance4Unity offers lessons, taught by WCC students, in a variety of dances, including hip-hop, Zumba

and swing. For more details about the classes offered by Dance4Unity, contact Noonie Anderson at nooniea@wccnet.edu.

— Erin Fedeson

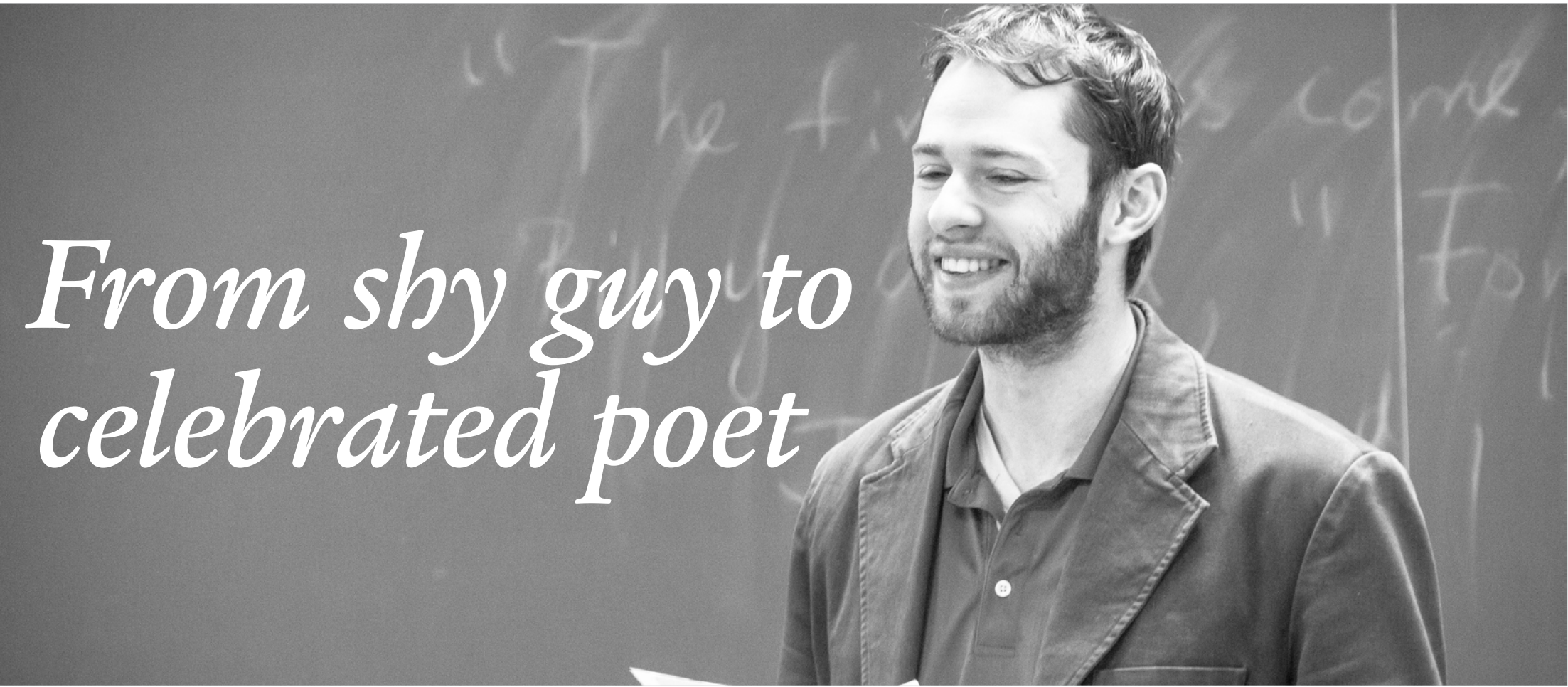


Rachel Rusceak, 18, from Brighton, and Brandon Baxter, 17, from Plymouth, pair up to practice dance steps during a recent Swing Dancing Club meeting. EJ STOUT | WASHTENAW VOICE



Left: Sarah Beauchamp, 19, a fine arts student, and Jasmine Steele, 20, a human services student, both of Ann Arbor, show off their talents while Carly Cash, 20, an international studies student from Dexter, looks on. Right: Cash uses her hula-hoop to create intricate dance movements. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE





# From shy guy to celebrated poet

## Regression Therapy

I think of the billions of people wandering across the earth – who I will never know. Multiply them by the cavernous vault of space. The sickening immensity. The runaway madness of pinpricked stars and their distant brothers whose light ferments empty. This cold, logic, vacuum, telescopes, unbearable vastness.

I imagine all of it concentrated to a single point of infinite density in my mother’s eyes. And I try to remember what it’s like to be new and smile.

– Excerpt from “The Ill Lad and the Odd MC,” by Michael Moriarty

BY PAULETTE PARKER  
News Editor

He stands tall at the front of the class, his gray slacks and olive green suit jacket draping his slim frame. He gently sweeps away his brown tresses as they fall onto his forehead. He rustles a bundle of paper, each sheet a snapshot in time.

Maxine Gibson’s Writing Fundamentals students are privy to this glimpse into the life of former Washtenaw Community College student and current WCC operations assistant, Michael Moriarty.

His stanzas rhythmically reverberate off the walls, weaving stories. His soul pours through the pages and out of his mouth. The class listens eagerly, their attention undivided. He exudes confidence, a far cry from the shy child he once was, growing up in Ann Arbor.

“School was hard for me. I had a hard time feeling comfortable, kind of got picked on,” Moriarty said. “I had a hard time making friends, was kind of not doing well in classes.” Most of Moriarty’s positive reinforcement came from participating in sports, at which he excelled. But toward the end of high school, he began writing creatively for fun.

“I got really passionate about that and started to feel like I wanted to cultivate more of an intellectual self,” Moriarty said. “Once I had a pursuit that I cared about that involved some kind of an academic thing, all of the sudden, the other subjects were more interesting too.” His first performance was in a

creative writing class.

“I remember being nervous to the point where I was shaking so hard that you could hear the paper shaking,” he laughed. He soon found himself engaged in the local poetry scene.

“It was like immersion therapy for me, for shyness,” Moriarty said. “Going up and performing in front of all these people and stuff was really scary, but also, like, really, really cathartic because then it was like, if I can handle that, then surely I can talk to someone I don’t know.”

After high school, Moriarty attended WCC, where he received his associate degree in liberal arts. He didn’t even know if he was smart enough to go to college until he came to WCC, he said.

“I was just starting to find my footing with writing,” Moriarty said. “This was where I started to feel like I could do this; I could do college. It was the first time I felt like I had something to offer intellectually or creatively.”

After graduating from WCC, Moriarty continued his education at Eastern Michigan University, where he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in creative writing.

In his time at WCC, Moriarty formed a bond with English instructor James “Jas” Obrecht. After watching Moriarty perform at a poetry event at the University of Michigan, Obrecht approached him about working together on a book, Moriarty said.

“It was apparent from the start that Michael was a far-above-average writer,” Obrecht said. “He had an instinctual

ability to use the active voice and cut all unneeded words – essential traits for a poet.” Together they produced Moriarty’s first book, “The Ill Lad and the Odd MC.” Obrecht invested in financing and publishing the book himself.

“I’d worked on a music magazine for 20 years and had written and edited several books about music. So I knew the ins and outs of publishing,” Obrecht said. “Working with Mike on the book was a labor of love for both of us. I especially enjoyed sitting around the kitchen table with him talking about possible edits and how to arrange the poems.”

“The whole thing wouldn’t exist without him,” Moriarty said. “And it was really nice to have him believe in me. And I was really proud when I paid him back in full for printing the book.” The works in “The Ill Lad” span different periods in Moriarty’s life.

“There’s a lot of childhood in there. I think the book is kind of me finding my footing as a person,” Moriarty said. “There’s lots of struggling for identity, for a sense of safety, for a sense of home.” Once out of college, Moriarty had less time to dedicate to the poetry performance scene. He has also found a new love in songwriting and plays the piano and guitar.

“I wouldn’t say I’m done with it, but I think with the songwriting stuff and working full time, I don’t have as much room for it as I used to when I was in college, but it’s never going to go away,” Moriarty said.

He also visits English classrooms, sharing his work, which

he said are his favorite venues.

“I just like the environment, and the students are always really friendly, and they just want to learn,” Moriarty said, “and they want to ask questions and talk about writing and things like that.” He is a frequent visitor to the classroom of his former instructor, Maxine Gibson.

“What I love about Mike’s writing is that he writes about everyday things that he makes extraordinary,” Gibson said during a class visit. “His work has humor and poignancy, and it will make you feel glad that you’re a human being.”

WCC graphic design major, Rachel Sheffield, 24, of Ann Arbor, is a student in one of Gibson’s classes that Moriarty has visited.

“His poetry was very amazing and it was unexpected entertainment,” Sheffield said. “It emits emotion. I feel like I connected with him tremendously.” Although his path may be changing, Moriarty hopes to continue to use writing to not only connect with other people on a level that regular conversation does not allow, but also to continue learning about himself.

“If I can really dig far enough in a poem and find the beauty in a really difficult moment, or find the joy amidst a lot of sadness or something like that, then it doesn’t just exist there on the page,” Moriarty said. “It happens in me too, and so it’s like I can see myself grow. It’s a chance to connect with another person and a chance to connect more on a deeper level with yourself.”



Michael Moriarty, 28, recites poems for students in a creative writing class at Washtenaw. Moriarty, a former WCC student, describes performing his poetry as a ‘cathartic’ experience. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE



SANAA NAEEM | WASHTENAW VOICE

# THE ‘IT’ FACTOR

## These Women Know How To Code

BY MYISHA KINBERG  
Staff Writer

The U.S. began its journey into technology a long time ago. However with the invention of the Internet, popularity of smartphones and exceptional growth in the field of Information Technology, the job market in the IT field is constantly expanding at an ever-greater rate.

Washtenaw Community College’s Student Resource and Women’s Center partnered with Career Services and a few of WCC’s faculty members in hosting the “Women in IT” event on March 26. The event was designed to share information with women about opportunities in IT and the many different career paths offered in the field. The event featured presentations from professionals in three very different specialties within IT.

Keynote speaker Sue Schade, chief information officer at University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers, shared job descriptions and stories of her many female staff members. Some of the various jobs she discussed include being a project manager, programmer and data architect as well as a data analyst. During her presentation, Schade shared personal experience about being the only women in many of her past offices.

“IT is a male culture. Fifty percent of women make up 50 percent of the population. So we should also make up 50 percent of the IT field,” Schade said. “Women are discouraged from pursuing careers in numerous fields, but the world is changing, and it will continue to change for the better.

“Surround yourself with support,” Schade said. “It’s also

key to find a mentor and focus on your skills because IT powers so much of what we do. Just think about what things could be different if there were more women in technology, and try to imagine yourself as a part of that difference.”

Speaker Amanda Desy, a cyber threat intelligence analyst at Ford Motor company, works to keep and protect information from the potential threats of viruses. According to Desy, around 50,000 new viruses are created every day.

Desy started out as a computer science major, but changed her specialty and then graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in computer network and administration.

While in college at Michigan Technological University, Desy encountered what she believed to be a discouraging, but somewhat good learning experience.

“At MTU, my program required me to stay with the same group of students till I had completed the program,” Desy said. “From 2009-12, I was the only woman in a class of 36. One time I had a professor ask me if I was in the right class. Initially, proving my self was difficult, but once the guys learned I was serious, I gained more respect, and I’m still friends with some of the men from my classes.”

Desy goes back to MTU every year to recruit for Ford, and this year she went back to a pleasant surprise.

“At the beginning of the semester of 2015, I went back and saw one of my old professors and noticed that there were five women in the program,” Desy said. “Even though it’s not enough, I believe that we are on the right path. Hopefully, these women will be interested

in jobs at Ford because right now there are only four women in a department of 30.”

The last speaker of the day was Jennifer Marsman, a principal developer evangelist working in Microsoft’s Developer and Platform Evangelism Group. An evangelist is a person who gets new technology from the company they work for and then shares it with developers through presentation, blog, email or any other information sharing system.

“I’m constantly around new technology,” Marsman said. “When there’s a new system update, new apps in the Windows app store or changes in Windows phones, I’m given that new technology to learn how to use it. Then I educate developers and give frequent presentations on the new material.”

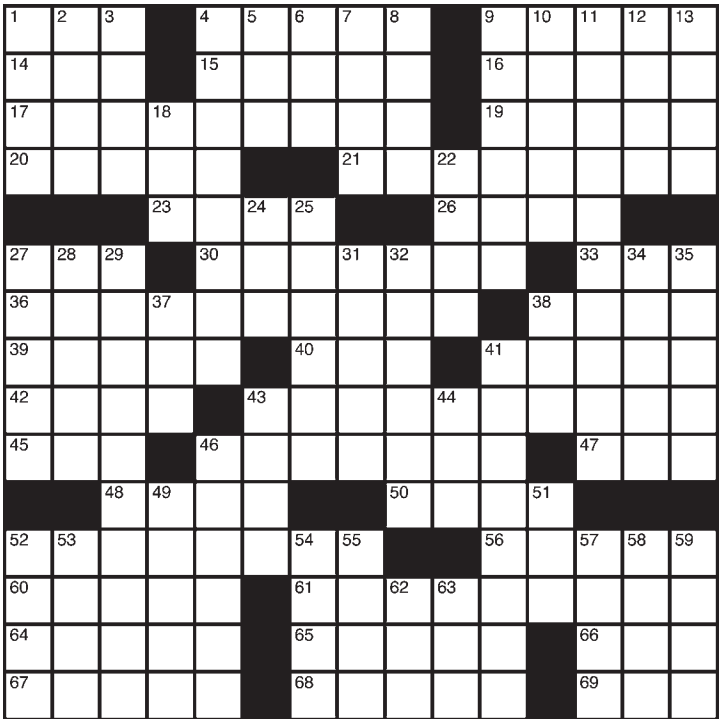
Marsman didn’t address any

specific bad experiences she has had being a woman in the IT field. Her primary focus in the presentation was to encourage women who love to code and don’t mind speaking in front of groups to explore a career as an evangelist.

“Evangelists aren’t a well-known position, but we play a crucial part in companies,” Marsman said. “When I took my first coding class back in high school, I immediately fell in love with coding. It’s fascinating to be able to understand the language and be able to tell the computer what to do and how to solve problems.”

The speakers ended their presentations by talking about how many opportunities there are in the IT field and how taking a few classes and learning the basics of computers or coding can open many doors for women interested in IT.





TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CROSSWORD CLUES

ACROSS

DOWN

- 1 Halloween costume part

5 640 acres: Abbr.

9 Longtime employee

14 Death Valley's is the lowest in North Amer.

15 Mammoth feature

16 China's Zhou \_\_

17 "Dirty Jobs" host Mike

18 County Kerry's isle

19 Deep chasm

20 \*Manhattan site of Strawberry Fields

23 "So long"

24 Young horse

25 One from Nairobi

27 Ultimate conclusion

30 Made of oak, e.g.

32 Small swallow

33 Pumps or clogs

35 Thin piece of change

38 \_\_ out a living

39 \*Prepare for printing

42 Guy's partner

43 Bank (on)

45 Glue in a hobbyist's kit

46 "Let me think ... "

47 Utter madness

50 Michelangelo masterpieces

52 Tallied, with "up"

54 Group after boomers

55 "How relaxing!"

56 Process for selecting theatrical performers, and a hint to the first word of the answers to starred clues

62 Bit of luck

64 Place for koi

65 Prefix with distant

66 Italian ball game

67 Woodworking tool

68 Put on a pouty face

69 Filled (in), as a comic strip

70 Frog's kiddie-lit friend

71 Yard event
- 1 Bygone Ford division, for short

2 Sunburn soother

3 Stitched up

4 Complain

5 Furtive

6 Comforter to get comfy in

7 Car sticker abbr.

8 Swedish furniture chain

9 Didn't hold water

10 Having five sharps, musically

11 \*Untrustworthy, as a business

12 Course that's good for one's GPA

13 Ascended

21 Barnyard perch

22 MGM rival

26 Homer's nice neighbor

27 Password creator

28 High-speed highway

29 \*Word processor error finder

30 Teary-eyed

31 Bone, in Italian

34 Oil gp. with 12 member nations

36 Papa's partner

37 Stately shade trees

40 Paid out

41 Making, as a knot

44 Big laugh

48 Did some smooching

49 Aquafresh tube letters

51 Overabundance

52 Talmud expert

53 Brother of Moses

54 Tokyo shopping district

57 Petty quarrel

58 Chore list heading

59 Greenish-blue

60 Temporary calm

61 Similar to

63 Unreturnable serve

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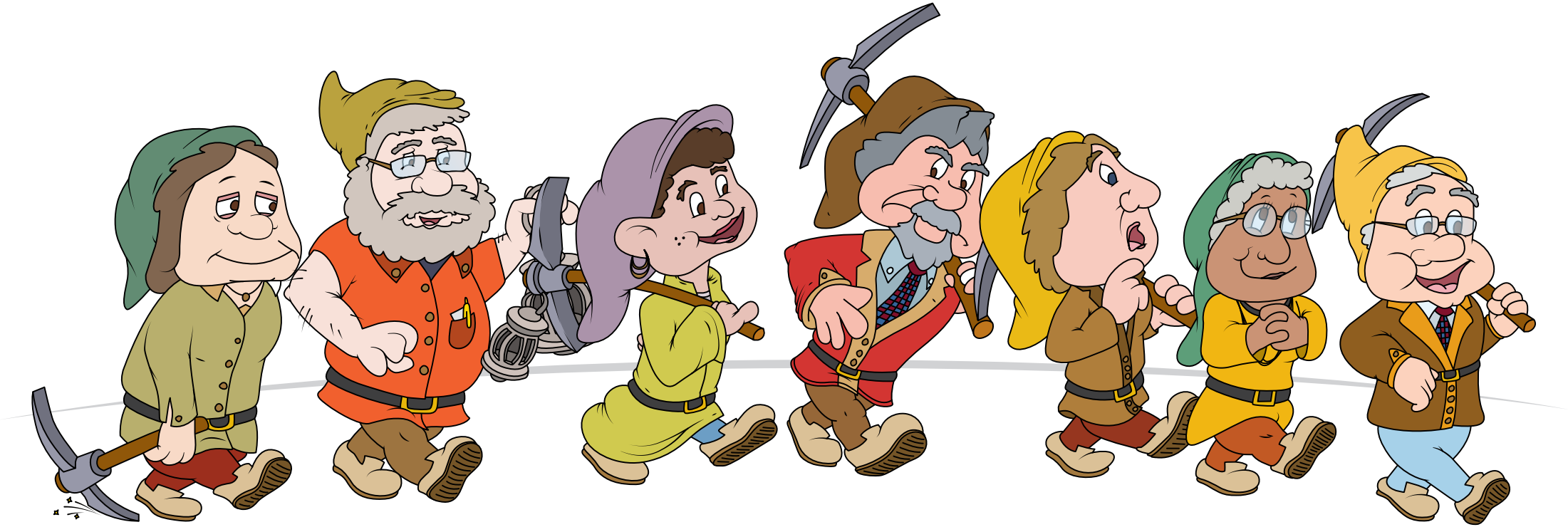
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WWW.WASHTENAWVOICE.COM



An artist's rendering of Washtenaw's board of trustees, based on eyewitness accounts. From left, Christina Fleming, Dave DeVarti, Diana McKnight-Morton, Richard Landau, Pam Horiszny, Ruth Hatcher and Stephen Gill. For more details on this and other WCC anomalies, search our website for 'April Fools.' ERIK MORRIS | WASHTENAW VOICE

CLASSIFIEDS

Send ads to [thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com](mailto:thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com)  
Note: Deadline for the April 20 issue is Tuesday, April 14 at 5 p.m.

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*.

**FOR SALE**  
**MOTORHOME:** 2010 Yellowstone Motorhome. Chevy motor with Workhorse package. 13,000 miles. \$52,000. Call or text Mike at 734-770-8481.

**SERVICES**  
**VOLUNTEER TUTORS:** Washtenaw Literacy needs volunteers to tutor adults in basic reading, writing, math and English as a Second Language. Help change lives – one word at a time! Contact [info@washtenawliteracy.org](mailto: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 <http://www.cornerhealth.org>.

**HELP WANTED**  
**HOME CARE AID:** Established non-medical home care company seeks caregivers to provide non-medical home care services throughout Washtenaw and Livingston Counties. Help seniors with activities of daily living as they seek to live independently in their homes. Experience is helpful; training is provided. Caregivers must have transportation. Part-time work is available we work to be flexible around your schedule. For more details and to apply online, please visit [www.homeinstead.com/227](http://www.homeinstead.com/227)  
**WEBMASTER:** Wanted for

501(c)3 Dog Rescue. Volunteer position, working with great team to maintain and expand web capabilities. Trustworthy person with self-initiative wanting to work for a great cause, apply using volunteer form at <http://www.milabrescue.com>.  
**WAIT STAFF:** Michigan Catering is looking for student wait staff who are able to interact with guests, work as a team and manage time efficiently – all with a positive attitude. Shifts can be anytime between the hours of 5 a.m. and 3 a.m., depending on your availability. The starting pay is \$3.40 per hour plus tips. Tips are automatically paid by the event sponsor and average \$6-\$7 per hour, making the typical rate about \$9.40-\$10.40 per hour. Apply online at <http://www.jobs.studentlife.umich.edu>, send an email to: [workforus@umich.edu](mailto:workforus@umich.edu), or at 734-615-6759.

**DINING STAFF:** Michigan Dining is looking for students who enjoy working with people and want to be a part of a team. Flexible schedule, promotional opportunities and a fun social environment. Starting wage: \$9 per hour with a free meal with a three-hour shift. To apply, visit <http://www.jobs.studentlife.umich.edu>, send an email to: [workforus@umich.edu](mailto:workforus@umich.edu), or at 734-615-6759.

*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](mailto:careers@wccnet.edu) or visit <http://www.wccnet.edu/careerconnection/>.*

**Career Services will now be having office hours in the Counseling Center on the second floor of the Student Center building, on the following dates and times: April 1 – 10 a.m.-3 p.m., April 15 – 10 a.m.-3 p.m., April 29 – 10 a.m.-3 p.m. If you are interested in meeting with a Career Services adviser while they are in Counseling, please contact Career Services to set up an appointment.**

**BUSINESS/TECHNOLOGY INTERNSHIP.** Answer customer's questions on how to use our software. Troubleshoot software problem. Talk with accountants and tax practitioners from all over the country. Discuss complex issues with senior members of our staff. Attend meetings relevant to your product. You will be trained on one of our tax preparation applications and will learn how to help customers with all facets of that product. You'll also learn effective communication techniques for the business environment, how to think on your feet, professionalism, and time management.

**MUSEUM INTERNS.** Interns will research, restore, archive and build displays for artifacts and items for the Detroit Police Museum which is scheduled to

open in May 2015. Interns will also collaborate on the publication of a book outlining the history of the Detroit Police Dept.  
**WEEKEND RECEPTIONIST.** Front Desk Receptionist responsibilities along with Administrative Listing Assistant duties. Answer Phones, filter emails, light "housekeeping" duties, maintain office forms, update various spreadsheets, assist Listing Manager, interface with potential clients, review and check all paperwork which will leave the office, create and update weekly reports.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT WITH CUSTOMER SERVICE SKILLS.** Schedule meetings, events, and travel. Create or help create presentations and demonstrations. Update Customer Relationship Management (CRM) database. Knowledge of Podio a big plus but not necessary! Must keep proper records of sales and order information. Managing meeting minutes. Develop reports and email correspondence. Manage complex projects from start to finish. Send emails to clients to maintain the relationship. Collection of customer information and provide feedback. Learn to identify potential customers to bring in new business. Maintain relationships with vendors to check on the status of existing orders. May have to participate in trade fairs and other events.

**DIGITAL ANIMATION/VIDEO PRODUCTION TECHNICIAN.** Preparation and animation of Photoshop files, preparation and animation of 3D elements through arrangement and rendering, preparation of video files and adding multi-language subtitles, preparation and testing of iOS apps, gathering all materials and information necessary to upload finished modules to App Store.

**MACHINIST.** To machine, build & assemble manufacturing tooling for fixtures and machines. To assist in the repair

of all tooling needs to run production. To run all tool room equipment. To organize and take ownership of tooling and equipment in machine shop. To communicate well with all people in the organization. To follow all instructions when given to them by designated supervisor. To follow all tool room and company guidelines.  
**ORTHODONTIC DENTAL ASSISTANT.** Busy Dexter office. Full-time position 30-35 hours/week (Monday-Thursday). Prior dental assisting experience (preferable 2-years) required. Strong computer skills are essential. Some key duties include taking x-rays and photos, placement and adjustment of appliances/braces, taking impressions, giving treatment and oral hygiene instructions, sterilization of instruments/equipment, and preparing the instruments/materials required for each procedure.

**RECRUITING INTERN/ASSISTANT.** This person would be responsible for working with our staffing consultants to help fill all of our open job orders. Some of the key responsibilities would include: Searching resumes, managing job board postings, pre-screening candidates, walking applicants through our process via phone, scheduling interviews, and handling new hire paperwork.

**CHARTWELLS MANAGER IN TRAINING.** Great opportunity to develop with a great company and fast growing industry. Ability to communicate on various levels to include management, guests, client, and associates. Basic knowledge of financial, budgetary, accounting and computational practices. Proficient computer skills

**ROADHOUSE SOUS CHEF.** The Sous Chef works directly under the Head Chef in constant pursuit of delivering great food, great service, and great finance. Prepares and cooks food according to standards - works all stations of the line

and areas throughout the kitchen. Demonstrates a relentless commitment and passion for providing great food and great Service to customers both internally and externally

**INTERN/PART TIME ORGANIZER.** Fast-growing and fun firm developing interactive/educational mobile apps for kids. Target clients of these mobile apps teaching simple money management concepts are financial institutions. Work directly with the CEO and Application Developer as they support and enhance their existing mobile application as well as develop future applications. Offers an entrepreneurial, creative, fun culture where kindness, enthusiasm and strong self initiative are valued. Offices are located just west of Ann Arbor in downtown historic Dexter. Support, maintain and develop existing PHP, MySQL based web API. Develop future web APIs, Support, maintain and administrator web portal in HTML, CSS and JavaScript. Develop future administrator web portals. Support and assist with web site administration. Minor system administration including MySQL, Nginx, PHP workers, etc. on Linux.

**ARTS & CRAFTS SPECIALIST.** Prepare for arts and crafts activities; creating new program ideas and trips. Be knowledgeable and skillful in a variety of arts and crafts activities. Create age appropriate (and sometimes Jewish-themed) activities that result in tangible projects for campers which they can take home. Maintain a clean and organized environment for projects and create an inviting space for campers and staff. Assist counselors during their arts and crafts projects once directions are explained. Ensure supplies are stocked, counselors are prepared.



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com, or 734-677-5405. Even better, visit  
us in the newsroom in TI 106.

## 10 THINGS EVERY WCC STUDENT CAN RELATE TO

1

*Developing an eagle  
eye for parking*

Every WCC student knows the struggle – trying to perfectly time your arrival to campus so you can snag coveted parking real-estate, and facing off against the influx of other cars to chase down the lone student walking to their car to leave. If there's one thing this school prepares us for, it's the cut-throat world of competitive parking.



*Eating enough  
Subway and pizza  
to make you sick*

2

That familiar grumble in your stomach guides you to the Student Center, but when you get there, the realization that Subway and pizza are still your only options sets in. You look around for any other sustenance – you've had Subway five times this week already – but eventually you cave, as always, and get in line.

3

*Anticipating 'Panda  
Express Day' all week*

Mondays and Tuesdays drag on, but knowing that Panda Express will be in the Student Center on Wednesdays, serving piping hot orange chicken, gives students hope for a respite from the endless days of sandwiches.



*Not smoking – unless  
you know where to go*

4

While signs all across campus warn smokers that they are not welcome, some students have created a special place where these outcasts can congregate. Where is it? We won't tell.

5

*Having classmates  
half your age*

Yes, those are 15 year olds you see in the hallway. The Washtenaw Technical Middle College high school students who attend classes at WCC annoy more senior students by crowding and cackling in hallways, but they inspire in classrooms where they are some of the best students, despite their age.



*Having classmates  
twice your age*

6

As many students know, the best thing you can do is befriend that 40-50 year old in your class. They listen better than anyone, take great notes and have the best stories.

7

*Navigating campus  
without stepping  
foot outside*

Several bridges that link WCC's buildings make it possible to get pretty far on campus while avoiding Michigan's usually cringe-worthy weather. But be careful not to get lost – it's easy to end up in a building with no idea how you got there.



*Entering the GM building  
... and never leaving*

8

Graphic design, animation and photography students know – when you enter the basement of the GM building, you may never see the light of day again. Students who frequent the floor will attest to the fact that the art-plastered hallways and bustling labs and classrooms will draw you in and never let you go.

9

*Taking PEA 115 will  
not help you get your  
act together*

When registering for classes, every student gets the prompt – Do you want to sign up for PEA 115? It's one credit, and you only have to go to the Health and Fitness Center 15 times per semester. The chronically lazy think, "Maybe this is what I need to finally start working out."

It's not. You'll end up sitting in the hot tub or the locker room bathroom stall in those final days, desperate to squeeze in those last few visits.



*Staying here too long*

10

There's something about this college that keeps people hanging around. You don't have to talk to too many WCC students to find one that says, "I've been here way longer than I planned." The price and quality of instruction, the great resources and programs and a solid campus community all leave students wanting more.

– Natalie Wright and Taylor Mabelitini