

This paper brought to you by students from WISD
See editorial, Page A4

DON'T FORGET

Today is the last day to register to vote

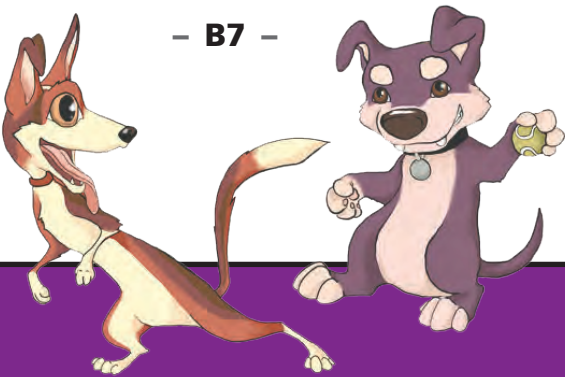
NFL, follow our lead:

Go purple or go home

- A5 -

Check out our new comic strip, SnoodleDoo

- B7 -



THE WASHTENAW VOICE

A NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD NEWSPAPER

VOL. 21, NO. 4

The student publication of Washtenaw Community College

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2014

www.washtenawvoice.com



SEE VIDEO AT
WASHTENAWVOICE.COM

NATALIE WRIGHT | WASHTENAW VOICE

The sun was shining bright last Wednesday, but Roger Ault, an 85-year-old emeritus student at Washtenaw Community College was wielding an open umbrella.

"I was impressed by a photograph I found on the Internet," Ault said referring to a snapshot of riots in Hong Kong. "Students were holding their umbrellas in front of them, while the police officers sprayed pepper spray at them."

Ault, who admits he wasn't a huge political activist in his younger days, decided he needed to stand in support of the students in Hong Kong.

With only an umbrella and a sign around his neck, Ault, a Korean War Navy veteran, who has been attending WCC since 1998, is hoping to make a difference, and to challenge students at WCC.

He's calling it the "Umbrella Challenge," and was inspired by the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge that took the world by storm over the summer. The challenge, according to a press release written by Ault, is "to put on the paper hat, the signs and carry an open umbrella" around campus. Ault also asked for students to pass

on their umbrellas and signs to fellow students to start a conversation.

He hopes WCC students can take up more significant activism than their university neighbors.

"The University (of Michigan) students have congregated in a protest shouting 'fire Brandon, fire Brandon'," Ault said, "well, there are more important things going on and supporting the students in Hong Kong is an important thing."

- James Saoud and Natalie Wright

Basking in pride

WCC administrators list college's many services to community

BY NATALIE WRIGHT
Editor

Once a year, Washtenaw Community College is given an opportunity to tout its successes to the state through the Strategic Values Template, a list of all the ways the college benefits the community, in hopes of receiving maximum funding.

It's a monumental task, and a long list.

Administrators recently presented the document to the college's board of trustees. The document, once approved by the trustees, will be sent to the state, which will use it to determine a portion of the state appropriations WCC will receive.

Trustee Richard Landau was grateful that this presentation gave the trustees, faculty and staff present at the meeting a chance to reflect on the great work Washtenaw is doing, he said.

"I think we get jaded by all of the things that all of us in this room have accomplished," Landau said. "Everyone has a piece of this wonderful institution that is WCC."

This is the third year the college has filled out the template, said Julie Morrison, executive director of institutional effectiveness, planning and accreditation. And last year, it helped the college earn the highest percentage increase in

See STRATEGIC VALUES, Page A3



Julie Morrison, executive director of institutional effectiveness, planning and accreditation, outlined the successes of the Strategic Values Template to the board of trustees at their meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 23. EJ STOUT | WASHTENAW VOICE

How Rose blossomed

WCC's president shares how she defied the odds and got her start

BY JAMES SAOUD
Managing Editor

Rose Bellanca never planned to be the president of a college. She never even thought she'd be able to go to one.

"When I was in 11th grade, I didn't do well on my SAT," the Washtenaw Community College president said. "I was at a Catholic school, and the nun had a meeting with my mom and with me and told us I wasn't college material."

Bellanca, an aspiring teacher at the time, was crushed. The Catholic school she was attending pulled her from her college prep courses and told her it'd be best if she looked at going to a small business school rather than pursuing a four-year college program.

And after finishing high school, Bellanca did

just that.

"The business school was on, like, the second floor of a bank. It was four rooms. I mean, I thought, 'This is not what I want,'" Bellanca said.

So the disillusioned young woman set up a meeting with the owner of the business school, told him she still had dreams of being a teacher and asked, looking for any kind of guidance, what qualifications the teachers at the school needed to be hired.

"You need a teaching certificate," he told her.

"Well, how do you get one of those?" she asked him.

"You need to go to college."

"Well, forget it," Bellanca thought. "I'm not college material."

See BELLANCA, Page A5



WCC | COURTESY PHOTO

See SURPLUS, Page A5

Group promotes creation of Washtenaw County ID card

BY M. M. DONALDSON
Staff Writer

A new form of pictured identification may be available to Washtenaw County residents starting in 2015.

The Washtenaw ID Task Force has been advocating for a county ID to be available to residents, particularly those who do not have any form of government-issued identification card to verify who they are. The Washtenaw County board of commissioners will vote on this measure during their Nov. 19 meeting.

Washtenaw ID Task Force members feel that it is a human right to have a pictured ID to identify who they are. Without a pictured ID, they say, some Washtenaw County residents are unable to obtain a library card or pick up prescriptions from the pharmacy. In a promotional video, a man spoke of his fear of having an accident and no one knowing who he is without identification.

The identification has the potential to be used to prove identity for Washtenaw Community College students, stated Keta Cown, Washtenaw ID Task Force member and chief executive officer of Synod Community Services.

Those who would benefit most would be those marginalized within the community, she said, and the identification could be used for emergency contacts and medical

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U-M football protests,

WHO CARES?

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Some trustee candidates disappoint

- A4 -

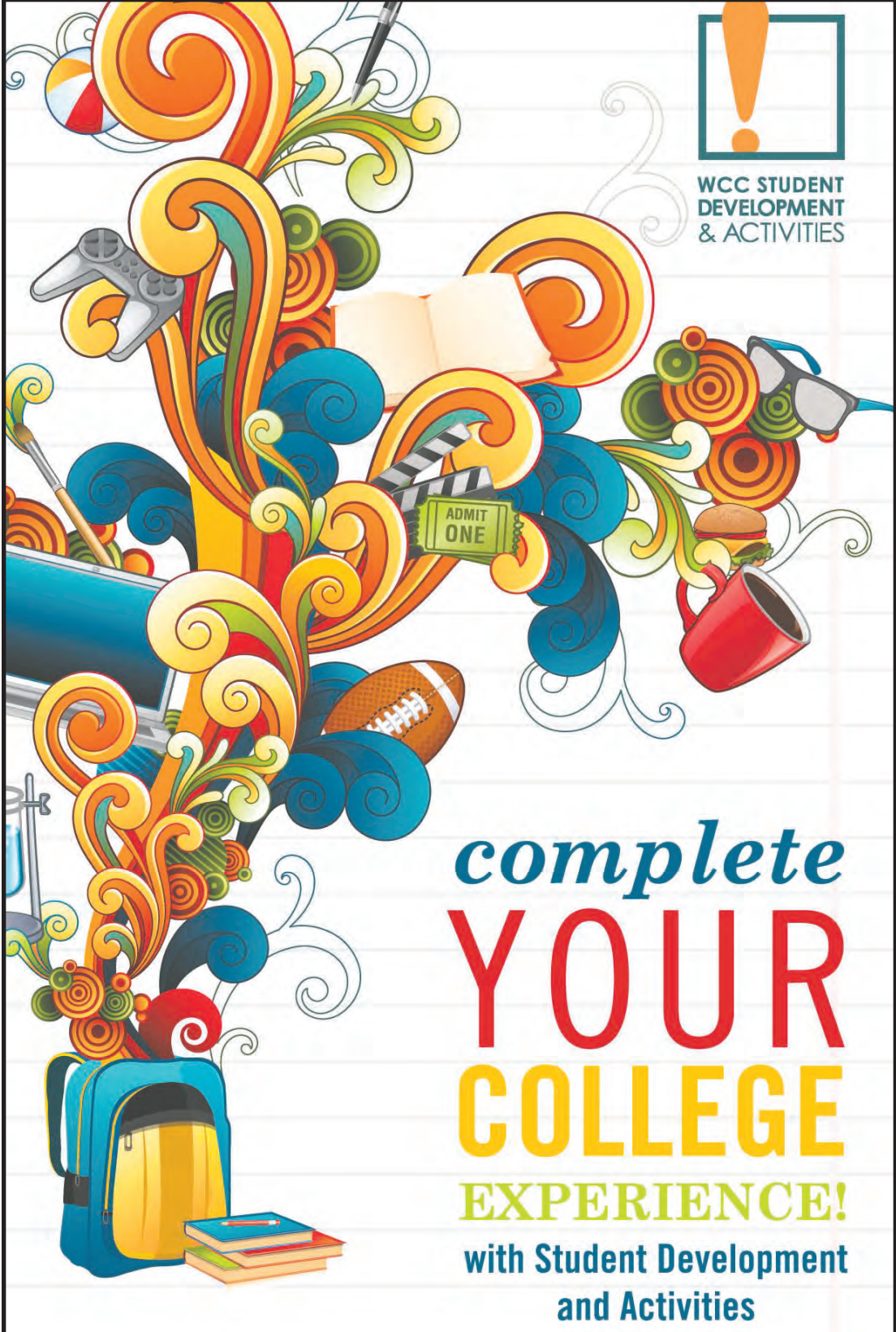
AROUND THE WORLD IN 18 YEARS


- B1 -

Successful designer shares career secrets

- B6 -







WCC STUDENT
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Talent Show Auditions
Wednesday, October 8th
5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

ML Towsley

Do you have an awesome talent? Try out for the talent show and show it off!

Sign-up today at:

<http://tinyurl.com/WCC TalentShowNOV2014>

Ticket: Annie! The Musical
Thursday, October 2nd
7:30 p.m.

Fisher Theatre in Detroit, MI

Enjoy the Tony Award Winning musical "Annie"! Bet your bottom dollar you'll love it!

Price: \$25 – Includes FREE parking!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Blood Drive

Thursday, October 2nd

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

WCC Fitness Center

Your blood is urgently needed! Each donation saves up to three lives.

Be a hero and save a life! Sign-up to donate: www.redcrossblood.org

Enter sponsor code: WCC13

Walk-in appointments also accepted.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk
Saturday, October 18th

Registration: 8:00 a.m. Walk: 9:00 a.m.

Community Park

Help raise money and awareness for breast-cancer research! In America alone, more than 200,000 women are diagnosed with breast cancer every year. It's never too early to start making a difference! **Who will you walk for?**

JOIN OUR TEAM TODAY at:

<http://tinyurl.com/MakingStrides2014TeamWCC>

Passionately Pink Event
Wednesday, October 22nd

11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

LA 369

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month! Join the discussion lead by guest speakers from St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. Lunch will be provided to the first 30 participants that RSVP! *Show your support by wearing pink!*

To RSVP, call the SWRC at 734-677-5105.

Lunch with the President

The winners of this contest will enjoy a FREE lunch with WCC's President, Dr. Rose Bellanca! Lunches will take place at various times throughout the semester.

Sign-up today!

<http://tinyurl.com/wcclunchcontest>

Volunteer Opportunity: Free College Day

Saturday, October 11th from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (split shifts available).

Give back to your campus by volunteering at Free College Day! Volunteers will receive dinner the night before the event, lunch at the event and a t-shirt for your service! **Sign-up here:**

<http://tinyurl.com/WCCFREECollegeDayFall2014>

Horseback Riding!

Friday, October 24th

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Horse-N-Around Stables

Grass Lake, MI

Join us for this ride and a treat! Each ticket includes:

College-van transportation, a short horse-riding lesson, one-hour horse ride through the forest, soup, salad, breadsticks, and a drink at Olive Garden!

Tickets: \$30

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

WCC Sports

Join us for team tryouts! You must pre-register at the Sports office in SC 116 prior to the tryout date. Requirements: 2.0 cumulative GPA, be registered in at least three credits at WCC.

Women's Basketball: Monday, October 13th; Wednesday, October 15th from 9:15 p.m. – 11 p.m. @ the WCC Health and Fitness Center.

Men's Basketball: Wednesday, October 1st; Monday, October 6th; Wednesday, October 8th; from 9:15 to 11 p.m. @ the WCC Health and Fitness Center.



STAY CONNECTED!

[HTTP://TINYW.CC/SDA](http://tinyurl.com/SDA)

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more.

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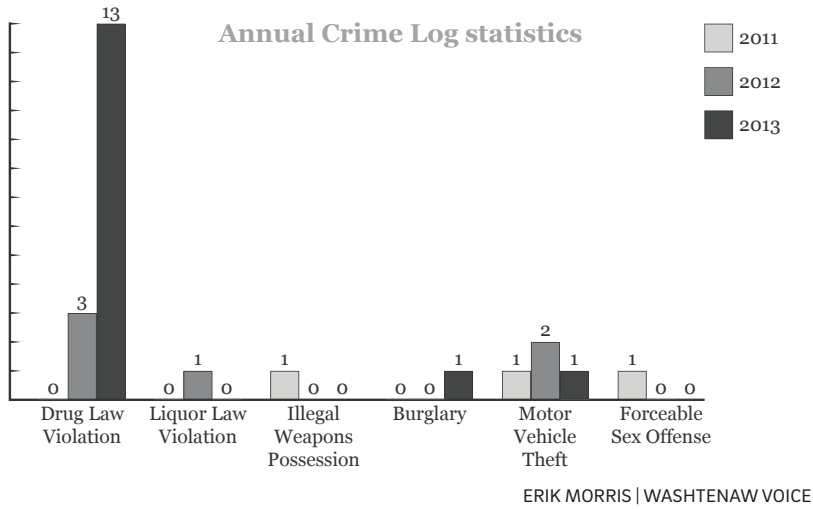
WCC is a safe campus, according to numbers

BY JAMES SAOUD
Managing Editor

Washtenaw Community College is a safe place for students, staff and faculty members, according to the latest annual crime report from Campus Safety and Security.

The Clery Act requires that campus security organizations all around the country must publish an annual security report that documents three calendar years and consists of crime statistics,

security policies and security procedures. The reports must be available to all students and employees, current and prospective. All crime statistics found in the logs must be provided to the U.S. Department of Education. Shown below are the crime statistic totals for the last three years from Washtenaw Community College's Campus Safety and Security 2014 Annual Security Report. See washtenawvoice.com for a full breakdown of the statistics.



Crime blotter

Larceny

A backpack containing books and a cell phone was stolen from a restroom in the LA building on Sept. 16. The incident was reported to Campus Security at 12:08 p.m. The disposition of the crime was unknown.

Hit-and-run

A hit-and-run was reported in the parking structure on Sept. 17 at 12:37 p.m. The Washtenaw County's Sheriff's Department was called to handle the situation. The investigation was pending.

Larceny

A backpack containing books was stolen from a bathroom in the LA building on Sept. 23. No time was given in the daily crime log and the disposition of the crime was unknown.

Larceny

A laptop was stolen outside of the TI building on Sept. 30 when the owner left it sitting on a seat after walking away. No time was given in the daily crime log and the disposition of the crime was unknown.

Campus Security on preventing theft

Campus Safety and Security officials are encouraging students and employees to be proactive in creating awareness and staying safe around campus.

CSS Director Jac Desrosiers said the following safety guidelines regarding property safety apply to any public place including shopping malls, special events and even places of worship.

Vehicles

- Never leave your vehicle running while it is unattended.
- Roll up your windows completely and lock your doors.
- Take your keys and never leave a spare in or on the vehicle.
- Keep all valuables and packages that may tempt a thief out of sight.
- When available, use auto theft deterrents such as car alarms and steering column devices.

Electronics

- Do not leave laptops, smartphones or tablets unattended.
- Record serial numbers of electronic devices.
- Use anchor security devices to lock personal computers.

STRATEGIC VALUES, from A1

appropriations of any community college in the state.

The document groups performance measures into three categories: economic development and business or industry partnerships, educational partnerships and community services. The college must meet four out of five best practices in a category to receive funding with that category.

This year, the college added many new accomplishments to the list, which administrators pointed out to the trustees.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

Over the last year, the college has provided training to 19 new companies, Vice President of Economic and Community Development Michelle Mueller said, including Comcast, Michigan Oral Surgeons and Washtenaw County Public Health.

The recently opened Entrepreneurship Center also provides small business and student support, she said.

"The center will provide students, alumni and community members with resources such as co-working space, coaching, educational programs and networking with local business leaders," Mueller said.

She also pointed out the new 15-year agreement with the United Association of Plumbers, Pipefitters, Sprinkler Fitters, Welders and HVACR Technicians, a partnership that brought approximately \$5 million to the surrounding community this year. Next, Mueller mentioned WCC President Rose Bellanca's leadership on the Prosperity Initiative for the state's Region Nine Talent Council.

She talked about the college's partnerships with Google, Quicken Loans and more companies through the \$3 million Department of Labor Grant.

And lastly, she pointed out the college's Harriet Street Center, which provides assistance for Washtenaw County job seekers.

EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Vice President of Student and Academic Services Linda Blakey spoke about the college's relationships with K-12 institutions and other colleges, leading with the recent news that Washtenaw Technical Middle College was named the seventh best high school in the country by "Newsweek."

Also, she noted, dual enrollment has increased 48 percent over the last year, and starting this fall, WCC will host a nursing assistant program at Ypsilanti Community High School.

Blakey continued, commenting on the Lemonade Day entrepreneurship workshops and the Mentor-2-Youth team building, two programs new to WCC last year, which reached out to a much younger set of community members. She pointed out that enrollment for the VIP

program, which targets students from low-achieving high schools, has increased by 67 percent since last year.

Blakey mentioned the "very successful" adult transitions program with GED and college and field preparation, and noted that Washtenaw was instrumental in working with Michigan legislators to get the state to appropriate funds to help pay the increase in the cost of the GED test.

Lastly, she talked about the college's partnerships with other colleges.

"We have 112 signed agreements for 272 programs to articulate with colleges and universities," Blakey said. "And we also are launching our University Center this fall of '14, starting with a program with Ferris State University."

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Morrison wrapped up the presentation, with some of the more miscellaneous services the college provides to the community.

"We offer more than 200 continuing education and personal enrichment courses each semester," Morrison began, adding that this includes many free courses for emeritus students – those over the age of 65.

"We also have the Parkridge Center in Ypsilanti to provide educational programming and training for youths, adults and seniors," Morrison said.

Free College Day and the CORE Garden are two exciting new additions to WCC's offerings to community members, she added.

She also pointed out long-standing offerings to community members, which were just added to the list this year, including the many events held at Towsley Auditorium, Gallery One, Orchard Radio and *The Washtenaw Voice*.

Also added to the list was that the college's Health and Fitness Center serves about 5,000 community members – a recently acquired statistic, Morrison said.

Finally, she said, the college added Welcome Day and Volunteer Fairs to the list, though they also have been going on for years.

A PROUD REACTION

The trustees and Bellanca were happy to bask in the pride of these accomplishments.

"Just seeing it all together here, listed, is pretty impressive," Trustee Stephen Gill said.

"This year really just blows me away," Bellanca said. "The great work of this fabulous executive leadership team that takes on these initiatives, as well as the faculty and staff that support it – it's just amazing how we serve this community.

"I'm very, very proud and grateful to be able to do it."

"The college and the staff and the employees have an obligation to serve and be available for the community," Trustee Diana McKnight-Morton said. "The community, this is what they're looking for in us as a community college, and this really shows it."

IN BRIEF

TRUSTEES ELECT NEW LEADERSHIP

Washtenaw Community College's board of trustees has new leadership. At its September meeting, the board unanimously elected Trustee Stephen Gill as its new chair and Trustee Richard Landau as its new vice chair.

No other nominations were made.

Early in the meeting, sitting Vice Chair Patrick McLean announced that he and, the notably absent, Chair Anne Williams would resign their leadership positions at the end of the meeting, though they will both serve out the remainder of their terms as trustees.

McLean reminded those in the boardroom that neither he, nor Williams, is seeking reelection, and both will cease their roles on the board on Jan. 1.

"Consequently and given the gravity of the issues the board is dealing with right now, I certainly think it's important to have continuity going forward," McLean said. As usual, the trustees will hold an election in January when a new board convenes; so Gill and Landau may only serve in these roles through December.

At the end of the meeting, Gill thanked McLean and Williams for their service, and said that he thought they were doing the

right thing by vacating the positions.

"We have a lot of work to do as a board to add continuity into the new year," Gill said.

Landau also thanked the resigning officers and looked ahead to the rest of the year.

"We have lots of challenges before us. It is a new academic year," he noted. "Each one of them brings hope – a new beginning – and I hope that with Chair Gill and my elevation to these positions, we can preside over a productive academic year."

- Natalie Wright

ASBESTOS DISCOVERED IN LA BUILDING

The mold problem in the Crane Liberal Arts and Sciences building has turned into an asbestos problem, Vice President of Facilities Management Damon Flowers said at a recent board of trustees meeting.

"It's a little more involved than we anticipated," he said, adding that the remediation

could cost up to \$290,000 more than the original \$500,000 budget, though the cost is not finalized yet.

"We've got some additional testing that we're doing, and we'll see to exactly what extent we have to remove asbestos," Flowers explained.

Most of the asbestos remediation is similar to the mold

remediation, he said, but a lot more containment and regulation comes into play with asbestos. The asbestos is also contained to the same areas as the mold, he added.

Flowers plans to update the trustees at the next meeting on Oct. 28.

- Natalie Wright

WCC LIKELY TO JOIN REGIONAL 'THINK TANK'

Administrators proposed that the board of trustees agree to join the Southeast Eastern Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) at a recent board meeting, and the trustees were receptive to the idea.

SEMCOG is a regional collaborative effort between local government, higher education institutions and transportation organizations, said Director of Government Relations Jason Morgan.

Vice President of Economic Development Michelle Mueller said that she worked with SEMCOG in her job at St. Clair County Community College, and knows that it does important work. It would "behoove" the college to join the "think tank," which has committees that

address issues relating to economic development and workforce training, she said.

"The many projects that the various committees take on are impacting us," Mueller said, "and it's information that can also be used to explore training in other opportunities within our own area."

Morgan noted that the organization has been around since the 1960s and has been doing great work in Southeast Michigan. Joining SEMCOG, he said, will allow the college to collaborate in these efforts.

Membership will cost the college \$3,000, President Rose Bellanca said. But it has to be approved by the trustees because one of them must serve as a representative of the college.

Bellanca asked the trustees to think about the proposal and

vote on the issue at the Oct. 28 meeting.

"Hopefully you're interested in joining," she said.

They were very interested.

"Let me just express my strong support for this initiative," Vice Chair Patrick McLean said. "It assures us a place at the table for regional discussions, which I think is important. So, you have my strong backing for this."

Trustee Diana McKnight-Morton said that she would be happy to serve as the representative, as she did previously for Washtenaw County. She added that the transportation issues, which SEMCOG was created to deal with, are very important to Washtenaw's commuting students.

- Natalie Wright

PRESIDENT, TRUSTEES APPLAUD WTMC



WTMC faculty and officials received a plaque from the trustees on Sept. 23 EJ STOUT | WASHTENAW VOICE

Washtenaw Technical Middle College has received a lot of accolades lately.

Following "Newsweek" magazine's naming of WTMC as the 7th best high school in the country, the Washtenaw Community College board of trustees took official action at its September meeting, voting unanimously to recognize the work of WTMC officials, teachers and students.

WTMC faculty and administrators were

presented with a plaque and a gift basket, as the trustees congratulated them.

Trustee Diana McKnight-Morton reflected on the founding of WTMC, which she was involved in as a trustee.

"This is just beyond any of our imaginations at that time," she said. "Look at it now – it's just amazing."

- Natalie Wright

STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN VIDEO SHOOTOUT

Students in Video 105 and 125 at WCC had their fees waived for the third annual Ypsilanti 24-Hour Shootout as a part of their first class project of the semester.

The shootout took place on Sept. 26 and the winners were announced after a screening held in the Towsley Auditorium on Friday Oct. 3.

WCC student Bryan Susalla

was awarded an honorable mention for his film "Tracks."

For a full list of the winners, visit washtenawvoice.com.

- James Saoud

FORMER CHILDREN'S CENTER TEACHER LOSES BATTLE WITH CANCER

Susan Cannon, a retired preschool teacher, lost her six-year battle with cancer last Sunday, Sept. 27. She left her position at Washtenaw Community College at the time of her diagnosis.

"She fought as long and hard as she could," said Amnesty Alston, Cannon's close friend and colleague.

From the impact Cannon left behind on her WCC colleagues

it is clear she was not only a loved woman, but a daily light in the life at the Children's Center.

Her passion for this school was evident in the 50-mile commute she made every day from Sylvania, Ohio – as well as her prominent position as an office professional union representative.

"She loved the kids, she loved the staff, she loved her job," Alston said.

Throughout Washtenaw, when Cannon's colleagues are asked

about her, the answers are unanimous: huge heart, so caring, so thoughtful, so generous.

Cannon is survived by her husband of 31 years, Larry Cannon Sr.; her daughter, Amy Roth; sons, Larry Jr., Greg and James; and 15 grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at Reeb Funeral Home in Sylvania on Oct. 1.

- Sofia Lynch

EDITORIAL

A 'two-thumbs-up' partnership

Not every day can be a high-five day.

Our new friends and partners from Washtenaw Intermediate School District's program for developmentally disabled adults taught us that two thumbs up can be just as fulfilling.

girl brightened the hallways of the Technical Industrial Building with her smile as she placed small stacks of newspapers neatly on the bottom shelf of a stand.

To help with her route in the future, her teachers have placed braille signage on each of the three



Voice Managing Editor EJ Stout and 20-year-old WISD student Jay cart fresh newspapers around on Monday, Sept. 22. EJ STOUT | WASHTENAW VOICE

When WISD teacher Diane Hughes came to us asking if her students could help distribute our newspapers, we couldn't contain our excitement, and admittedly got carried away.

We started bouncing ideas around about all the ways the students could get involved with us, how we could make them a part of our team.

Slow down, Hughes told us. Let's try this one step at a time.

So, on Monday Sept. 22, we kicked off our partnership.

Roughly a dozen WISD students, our new circulation assistants, joined the Voice staff at 9 a.m. We divided and conquered each building on campus, showing our new team members where and how we update our nearly three dozen newsstands across campus.

As the students completed their tasks, we were eager to show encouragement and appreciation.

"Can we give high-fives?" we asked, after one student finished filling all of the stands in the Student Center.

"Today is more of a two-thumbs-up day," we were told. For one student, the non-contact show of appreciation was better suited on that particular day.

Meanwhile, a young blind

stands on the first floor of the building, so she can distinguish them from the stands for a different paper right next to them.

This partnership is a success for everyone involved.

The job allows the WISD students to take on a challenge and to contribute to the campus community in a meaningful way, Hughes said.

Our staff has been able to make a difference by giving others an opportunity to make a difference. As if that weren't enough, we also get to work alongside these students, hopefully throughout the year.

The students helped us bring old copies of the paper back to our newsroom for recycling and departed with "Thank yous" from both groups.

Our staff reconvened in our newsroom with smiles on our faces, and we reflected on the progress and excitement we saw, and shared, during our time with them.

We anticipated working with the students again – and the growing relationships we could look forward to. We discussed what we had learned

and would continue to learn from this partnership.

We talked about the "high-five" situation, and what we would take away from it.

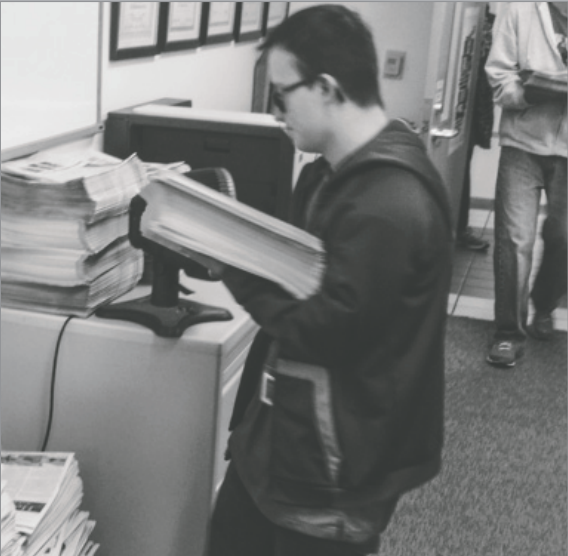
"Patience" one staffer said, "and understanding."

As journalists, the nature of our work insists that we jump at opportunities, that we latch on to good ideas and stretch them to their limits, and that we do it fast, facing constant deadline pressures. Each day presents a new set of challenges that requires great tenacity to overcome.

Working with these students has reminded us that patience is just as important as tenacity.

It has reminded us that not everyone works or thinks the way, or at the speed that we do – and that when we work with others we need to be flexible and accommodating to nuances in personality and situation. This is a fundamental lesson, not just for our profession, but for our humanity.

It's a mantra we've all been told countless times: Treat everyone equally despite their differences, but often that means



Victor, a 21-year-old WISD student, helps load papers in the Voice newsroom. EJ STOUT | WASHTENAW VOICE

treating people differently to suit their differences.

Patience, flexibility and understanding are virtues that can be applied to a multitude of situations, and relationships, in our lives. These students showed us how we can do that with a sincerely cheerful spirit – an invaluable lesson, and a lesson that we don't intend to keep confined to our newsroom.

Thank you to our new friends and co-workers. We so look forward to our continued partnership. And many thumbs up.

Some WCC trustee candidates disappoint



Uninformed voters are dangerous.

Uninformed candidates are even more dangerous.

Those paying attention at recent board of trustees meetings must be concerned that four of the eight candidates running for the board in November have not shown their face at a single meeting since filing for the race before July 22.

There have been three board meetings since then, filled with crucial knowledge for any active, thoughtful member of this campus community.

The first step for candidates to prove their worth to voters is to show they're informed of the issues. The second step is to take a stance on these issues.

While each of the eight candidates has been happy to share their platforms with the public, several of them have not proven that they are properly informed, or taking steps to learn.

The four candidates who have attended the meetings are those who we know were well-informed even before this race.

As the current board secretary, Mark Freeman clearly has the best knowledge of the inner-workings of the board and is informed of the issues they are dealing with.

As online editor of The Voice, Christina Fleming has attended and reported on many trustee meetings over the last year.

Ruth Hatcher has regularly attended trustee meetings since she retired from her job as a WCC English instructor in 2011, she said. She sits beside the faculty at the meetings and is clearly informed of their positions on the issues.

As a member of the Washtenaw Technical Middle College board,

Alex Milshteyn attended several board meetings in 2013 and '14, becoming a regular fixture at the meetings last April, he said.

Sadly, the candidates without a standing presence at the college in recent years, and those who demonstrated the least knowledge about the campus issues in recent interviews with The Voice, are also the ones who don't appear concerned with catching up.

So much is on the line in this election. There are more candidates than there have been in decades, and the issues the board is dealing with weigh as heavy as ever.

The faculty-administration relationship is fragile at best. A millage is coming in the next two years. And the college faces headwinds with declining enrollment, steep budget cuts and increasing expectations from the state and taxpayers.

We do not want to elect trustees who don't have a firm grasp of these major issues, along with the everyday issues the board sees.

This is not the time a time for mistakes at the polls. This is not a time for ignorance in our leadership.

As a campus community, as registered voters who care about the future of this institution, we need to elect people who have the best interest of this college at heart, not just political gain.

Showing involvement and interest is the crucial first step for these candidates, and half of them are failing. If this office was important to them – as important as it needs to be for the sake of the college – they would be at these meetings.

The meetings are once a month and usually last about two hours.

Is that too big a commitment to ask from the people who want to be elected to oversee the important business of the college and the well-being of its students, faculty and staff?

The campus community should be disappointed. We deserve more from those who want to ask to lead us into the future. And we demand more if they want to win our vote.

U-M students stand up, but on wrong grounds



It takes a lot to get people off of their asses, but the University of Michigan head football coach Brady Hoke and Athletic Director David Brandon seemed to do the job just fine.

Last Tuesday, U-M students rallied to have Hoke and Brandon fired after the Shane Morris controversy surrounding last week's home loss to Minnesota.

They were not wrong.

The footage of Morris is not just upsetting. It's appalling. It's disturbing. It's heartbreaking.

Hoke and Brandon should be thrown from their positions immediately.

But we all know that. Everyone is talking about it. Students are screaming about.

And the national media is devouring it.

Yet another controversy to distract us from the world around us, a world with bigger problems than a college football team. A world with bigger problems than a leaked photograph of your favorite celebrity naked.

Stand up, America, for something bigger.

As students in Hong Kong, soaked in pepper spray, stand up against their government leaders, students in Ann Arbor, soaked in beer, stand up against a football coach.

Is this really what gets us going? I applaud the U-M students for standing up for what they believe is right and standing up for what they want to change. But how can this be all we stand for?

How can this be the change we demand?

It takes a lot to get people off their asses, but we've got plenty of reasons to.

WASHTENAW ID, from A1

emergency information.

"We see this as an inherently good thing for our students," WCC Government Relations Director Jason Morgan said.

Morgan understands the Washtenaw ID is important for individuals to access basic county services. He segued to the WCC board of trustee's July 2013 unanimous approval to change the college's policy to allow students to pay in-district or in-state tuition if they qualified under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals federal program.

Administered by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, DACA allows undocumented individuals to apply for deferred action on

removal from the U.S.

The Washtenaw ID was introduced to the county by Washtenaw County Commission Chair Yousef Rabhi, who is also a member of the Washtenaw ID Task Force. If the board of commissioners approves this measure, the Washtenaw ID will be administered through the office of the County Clerk.

Several community agencies that work with undocumented or homeless individuals are interested in the Washtenaw ID, but are cautious of how the collected information may be used. Most concerns relate to potential subpoenas or Freedom of Information Act requests generated through the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

No other community entities have

committed to accepting the ID for services, except for local law enforcement, Cown said.

While the proposed Washtenaw ID would not be valid for voter registration, passport application, driver's license or State of Michigan ID purposes, the Washtenaw ID has received support from Washtenaw County Sheriff Jerry Clayton and most other police departments in the county. They have agreed that those who can be identified through their Washtenaw ID will not be taken into custody based on not having pictured identification in their possession.

The cost of the Washtenaw ID is projected to be \$25 with a scholarship component for those who are not able to pay the fee.

THE WASHTENAW VOICE

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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NFL, SHOW YOUR TRUE COLORS



EJ STOUT
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“Pinkwashing,” as it’s known, gives any business or brand access to public heartstrings during Breast Cancer Awareness Month, so long as it’s bathed in pink and turns a profit.

A term coined by Breast Cancer Action’s “Think Before You Pink” campaign, “pink-washing” showers guilt on all parties involved – brands, distributors, consumers and promoters.

For the sixth October in a row, the NFL has chosen to “pinkwash” its entire brand, including players and stadium turfs, as part of its “Crucial Catch” campaign.

But in 2013, “only 8.01 percent of money spent on pink NFL merchandise is actually going towards cancer research,” according to Business Insider reports.

On the other hand, Domestic Violence Awareness Month – also during October – has been observed since 1987 but has yet to reach the same level of public support that its cancer counterpart has.

Maybe purple is easier to ignore than pink.

Try as it might, recent off-field activity in the NFL has not been enough to demand a league-wide acknowledgment of domestic violence problems.

Rather than continue to watch the league’s credibility diminish year after year as criminal charges become less the exception and more the norm, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell would be wise to move the chains in a forward direction.

It took the public release of security footage showing Ray Rice knocking out his then-fiance before Goodell issued an indefinite suspension. By waiting so long to take appropriate action, Goodell simply made it back to the line of scrimmage. But only through moral progress can the NFL truly move forward.

Sure, even if the league took a strong public stance on domestic violence, it would take

some time to implement. Make no mistake – when players exist in this ever-documented sphere of public spectacle, there’s no such thing as an off-field private life.

But for a league filled to the brim with role models, the importance of leading by example could not be more grave.

So what is Goodell waiting for? Procter & Gamble recently pulled its sponsorship from the annual “Crucial Catch” initiative, so the NFL is already clinging to the threads of a dying PR campaign. Why not embrace this opportunity to play a proactive role for once?

Trade in your pink mouth guards and pink cleats for purple ones. Paint the uprights purple and show the public – and the countless afflicted – that domestic violence will not be tolerated in this league or in this country.

We’re so used to watching the NFL face its responsibilities only when up against public outcry. Well, here’s the outcry.

There isn’t a large enough rug to sweep this under – be it natural or artificial.

With so much negative press saturating the landscape, fans and critics of the game have not been shy to express their views about the league’s lackluster response to serious abuse concerns.

Cosmetic ads intended to promote make-up lines specific to each team’s colors have been digitally altered to feature black eyes paired with the slogan “Get your game face on!” – an irony not lost on the many who can’t wipe off their bruises at the end of the night.

One of ESPN’s top sports columnists has been suspended for three weeks following his unapologetic rant calling Goodell a liar – a suspension longer than Rice initially received for his indisputable act of violence.

If the NFL’s biggest concern is its image – which it has proven time and time again – then the strongest move would be a visible and public display of values.

Go purple or go home.



SANAA NAEEM | WASHTENAW VOICE

Voice Box

What should WCC do with its \$4.7 million surplus? (See page A1)

INTERVIEWS AND PHOTOS BY CONTRIBUTOR TAYLOR ROBINSON



“I think there is some equipment that could be better. I know in the pastry kitchen there are things that could be better. The freezer has been going down, it went down over the spring/summer break and lost a lot of food, it went down just recently and then the main kitchen is scrambling. So that’s probably the biggest deal are the freezers.”

Dennis Glander, 58, Gregory, pastry certificate



“Wi-fi connection. I can never use the internet.”

Andrew Barnes, 18, Saline, General Studies



“There seems to be a lot of part-time professors instead of full-time.”

Bruce Milks, 18, South Lyon, general studies



“I think they need to install more outlets in the buildings.”

Allison VanOirschot, 17, Saline, undecided



“Should spend the money on supplies, more computers, and better software. The computers aren’t as fast as I’d like them to be. There needs to be better signals in the classrooms, if an emergency happens.”

Wissam Hammoud, 17, Ypsilanti, computer science



“Well, if it’s a surplus, usually that means after all the bills are paid, utilities are paid, I don’t know why they can’t use the money on scholarships for Washtenaw County kids or ones that come from Wayne County. Especially for the special needs student. My daughter has mild Autism. If they could even offer \$500,000, I’m sure there are enough students here who could benefit from it. Or even \$250 for a bookstore credit, something small.”

Keith McDonald, 55, Belleville, maintenance technology



“They can do one thing, negotiate with the city so the students can ride the bus for free like U of M does. Today I walked because I didn’t have any cash on me. We wouldn’t have a problem with the parking lot if students could ride (the bus) for free.”

Sorry Conde, 25, Ann Arbor, computer system networking

HEALTHY VOICE



No cupcakes at school?



M.M. DONALDSON
mmorrisdonaldson@wccnet.edu

No one wants to be called a cupcake.

All that pastel-colored sweetness of the mini baked good translates into something of a spongy personality, or worse yet, references to things not appropriate for a family-friendly column. But what happens when potshots are taken at bona fide cupcakes?

The embattled little treat recently got stuck in the middle of government policy and is now being touted as the U.S. government’s latest attempt to control personal decisions.

The real name at the center of the controversy is the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act, Smart Snacks nutritional standards. Cupcakes are not even mentioned, but somehow it became the target of jokes.

“They’re banning fun,” said a newscaster on ClickonDetroit, Channel 4 morning news in response to the school policy change that children would no longer be able to bring cupcakes to share with classmates.

The Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act policies are also argued by those who say that parental decisions are undercut by government decisions and parents should decide what their children eat, yet, parents have minimal control what their children decide to eat while away from home.

In the Washington Post op-ed “From cupcakes to the police, fed up with government” by political commentator, George Will, he decries the decisions made by the government regarding the turmoil from Ferguson, Missouri and Fallujah, Afghanistan and compares it to what he sees as governmental overreach of school bake-sale cupcakes. Truly not a fair comparison, Will belittles the policies enacted through Smart Snacks as taking away a celebration treat.

Individualism is being threatened in some people’s eyes, and perhaps so, but the threat is greater as the tidal wave of poor eating habits



MARC PARDO | WASHTENAW VOICE

is culminating into a tsunami size epidemic that has already hit the children of the U.S.

The increase in obesity in children has increased more than 10 percent in the last 20 years. Noted in the study “Policy Instruments Used by States Seeking to Improve School Food Environments” published in the American Journal of Public Health in 2012, current policy is aimed at the school environment with the intent that it will have a farther reaching positive impact than other policy affecting school age children.

In the joint search for Diabetes in Youth Study, done by the Centers for Disease Control and the National Institutes of Health, it is estimated that more than 23,000 children are diagnosed with diabetes each year. While both Type I and II are rising in incidence, there is concern with Type II, which has a strong link to obesity

and can sometimes be managed by diet.

How do you tell a young child, “No, all your friends can have the cookies and the candy, but you can’t.” The nuances of disease management can be a hard concept for children to understand, especially when it is the reason why they are unable to do what other children their age are able to do.

The real potshots are being taken at kids the policy is trying to protect.

“We have to be an advocate for children,” said Dr. Andrew Hashikawa, pediatric doctor and assistant professor in Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics at the University of Michigan. “There are a lot of alternatives to treats.”

Talking to Head Start parents during a recent health fair, Hashikawa provided information to keep children safe and out of the hospital. Well aware of the peer pressure of school-age celebrations as a father of two daughters, he advocates for bringing something from home to share as a show-and-tell or choosing books to read to celebrate birthdays.

No one wants a memory of a good time ended with a sugar hangover.

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

SURPLUS, from A1

retention and for new student recruitment.”

And the college has seen results, he said. Enrollment in the Winter semester did not drop as steeply as expected, and enrollment in the Spring and Summer was up more than 10 percent.

As a result, Johnson said, actual tuition revenue came within \$268,000 of the budgeted amount.

Actual expenditures were below budget by \$4.9 million, Johnson said. About \$2.8 million of that savings was in personnel costs.

The trustees praised Johnson’s work, saying they were happy not only with the surplus, but with the way the college achieved it.

“I think the amazing thing about this is that you accomplished this with a very, very modest tuition increase,” Trustee Pam Horiszny said. “I’m really pleased to see us doing this well without having to unnecessarily burden the students with tuition.”

In April, the board of trustees raised tuition rates 2.25 percent for the 2014-15 academic year for those who registered after July 31.

Tuition is now \$93 per credit hour for in-district students, \$149 for out-of-district

students and \$197 for out-of-state students.

Trustee Patrick McLean noted that not only was the college able to keep the tuition increases modest, it did it while tax revenue is at a low point.

“In property taxes, we seem to have found the bottom and we’re clawing our way back up,” McLean said, “but we’re not moving as fast as we might have thought.”

But overall, the numbers were good, and the college will find a use for the leftover money, all agreed.

This surplus is important to have stashed away, Johnson said.

“As you know, in previous years, under the board’s direction, we have used some of our built-up surplus to make good investments on campus, such as the parking structure,” he said.

“With this surplus, we’re able to bring the college’s total working cap allowance closer to where it needs to be.”

However, Horiszny said, it’s mostly about the financial sustainability of the college moving forward.

“It’s not about building big structures anymore; it’s about maintaining what we have,” she said. “This is pretty cool to have the flexibility to do some of that, and to be prepared.”

Additional reporting by Taylor Robinson

BELLANCA, from A1

In tears, she turned to her friends for comfort and support. One of them mentioned a little school then called Macomb County Community College, and she assured Bellanca that she could get in.

Bellanca left her business school after applying to and getting accepted to MCCC, which would change her path indefinitely.

“I did my first two years at Macomb, then I transferred to Wayne State University,” Bellanca said.

She graduated from Wayne State with a Bachelor of Science degree in family life education and eventually earned a master’s degree in education and industrial arts. Her degree from MCCC was an associate of applied science.

After Wayne State, Bellanca undertook her dream career of teaching and even took it a step further.

“I was a teacher; then I became an administrator for a lot of different jobs,” Bellanca

said. “Then, after 20 years, I ended up working as vice president at Macomb Community College.”

Bellanca went from a high school student who “wasn’t college material” to being a key member of a college administration.

But when she became VP at Macomb, a new, crucial detail of her story emerged.

“What I didn’t know was, since I’m a first generation American, they put me in a special program,” Bellanca said.

That program was a cohort of students “less likely to succeed,” as she explained it.

“I never even knew this until I became the Vice President. I was like ‘What? I was in special-ed?’” she said, acknowledging the program she was in was not quite a special education program.

All on her own terms, Bellanca had succeeded.

When she became the provost and vice president at MCC, she told her faculty that she “was the envy of every student that has ever walked through these campuses,” she said.

“Thank you, thank you, thank you,” Bellanca said to the faculty at MCC. “You made my life possible.”

COMING THIS MONTH

WCC TEACHERS SHOW AT ARTPRIZE

What: ArtPrize Art Competition
Where: 95A Monroe Center NW, Grand Rapids
When: Sept. 24 - Oct. 12
More info: <http://www.artprize.org/>

See story on page A7

WCC'S GOT TALENT AUDITIONS

Auditions for the annual Fall Talent Show will be held Thursday, Oct. 8, from 5-9 p.m. at the Towsley Auditorium in the Morris Lawrence building. Those interested in auditioning can register at: <http://tinyurl.com/WCCtalentShowNOV2014>.

-M.M. Donaldson

FALL TRANSFER FAIR

WCC will host the Fall Transfer Fair on Wednesday, Oct. 8 when representatives from more than 50 colleges, universities and military services will be on hand. It will be held from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on the second floor of the Student Center building. It is free and open to all. More information at Counseling & Career Planning: 734-677-5102.

-Vivian Zago

CORE GARDEN HARVEST DINNER

The Sustainability Literacy Task Force and the Culinary Arts department are hosting a Sustainable Dinner with the first annual harvest from the WCC CORE Garden at Garrett's on the first floor of the Student Center on Friday Oct. 10 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Chefs Alice Gannon-Boss and Derek Anders, along with student volunteers, will prepare and serve dinner following a 4:30 p.m. presentation by Zingerman's Chef Alex Young about the farm-to-table connection. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$15 for non-students and are available at the Cashier's office on the second floor of the Student Center.

- Natalie Wright

NEED HELP WITH WINTER TUITION?

The deadline for WCC Foundation scholarship applications for the winter semester is Oct. 10. Scholarships range from \$200 to \$800, depending on the number of credits the recipient is taking. To apply, log in to WCC Gateway, go to MyWCC and click on the Financial Aid tab to find the application. Completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is required. Applicants can fill it out at <http://www.fafsa.gov>. The Federal School Code for WCC is 002328.

-Natalie Wright

INDUSTRIAL DESIGNER TO SHARE CAREER ADVICE

Who: Susan Skarsgard, design manager at General Motors Design
What: 'Not a Normal Career' – a lecture documenting Skarsgard's career in calligraphy, art and graphic design
When: Oct. 16
Where: Great Lakes Center, room 202

See story on page B6

IT CAREER READINESS PROGRAM

What: New certificates offer opportunities to explore the IT industry
When: Begins Oct. 6
More info: IT-Talent@wccnet.edu or 734-480-9950

See story on page A7

MEN'S BASKETBALL TRYOUTS

Students interested in playing on the men's basketball Club Sports team can try out at WCC's Health and Fitness Center on Monday, Oct. 6 and Wednesday, Oct. 8 from 9:15 to 11:30 p.m. Students must pre-register in at the Club Sports office (SC 116) before they try out – and also must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 and be taking at least three classes at WCC.

-James Saoud

VETERANS PAY TRIBUTE TO JOHN LENNON

The seventh annual concert sponsored by Chapter 93 of Veterans for Peace will be held Oct. 9, 7:30 p.m. at The Ark in downtown Ann Arbor. The concert will feature local musicians performing songs by John Lennon paying tribute to his Oct. 9 birthday. Proceeds go to the chapter's Scholarship Fund and Martin Luther King Day high school essay contest. The scholarship fund assists Michigan college students, preferably veterans, who are studying any courses aimed at conflict resolution or peace studies. Musicians performing at the event include Dick Siegel, Jen Sygit, Annie and Rod Capps, Chris Good and Jason Dennie. Tickets are \$15 in advance, and can be bought at <http://www.theark.org> or call 734-761-1451.

- James Saoud

RUNNING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Runners will raise funds for the Beth Gannon Endowment, which benefits students who are single parents, on Saturday Oct. 11 during the Run for Fun Timed 5K at the WCC Health and Fitness Center. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the race begins at 10 a.m. Registration cost is \$15 for WCC students and \$20 for others. Runners can also pre-register by emailing their names to RBarsch@wccnet.edu, and pay on the day of the event.

-Natalie Wright

COLLEGE IS FREE FOR A DAY

Community members can experience the life of a WCC student on the second Free College Day on Saturday, Oct. 11. Classes on a wide range of topics, taught by WCC faculty and staff members, are scheduled from 9:30 a.m.-4:45 p.m. in the Morris Lawrence building, and as the name implies, they're free. "Free College Day offers the opportunity to showcase the incredible talent and expertise of WCC's diverse faculty," said English instructor Tom Zimmerman, who will teach a course titled "Shakespeare on Love." For more information, call 734-973-3623 or email freecollegeday@wccnet.edu.

-Natalie Wright

See course schedule page A7

MEET THE TRUSTEE CANDIDATES

The Political Science Club is hosting a forum that will give the eight candidates running for the WCC board of trustees to speak to students. The forum, which will be held in the ML building on Oct. 22 from 7-9 p.m., will provide time for the candidates to speak about issues important to students. Students will also have the opportunity to pose questions to the candidates. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/WCCPSC>.

CALLING ALL ENTREPRENEURS

What: Direct Selling Entrepreneur Certificate program
When: Oct. 7-Nov. 6, Thursdays, 6-9 p.m.
How much: Students who register after Sept. 30 will pay \$350
Register: <http://bit.ly/1zZR9v>
More info: Contact Nancy Howard at nhoward@wccnet.edu or at 734-677-5014

See story on page A7

STATE REP. IRWIN TO MEET STUDENTS

Looking ahead to the Nov. 4 general election, the Political Science Club is hosting candidate visits to WCC's Campus. On Oct. 7, State Rep. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) will meet with students at the club's regular meeting at 3:30-5 p.m. in LA 161. For more information, contact the club's President Steve Kwasny at skwasny@wccnet.edu.

-Natalie Wright

WOMEN IN POLITICS

A meet and greet with women in politics will be held in the ML building on Tuesday, Oct. 7 from 5-7 p.m. The event, hosted by the Ann Arbor Democratic Party and the WCC Political Science Club, will feature guests including Lisa Brown, candidate for lieutenant governor; Debbie Dingell, chairwoman and congressional candidate; Veronique Liem, Washtenaw County circuit judge candidate and State Rep. Gretchen Driskell (D-Saline). The event is free and open to the public, but seating is limited. Those who wish to attend can RSVP instantly at <http://annarbordems.org/lisa-brown-rsvp>, or by contacting Hadieh Briggs at 734-904-4246 or hedietalk@gmail.com.

-James Saoud

DEPRESSION SCREENINGS

Nearly one-fifth of college students have suffered from depression and two-thirds have experienced overwhelming anxiety, according to the American College Health Association. The Counseling and Career Planning Department will conduct depression screenings for students on National Depression Screening Day, Oct. 15, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on the second floor of the Student Center, in front of the Student Resource and Women's Center. Students can stop by the table and complete a brief anonymous screening tool to learn if they may be suffering from depression or anxiety. They can pick up handouts on depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder, or meet with a counselor for additional information on community resources and counseling. For more information, contact Dr. Audrey Hering, a clinical psychologist, at adhering@wccnet.edu or 734-973-3690.

-Natalie Wright

PODCAST CRASH COURSE

This month, Washtenaw will host "Podcast U," a personal enrichment course in which students can learn how to create a podcast or improve their existing one. The course will take students through the hardware and software requirements of recording, editing and publishing, and will give them tips for doing so.

When: Saturday Oct. 18 and Oct. 25, 9 a.m.-12:55 p.m.
Where: Morris Lawrence building, room 124
How Much: \$129
Register: The class ID is 5740, and registration closes on Oct. 18 at 11:59 p.m.

Students Need: The ability to use software applications, email and Internet browser, skill in locating files on a computer and a pair of headphones

- Natalie Wright

Washtenaw instructors to show work in international competition



18 portraits by Nicholaus Reszetar, a WCC drawing instructor. NICHOLAUS RESZETAR | COURTESY PHOTO

BY VIVIAN ZAGO
Staff Writer

Two Washtenaw Community College instructors will have their art pieces on display at ArtPrize, an international art competition involving more than 1,500 artists over 19 days in Grand Rapids.

Between the teaching classes at WCC and her lifelong passion for painting, Angela Pierro, a graphic design instructor, started to focus more on her full-time painting.

“It’s very exciting,” Pierro said. “It’s a nice way for a Michigan artist to be part of such a huge competition for artists around the world.”

According to Pierro, her work is inspired by a memory, a visceral response to an experience, place or time, all reflected through the exploration of the intangible phenomenon of color and light. Her entry at the competition is an oil on canvas, one of her largest pieces so far, five feet

wide and seven feet high, called “Repose.”

Nicholaus Reszetar, a WCC drawing instructor, is showing his work for the first time at ArtPrize. His pieces are a series of drawings, titled “100 Drawn Portraits: An Exploration of Identity.”

“Eighteen of the drawings I am creating as an exploration of the complexities of human identity,” Reszetar said. “I’m really enjoying my first run with ArtPrize. The venue I connected with has been great to work with and is right in the heart of ArtPrize, so lots of people are seeing my work.”

People from all over the country are expected to attend the event, designed to connect artists with potential buyers.

“It’s inspiring as an artist, to be able to talk to people about ArtPrize, to see people taking pictures of your work, and wanting to talk about your pieces,” Pierro said. “When you finally show your work, it’s a nice way to feel that you’re on the right track, and you’re doing something that makes people feel certain ways.”



Artist Angela Pierro with her entry, an oil painting named “Repose.” ANGELA PIERRO | COURTESY PHOTO

Think you can sell?

Direct selling course to teach aspiring entrepreneurs

BY NATALIE WRIGHT
Editor

This fall Washtenaw is doing several things to give entrepreneurs a leg-up in the small business world, including the opening of the Entrepreneurship Center on Sept. 25 and the creation of a non-credit program designed to emphasize the business side of direct selling.

The course, in which students will earn a Direct Selling Entrepreneur Certificate begins on Oct. 7, is held Thursday evenings from 6-9 p.m. and runs through Nov. 6.

Geared towards independent contractors who sell products and services through direct selling, network marketing, person-to-person or at-home parties, the program was developed in conjunction with a grant from the Direct Selling Education Foundation.

The courses will be taught by Kory Scheiber, a certified small business consultant and Jack Bidlack, an entrepreneur and director of The Business Side of Youth, a youth entrepreneurship training program at Eastern Michigan University.

Direct selling, Scheiber said in the release, is a low-cost, low-risk way to become an entrepreneur. And many are successful. “It’s not widely known that direct selling is a \$32 billion industry,” Scheiber said, adding that many people who try direct selling have a natural talent but need to learn how to appropriately structure their business for legal and tax purposes.

“Our goal is to have each participant leave the program with a strong business acumen and a platform to allow the business to prosper.”

Editor’s note: Entrepreneurs, put your talent where your wallet is and get real-world sales experience placing ads in The Washtenaw Voice. Make your own hours. To learn more, visit our newsroom in TI 106 or email ealliston@wccnet.edu.

IGNITE Michigan at WCC prepares students for high-demand careers

BY VIVIAN ZAGO
Staff Writer

The IT Career Readiness Certificate program at Washtenaw Community College starts today and offers the opportunity to explore the IT industry while practicing relevant basic employment skills.

The IGNITE (Intentionally Growing New Information Technology Employees in Michigan) program was funded by a \$2.9 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor.

The grant is designed to optimize training in high-demand skill areas in IT, said Charles Lafayette, program manager, referring to Linux system administration and Java programming.

“We are working on those two programs and trying to create a learning environment where students can get through a certificate and earn a credential in those skill areas, in the shortest possible amount of time,” Lafayette said.

Both Linux and Java programs are academic certificates with 16 credits, earned over 30 contact hours in five weeks. The courses will be blended – partially online and partially in class.

“It’s a program designed for unemployed students, to get them some valuable skills and get them able to inner the workforce in these high demand skill areas,” Lafayette said.

Lafayette said that they created IT Career Readiness to give people a soft entry into the credit courses because these are rigorous programs.

“On the one hand, there could be people who already have prior IT education experience, who might have already earned some sort of a certificate or degree,” he said. “And they can jump right into the credit-earning programs.

“They are challenging. Students have to work hard, they need to have a foundation or knowledge to be successful on these courses.”

FREE COLLEGE DAY COURSE SCHEDULE Oct. 11 in the ML building lobby

- 9:30-11 a.m.**
Finding Your Family History Online – Barbara Snow
Spice: A Flavor for All Seasons – Derek Anders
The Energy Under Our Feet: Geothermal Talk and Tour – Beau Burgen and Bill Ghrist
Understanding the Great Lakes – Karen Vigmostad
- 11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m.**
A Self Sufficient Life: Homesteading – Jason Gold
Darwin: Books, Beetles and Blasphemy – David Wooten
Finding Your Family History Online – Barbara Snow
Mummy Quest: Seeking the Past Lives and Cultures of Peru – Jim Skufis and Chris Barrett
Spice: A Flavor for All Seasons – Chef Derek Anders
- 1:30-3 p.m.**
A Dyeing Art: Silk Dyeing and Felt Collage – Michele Montour
D.I.Y. Tools of the Trade – Cristy Lindemann
DNA Testing, Your Ancestry and Health: The Hopes and Perils – Emily Thompson
Social Media Marketing Tools and Tips – Nancy Howard and Denise Swope
- 3:15-4:45 p.m.**
Million Dollar Ideas – Kimberly Hurns
Shakespeare on Love – Tom Zimmerman
Songs of the Greatest Generation – John E. Lawrence
Wonderful Watercolors – Debra Golden

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Voice Box

How are you feeling about U-M football?


INTERVIEWS AND PHOTOS BY CONTRIBUTOR, ALLISON SHERMAN




“The season has been really bad this year. I actually go to U of M, but I’m secretly following MSU.”
Madison Prizing, 18, Ann Arbor, Spanish and psychology at U-M



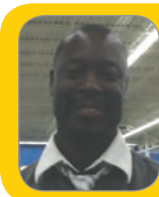
“I don’t think the players trust their new coach yet, and that’s why U of M hasn’t been playing well.”
Joseph Skowrya, 24, Hartland, Welding



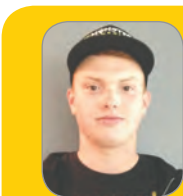
“I think having a younger quarterback is the problem this season. They should have chosen someone with more experience.”
Ken Rickoff, 55, Hartland, broadcast tower climber



“One thing I wish would change about football is the shape of the ball. I hate it, it just drives me crazy. I wish it was a circle.”
Andrew Coral, 17, Milford, works at Biggy Coffee in hartland



“I love football, but I hate this season. I think the offense is in trouble, and they need to figure out the quarterback situation. I think he just needs more time and experience, but it will be Ok.”
Andre Williams, 38, Flint, Social Security



“Brady Hoke should’ve never been chosen as coach.”
Kyle Sneed, 19, Clinton, math and science

RUTH HATCHER

FOR WCC TRUSTEE


- Instructor in English Department - 30 years
- English Department Chairperson
- Interim Dean and Vice President of Instruction
- President of the faculty association, WCCEA/MEA

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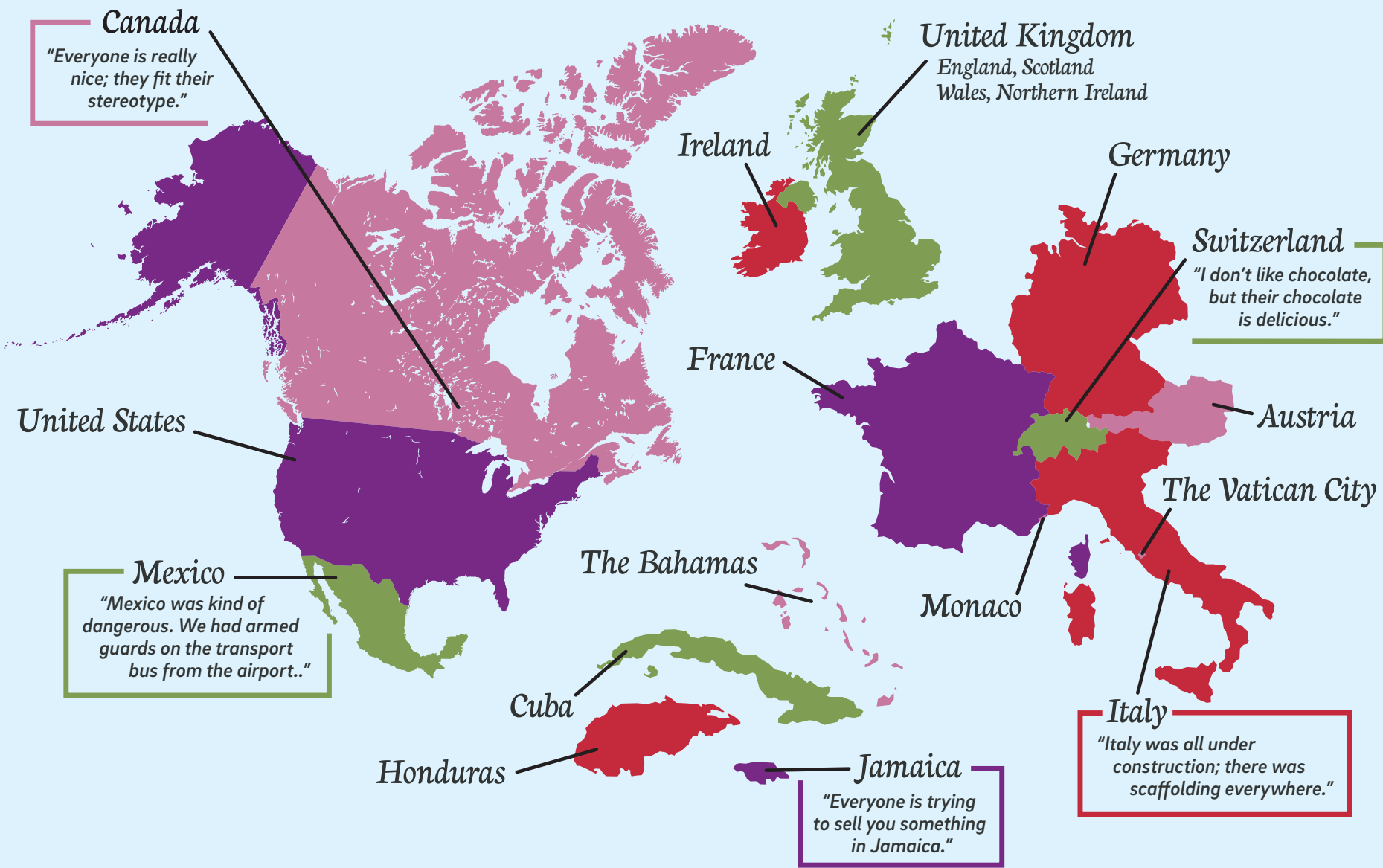
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AROUND THE WORLD IN 18 YEARS

WTMC student Becca Thomas shares wisdom she gained from the 19 countries she has visited



EJ STOUT | WASHTENAW VOICE

BY SOFIA LYNCH
Voice Correspondent

While 18-year-old Becca Thomas found venturing into the Washtenaw parking structure intimidating, she has no hesitations when it comes to traveling the world. Thomas, a self-described introvert, has no fear of being center stage in a musical theater production, either. In the things most people find terrifying, she finds her peace, she said.

"I feel super confident when I'm about to go on stage and sing or go to a new country. It doesn't bother me the way other things do," the Washtenaw Technical Middle College student from Brighton said.

She plans to major in animation and is passionate about musical theater, but what really puts the light in her eyes is traveling.

She has been to 19 countries and two-thirds of the states in the United States. Her father was a pilot for U.S. Airways, which accounted for most of her stateside trips. When she was 9, her family took a truck-and-trailer trip across the country. When Becca was 13 she traveled with People to People ambassadors to France, Switzerland, Italy and the Vatican City. She went to Monaco and France again with her French class when she was 16.

However, the one place that really captured Thomas' love was Cardiff, Wales. Although she said she loved Cardiff for the architecture and how friendly the people were, her mother, Sarah



Becca Thomas, left, and her mom Sarah at Stonehenge in 2014. BECCA THOMAS | COURTESY PHOTO

Thomas, revealed a whole other side of their trip there together. When the Thomas children turned 16, they got to choose a big trip for their birthdays. Becca's trip got delayed until she was 18, but it worked out in her favor. She chose Cardiff because the BBC show, Dr. Who, was not only produced there, but was

also kicking off its world tour while she and her mother would be there.

Becca woke up at 5 a.m. to get the Dr. Who tickets, but unfortunately the site had crashed and all the tickets sold out. As a replacement, her mother signed her up for tumbling lessons with the Cardiff Circus. And by some strange act of fate, one of the tumbling instructors knew someone who worked for BBC. After hearing her rave about the show and discover that she wasn't able to get tickets, the instructor said he would look into it.

Sure enough, she was put in contact with someone from the BBC, who then gave her a press pass as a photographer. So Becca found herself standing with her mother on the edge of the red carpet, watching the lead of the show, "the 12th doctor," Peter Capaldi walk towards them.

Sarah Thomas called out to Capaldi: "It's Becca's birthday!"

He then made a beeline right to them and wished her a happy birthday and talked with them for a while.

"I was so excited I was just shaking," she said. "That doesn't usually happen to me."

After this fairytale of a birthday, Becca turned to her mother

See TRAVEL, Page B5



A chrysanthemum display cascades down to create a column of color at Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park. M. M. DONALDSON | WASHTENAW VOICE

Mums the word of fall color show

BY M. M. DONALDSON
Staff Writer

GRAND RAPIDS - Road trips are a great way to see the spectacular autumnal colors on display across the Michigan landscape - the warm burgundies and rusts, vivid oranges and bright golden yellows.

A more lasting and predictable color trip can be taken to Frederick Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park where chrysanthemums will continue to create splashes of color during the waning fall foliage.

The chrysanthemum has been cultivated for thousands of years, documented in Japanese culture in a quest to produce perfection in nature.

Meijer Gardens, a two-hour drive from Ann Arbor, has created indoor and outdoor exhibits showing off the array of colors, textures and cultivars of chrysanthemums.

"It's like painting with plants," Steve LaWarre, director of horticulture, said of the color sweeps they are able to make.

While a fall color display has been created each season for the last 14 years, it has only been the past few years that chrysanthemums have been the center of attention.

Pumpkins, gourds and the fancy ruffled flowering cabbages and purple-hued kale accent what some may overlook as the humble mum.

The velvety texture of purple

pompom chrysanthemums contrast with the precise petal arrangement of the spoon-type and are pleasant to look at, but the long, sensuous curving petals of the exotics enchant. Given the harsh technical term "disbud" to describe the method of removing competing flower buds, they are considered florist type, with heads that generously spill over in a cupped hand.

Each year the displays have a theme. This fall the color red is highlighted in the chrysanthemum flowers and echoed in the playful drifts of bright red apples.

LaWarre stated that it takes two weeks for a staff of 14 and a team of volunteers to create the chrysanthemum displays that take up to a year to design. He said he likes working with the chrysanthemums, taking what most people are familiar with and making them into an extraordinary display.

WHAT:
Chrysanthemum show

WHERE:
Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park, 1000 E Beltline Ave. NE, Grand Rapids

WHEN:
Sept. 19 through Oct. 26

COST:
Adults \$12, seniors and students \$9, children \$4-\$6



Fiona Reifsnnyder, 2, from Holland, Michigan, visits the pumpkin patch at Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park with her family. Michigan's Farm Garden at Meijer Gardens will host a Giant Pumpkin Weekend Oct. 18-19. M. M. DONALDSON | WASHTENAW VOICE

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THE WASHTENAW VOICE

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Sources: Scarborough Custom Research, 2013 (integrated newspaper audience includes readers of newspapers across print and digital platforms)



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Santa, the historian

Jolly instructor engages students with passion and humor

BY WALEED ALAM
Contributor

When most people think of history, they think of dates, long paragraphs and a dull series of events that have affected the modern world through causation. What they don't know is that most historical records are just police reports of the wild party that is history.

John Gibson understands that, and he brings that party to life in the history classes he teaches at Washtenaw.

At first glance his classroom is nothing impressive; it's a pretty standard classroom. There's a board, projector and his desk. The desks of the students are gray, and so is the door. It screams "boring class with a dry instructor." But one glimpse of Gibson is enough to dispel such preconceptions.

Gibson looks like a scholarly Santa Claus. He has blue eyes, a bushy white beard, a pink face and a portly demeanor. The ties he wears to class frequently correspond to his lectures. For example, he once wore a tie with ancient Stone Age paintings when the topic was about the Old and New Stone Ages.

While he looks like he'd have a throaty, jolly voice ("HO! HO! HO!"), instead it's more reedy and broken, because Gibson had spinal surgery over the summer, which affected his larynx and somewhat paralyzed his hands, making them resemble lobster claws.

But he teaches with gusto, and will occasionally spice up a lecture with an impression of historical characters. Gibson clearly loves his job, his students say.

"Mr. Gibson teaches his subject well and with passion," said Deandre Brooks-Painter, 19, a psychology student from Ann Arbor. "I chose his class because of the great reviews about him on ratemyprofessor.com. I love how he relates pop culture with whatever he's teaching, like the time when he told us the Lord of Light in 'Game of Thrones' was based on Ahura Mazda, the Persian deity of light and righteousness, while we were studying the religion of the ancient Persians."

Another student, Anthony Bennett, 26, of Pinckney, said that Gibson brings a great atmosphere to his classroom.

"I love the way he tells stories, and how he's funny in front of you," said Bennett, a liberal arts student. "I'd definitely take him again if I got the chance."

An interview with Gibson further illustrates the love he has for his subject:

WASHTENAW VOICE: Hello, Mr. Gibson, I'd like to start this interview off by asking you the most obvious question: Why do you like history?

JOHN GIBSON: Because it's like a fairy tale. It's magical.

WV: What first prompted you to like history? We all begin somewhere.

JG: Probably junior high. My history teacher was describing famous torture methods and it piqued my interest. I did some research on those methods later, and I developed an interest for history.

WV: What made you want to begin teaching?

JG: A girl I liked. She was going into teaching, and, to get close to her, I decided to go too. We figured we'd become teachers and marry. It didn't work out. She married someone else. Pfft.

WV: Do you like teaching at WCC?

JG: I love it. I love the freedom I have here to teach how I want and what I want. I really love this job. I remember I used to work at a Ford plant, and though the pay was great, I didn't like

the job. I love my job at WCC, even though I'm a part-time instructor here and don't get paid as much as in the Ford plant. The only way I'm leaving this job is if I naturally expire, or if the administration removes me.

WV: How did you become so great at teaching?

JG: Experience and innate skill. I really enjoy teaching. The pleasure is on par with having sex. But here's the weird deal, when I started out teaching back in the '70s, as hard as I tried, I couldn't find a job. It was when I decided to teach some classes at an adult Sunday school that teaching offers flooded in. I was offered a job to teach technicians at the Ford plant. I guess it's innate and spiritual.

WV: What do you expect out of your students?

JG: That they attend class, take notes and be attentive. I often never use or follow the book. If a student wants to pass my exams, it's by taking

notes of my lectures. The voice of God is called 'Vox deus' in Latin, and in American politics, Vox populi (voice of the people) is considered to be Vox Deus. In my class, Vox Gibsonus (the voice of Gibson) is the only thing that will guide you through the exam like, the voice of God.

WV: What are your aims for the class?

JG: To make history as interesting as possible. This is a survey course, and I know a lot of people who come here, come here because they want the transfer credit or want to teach history to high school students, so I try to inspire them to like history by making it as interesting as possible, usually through funny impressions of historical anecdotes and colloquial language.

WV: One last thing, you kind of look like Santa. Especially in the Christmas sweater you're wearing.

JG: Pfft. Believe it or not, I actually was Santa on Christmas, when I used to weigh more.



History instructor John Gibson uses impressions and anecdotes to engage students in his Western Civilization class on Oct. 1. NATALIE WRIGHT | WASHTENAW VOICE

The Transportation Work Group needs YOU to help decrease greenhouse gas emissions

BY SOFIA LYNCH
Contributor

It started because Julia Gleich, a lab assistant in the Production Center, complained to Andy Claydon, systems engineer and user support for IT services, that she had found the light in the single occupancy bathroom left on more than five times one day.

Claydon replied, "Well if you're that concerned about it, why don't you ride a bike to work?" He then asked where she lived, went on Google Maps, clicked on the bike button and said, "It would be a 12-minute bike ride for you."

She's been dealing with the guilt ever since.

But Claydon isn't alone in the effort to get more people riding to school on two wheels rather than four. New to Washtenaw Community College this year is the Sustainability Council, which is focusing on trying to reduce this school's carbon footprint. Part of this council is a more specific branch, the transportation work group headed by Ingrid Ankerson.

Transportation is responsible for 43 percent of WCC's greenhouse gas emissions and the work group's goal is to reduce that by seven percent by 2015, according to the Climate Action and Sustainability Plan (CASP).

The college's goal is to become carbon-neutral by 2050, Vice President of Facilities Damon Flowers said, and reducing transportation's impact is the biggest challenge.

A majority of the people who come to WCC travel by single occupancy vehicle with about three percent coming by public transportation, two percent coming by carpool, and the percent of bicycle commuters is negligible, according to the CASP.

Ankerson said the best way for the work group to try to reach its goals is by doing a lot of educating, and publicizing the facts.

For those who wish to try to make the next big step of changing their commuting habits, WCC already has great options that the work group is exhausting every possibility trying to improve.

The Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority teamed up with Washtenaw and offers free rides home from campus. As of this semester the hours have been extended in hopes of offering the same privilege to students with night classes. All students need a WCC ID; the college pays bus fare for riders. And the college also offers free needs-based bus passes to students.

WCC recommends Michigan Rideshare as an online way to help match students with others looking possible carpoolers. For potential cyclists, there is the border-to-border trail, a collaborative project hoping to construct a trail from Livingston County to Wayne County, along the Huron River.

Consisting of more than 10 miles so far, the trail connects Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti and cuts right through WCC's campus.

Dale Petty, leader of the sustainability council, recently came to adopt a part of the trail because someone from the B2B group noticed he had been removing overgrown thorny lotus trees in the way of the path. Not only is Petty an activist, but also a longtime commuter cyclist.

"It helps out the earth, the environment, the community, the college," Petty said.

The UN climate commission just came out with a report saying things are getting even worse in terms of climate, and we need to universally cut back by 50 percent by 2030 on our carbon emission. It's clear that things are happening

now, but things are going to get a lot worse, added Petty.

Besides benefitting the environment, cyclists find personal perks in their rides.

"It's a lot nicer being outside than it is being in the car," Claydon said. "It's crazy why people wouldn't. You feel better when you get home than you do after sitting in a box."

If individuals cut back just two percent of their greenhouse gas emissions, they're doing their part for the college and its goals, Petty said.

"I know how difficult it is to ditch the convenience of our cars, but if we all committed to a different way to and from school just one day a week, it would have major overall impact," Ankerson said.

For those who want to give a little bit more, the Transportation Work Group is looking for people - faculty, staff, or students welcome. Those interested can contact Ankerson at: iankerson@wccnet.edu.



ERIK MORRIS | WASHTENAW VOICE

Student focuses on the forgotten puppies

BY VIVIAN ZAGO
Staff Writer

A passion for dogs – and the pleasure of having an extremely nervous and fearful dog that is now mostly calm and confident led Washtenaw student Charlie Hackenbruch to learn how to train dogs with similar problems.

In her research on how to get into dog training and behavioral rehabilitation, she found one trainer willing to do an apprenticeship – Jen Guthrie, from Pro K-9 In-Home Training. Very soon thereafter, Hackenbruch knew that was really what she wanted to do.

“I’m learning from a great trainer that works with both problem dogs – aggressive, fearful, anxious, etc. – and rescue dogs, how to help those that have varying levels of problems,” said Hackenbruch, 20, from Milan.

A 3-D animation major, Hackenbruch works one hour with a socialized group and one hour with the rescue dogs every week. On occasion, she makes a home visit with Guthrie.

Guthrie’s method of teaching includes how the trainer can use their

body movements to make the dog pay attention.

“Guthrie deals with mostly in-home aggression and anxiety issues, and trains rescued dogs to be service dogs and therapy dogs,” Hackenbruch said.

“The more the dog is looking at you, the less they can look at all the things around them, and react to them,” she added. “And if they are changing the pace, and moving around, they will have to pay some attention on you.”

Hackenbruch was at Mill Pond Park in Saline recently with both of her dogs – a 1-year-old border collie mix named Blaze and a 5-year-old half husky that she rescued, named Zaboo. Both dogs have different levels of fear, depending on the demands placed on them.

It’s all a matter of proper socialization, she said. If a dog is fearful or anxious, it needs to be gradually worked into the situation, or something needs to be changed about it so the dog feels more comfortable.

“For Blaze, good socialization may be existing in the same space as a person 10 feet from him,” Hackenbruch said. “For Zaboo, good socialization

can be walking around the Renaissance Festival in a costume with a class full of kids surrounding her.”

Rose Adler, an animation instructor at WCC, is a good friend of Hackenbruch and she knows how Blaze used to be. Adler also used to foster rescue Australian shepherds.

“She’s really good at it,” Adler said. “Charlie has a way to communicate with dogs in a sense that they understand her and how efficiently she trained them.”

People tend to get rid of dogs with behavioral issues, most of which can be fixed.

“Most behavior problems can be avoided by exposing young puppies to as many different people, places, and things as possible and making all these interactions positive,” Hackenbruch said.

It’s important to learn a way to control impulsive dogs. Learning how to recognize anxiety signals in dogs can really help in knowing where to draw the line, Hackenbruch said.

“A well-exercised dog is far easier to train, and if you start teaching a dog how to act or walk on lead, you’ll

be more successful if you teach behaviors in the house with no distractions and then work your way up to walking around town,” Hackenbruch said, adding that learning to properly work with dogs has been a joy.

Ben Ellsworth, 19, from Saline, is a 3-D animation major at WCC, and Hackenbruch’s boyfriend.

“To see how happy it’s made her is been wonderful,” Ellsworth said. “She’s really excited about doing it, and all she learned from Guthrie really changed how she’s training her own dogs, and it’s been really helpful for them.”

“I love it,” Hackenbruch said. “Watching Jen Guthrie with the in-home training, the advice she gives, the calm behavior... That’s encouraging me to keep doing this.”



Dog trainer Charlie Hackenbruch, a 3-D animation student at WCC, works with her two dogs, Zaboo, a 5-year-old husky mix, and Blaze, a 1-year-old border collie mix, to improve their obedience skills. BEN ELLSWORTH | WASHTENAW VOICE



Puppies eagerly greet each other at the Swift Run entrance gate on a recent Saturday. MORGAN FILSINGER | THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Dogging it in Ann Arbor

BY VIVIAN ZAGO
Staff Writer

There are many good reasons people say that dogs are man’s best friend.

Not only do they provide their family members unconditional love, loyalty and companionship down to their very last breath, but they teach us much with their unique behaviors and personalities.

Many dog lovers will tell you their pets can sense their owners’ emotions, and some therapy dogs know when their owners are seriously ill before doctors diagnose a problem.

But in their heart of hearts, dogs just want to be dogs, to run free among the pack and make other dog friends.

With a place like Swift Run Dog Park, Ann Arbor is a dog’s best friend.

The city’s Parks and Recreation department provides an off-leash dog play area, which is a great option for dogs to have their fun, enjoying a kind of dog therapy with a chance to run free.

The park is a 10-acre grassy field area with five-foot perimeter fencing. It has special runs for large and small dogs.

On a recent beautiful sunny Saturday, lots of dogs gathered together to run and play. Their owners seemed proud to see their “kids” interacting with other dogs and making new friends.

Karen Eisenbrey, of Ypsilanti, was at the park with both her golden retrievers, a 7-year-old male named Robin and a 5-year-old female named Lili. Robin is a therapy dog, so being around people and other dogs is what he likes most.



Ypsilanti native and frequent Swift Run visitor Karen Eisenbrey, 68, shows her pup some love. MORGAN FILSINGER | THE WASHTENAW VOICE

“The main thing for me, personally, is that I don’t have a fenced backyard, and these dogs need to run, so this is the perfect place,” Eisenbrey said.

Grace Banmarito, also of Ypsilanti, comes to the park several times a week with her Airedale terrier named Bella.

“It’s nice and big, and the dog can get off the leash, stretch the legs, and make some friends,” she said

“It’s a good place for my dog to interact with other dogs, exercise and have fun. Just be a dog,” said Jeff Lee, from Ann Arbor.

Sue DiDonato comes to the park every other day to release her dogs from their leash.

“I love this place. It’s like a recess for the dogs,” DiDonato said. “They love the area, they love to have fun. Every community should have a place like that.”

There are some important laws to follow, however. Dog owners must have their pets licensed and registered, and an annual dog park use permit is required as well.



WHAT: Swift Run Dog Park

WHERE: Platt Road, Ann Arbor

HOURS: Open daily, from 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

MORE INFO: <http://ow.ly/Cfk8P>

BAT FESTIVAL SWOOPS INTO WCC

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY EJ STOUT
Managing Editor

Bat conservationists and enthusiasts recently descended upon Washtenaw’s Morris Lawrence building for a Saturday filled with educational and entertaining events.

Interactive booths filled the first floor of the ML building, even spilling onto the adjacent sidewalks. Speakers touched on subjects from bat migration and echolocation to “The Secret Lives of Real Vampires.”

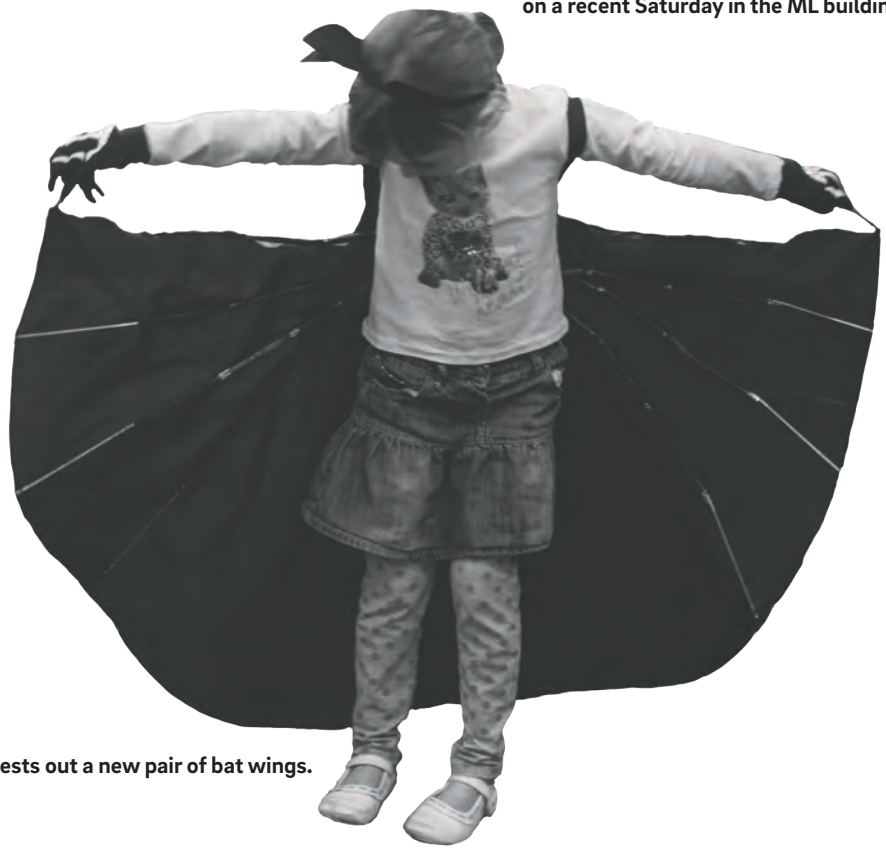
The 13th Annual Great Lakes Bat Festival on Sept. 27, co-hosted by the Organization for Bat Conservation and the Hands-On Museum, looks to honor the unique and vital role that bats play in the ecosystem of the entire Great Lakes region.

Live bats were on display with a sign that read, “Don’t touch the glass – we can already hear you!”

Booths and displays were filled with hands-on activities and games for children, though many adults roamed eagerly throughout the free event.



Michelle Maust, a volunteer for the Organization for Bat Conservation, addresses fans outside of the live bat exhibit at the 13th Annual Great Lakes Bat Festival on a recent Saturday in the ML building.



A young girl tests out a new pair of bat wings.



TRAVEL, from B1

and said that it had been the best day of her life.

“How many times do you get to make the best day of your child’s life?” Sarah Thomas said. She called her trip through the United Kingdom with her daughter three weeks of pure joy.

All of these wonderful experiences Becca has gained through her travels have shaped who she is today, her mother said.

“Just in general, everywhere I have been has given me a new way to look at things,” she said. “I take a bit from everywhere I go.”

Not only is she a great ambassador for America and a globally conscious mind, but Becca is also a star student. In her final year as a WTMU student, she will be graduating with 88 college credits and hopes to go to one of the universities in the state and eventually to work at Disney.

“I’m so proud of the person she has become. I’m proud that she’s overcoming her anxieties; it takes a lot of guts to do something that sort of scares you,” Sarah Thomas said of her daughter. “She is going to be the best ambassador for America, she’s just so culturally inquisitive.”

Becca and her mother are both experienced travelers, citizens of the world and strong advocates for the cultural awareness traveling brings.

“You become a much better citizen of your own country when you travel,” Sarah Thomas said. “The more you travel, the more you see, the more you become part of the global community.”

When asked how she would convince someone to take the next step in traveling, Becca shared a story of making friends in Ireland who actually live in Washington. She encourages people to take every chance they get to travel because the benefits are timeless.

“When you’re out in new places, you get exposed to all kinds of new ideas,” she said. “You don’t get those new ideas if you stay in the place you’ve been all your life. You need to step outside and go experience everything new.”



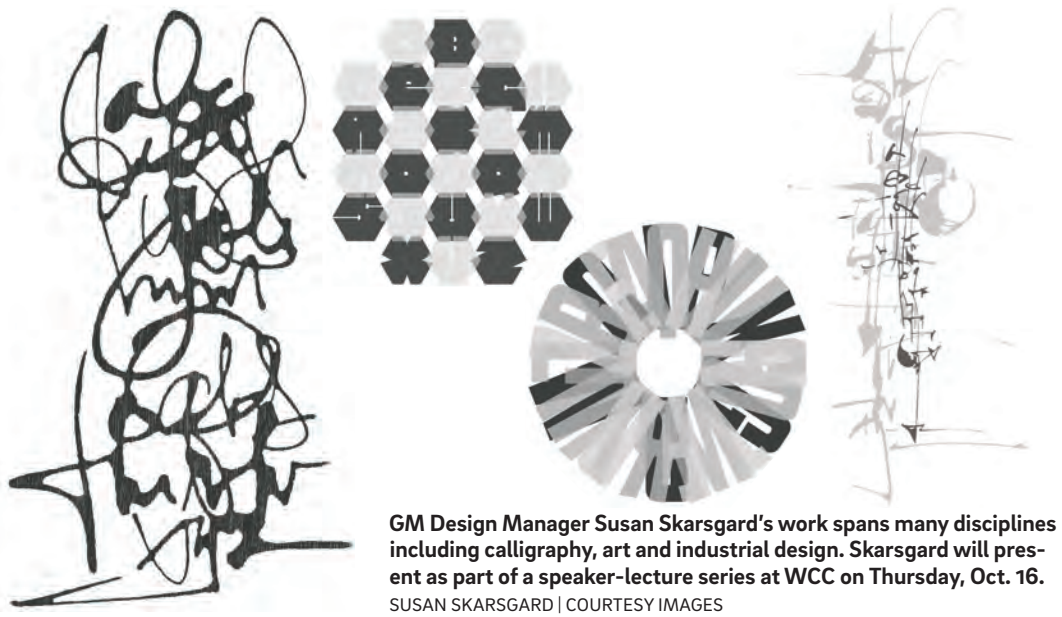
Key spots in Becca Thomas’ travels include, clockwise from above, Eiffel Tower in Paris, France in 2012; Rocamadour, France in 2012; Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff, Wales in 2014; Monaco in 2012, and the Palace of Westminster in London, England in 2014. BECCA THOMAS | COURTESY PHOTOS





GM DESIGN MANAGER SUSAN SKARGARD

WHO: Susan Skarsgard, design manager at General Motors Design
WHAT: ‘Not a Normal Career’ – a lecture documenting Skarsgard’s career in calligraphy, art and graphic design
WHEN: Oct. 16, 6 p.m.
WHERE: Great Lakes Center, room 202



GM Design Manager Susan Skarsgard’s work spans many disciplines including calligraphy, art and industrial design. Skarsgard will present as part of a speaker-lecture series at WCC on Thursday, Oct. 16.
SUSAN SKARGARD | COURTESY IMAGES

On the value of ‘learning how to learn’

Artist Susan Skarsgard to present ‘Not a Normal Career’ lecture

BY EJ STOUT
Managing Editor

Linear career paths may serve some industries, but those brave enough to search out their own challenges may find greater reward waiting for them along the way.

Such is the case for many in the creative fields, as crossover between disciplines has only increased with the ever-demanding job market.

Using grant money from the college’s Strategic Plan, Washtenaw instructor Kristine Willimann has sought out distinguished creative professionals and invited them to present as

part of a new speaker-lecture series on campus.

The series offers perspectives from a variety of fields, including social media, culinary arts and graphic design, all within the Business/Computer Technologies division of the college.

Ann Arbor resident Susan Skarsgard will speak at the college on Oct. 16, providing insights gained during her storied career in calligraphy, art and graphic design.

Skarsgard hopes to offer advice to those looking to develop and foster strong creative practices in their own lives.

“Make sure you’re doing the things you want to be doing, and setting yourself up for the things you hope to be doing,” Skarsgard explained.

For the past 20 years, Skarsgard has served as design manager of General Motors Design, initially working as a lettering artist for vehicle nameplates before moving into corporate and brand identity work.

Julia Gleich, a Production Center assistant, has been familiar with Skarsgard’s vehicle branding work for a few years and is excited to see her speak about the unique career opportunity.

“I think it’s excellent that we can see her talk about a job many of us didn’t even realize existed,” Gleich said. “You’ll never look at the back end of car the same way.”

Skarsgard attributes her success in the field of industrial design to a background of varied disciplines.

“I think some of it practically comes from the fact that I didn’t actually go to school to be an industrial designer,” she explained. “A lot of my approach, my problem solving is informed by a different place.”

Ten years into her work at GM, Skarsgard decided to go back to school to pursue her master’s in fine art at the University of Michigan School of Art and Design.

Her graduate thesis project can still be seen each spring blooming in the university’s Nichols Arboretum.

The project, titled “Imagine/Align,” is a thoughtfully designed half-mile-long line of 20,000 yellow Trumpet Daffodils planted in 2003, and required the help of more than 150 local volunteers.

Skarsgard purposefully choose not to impose her personal views on those involved in the project, but instead let them form their own interpretations.

“A lot of people brought stuff to it that I thought was very profound and very thoughtful and uniquely their own reasons for being there,” she said. “I think it made the whole project become a community project.”

While Skarsgard feels that the Ann Arbor community could do more to support working artists, it is her own success that led to her recruitment by graphic design instructor Willimann.

Willimann hopes attendees of Skarsgard’s presentation will be “inspired, energized and awed” by the artist’s experiences.

“There aren’t a lot of local people that are of the caliber of graphic designer, typographer, calligrapher that she is,” Willimann admitted. “She’s a perfect candidate to bring in.”

Skarsgard’s international recognition has resulted in numerous speaking and teaching engagements across the globe. She encourages people to “value learning for their entire lives,” and the stresses the importance of “learning how to learn.”

“I really think it’s important to accept constant change – and embrace it,” she said. “There’s always things to learn in every work situation if you approach it in that way.”

Willimann, too, believes that students and creative professionals are wise to take advantage of their surroundings.

“As often as you can, learn from the people around you,” she said. “Let people who have been there and done that be your mentor, be your guide.”



‘Gone Girl’ holds mirror to our closest relationships – and it’s terrifying

BY JAMES SAOUD
Managing Editor

With “Gone Girl,” director David Fincher takes on a much more terrifying monster than the one that lives under your bed – the one that sleeps in your bed.

“What are you thinking? How are you feeling? Who are you? What have we done to each other?”

Ben Affleck’s character, Nick Dunne, asks the audience these primal questions of marriage in the very first lines of the film.

“Gone Girl” addresses these questions, along with many others about marriage, human relationships, perception and the facades people put up to make themselves appear stronger, better and, in the case of one of the film’s characters, downright terrifying.

Based on the book by Gillian Flynn (who also wrote the screenplay), the film chronicles Dunne, a retired magazine writer, and the search for his wife, Amy Dunne (Rosamund Pike), who disappears on the morning of their fifth wedding anniversary.

The media swarms him, the police question

him, and his family has no choice other than to be suspicious of him.

While the media picks apart Dunne’s every move, the audience has no option other than to sympathize with him while hypocritically picking him apart as well.

What is Nick thinking? How is he feeling? Who is he? And what has he done to his wife?

These are questions we can only ask ourselves while watching the film, questions that we expect will plague us until the credits roll and the lights come up. But unlike most filmmakers, Fincher delivers the goods early on. And that’s where things get interesting.

To really delve deeply into “Gone Girl,” you’ve got to look at the rest of Fincher’s unprecedented resume.

He’s directed such films as “Fight Club,” “Seven,” “The Curious Case of Benjamin Button,” and “The Social Network.”

He has always delivered a product very different from the last, each containing his visual fingerprint. A glossy, symmetrical and clean image, which is usually juxtaposed with his dark, gloomy subjects and stories.

However, while Fincher has always been a great cinematic craftsman, an ambitious storyteller and has always had a wonderful handle on his actors and their performances, his films always have trouble connecting on an emotional level.

They work on a precise, almost mathematical level. He scores all the right points: the cinematography, the performances, the stories, but he’s missing that deeper thing that makes film such an intriguing medium.

He may have mastered making bones shiver and eyes squint quite early in his career with “Seven,” but he’s never been able to give me that lump in my throat or that sinking feeling in my gut.

At least until I saw “Gone Girl.”

Fincher has always been a puppet master, plain and simple, but he’s only had his actors and crewmembers on his strings.

Now, like Hitchcock or Kubrick before him, he’s got the audience attached too.

The film is like walking down a long, dark hallway, at the end of which the answers lie.

At points you’d like to turn around – you’ve had enough, seen enough. But the director holds your limbs on strings; you can’t turn around, and you can’t look away.

“Gone Girl” feels almost like a compilation of Fincher’s best films: the sprawling romance from “Benjamin Button,” the sense of humor and social commentary from “Fight Club,” and the ice-cold atmosphere that enveloped “The Social Network” and “The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo.”

Fincher, as a director, has mastered something rare and difficult in the cinematic realm, but he is not the only one to thank for the achievements of the film.

The story that Flynn has presented is dense and terrifying. A story that questions the way we are perceived by our lovers, our communities and ourselves.

A story that may force you to ask your own partner, “What have we done to each other?”

And with such a telling story, it could’ve easily fallen apart if the actors couldn’t carry it. Luckily, “Gone Girl” does not suffer from that problem.

Affleck pulls out the best performance of his career as the shallow and laidback lead character. Yet at the same time, his performance is enigmatic and challenging. Nick Dunne, a character marvelously written by Flynn, is an entire can of worms himself.

However, he’s not even the most intriguing performance in the film. Rosamund Pike shines brighter than anyone else as the “gone girl,” herself.

And with Neil Patrick Harris, Tyler Perry, Carrie Coon, Kim Dickens, Patrick Fugit and Missi Pyle, the film delivers a very strong cast of supporting characters that help make this mystery-thriller a lot of fun to watch.

“Gone Girl” is dark, scary and gruesome at times, but the film proves to be a rare type of movie with sharp turns and steep drops. A rollercoaster in every sense of the word, and one of the best films of the year, possibly the best Fincher has delivered yet.

A film that may not win the hearts of millions, but a film that will stay inside the heads of fans of challenging movies for years to come.



Rosamund Pike gives a chilling, Oscar-worthy performance in ‘Gone Girl’ INSIDEMOVIES.EW.COM | COURTESY PHOTO

A+

Genre: Mystery/Thriller

Runtime: 149 minutes

Rating: R

SNL alumni inhabit a cold, dry – and outstanding – drama

BY JAMES SAOUD
Managing Editor

Often, when comedians take dramatic roles, the results can be awkward.

Consider Adam Sandler playing it straight in movies like “Funny People,” and “Spanglish,” and Vince Vaughn’s embarrassing rendition of Norman Bates in the “Psycho” remake.

However, some comedic greats have been able to transition to drama magnificently: Robin Williams, Bill Murray and Jim Carrey, for instance.

While it may not be possible to put “Saturday Night Live” alumni Bill Hader and Kristen Wiig in the latter list just yet, they are certainly off to a good start with “The Skeleton Twins.”

It is the story of twins (Hader and Wiig) who reunite after 10 years apart when Milo (Hader) attempts suicide.

The film highlights the bond that can only be formed between siblings and the dark places

people can go when that bond is fractured.

Hader and Wiig play their roles as brother and sister perfectly and do a great job at capturing that bond.

It takes place during fall in New York with Halloween decorations scattered all about, adding to the film’s grim tone. The cinematography gives a cold, dry edge, which works perfectly with its setting.

While the characters strive for a warm, open-armed environment, the one they live in is dark and frigid.

Although the film goes to some very dark places, it never manages to lose its sense of humor, which is displayed best by Lance (Luke Wilson), Wiig’s on-screen husband.

Thanks to the quick-witted script, the banter between Hader, Wiig and Wilson is always smart and hysterical. But it owes its strength to far more than good writing and well-delivered lines.

“The Skeleton Twins” is a deep and focused study on the characters of Milo and Maggie.

Milo, a confused, gay, struggling actor who has some serious self-loathing issues, and Maggie, a moody, hyper-sexual, compulsive liar, hardly seem like the right characters for the pair of comedians, but something clearly clicks here.

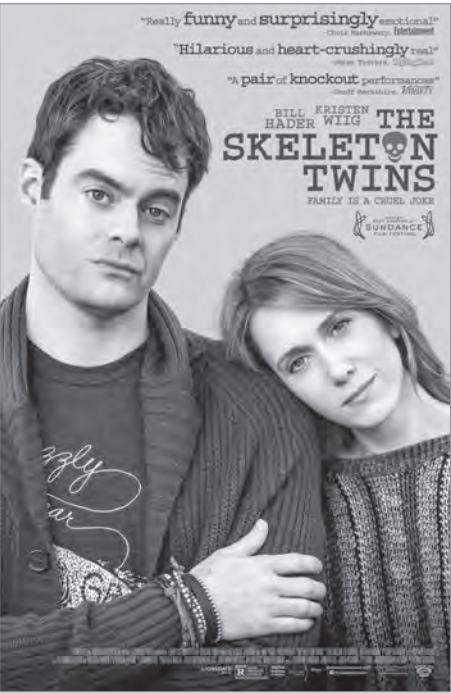
The movie flows seamlessly through its clearly presented, three-act structure. And despite the occasional cliché thrown in here and there, it succeeds because of the great characters, great performances and great pacing. “The Skeleton Twins” is one of the best films of the year so far.

A-

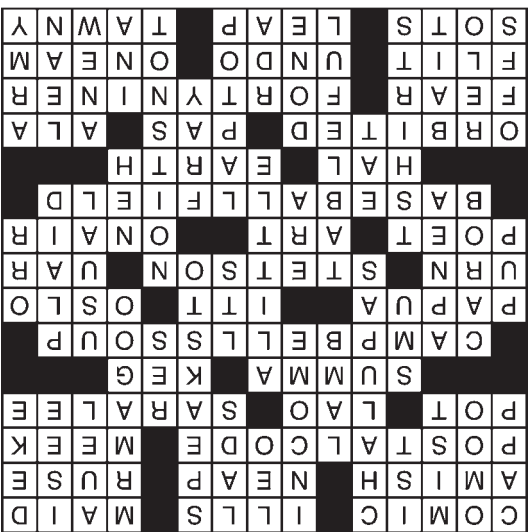
Genre: Drama/Comedy

Runtime: 93 minutes

Rating: R

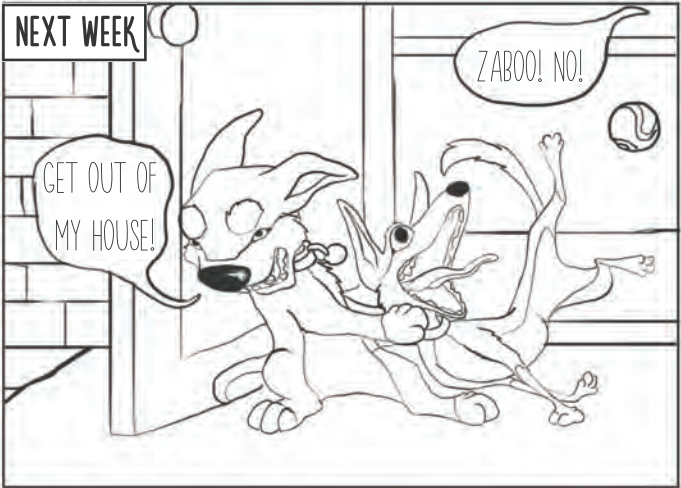


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INTRODUCING 'SNOODLEDOO'

A NEW RECURRING COMIC
BY CHARLIE HACKENBRUCH



Note: Deadline for the Oct. 20 issue is Tuesday, Oct. 16, at 5 p.m.

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Renaissance endings and beginnings

BY ERIN FEDESON
Voice Correspondent

HOLLY – Visitors to the final weeks of the annual Renaissance Festival weathered a rainy weekend for Harvest Huzzah and hot weather for Sweet Endings.

Harvest Huzzah, the theme for Sept. 20-21, featured a two-day longbow-shooting contest hosted by Rocky Raines, 56, of Allen Park, a traditional bowyer and fletcher.

Sweet Endings, the final weekend of September, hosted Cupcake Crusades in which professional and amateur bakers sought the prize of being named the Royal Baker of Hollygrove.

Hollygrove offered realistic renditions of Renaissance-era shops, taverns and a castle for visitors to tour either as their modern selves or masquerading as characters.

Kaitlyn Stabile, 22, and her friend, Lee Anne Baunmadraher, 27, both from Garden City, attended the festival dressed respectfully as Daenerys Targaryen and Sir Jorah Moront, characters from “Game of Thrones.”

Scott Szczepanik, 25, and Peter Garzoni, 55, were dressed up as pirates. Their first visit ten years ago had been as peasants.

“It’s nice to get away,” said Szczepanik.

Shows are performed non-stop throughout the grounds. Splatter Time Players’ comedy appealed to all audiences. It was hosted by Todd Hibbeler, 36, of Tuscon, Arizona, and Daniel Fox, 35, of St. Petersburg, Florida, known better as Tubby Von Smeckle and Lickity Splickety.

“What makes the festival different from a theme park was that element of risk that you don’t find anywhere else,” said Fox.

Besides the shows, vendors displayed authentic garb, drawings, glassware and other craftwork.

“Most of (the artisans and entertainers) are local,” Anna Peterson, one of the two managing

coordinators for the site, explained.

Richard Thompson and his wife, Diana Diox-Thompson, both 57 and from Odessa, New York, operated “Hammocks and Masks,” which featured his original-crafted, leather masks created for “desire and affordability” and his wife’s dyed, handcrafted sitting hammocks.

While the festival has ended, the Hollygrove grounds will offer two new events running from Oct. 10-26 on the Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

First is Horton Lake Outbreak, a 5K obstacle course, where visitors will use squirt guns to ward off the zombies.

“We did research on other zombie runs, and we thought it would be different,” Peterson said.

Also starting at the same time is the Phantom’s Feast, where the audience will enjoy both a six-course dinner and a musical performance of Halloween favorite songs.



Visitors to the Michigan Renaissance Festival enjoyed a wide range of activities while donning fantasy-themed costumes on Sunday, Sept. 28 in Holly, Michigan. ERIN FEDESON | WASHTENAW VOICE

What:

When:

Where:

How much:

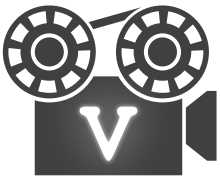
Halloween in Hollygrove: Horton Lake Outbreak (zombie run); and Phantom’s Feast

Oct. 10-26

Hollygrove, Holly, Michigan

Zombie run - \$75 per person;
Feast - \$45 per person

For more information: <http://www.michrenfest.com/halloween.html>



See video at
washtenawvoice.com



Throughout Hollygrove village at the Michigan Renaissance Festival, visitors could find performers dancing on the street as well as on multiple stages. ERIN FEDESON | WASHTENAW VOICE



One of the many featured activities was a comedic rendition of a jousting tournament, held multiple times per day, during which knights rode upon rescue horses such as Maverick, in red, and Joy, in green. ERIN FEDESON | WASHTENAW VOICE



Hammock maker Diane Koi-Thompson of Odessa, New York showcased her hand-made hammocks. ERIN FEDESON | WASHTENAW VOICE

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