

THE WASHTENAW VOICE

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FROM SOLDIERS TO STUDENTS

Every Nov. 11, the country takes a day to acknowledge the men and women in service. This day, known as Veterans Day, was declared by Woodrow Wilson in 1919, and was originally called Armistice Day. It was originally created to commemorate the ending of WWII. Now, it stands for something a little different for the men and women serving the United States.

“For us veterans, it’s our day that we’re able to get together, celebrate, share stories, be with other veterans and hear the ‘Thank you’s’ that sometimes many of us never receive,” said Michael Smith, the director of the Washtenaw County Department of Veteran Affairs.

Veterans Day is a great way to honor the men and women in service, and affects many of them more than one may think. “Veterans Day is one of those days that allows us to again honor that part of our military service and that’s that tradition, the tradition of getting together and honoring the history of our military,” Smith said. “It serves our country, to all veterans and it means a lot to us to be able to have a day to celebrate.”

The Voice wants to take this time, just following Veterans Day, to celebrate the men and women in service across the country by honoring our veterans at Washtenaw Community College. To do so, we dedicated the center spread of this issue to highlight the stories of our veterans and feature the services offered to them by WCC and the community.

—Madi Tortora



Taking care as to not let the flag touch the ground Alberto Acosta, a 25-year-old who served in the Army, takes pride in his service. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE

See **VETERANS**, Page A4

5 THINGS YOU MISSED AT THE OCT. 27 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING



The board of trustees meeting on Oct. 27 brought the challenge of appointing a new board member. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE

BY COURTNEY DITTO

Contributor

AND TAYLOR ROBINSON

Editor

1. WASHTENAW COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FILLS VACANT SEAT

Because of previous board treasurer Pamela Horiszny resigning earlier in October, the board received the opportunity to appoint a new member within 30 days of her resignation. The decision did not come easily.

Board members Dave DeVarti, Ruth Hatcher and Secretary Christina Fleming voted for Dilip Das and the remaining members, Vice Chair Diane McKnight-Morton, Stephen Gill (via telephone) and Chair Richard Landau voted for Alex Milshteyn.

As a result of a deadlock vote, Landau did make it clear to the board that if the deadlock continued, the Washtenaw Intermediate School District’s board would make the decision for them. Because of his assurance that other members stood firm on their votes, he opted to change his, thus breaking the deadlock. Gill also reconsidered his vote and supported Das. The final vote resulting 5-1 making Das the newly appointed member.

Landau announced that the position is temporary and Das, along with any other interested party, must hold a campaign for the Nov. 2016 election.

After much deliberation ending in a deadlock 3-3 vote, appointed Dr. Dilip Das as the seventh member. Also in consideration for the position was Alex Milshteyn who is an eight-year member of the WTCM board.

2. WCCEA PRESIDENT VOICES CONCERNS

After the Higher Learning Commission’s latest update on Oct. 1, Faculty Union President Maryam Barrie expressed to the board her questions regarding the protection of fellow instructors. By Sept. 1, 2017, all instructors teaching general education/transfer credit courses will be required to either have a master’s degree in the area they teach or have completed 18 graduate-level course credits in that area. Barrie asked the questions some faculty are

wondering such as how they will be supported, particularly those who fear losing their jobs.

“Decisions about their future are being made by people who don’t know them,” Barrie said. “As you can imagine, this is not relaxing.”

Later in the evening, Vice President for Instruction Michael Nealon provided a presentation outlining their plan thus far and into the near future as to how they are handling becoming compliant with the new assumed practices.

Barrie addressed another concern pertaining to the rumors of department downsizing while in a previous meeting with WCC President Rose Bellanca and Nealon. According to Barrie, no clear answer was shedding light on said rumors. She stated that this was the last time the subject was addressed with upper level administration as of the most recent board meeting.

“This concerns me and it doesn’t put me in a place where I can reassure my members that their positions are secure,” Barrie said.

3. OFFICIAL ENROLLMENT NUMBERS ARE IN

Vice President of Student and Academic Service Linda Blakey presented the official enrollment count for WCC. Enrollment for the 2015 fall semester is 12,211 students who are taking a combined 101,519 credits according to Blakey’s numbers. Although enrollment is down by 0.6 percent or 84 students, the state average is closer to 6 percent with some schools declining by double-digit percentages. Blakey’s report highlighted that WCC’s been leading the state in maintaining enrollment.

She also expressed fall enrollment strategies including regular outreach to new, continuing and readmitting students, through events and telephone outreach. They’ve also recently experimented with communication via texting, and reaching out to local high schools for future applicants.

4. WCC RADIOGRAPHY TEAM BRINGS HOME FIRST PLACE

Addressing the board with good news and a big trophy were students among WCC’s radiography program. At the 60th Annual Meeting of the Michigan Society of Radiologic Technology, WCC

students Aaron Amin and Brittany Tomlin were two of 75 students from several programs competing in the Student Bee – a competition where students were given 20 seconds to answer questions from subjects such as patient care, imaging exposure, imaging physics, radiographic poisoning, and radiation biology and protection.

Amin won first place and Tomlin took third – this year being the fourth in a row that WCC students have won first place and kept the traveling trophy. Amongst the winning team were two more WCC students, Ashley Zavala and Michelle Rhodes. These students competed in a scientific display completion against 28 other displays, and brought first place to WCC with their imaging kidney stones display.

5. PHARMACY TECHNICIAN PROGRAM MAKES LARGE STRIDES

Pharmacy technology instructor Kiela Samuels approached the board to discuss the rise and success of the pharmacy technician certificate program at WCC. Samuels stated that this program prepares students to work entry-level jobs in pharmacies in places such as hospitals and retail stores right out of gaining their certificate, helping them gain real-world experience in their field while they continue school.

“It’s mostly a one-man show, or one-woman show,” Samuels said in regards to being the only instructor in this full-time program.

Samuels said that only 24 students are enrolled in this program, but thanks to affiliations with University of Michigan – where U-M pharmacy students come to aid in teaching WCC students –these students gain better experience in the pharmacy field.

Due to the incline of the program, Samuels stated the next step is moving on from what is now only a certificate program, to getting the accreditation of an associate degree.

SEE FOLLOW UP STORY ABOUT
NEW TRUSTEE DILIP DAS ON A3

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Get where the world is going

DILIP DAS FILLS HORISZNY'S BOARD OF TRUSTEE SEAT

DAS, From A1

BY TAYLOR ROBINSON
Editor

Although the Washtenaw Community College Board of Trustees expressed respect for the two gentlemen eyeing the vacant seat, Dilip Das and Alex Milshiteyn, only one could be chosen. At the end of a long debate amongst the board members, Das was selected for the position.

A man who's been involved with education all his life, Das obtained a teaching certificate in secondary science and has taught both at the public school level, as well as at an international school in India. Throughout his career, he's also gained experience in fundraising. He says he's used to talking to prospective donors and asking them for support focused on education and learning.

"That's a pretty easy

discussion to have because as we all know education, generally speaking, has been underfunded," Das said. "And support, state support particularly, has declined for both K-12 and college sectors."

While taking a seat on the board, he continues to be the assistant vice provost for equity, inclusion and academic affairs at the University of Michigan. For the last 10 years, he's been involved in a number of projects and issues particularly focused on student access to higher education and increasing graduation success.

"I've been fortunate in working with many talented people and thinking about ways of reducing barriers for students to attend college and to succeed there, too," Das said.

Now, Das has the opportunity to further work with the talented people tied to WCC.

Das' experience with education particularly interested some of the board members and swayed their reasoning to support him with their vote. Trustee David DeVarti expressed his appreciation of the work done by Das at U-M.

"I'm deeply impressed by the work that he does with the university's initiatives to engage and to increase opportunities for economically disadvantaged communities around the state," DeVarti said. "And to further the possibilities for students to successfully move from K-12 education into postsecondary education, and those are the kinds of things I think we should be partnering with and engaging deeply with at the community college here, as I think all community colleges should."

Concerning the issues of diversity, the board's secretary, Christina Fleming



Dilip Das addresses the board before they make a decision on appointing their new member. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE

articulated her appreciation of Das' stance.

"My generation is going to have deal with so many issues of racial inequality," Fleming said. "These are things I feel really strongly about attacking and I'm really deeply concerned about how we are going to raise up people of color into a more equitable position in our society so we can move forward and fix these social ills."

Das was officially sworn in on Monday, Nov. 9 and will take part in his first meeting with the rest of the board on Nov. 17. His role, he says, would be to maintain WCC's excellence into the future and see how he can contribute toward furthering the success of students rising up and into the many offered programs.

"I think of Washtenaw as really a sparkling jewel of the community," Das said.

NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

COURTESY | SCOTT KELLY OF NASA

New speck discovered at edge of solar system

According to a recent story published by News Corp Australia Network, the Dawn space probe in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter came across what appears to be a "dwarf planet" and has been named Object V774104. The objects circumference measures anywhere from 310-560 miles. It's also the furthest reported object in orbit around the sun. Researchers do not know much about this new discovery and future studies are to be conducted.

Russia's involvement with Syria

In a late October story by Public Radio International, Vladimir Ryzhkov, an opposition politician, says that Russia has in fact had effective military reforms, led by President Vladimir Putin. Although there have been opposing views, according to the article, Russia has publicly stated having laid out similar objectives as the U.S., "To destroy the threat of ISIS and bring peace to Syria."

Sierra Leone declared Ebola-free, time to rebuild

After the Ebola crisis struck in 2014, Sierra Leone in Africa has been declared Ebola-free by the World Health Organization on Nov. 7. The virus took more than 10,000 lives since its initial reporting of the illness in the early months of last year. Now that the area has been deemed free of the disease with no new reports during a 42-day span, the country "needs to develop its private sector in order to become sustainable and cut its dependence on foreign aid money," according to a CNN report.

Refugee crisis and Europe

According to a Nov. 9 BBC article, in countries throughout Europe more than 750,000 migrants are estimated to have arrived, yet numbers are wavering because some may have passed undetected. Not only are migrants arriving due to the Syrian conflict, others are fleeing from continuing violence or poverty throughout Kosovo, Eritrea, Afghanistan, Iraq, Albania and more.

Mass shootings by the numbers

In a recent report conducted by the Mass Shooting Tracker, 994 mass shootings have occurred in America in just 1,004 days as of the beginning of October. MST defines a mass shooting as the killing of four or more people shot in one incident. This is happening almost every day. When President Barack Obama gave his speech after the Umpqua Community College shooting in Oregon, he says "We are not the only country on Earth that has people with mental illness or want to harm other people. But, we are the only advanced country on Earth that sees these mass shootings every few months. Somehow, this has become routine."

Michigan primaries right around the corner

As the Democratic and Republican debates continue, candidates are preparing for the upcoming primary elections occurring shortly after the first of the year. According to a Detroit Free Press article, all 17 Republican candidates and three Democrats will remain on the ballot unless he/she sends a letter to the Secretary of State saying they are no longer a candidate. Iowa kicks off the presidential primary season on Feb. 1 and Michigan will take part a month later on March 8.

SECURITY NOTES

Oct. 19 – Nov. 12

Information from incident reports provided to The Voice by Campus Safety and Security Director Jacques Desrosiers

MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY

On Oct. 19, someone put a long scratch on the passenger side of a 2015 red Chevrolet Malibu in the HFC parking lot sometime between 10:50 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

LARCENY

On Oct. 25, a purse was left unattended in the HFC and went missing sometime between 11:30 a.m.- 1:10 p.m.

HIT AND RUN

On Oct. 27, a 2004 Ford Taurus was reported damaged at 12:07 p.m. in the parking structure. The damage was discovered near the rear tire on the passenger side of the car.

LEWD BEHAVIOR

On Nov. 2, individuals were discovered engaging in inappropriate behavior in their car in the parking structure at 9:50 a.m.

HIT AND RUN

On Nov. 2, a 2015 Ford Mustang was damaged in the parking structure between 12:30-2:30 p.m. The damage was done to the left rear part of the bumper and several scratches were discovered down the side.

HIT AND RUN

On Nov. 2, a 2013 Chevrolet Spark was hit in parking lot no. 4 between the hours of 7 a.m.-8:45 p.m. The damage on the car was done to the front driver's side of the vehicle near the wheel well.

ASSAULT

A physical altercation occurred between a WCC student and one non-student who came to campus to confront the WCC student. It began in the LA building somewhere between the hours of 4:15 p.m. and 5:52 p.m. The sheriff was called.

If you have a question or concern for Campus Safety & Security, please call 734-973-3411 (or extension 3411, if on campus) or email us at campussafety@wccnet.edu.

IN BRIEF

EMPTY BOWLS

On Nov. 18, an empty bowls event will be held from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Attendees can purchase a handcrafted bowl from WCC's Ceramics Department and the proceeds will benefit Student Resource and Women's Center and Food Gatherers. The \$20 ticket purchases a bowl and soup on Wednesday, Nov. 18. Tickets are on sale at the Cashier's Office.

FOOD FOR FINES PROGRAM

Students with overdue fines at the Bailey Library will have their fines forgiven in exchange for nonperishable food items to help students in need. The Food for Fines program will run until Nov. 20. Each item donated will cancel up to \$7 in overdue fines. All donations will directly benefit the WCC Student Resource Center and WCC students in need in time for Thanksgiving.

NEO NUTCRACKER

On Friday Dec. 11 and Saturday, Dec. 12, WCC hosts its 3rd Neo Nutcracker dance performance in Towsley Auditorium at 7 p.m. Choreographed by WCC alumna Christine Sampier, the Neo Nutcracker presents a unique and contemporary adaptation of the classic ballet, "The Nutcracker."The performance is open to the public with no reserved seating and donations will be accepted as well.

HEALTH CARE CAREER FAIR

On Dec. 8, WCC hosts a health care career fair in the Morris Lawrence building. From 1- 4 p.m., those interested in a career in health care will be able to connect to employers that are hiring including: Eisenhower Center, Encore Rehabilitation Services, Entech Medical Staffing, Glacier Hills Senior Living Community, Medical Diagnostic Services, Inc., St. Joseph Mercy Health System, and Superior Woods. Participants are encouraged to dress professionally and bring multiple copies of their resume.

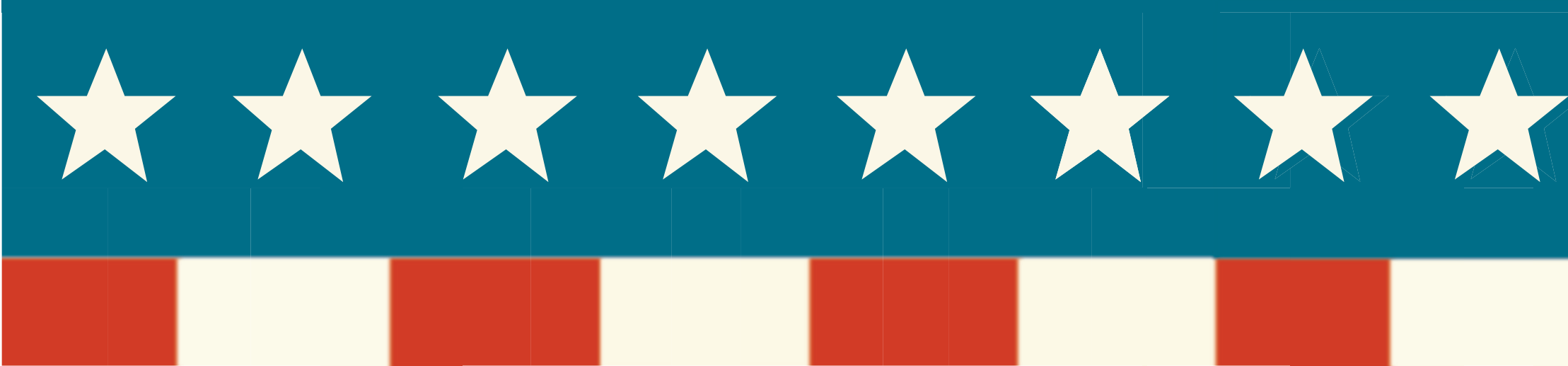
PISTONS GAME

Tickets are available for a WCC trip to see the Detroit Pistons take on the Indiana Pacers on Dec. 12. The \$35 ticket includes admission for the \$90 value seats in section 120 B, transportation via Fox Sports Fan Bus and a voucher for a large soda and nachos. Tickets are available at the Cashier's Office, 2nd floor of the Student Center Building.

DIVERSITY EXTRAVAGANZA

On Friday, Nov. 20, the WCC Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion sponsors an evening to celebrate diversity in ethnic food, dance, fashion, art and more in the Towsley Auditorium. At 5:30, attendees will be treated to food samplings from area restaurants representing different ethnic types of cuisine. A show representing a wide repertoire of music and dance genres will begin at 7 p.m.

-Sofia Lynch



A glimpse into a 20-year journey



Timothy Smith poses for the camera in front of one of the aircrafts that is responsible for while on the flight deck. COURTESY | TIMOTHY SMITH

BY IVAN FLORES
Contributor

Petty Officer First Class Timothy Smith was born and raised in Menominee – a small town on the fringes of the Upper Peninsula. His dreams were always bigger than his hometown; he wanted to serve in the Navy and see the world. He enlisted before graduating from high school. In 1993, having never seen a bigger city than Green Bay, Tim began a 20-year journey to rival the Odyssey. He would spend 12 years at war, deploy 10 times, travel to five continents and visit 27 countries.

Explaining his decision to enlist, Smith said, “It runs in my family. If you look at my family lineage, my father served in the Navy during Vietnam. His dad – my grandfather – served in the Army during WWII and was part of D-Day. And I have a great-grandfather that served in the Navy during WWI.” Smith stepped into Recruit Training Command on July 27 1993, exactly one week after his 18th birthday. By March of 1994, Smith had completed training as an Aviation Structural Mechanic. With expertise to maintain and repair the S-3 “Viking,” a carrier-based

tanker and submarine hunter, he was assigned to squadron VS-21, the “Fighting Redtails.” The Fighting Redtails were deployed on the USS Independence (CV 62), homeported in Japan. His first four years at sea were spent on the Independence. Smith explains life aboard an aircraft carrier: “There’s no personal space. You have what’s called a ‘coffin locker,’ that’s where you sleep. Your bed is 6’ long by 4’ wide by 4’ tall. I’m 6’2, so some part of me was hanging out. The only thing that separates you from the world is a curtain. The food is kind of miserable, but they’re mass-producing food for 5,000 people.” However, there were upsides. “Because I worked on a flight deck, life was a lot different; I got to see sunlight and experience weather everyday. And I had a pretty kick-ass job. So there was the adrenaline that came with it... It was fun. It was intense,” he said. The Independence conducted demanding patrols of the Pacific, taking Smith to many countries, including South Korea, Australia, Singapore and as far west as the United Arab Emirates. The Independence participated in Operation Southern Watch, an enforcement of a no-fly zone over southern Iraq. In 1996, the ship also intervened in the Strait of Taiwan when

China showed military aggression towards Taiwan, a nation Beijing does not recognize. But Smith’s most grueling deployment would come five years later, in 2001. In late 2001, Smith was attached to another squadron of S-3’s, the VS-32 “Maulers.” In the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks, the Maulers were deployed on the USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) and sent to Afghanistan as part of the Operation Enduring Freedom vanguard. “We were the first aircraft carrier to pull out and bomb Afghanistan,” Smith recalled. “The Theodore Roosevelt set the modern day record for continuous days at sea... We did 159 days straight before a port visit and our first day off. In a seven-month deployment, we had eight days off. And I worked three of them.” Smith had no connections to New York before the 9/11 attacks, but the issue was personal. His squadron received care packages from New York firefighters and policemen, along with the names of those they had lost. The Maulers would write the names of the victims on ordinance before dropping it on the Taliban. Photos of the bombs would be sent back to New York, along with the satisfaction of knowing that some sort of justice had been done. Smith was deployed several more times, aboard the

USS Enterprise (CVN 65) as well as to bases in Djibouti and Afghanistan. However, his time in the Navy drew to an end in 2013 after missing a needed promotion to continue his career. Barbara Smith, his mother, reflects on Tim’s service: “I was always concerned, but I know that was his dream... I’m very proud of (my son). He is way awesome.” In 2005, the sacrifice that veterans make became very personal to Tim. He lost two pilots over Florida. In the immediate aftermath, it was unclear if the accident had been caused by a mechanical failure and therefore something Tim could have prevented. The cause was later ruled to be a microburst-severe turbulence. But as Tim stood in formation at the memorial service, he caught sight of a young widow, seven months pregnant, trying to hold her five-year old son. It was this image that convinced him to not work on airplanes again after he retired. Tim is now a student at Washtenaw Community College, where he is studying business. His decision to attend WCC was due in large part to the Veteran Center. Most colleges have them, but WCC’s makes it easier for veterans to focus on school by taking care of their paperwork. The people at the VC also don’t limit themselves to helping only WCC veterans. In one particular case,



Timothy Smith, a 40-year-old business student of Menominee, runs to the catapult to launch a S-3 Viking off the USS Enterprise (CVN-65). COURTESY | TIMOTHY SMITH

the staff helped a widow in Oklahoma claim her rights and those of her recently deceased husband. Tim is an active member of the Student Veteran’s Club, where he served as president for three semesters. Alberto Alacosta, Tim’s successor, had admiring words about him. “He was (the equivalent of a) noncommissioned officer and he exudes that very much so... He has strong leadership (skills). He’s what I would call a good NCO – he actually tries to work with you, tries to teach you stuff and he’s a very patient dude.” While Tim led a very eventful life, there’s a major part of Tim’s time in the Navy missing from this story – the parties. But, that he can’t share too much about. “They’re not PG. The other half I can’t remember,” Tim said with a laugh.

Army veteran Landon Dupee: ‘I felt a desire to serve my country’



Landon Dupee, 24, was a member of the Army from 2008 until 2014. As a Combat Engineer he had to be capable of many different jobs while on duty. COURTESY | LANDON DUPEE



BY TAYLOR MABELITINI
Contributor

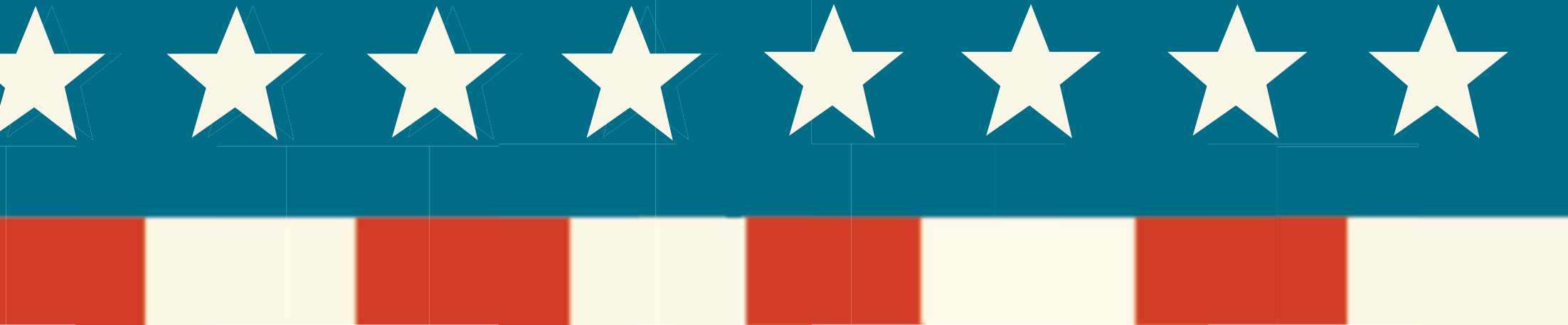
Landon Dupee, 27, and a veteran of the United States Army, is self-described as “stubborn.” This stubbornness and the resilience that it results in may have been what carried him through six years of service – that, and a patriotic streak: “I joined because I felt a desire to serve my country,” Dupee said. A current Washtenaw Community College student, Dupee spent 2008 - 2014 both stateside and overseas in Iraq with a Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) in combat engineering, eventually earning the rank of Sergeant. He ended his service time after a debilitating knee injury, labeled in the U.S. Armed Forces as “medically separated.” “I blew out my knee, and two

surgeries later I didn’t come back like they wanted me to. Two surgeries, two years of rehab, and I still couldn’t run. They won’t do a total knee replacement because I’m too young,” Dupee said. He said the damage done to his knee won’t be holding him back any time soon, though. “Obviously they don’t know how stubborn I am. They’re telling me I’ll be in a wheelchair by the time I’m 50, and if they knew me, they would know I won’t care and I won’t be in a wheelchair by the time I was 50, because they told me I would be.” For three months during his deployment in Iraq, from 2009-2010, Dupee and his comrades lived and worked with the local Iraqis, training them to do the job they did everyday. “That was probably the most fulfilling time in my military

service. We lived on a little compound on their base... training them to do our job as good as we could,” he said. Training was extensive, given Dupee’s MOS; as combat engineers, soldiers were required to be capable in several areas of service, all at once. “The best way to explain it, we were jack of all trades. We had to know demolitions, we had to know mechanics... land navigation, infantry, we had to know a little of everything,” he said. His MOS’ work with explosives is significant when it comes to how those outside the MOS – and even the army itself – perceive those within it. Dupee said that many servicemen and women, especially those who share his MOS, receive a bad reputation because of veterans like the Oklahoma City Bomber. “He (the bomber) shared my MOS, so now coming out of the military as a combat engineer, I got put on a federal watch list for 10 years because of him,”

Dupee stated. Timothy McVeigh, a former U.S. Army soldier, detonated a truck bomb in downtown Oklahoma City in front of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in April 1995, killing 168 and leaving over 600 injured. He was executed in June 2001. It was the deadliest mass killing during peacetime on American soil prior to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11. When it comes to the transition back to civilian life, Dupee had one word to encompass it all: challenging. “You go from a very structured place to whatever the hell you want it to be. You can either carry the structure over from military life or you can just let it all go and try and figure it out.”

According to the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, 7-8 percent of the U.S. population will have PTSD at some point in their lives. The mental illness is four or more weeks of four types of symptoms, including: reliving the event, avoiding situations that remind you of the event, negative changes in feelings and beliefs, and feeling restless, jittery, or “keyed up.” PTSD can also be diagnosed in shorter amounts of time if symptoms are significantly distressing and cause a disruption in one’s everyday life. Despite the difficulties being a veteran has brought him, Dupee is a staunch believer that not everyone who serves in the U.S. Armed Forces comes back to civilian life worse off. “I think if anything, I want to convey that we’re not all bad. We have our problems, but we deal with them in our own ways,” Dupee said.



Washtenaw celebrates Veteran's Day and renaming of the Veterans Center

BY IVAN FLORES
Contributor

The sound of drums and piccolos echoed throughout the building as members of the Plymouth Fife and Drum Corps marched into the second floor of the Student Center. A crowd gathered inside to honor the veteran community. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, benefactors Laurie and Tim Wadham, Washtenaw Community College President Rose Bellanca and members of the board of trustees were among the people in attendance.

Specialist Alberto Alacosta, president of the Student Veteran Club, was the only veteran in uniform, but he was joined by plenty of his fellow soldiers and Marines. Following a performance from the WCC Chorus and the egress of the Plymouth Fife, Bellanca took the podium.

She began her speech by thanking the veterans for their service. Acknowledging that they do not seek a spotlight, Bellanca encouraged the present veterans to accept recognition on this day.

Bellanca also offered her gratitude to the Wadhams, who made a generous financial donation to the college,

with a significant portion of it going to the Veterans Center. The amount was not disclosed during the event, but it was substantial enough that the center was renamed in their honor. The Wadham Veteran Center was officially renamed with a ribbon-cutting at the end of the ceremony.

“Along with all of us, Tim and Laurie want our veterans to have a place they can call home – with assurance that we will always provide our veterans the resources they need to make educational dreams and career goals come true. And also a place where their stories can be told and not forgotten,” Bellanca said

Alacosta took the microphone after Bellanca’s speech and was greeted with a standing ovation and cheers from his fellow veterans.

“I wanted to emphasize the support we’ve gotten,” Alacosta said. “In (the Veterans Center) right next to me, seven people have touched our lives and made life (much) easier...We’re eternally grateful for that. Just in this past year, 3,702 veterans have gone in and out of this office...for seven people, that’s miraculous.”

The staff of the Veterans Center provide academic and career guidance, help facilitate

the transition into civilian life and cut through government red tape so the veterans can focus on school. Petty Officer First Class Timothy Smith, Alacosta’s predecessor, explained:

“I went online, I registered, I hit the button, I walked in here, I filled out a form (and they) did the rest of the work,” Smith said. “They did all the paperwork that gets sent to the government to ensure that my tuition gets paid and that I get paid.”

But the staff’s commitment to veterans does not stop at WCC.

“What makes Washtenaw special to me is that every person here goes above and beyond,” Smith said. “Last semester, I found out that one of the guys I served with and was one of my best friends in the world (passed away). He left behind a wife and four kids. His wife was lost... she didn’t know who to contact at the VA to get the benefits she’s allotted for being a dependent of a service member.”

He said he went to the Veterans Center and told them what was wrong. Every single person, including VA reps who don’t work for Washtenaw, dropped everything to help. They made phone calls and did research to get all the



From left, Tim and Lori Wadhams, Alberto Acosta, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, and WCC President Rose Bellanca, cut the ribbon as the Veterans Center is renamed in honor of the Wadhams and their generous contributions to the center on campus. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE

contacts his friend’s widow would need because she was out in Oklahoma City.

“Within a half hour, I had all the points of contact she needed to get a funeral arranged, a burial plot, an honor guard, and everything else she would need for counselors and grieving.... I will forever be grateful for Washtenaw, if anything just for that,” Smith said.

It is this sort of commitment to helping veterans that encouraged the Wadhams to make a financial contribution to the school.

Speaking about their decision to support the Veterans Center, Tim Wadham said, “We have a very strong appreciation for the sacrifices the vets have provided for us and certainly a sense that as a country, we can do a better job of showing our appreciation to the vets in

terms of (helping them with) healthcare, education and financial aid.”

Dingell quoted John F. Kennedy at the end of the ceremony.

“To express our gratitude, we must not forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.”

The Veterans, the Wadhams, the Veterans Center staff and the college are doing just that.

Iraq war veteran seeks higher education after years in combat



David Rogers holds his son, Xavier, upon returning from Iraq in 2004. COURTESY | DAVID ROGERS

BY COLIN MACDOUGALL
Contributor

David Rogers is a veteran of the United States Army who is currently a student at Washtenaw Community College. Rogers, 45, first came to WCC because he was seeking a degree in construction technology – although he is currently in the process of selecting a new major. Attending college was not always what he planned for himself, however. At the age of 18, he decided to join the military.

“I decided that I wasn’t going to go to college... So the way I was raised by my mother, if I wasn’t going to go on to college I had to do something with my life... I joined the army,” Rogers said.

He first joined the U.S. Army on Dec. 1, 1988. He was a 19th Delta – a Cavalry Scout often know as “the eyes and the ears” of the U.S. Army. A Cavalry Scout engages

enemies in the field, tracks and reports enemies, and directs the distribution of weapons to specific locations. Rogers was involved in mainly combat operations throughout most of his military career.

Through the military, he saw places all around the world such as Europe, Korea, the United Kingdom, Somalia, and Iraq, where he served on seven different tours.

Rogers first went to Iraq in Dec. 1991 during Desert Storm. He got off of active duty with the army sometime in 1995. From about that point on Rogers spent the rest of his time in the Army National Guard, until his retirement in 2013.

Laverne Rogers, David’s wife of 16 years, remembers the longest point of deployment was during the first tour after 9/11; he only visited one time in the summer. The first tour lasted almost a year and a half. David went through a period of being called back to active duty about four or five times between 2004 and 2013.

“After 9/11 happened, when they first activated him, he was still stateside and I wasn’t as concerned,” Laverne said. “Once he started getting activated overseas, the first time, it was horrible. When he had gone over there, that was the time when there were all the attacks that were going on at the military bases.”

Xavier Rogers, David’s 17-year-old son, describes his father being in the military as tough to get used to, especially when he was in active duty. There was more than one birthday David missed. Xavier

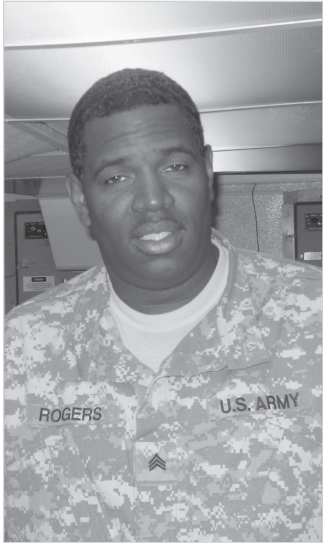
said that it was even difficult to do some of the hobbies the two shared while his father was overseas.

“Without a doubt I was proud of him, but I missed him a lot,” Xavier said. It was hard for him to do activities he and his father did together, like football, before he left, Xavier remembers.

When Xavier was younger, he thought about joining the military like his father. David encourages Xavier to pursue other interests instead of joining the military.

When Xavier found out that his father was being discharged from the military he said, “It was hard to describe, I was really happy.”

“I was happy we didn’t have to worry about that part of his life anymore,” Laverne added.



David Rogers, 45, of Brownstown Township, at his military base in 2011. COURTESY | DAVID ROGERS



The Washtenaw County Department of Veterans Affairs is located at 2155 Hogback Road in Ann Arbor. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE

Honoring veterans year-round

BY COURTNEY DITTO
Contributor

Michael Smith, director of the Washtenaw County Department of Veteran Affairs and veteran himself, stated that on Veterans Day, they are able to come by to hear words of appreciation that unfortunately many don’t receive otherwise.

“What’s really neat about (Veterans Day) is the military itself. The armed forces are full of honors and lineages, military customs and courtesies and history that goes all the way back to the creations of our branches of service,” stated Smith.

Veteran and Washtenaw Community College student Thomas Harris, 35, served 15 years of active duty in the Army, and continues to serve in the Reserves, states that he feels very fortunate that he and the other veterans at WCC are offered the opportunity to continue their education, while some veterans are unable to divulge in that benefit. Harris says while Veterans Day is important to him as a veteran, he takes the opportunity to appreciate those who may have been forgotten.

“To me personally, Veterans Day is understanding the

sacrifice that was done before me. We have a saying that ‘all gave some, but some gave all’ and those that gave all, they are no longer here with us so we pay tribute to that, and pay our respects to our fallen comrades,” Harris said.

However after this day has passed, many organizations and community centers such as WCC’s Veterans Center continues to work tirelessly to strive in aiding veterans in any way possible, such as providing veterans with vocational rehabilitation and academic advising.

Since it’s opening in 2012, the Veterans Center has been dedicated to helping veterans transition into the WCC community, and between 250 to 300 veteran students use the services provided by the center every semester. The Veterans Center takes time to ensure the classes they take match their program and are eligible under the education benefits provided by their GI Bill. Harris said it was amazing to gain the assistance in “transitioning from military life to community student life.”

While education is a key component, one of the most important services of the Veterans Center lies outside academics, and resonates

within the emotional support and togetherness veterans feel while there. Alberto Acosta, a 25-year-old student and veteran from Ypsilanti, came to WCC after five years of active duty in the Army. He stated that upon starting, he felt lost until a counselor referred him to the center. He received the help he searched for in his educational career, while also discovering a little something else, something he believed he’d lost: “A sense of community that I didn’t think I had anymore.”

The Veterans Club formed directly from the Veterans Center, where members run different functions to help in supporting other veterans, encourages WCC students to be involved with events such as the Veterans Supply Drive where the club collected clothing to donate to homeless veterans last week.

Acosta, who serves as the president of the club, tributes this as “giving back” to those who have also served in the military and is grateful to see students involved. Though saying he could not vouch for everyone involved with the Veterans Center, Acosta stated, “We built a family there and that’s why it’s important to me.”

EDITORIAL

TRUSTEES ASSESS GUN POLICIES AT UPCOMING RETREAT

In response to the numerous unfortunate campus shootings across the United States, schools along with state legislatures are looking more closely at gun-carry laws. Just weeks after one of the latest shootings which occurred at Umpqua Community College, the Senate Committee on Judiciary passed Michigan’s Senate Bill 442 which would essentially allow people to carry guns on premises currently deemed as “pistol-free zones,” such as churches, bars, day-cares, hospitals, casinos, school campuses and more. The bill has now moved to the full Senate and is awaiting a response.

Schools themselves are looking at their own campus policies – this includes Washtenaw Community College. The current policies in place, as explained by Vice President of Facilities, Grounds and Campus Safety Damon Flowers, prohibit students, faculty and staff from carrying weapons on campus. However, he also commented that the board of trustees has the power to change campus policies. While allowing students, faculty and staff to carry weapons would be highly unlikely, considerations are to be discussed about

implementing on-campus officers or other options at the board’s retreat on Tuesday, Nov. 17.

The members of WCC’s diverse population will surely fall all across the spectrum in regards to gun safety and security policies. On one end, some students may seek the right to carry a gun, whether concealed or open-carry, on campus. On the other end, some would say no guns at all should be permitted on campus grounds.

There are those who think a gun in the hands of every willing and able student is the answer to protecting the student body, but the presence of more guns definitely does not mean more safety. An example of this could be highlighted by the situation at UCC in early October when an active shooter came onto the campus. There were armed students on campus that day as well. Due to an 1989 Oregon law, any public body – except the Legislature – is forbidden from restricting the rights of concealed weapons permit-holders to bring guns where they wish, according to The Oregonian.

The Oregonian also highlighted that one carrying student wanted to rush to the aid of the victims at

the time of the attack, but was advised not to by a college employee. The points that employee made demonstrate exactly why allowing students to carry wouldn’t have the protective effect that many gun-carriers claim they have: the active shooter could have taken them down or law enforcement officers already on the scene could have mistaken them for another assailant rather than a vigilante, said UCC carrying student John Parker to The Oregonian.

Now while we support the need for our school to be protected, we also support the need for student voices to be heard on the issue before any decisions are made. Although it’s understood that the college would only want to do what they think is in the students’ best interest, including as many people as possible in decision making is paramount. Although we may not agree if a decision were to be made to increase the presence of firearms on WCC’s campus, via armed officers, we still appreciate that our school’s policy makers are taking into consideration the changing definition of safety in the wake of all these mass and public murders.



KAI HERNANDEZ | THE FOGHORN NEWS

Starbucks under hellfire

Cultural appropriation deemed inappropriate



SOFIA LYNCH
snlynch@wccnet.edu

Recently there has been some debate over a rather trivial change in the way that Starbucks celebrates the holidays. A change so trivial, mind you, that many Americans may have never noticed if not for the media coverage of the backlash it created. This year, rather than sporting the Christmas-themed coffee cups the company has used in the past, they decided to make a more inclusive holiday design: the illustrious red cup.

The idea of the plain cup was “to usher in the holidays with a purity of design that welcomes all of our stories,” according to Starbucks Vice President Jeffrey Fields, cited in a CNN article. Since the company also offers Christmas blend coffee and Christmas blend espresso roast, going secular across the board was not achieved. Despite this, Christians have been taking to the internet to fight against what is apparently being called the “war on Christmas.”

The outcry against the red cup was seemingly fueled by the vocal outrage of self-proclaimed social media personality and evangelist, Joshua Feuerstein, according to CNN. Feuerstein claimed

that Starbucks was “trying to remove the Christmas out of Christmas.” Republican candidate Donald Trump also did what he does best and made some noise on the subject, claiming ‘maybe we should boycott Starbucks.”

Trump’s proposal was far from a modest one considering the cup design changed almost imperceptibly from the one used in the previous year: a red cup with red, splotted snowflakes or pine trees that looked painted on. If you are offended by a lacking of Christmas symbolism on the paper cups that hold your coffee or feel that it affects the way you celebrate your religion around the holidays, you should probably take a second look at what matters most to you in your belief system.

In the month of December, it is probably harder to find a business not donning Christmas decorations than to find one that does. The fact that people are up in arms over one company’s decision to celebrate the holidays in a way that lets every customer feel included doesn’t make much sense. Being outraged over the lack of Christmas symbolism essentially says, “I wanted only my religion and my holiday to be recognized.”

In this way, the revolt caused by this Starbucks holiday cup represents a common issue I see in the disparity between the majority and minority in matters of recognition/representation of religion or other aspects of human rights. There are immeasurable ways that the

celebration of Christmas is made clear to the general public from November to December, while little to no recognition is given to other holidays that fall around the winter solstice.

Why is it that when there is one instance of recognition or inclusion for groups that are outside of the majority, rather than celebrating that equality is being worked towards, people of the majority grab the pitchforks and torches? Christmas-favoritism is a noticeably nationwide mindset, so their battle has already been won. For people who can’t just pick up a Reese’s cup shaped like the symbols of their holiday, one can imagine that tiny changes like a non-denominational coffee cup could feel like a little victory.

People who know that they are within the societal majority should try to expand their thinking and empathize. When one has never been discriminated against, one cannot understand what a victory it is to finally be empowered. So Christmas crusaders, make the attempt to put yourself in the shoes of someone who can’t find imagery of their holiday in every store, home, or public setting. Although ornament-adorned Starbucks cups are nice, your holiday will go on without it; those who don’t celebrate Christmas have survived many holidays without the symbols of their beliefs plastered across the country.



MADI TORTORA
madisontortora3@gmail.com

When is it acceptable to wear a bindi as a fashion statement? How about a headdress? The answer may shock you, especially if you’re Kylie Jenner: unless it is a part of your culture, leave it out of your wardrobe.

With a lot of media focus on it nowadays, you may be wondering “What is cultural appropriation?” In the shortest possible explanation, cultural appropriation is when members of a dominant culture take elements from a culture of people who have been systematically oppressed by said dominant group. So, where’s the problem?

Cultural appropriation is a lot of things, but a cultural exchange is not one of them. Appropriating someone else’s background allows people to decide that they are entitled to someone’s culture, no matter if they respect that person’s identity or not. This is different from cultural assimilation, which is the fusion of ethnic minorities into the dominant culture to resemble the majority group in terms of norms, behaviors and values.

In the media today, people who are in the spotlight aren’t necessarily the role

models that society may need or want. Women like Miley Cyrus, Kylie Jenner and Katy Perry are using their popularity to perpetuate stereotypes and politically incorrect values through both dress and actions.

For example, Katy Perry’s performance of her song “Unconditionally” at the 2013 American Music Awards brought a lot of attention to her encouraging of a very real stereotype for Asian women. Perry was wearing a non-traditional, knock-off style Japanese kimono and a Chinese cheongsam, while behind her were women swirling around with parasols and visions of cherry blossoms blooming across the stage.

Critics referred to her performance as a “beautiful homage to Asian culture,” but let’s just call it what it is: complete and utter cultural appropriation. For Perry, it was just a costume, merely a character; but for Asian women everywhere, this stereotypical image has intense sexist and racist consequences that cannot be taken off at the end of the day. White men actually expect many Asian women to live up to that exotic “geisha girl” stereotype, and to be completely submissive and docile. To bring attention to this common stereotype is only giving it more opportunity to misrepresent an entire culture.

Kylie Jenner is extremely famous in the fashion, modeling and reality TV industry because of her family’s popularity in the media. Currently,

it seems as though Jenner’s favorite way to be noticed is to completely appropriate another culture, be slapped on the hand, then do it again. Many a time, she has been seen fashionably sporting cornrows and dreadlocks. In a particular photoshoot, Jenner was even seen in an over-edited photo to be sporting a significantly darker skintone than her own.

In another instance, while Disney channel star, Zendaya, walked the red carpet, Fashion Police co-host Guiliana Rancic claimed that her dreadlocks made her look like she “smelled of weed” or “patchouli oil.”

One should not be wearing or appropriating something from a different culture without understanding the cultural significance that comes with it. You should be able to love and appreciate someone’s culture without stealing important things from that culture for one’s own gain.

As “Hunger Games” star Amandla Stenberg stated in her video “Don’t Cash Crop on my Cornrows,” “Appropriation occurs when a style leads to racist generalizations or stereotypes where it originated, but is deemed high fashion, cool or funny when the privileged take it for themselves. Appropriation occurs when the appropriator is not aware of the deep significance of the culture they’re partaking in.”

THE WASHTENAW VOICE

A NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD NEWSPAPER

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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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4800 E. Huron River Drive
TI 106
Ann Arbor, Mich. 48105
734-677-5125

thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com

washtenawvoice.com

EDITOR	Taylor Robinson	taelrobinson@wccnet.edu
MANAGING EDITOR	Sofia Lynch	snlynch@wccnet.edu
PHOTO EDITOR.....	Gray Bancroft	gwbancroft@wccnet.edu
ONLINE EDITOR	Colleen Mulder-Seward	cmulderseward@wccnet.edu
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS.....	Rachel Johnston	rdjohnston@wccnet.edu
	Greg Powell	gmpowell@wccnet.edu
	Sanaa Naeem	sanaaem@wccnet.edu
CARTOONIST	Courtney Ditto	courtneyditto@gmail.com
CONTRIBUTORS	Taylor Mabelitini	tmabelitini@wccnet.edu
	Madi Tortora	madisontortora3@gmail.com
	Ivan Flores	medianoxmus@gmail.com
	Colin MacDougall	cmacdougall@wccnet.edu
ADVERTISING MANAGER	Becky Alliston	ealliston@wccnet.edu
ADVISER.....	Judy McGovern	jumcgovern@wccnet.edu

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Bravo 50 lights up the stage in Towsley Auditorium

BY MADI TORTORA
Staff Writer

The talent of Washtenaw Community College faculty and students is unveiled in a compilation of performances called Bravo 50, to an eager audience. On Nov. 6, the show was made possible by a group of hardworking individuals. Noonie Anderson, a professional faculty of performing arts at WCC, helped this event come to be as an opportunity to show the lives that people have outside of the school environment.

Although new, this event was not the first of its kind. Anderson previously hosted a similar event, and was very pleased with the response she received.

“People really enjoyed it,” Anderson said. “The troublesome part was always that it’s hard for us to pull in an audience.”

With hard work and some help from several technology students, Bravo 50 was a success. From singers to dancers, the event showcased a wide range of talents. Students by day but contemporary rumba

performers by night, Tori Dennis from Chelsea and Sam Caronongan from Ypsilanti brought their chemistry to the dance floor, even though it was their first public performance together.

“I haven’t performed in two years,” Dennis said. “We were really nervous.”

Performers of all ages approached the stage like it was made for them and really made the entire audience feel welcomed.

“Some of the kids volunteered, the faculty and the staff contacted me,” Anderson said. “Many of the students and alumni I contacted.”

Dennis and Caronongan were both contacted to perform through being in two of Anderson’s dance classes. It was important, specifically to Anderson, to use this event to create an air of morale at the college.

“I did it because I truly believe that there is so many wonderful, positive things that people don’t know about our instructors and our staff,” Anderson said. “Our students also are such an integrated

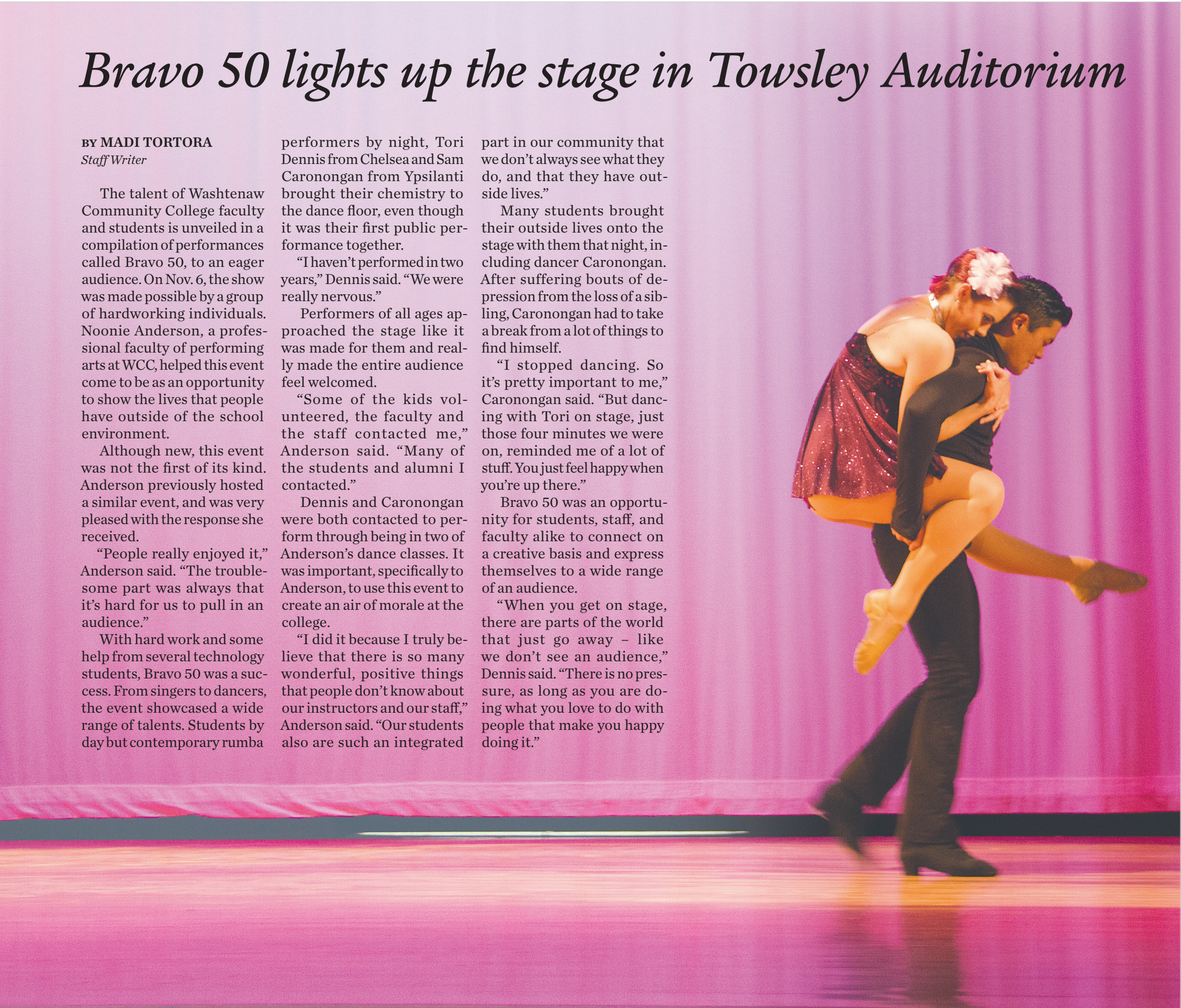
part in our community that we don’t always see what they do, and that they have outside lives.”

Many students brought their outside lives onto the stage with them that night, including dancer Caronongan. After suffering bouts of depression from the loss of a sibling, Caronongan had to take a break from a lot of things to find himself.

“I stopped dancing. So it’s pretty important to me,” Caronongan said. “But dancing with Tori on stage, just those four minutes we were on, reminded me of a lot of stuff. You just feel happy when you’re up there.”

Bravo 50 was an opportunity for students, staff, and faculty alike to connect on a creative basis and express themselves to a wide range of an audience.

“When you get on stage, there are parts of the world that just go away – like we don’t see an audience,” Dennis said. “There is no pressure, as long as you are doing what you love to do with people that make you happy doing it.”



Tori Dennis of Chelsea and Sam Caronongan of Ypsilanti perform a dance named “New Beginnings” they choreographed together. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE

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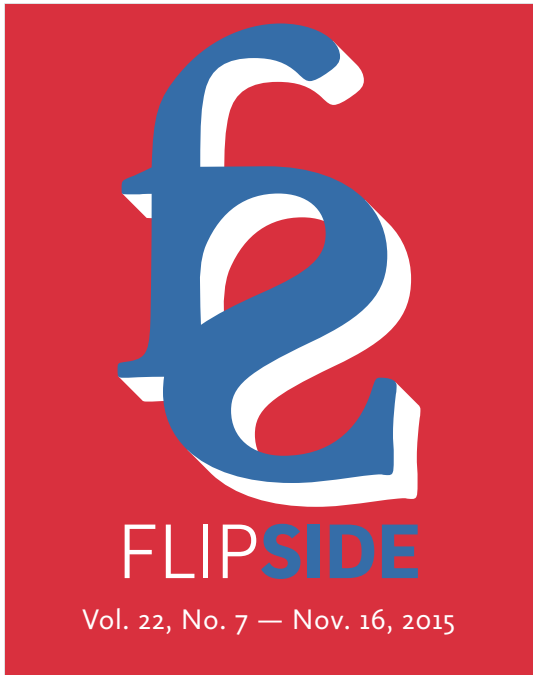
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A student and faculty band kicked off the Bravo 50 event with an amazing performance. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE



Mirroring Michael Jackson’s style is what Kevin Sano, an alumni of WCC, put on display at Bravo 50. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE



Clarity Newhouse, of Farmington, informs students of the opportunities that the field of engineering can create. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE

Students race to success

Racecar driver Clarity Newhouse visits WCC in hopes of teaching students about STEM classes via her mobile science lab

BY TAYLOR MABELITINI
Contributor

A gathering of wide-eyed students hung on Clarity Newhouse’s every word as she spoke. This may, however, have something to do with the race car that was parked behind her. Newhouse, her crew and the car in question were presenting what they call their mobile science lab.

A program began this year, in which students from a variety of Michigan schools have the opportunity to learn practically about physics, combustion and much of the other science behind racing. Also discussed are career opportunities in the STEM fields: science, technology, engineering and math.

Elise Thompson and Drew Zemper, both Washtenaw Technical Middle College science teachers contacted Newhouse, and it was their classes of ninth grade students who were in the Gunder Myran parking lot to witness the deafening roar of the race car’s engine before getting to see how it operated under the hood.

Thompson and Zemper both teach one class, co-teach a third together, and are also

Better Accounting of Student Efforts counselors for their WTMC students, working to guide them towards a career pathway and an eventual degree at Washtenaw Community College.

“The kids got to come out and observe the car, and see what some of the differences were between this car and the cars they drive every day. The main point of today was really to have the kids come out and see the kind of careers there are in engineering and technology, and to kind of see what’s out there for them,” Thompson said.

During the presentation, Newhouse allowed students to examine the car and encouraged them to ask questions, explaining what made this car so different both scientifically and physically – everything from the V8 engine to the windshield to the mechanisms on the steering wheel – that allowed it to race.

“It was pretty awesome. We got to learn a lot about how the racing industry makes their cars, and the logic of why they make their cars that way,” said 14-year-old WTMC student Colin

Wilson.

Newhouse wasn’t all racing wheels and spark plugs, however. She also tried empowering students by saying that they could be in any career they really wanted to be, even outside of STEM. As one who started following her passion to race barely more than a year ago, Newhouse – being both a woman and nearly 40 years old, two things that made her feel even more so challenged to prove herself – tries to do her best to let students know that it’s “never too early to late to start.”

“For me I wanted to hopefully show other people what they could do, and break down some gender stereotypes, and give some hands-on science as well. For me,

science doesn’t really come to life until it applies in real life. It’s cool in a book, you can kind of learn about it, but I feel like when you can actually see how the things you are learning about apply in real life, that’s really cool,” she said.

Newhouse began as a rookie this past racing season during the summer at her home track in Flat Rock, MI, and gives her Mobile Science Lab presentations during the school year. She placed 14th out of 42 racers, and gave all of the winnings from each of her races to the Women Marines Association. It’s this passion Newhouse has for supporting strong women that stood

out to 13-year old Maggie Lerolland-Wagner:

“It’s really interesting, just because it’s really rare to see racecar drivers that are female, so I think that’s a really big part of it. I think the way she brings herself up is really cool because you can tell she’s really into feminist movements.”

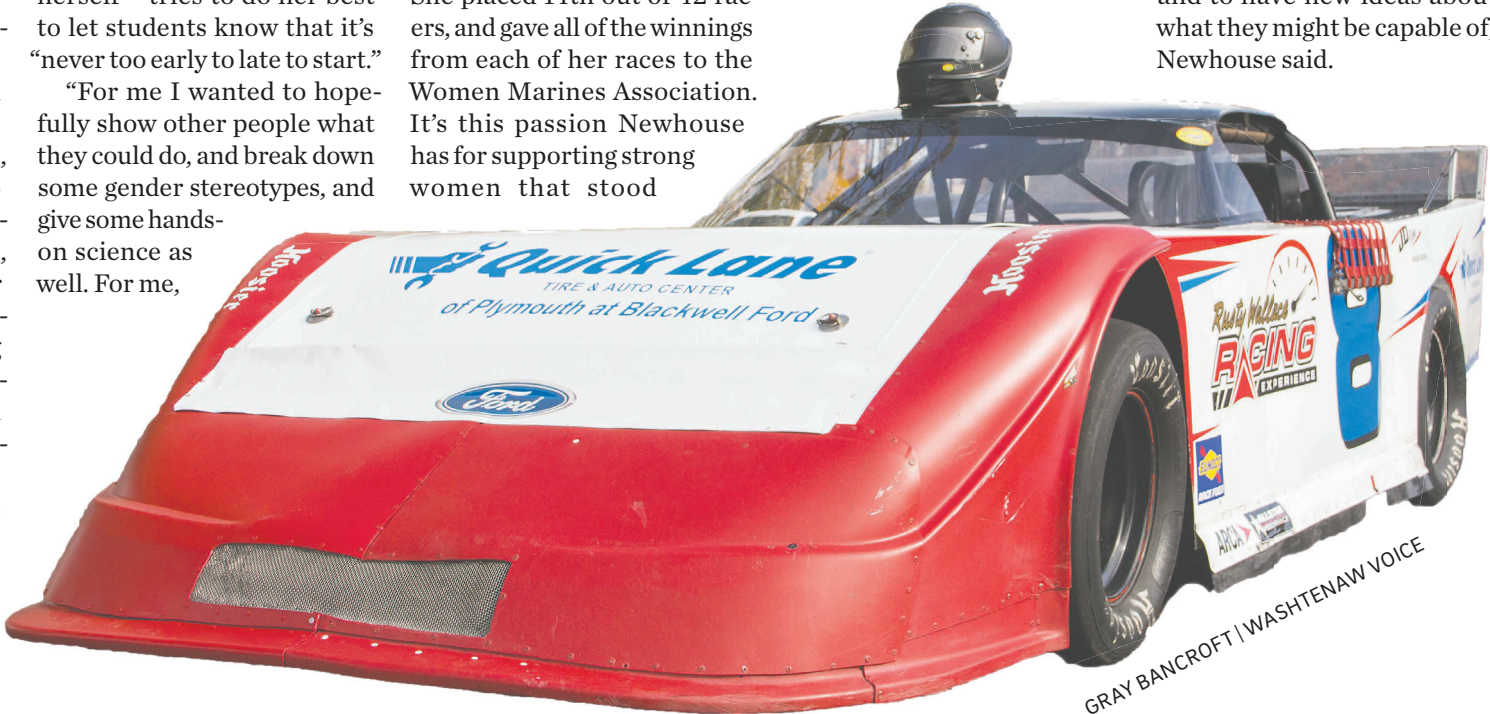
It was the zeal Newhouse had for telling students they could be whatever they wanted to be that encouraged WTMC

student Christian Davis.

“I think it was really cool because I want to go into engineering and manufacturing here at Washtenaw, and I kind of want to go into in as a career, so it inspired me to go for it more.”

Newhouse only had a few words for what she wished students would take away from the Mobile Science Lab.

“I hope that it expands their mind to more possibilities, and to have new ideas about what they might be capable of,” Newhouse said.



GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE

Community partnership raffles off Corvette for charity



Students from the Automotive Department, in collaboration with 94.6 WCSX and Holy Cross, restored a 1971 Corvette Stingray raffled off by the radio station. GRAY BANCROFT | WASHTENAW VOICE

BY COLIN MACDOUGALL
Contributor

A red ‘71 Corvette Stingray rolls out of the Washtenaw Community College’s auto garage looking like new and the lucky winner, Dion Altadonna, stares proudly at his prize.

This event, made possible by a partnership between WCC, WCSX radio station and Holy Cross Children Services for the “Stone Soup” project, is an ongoing fundraising program that has fixed up 10 classic cars – including Altadonna’s Corvette – to raffle them off for charity.

Altadonna of St. Clair Shores has been following the “Stone Soup” project since its origination about nine years ago.

“I’ve bought tickets for most of the years for these cars. This particular one, we happened to be at the Paul Rodgers concert,” Altadonna said. “Actually, I just had 10 dollars left over because I had just bought a round of beers. I said ‘Aw, I’ll get one ticket,’ and that was it.”

John Lynch, CEO of Holy Cross Children Services, explains that the non-profit organization also partnered with other suppliers who donated the engine and different parts of the vehicle while the car itself was donated by an individual whose husband passed away. She heard about the program, reached out to WCSX and donated the Corvette.

HCCS is a charity that touches the lives of approximately 1,500 children in Michigan everyday and 100 percent of the raffle’s proceeds are donated to the group according to their website.

WCC’s Auto Body Repair Department completely restored the vehicle throughout the 2015 summer semester. Scott Malnar, instructor and department chair, explained the efforts were taken on by four instructors, two full-time classified instructors and about 30 students all together.

He expressed what an excellent job the team did and mentioned that there are two or three future projects people

are inquiring about, but no decisions have been made yet by the group.

Vincent Snyder, a custom cars and concepts alum and college relations specialist, describes that his most memorable moment in the class was when they mounted the vehicle to the frame after the paint job.

“When you complete something to that magnitude, you get a real sense of accomplishment,” Snyder said. “It felt great.”

In agreement is 20-year-old automotive student, Aaron Leestma, who had the opportunity to work on his first classic car through this project.

“The team was really good, everyone was real hands on and ready to work,” Leestma said. “Not a whole lot of people sitting around doing nothing.”

Lynch said the project was a big fundraiser for HCCS and it promotes them along with WCSX.

“It was the students here at WCC who put (the car) all together to look showroom new,” Lynch said.

WTMC student makes her musical mark

BY COURTNEY DITTO
Contributor

Every Wednesday, around 3:30 p.m., the sounds from instruments such as violin, piano and bass fill the halls of the TI building. It was in this building, where a little over a year ago, a student singlehandedly created the first Washtenaw Technical Middle College orchestra the college has seen since opening its doors.

WTMC student Juliana Patselas, 18, who started playing music at the age of four, evolved what was first only a club, into a class within a matter of two weeks. Music 189 is offered to WTMC students, and Patselas states it's attracted the majority of the WTMC student population, due to the recent absence of an orchestra at WCC. "A lot of students came to the WTMC program just for the chance to play," Patselas said. "I know I was on the fence about it just because the orchestra meant so much to me."

The Music Club, led by music instructor John Edwartowski and music coach Jerry Robbins, is comprised of 25 students, all of which are in the WTMC program. The club plays a number of genres, from ragtime to pop, and Edwartowski states he wants his students to be able to pick out their favorite song and make an arrangement for them to play themselves. Edwartowski speaks of an arrangement their class has been currently working on, saying that it requires a "a bit more knowledge and experience."

"What I'm trying to show them is that there's more to music than just sitting on stage with a stand in front of you and repeating it," Edwartowski said.

Being established as a class, students enrolled will have the

opportunity to take field trips such as a trip to Concordia University to visit their giant organ, and many other places to provide students with a chance to expand their knowledge of music and leadership. Patselas says this increases student leadership amongst the club members, which to her, is most important.

"We're not just learning music, we're not just playing music," Patselas said. "We're actually doing something with it, and that's kind of special."

Despite being unable to compete due to WTMC not being part of an established high school district, the club continues to put on fundraisers and concerts, such as their Christmas concert last year. The Music Club focuses mostly on "community outreach," according to Patselas, and plays throughout the community— an example being their performances in places such as St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

Last year's Christmas concert was comprised of many arrangements, all put together by Patselas, who remains as the founder and leader of the club. In meetings, she fronts all news and encourages her classmates to continue working hard. Early in the making of the club, Patselas wrote and obtained a \$1,200 grant, the use of which she helps delegate.

It was solely thanks to Patselas' love for music that started the club, and in the first semester of its existence only a year ago, Patselas states that nobody in the club knew how to write music, and that the members found themselves looking online for sheet music to play.

Shortly after the club became a class, Patselas says that's when she knew it was sustainable, and would last past



A WTMC student orchestra is new at WCC. COLIN MACDOUGALL | WASHTENAW VOICE

her time. Patselas says the club is even working on their own alma mater for the club to play during the upcoming graduation ceremonies.

"My motivation was that there wasn't anything here for the students, and now there is," Patselas said. "It's not perfect, it's not anything like a real orchestra, but it's getting there and it could be if people keep trying to make it happen."

After graduation, Patselas hopes to continue her musical studies, deciding to major in art management and minor in piano performance. Although Patselas has made dynamic strides in leaving her own mark on WCC, she speaks with high

hopes of her classmates continuing to rehearse and gain momentum after she walks across the stage.

Patselas says her main struggle is knowing she is in an industry that isn't necessarily the highest-earning field. As the child of engineers, she grew up hearing the infamous "there's no money in that," but her strength and passion for music have continued vigorously.


"Music is my life. Outside of music, I don't do much else. It's part of being a music major: outside of that, you can't imagine doing anything else," Patselas stated.



Juliana Patselas, 18, a math and sciences student of Ann Arbor, was the leading factor in creating the Music Club. COLIN MACDOUGALL | WASHTENAW VOICE

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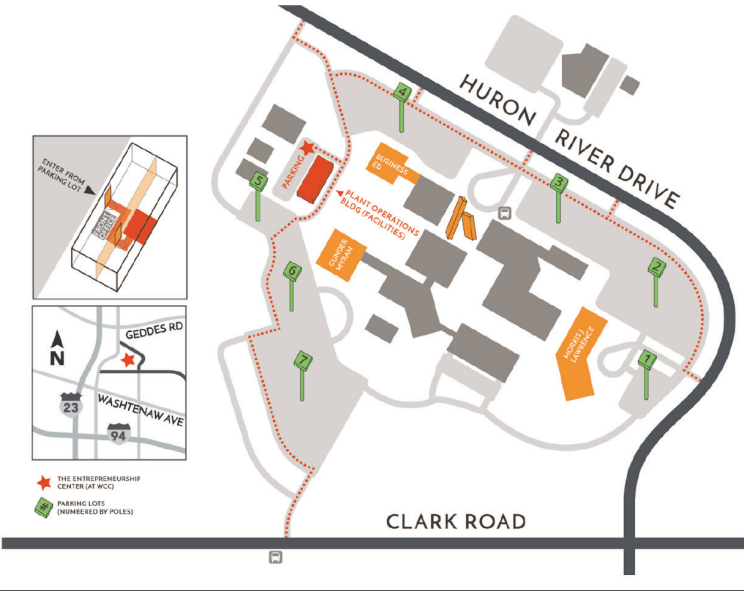
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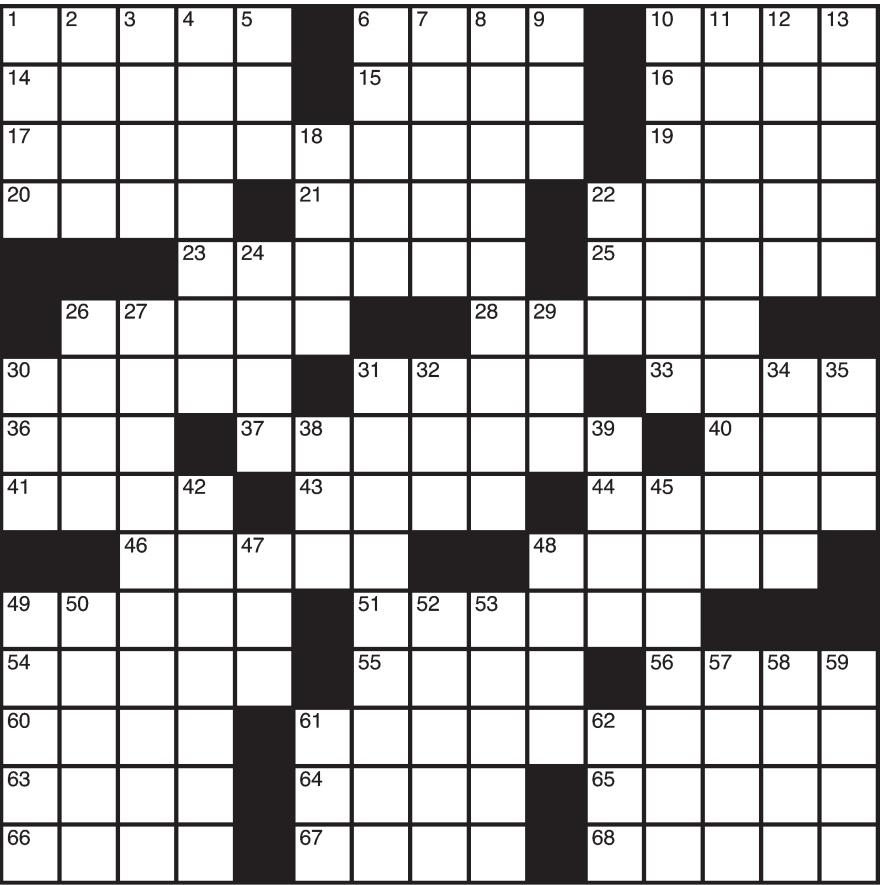
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TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

- ACROSS
- 1 Honolulu "howdy"

6 Cozy eatery

10 Exasperated sound

14 Access the Internet

15 Word-of-mouth

16 Merely

17 *Malicious prank

19 Memo writer's "Pronto!"

20 White Monopoly bills

21 Church recess

22 Sarcastic in a mean way

23 Approximately 3.26 light-years

25 One doing simple math

26 Written in few words

28 Has__for news

30 Flood

31 Trumpeter Alpert

33 Spanish eyes

36 House cat, e.g.

37 *Winter storm school closing

40 Cries of pain

41 Part of IRA: Abbr.

43 Corrida cheers

44 Like the old bucket of song

46 The__Boys: fictional detectives

48 Moorehead of "Bewitched"

49 Last Greek letter

51 Speak sharply to

54 Fall guy
- 55 Japanese detective Mr. __

56 Director Kazan

60 Bombeck of household humor

61 Employment opportunity, and a hint to the first word of the an swers to starred clues

63 Iranian currency

64 Similar (to)

65 Govt.-backed investment

66 Ill-fated Boleyn

67 George Eliot's "Adam__"

68 Boat with an outrigger
- DOWN
- 1 Gucci of fashion

2 Pork cut

3 Storybook meanie

4 Trendy club

5 " ... have you __wool?"

6 The "C" in USMC

7 Get up

8 Kings, queens and jacks

9 Antlered grazer

10 Son-of-a-gun

11 *Humor among friends

12 Forest clearing

13 Really keyed up

18 Small fruit pie

22 __Paulo, Brazil
- 24 Greek war god

26 Design detail, briefly

27 *Employee who does the firing

29 L.A. Clippers' org.

30 Place for a mani-pedi

31 "Gee whiz!"

32 Barnyard female

34 Has obligations

35 Govt.-issued ID

38 Drop (off)

39 Discipline using mats

42 Bric-a-brac disposal event

45 Rabbit ears

47 Unit of hope or light

48 Per person

49 "Aida," for one

50 County on San Francisco Bay

52 "I pass"

53 Make amends

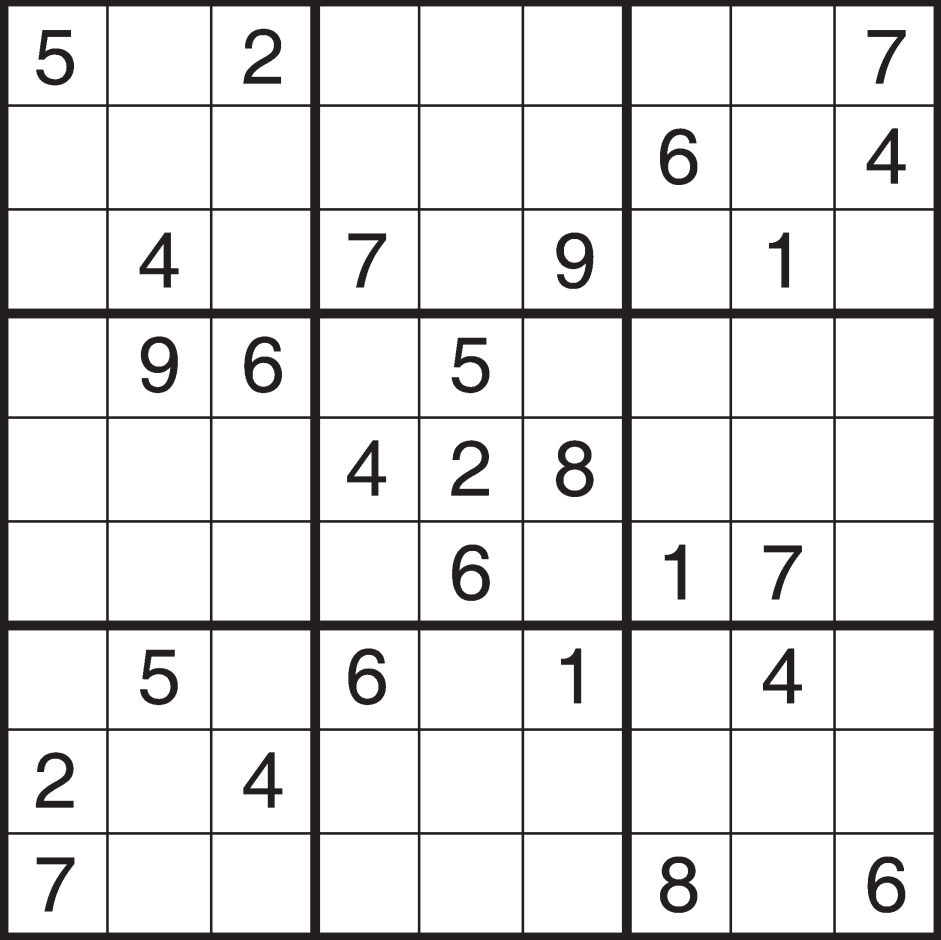
57 Animal Crackers feline

58 Really digging, as a hobby

59 "A Death in the Family" author James

61 Quick poke

62 List-ending abbr.



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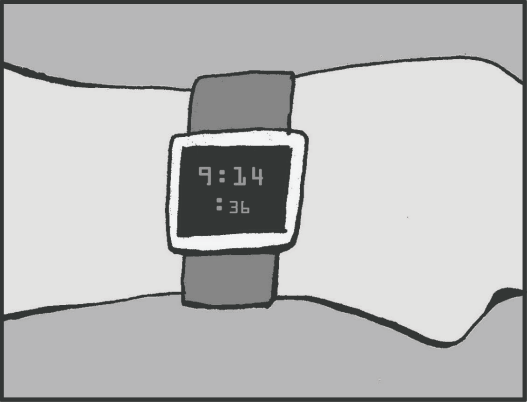
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Send ads to thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com or ealliston@wccnet.edu
Note: Deadline for the Nov. 30 issue is Friday, Nov. 20th at 5 p.m.

STUDENTS AND WCC EMPLOYEES

Classified ads in *The Voice* are free.

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Looking for help? Post your free help wanted ads in *The Voice*.

out how to apply for the openings. Career Services is located in ML 104. For more information, phone 734-677-5155, email careers@wccnet.edu or visit <http://www.wccnet.edu/careerconnection/>

ASSISTANT TEACHER.

Teachers are responsible for ensuring compliance with Goddard's industry-leading Quality Assurance standards. Assistant Teachers implement their own lesson plans based on Goddard Developmental Guidelines and monthly school themes. Most importantly, they create a positive learning environment in their classroom where children develop a lifelong love of learning! Qualified candidates must be able to: Developing lesson plans, Meeting the individual's needs of the children, Parent communication, Participation in staff and training meetings, Designing an appropriate room arrangement to support the goals and developmental level of the children in the classroom, Interacting with the children to support play, exploration, and learning.

PROJECTS INTERN. Responsibility summary, includes, but not limited to: Responsible to perform a variety of Administrative Support duties.

Responsibilities include, but not limited to, managing and performing support processes working in Microsoft Excel and our business system to improve efficiency and processes. Responsible to perform a variety of general warehouse duties including: receiving, putaway, picking, packing, manifesting and inventory control.

FRONT DESK AGENT. As part of the Front Office team, this individual is required to: demonstrate good computer skills; accurately handle cash and charges; stand for long periods of time; present a friendly, outgoing, energetic and guest service oriented demeanor.; welcoming and serving guests in a courteous, efficient and friendly manner, both face-to-face and on the phone. This individual is required to: demonstrate good computer skills; accurately handle cash and charges; stand for long periods of time; present a friendly, outgoing, energetic and guest service oriented demeanor. Hotel experience a plus.

HUMAN RESOURCE WINTER INTERNSHIP. Interns at Quicken Loans and our Family of Companies gain priceless, hands-on experience. Here, they learn how it feels to be in the workplace, participate in events around the city of Detroit and become a valuable member of our team. Learn and grow in a human resources internship in one of the following areas: Recruiting; Team relations; Compensation; Benefits; Payroll; Training; Administration.

SOFTWARE ENGINEER - ENTRY LEVEL. VRSI (Variation Reduction Solutions, Inc.) is seeking Engineering Graduates for permanent full-time employment. We are a small, rapidly growing, company in need of Software Engineers

to support future applications as well as existing installations. Responsibilities include: Design, develop, deploy, test, and maintain software applications for manufacturing automation and metrology systems; Participate in system engineering and test plan development; Visit customer sites periodically for software-related engineering, installation, and service activities; This position requires a flexible schedule and a willingness to travel.

SERVERS, HOSTS AND COOKS. Applebee's is currently hiring for multiple positions at their Carpenter Road location.

MORTGAGE BANKER. We're the fastest growing mortgage lender in the country for a reason. The lifeblood of our company, the center of our universe, are our Mortgage Loan Officers, AKA: Mortgage Bankers. Knowledgeable mortgage experts who provide un-parallel client service, our Mortgage Bankers are the most influential part of the client of experience, and one of the many reasons Quicken Loans clients rave about us. If you're interested in being part of an elite team and being truly proud of what you do, a career as a Mortgage Banker at Quicken Loans is the right fit for you. Our Mortgage Bankers make an impact on our clients' lives every day and help them make strong financial decisions to achieve their personal and financial goals. Our Mortgage Bankers speak to clients who are already looking to purchase or refinance their homes – no cold calls!

AUTO BODY TECHNICIAN. Examine damage vehicles, read and understand body repair estimates. Remove upholstery, accessories, electrical and hydraulic window-and-seat-operating equipment,

and trim to gain access to vehicle body and fenders. Fill depressions with body filler. Remove damaged panels. Bolt or weld replacement parts in position, using wrenches or welding equipment. Straighten bent automobile frames; File, grind and sand repaired surfaces. Refinish repaired surface. Aim headlights, align wheels, and bleed hydraulic brake system. Repair or replace defective mechanical parts.

NIGHT AUDIT AGENT. Audit, balance and report on the various areas of the hotel (e.g. food & beverage outlets, rooms/front desk, gift shop, etc.) to provide accurate, timely information and to ensure IHC and Hotel policies and procedures are followed and to prevent fraud.

CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT. Responsibilities of the CNA include providing individualized nursing care and attention to assigned residents which encourages each resident's ability to maintain or attain the highest practical physical, mental and psychosocial well-being. Duties are performed under the direction and supervision of a registered nurse (RN) or licensed practical nurse (LPN). Also responsible for providing a friendly, clean, quiet and safe environment for residents, families, visitors and staff. Must possess a special interest in, and a positive attitude about working with residents in a team based environment. Our ideal candidate must deliver exceptional customer service to both residents and families. The ability to read, write, speak and understand English is necessary.

SERVICES

VOLUNTEER TUTORS:

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

NEED HEALTH CARE? Are you between the ages of 12–22? Contact the Corner Health Center at 734-484-3600 or visit online at <http://www.cornerhealth.org>.

HELP WANTED

WAIT STAFF: Michigan Catering is looking for student wait staff who are able to interact with guests, work as a team and manage time efficiently – all with a positive attitude. Shifts can be anytime between the hours of 5 a.m. and 3 a.m., depending on your availability. The starting pay is \$3.40 per hour plus tips. Tips are automatically paid by the event sponsor and average \$6-\$7 per hour, making the typical rate about \$9.40-\$10.40 per hour. Apply online at <http://www.jobs.studentlife.umich.edu>, send an email to: workforus@umich.edu, or at 734-615-6759.

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

GET SOME BURRITOS is looking to hire cashiers and cooks who are enthusiastic and passionate about delivering high customer satisfaction. The cashier's responsibility is to process sales quickly and be efficient. The cook will be responsible for maintaining the highest level of food quality. The cashiers and cooks must follow all health and safety regulations as well as communicate and work well with co-workers and management team. Come fill out an application at: 707 Packard Street Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Below is a sample of recent employment want ads which have been posted with WCC Career Services. Students are invited to read these ads and to contact Career Services to find

Thanksgiving food for thought...



Fried turkey

For those lucky enough to have a family they can stand, Thanksgiving is a time for getting together with your kin and going back to your roots. As a member of the Lynch family, going back to your roots means disconnecting your brain from your stomach for a few hours and mindlessly shoveling comfort food into your bottomless pit. The Lynch family fried turkey is the linchpin of our fall festivities and exemplifies what it means to be a Lynch. So if you're someone who likes to feed on things more healthy for the soul than for the body, this turkey recipe is for you.

- Sofia Lynch

Ingredients...

- 13-15 pound turkey
- Turkey frying kit (sold commercially)
- Thermometer
- About 6 gallons peanut oil (determine by turkey size)
- 1 pound salt
- 1 pound brown sugar
- 6 quarts water

Directions...

- Clean the turkey
- To determine how much oil is needed for frying the turkey put the bird in the aluminum pot and fill the pot with water until it just covers the turkey.
- Remove the turkey and mark a line at the water level. That's the level of oil needed later.
- Find a container large enough to contain your

brine and the bird. (My dad uses a water cooler with spout at the bottom.)

- Mix 6 quarts of hot water, 1 pound of salt and 1 pound of brown sugar in the cooler and add ice to cool it off
- Fully immerse the turkey in the container for at least 9 hours. Keep it in the fridge if there's room or, if not, keep it in the garage (It's cold enough this time of year.)
- After the 9 hours are up, you have to let it dry before it can go into the hot oil and allow it to sit to room temperature. If it isn't dry, it will cause the oil to bubble up as it's lowered in.
- Setup the frying kit outside on a flat surface.
- Put the turkey on the stand with the legs up and wings tucked in.
- Fill the pot with the peanut oil to the previously marked line.
- Heat up oil to 350 F and then turn it off.
- Slowly lower the bird in. (This may require two people.)
- Relight the burner and watch the heat so that it doesn't ever go over 400 F.
- Whole turkeys require about three to three and a half minutes per pound to cook so judge accordingly.
- Use meat thermometer to make sure the breast is 170 F.
- Allow the turkey to stand and drain the excess oils.

Colin's Mom's sweet potato casserole

My Thanksgiving wouldn't be complete without my mom's sweet potato casserole. It has been hitting the Thanksgiving table for the past couple of years. I especially like the marshmallows that are placed on top because they really bring the dish together. Even those who don't like sweet potatoes are tempted to try it. Since she started making it, the casserole has always been a hit at our Thanksgiving dinner.

- Colin Macdugall

Ingredients...

- 5 sweet potatoes peeled and sliced
- ½ cup packed brown sugar
- ¼ cup of butter
- 2 tablespoons orange juice
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1 package (10.5 ounces) mini marshmallows

Directions...

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Boil sliced potatoes then drain. In a large bowl, blend potatoes until creamy. Stir in butter, brown sugar, orange juice, and cinnamon. Spread mixture in a 9 inch by 13 inch pan. Sprinkle marshmallows on the top. Bake for 30 minutes.

Cheesy baked/roasted vegetables

We have a very large family now and enjoy bombarding someone's house the first Sunday of every month with as many as can get together. Thanksgiving is another story. We all bring food and eat all day. My family is very vegetable conscience, and this year I am adding a roasted veggie dish.

- Becky Alliston

Ingredients...

- Choose a variety of veggies – I usually like to make sure I have several "colors."
- Asparagus (woody ends trimmed), zucchini, yellow squash, baby carrots, onion (quartered), and broccoli
- 6 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon house seasoning (equal parts garlic powder, onion powder and pepper) combine and shake together
- 2 tablespoons grated parmesan cheese
- 1-1 ½ cups shredded mozzarella cheese
- Italian seasoning

Directions...

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Place the veggies on the baking sheet and drizzle with the melted butter. Sprinkle the house seasoning and parmesan cheese over the top. Place in oven for 15 minutes. Remove and top with the mozzarella cheese and a little sprinkling of Italian seasoning over the top. Return to the oven for an additional 5-7 minutes to melt the cheese and let it begin to brown.

Stuffing balls

Since even before receiving his culinary degree, my dad has loved to take whatever random ingredients remaining in the pantry, put them all together, and call it what he calls, "leftover cabinet surprise." Nonetheless, growing up with a chef for a dad caused for some pretty great holiday meals.

One of his more famous creations are what he calls "stuffing balls." The best part about this Thanksgiving recipe is that it's easy to make and is a huge crowd pleaser. This recipe will be enjoyed by even the pickiest of eaters, and being the pickiest in my family, I would know.

- Courtney Ditto

Ingredients...

- Box of stuffing or homemade stuffing
- Chicken stock
- Breadcrumbs
- Gravy or cranberry sauce for dipping

Directions...

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Prepare stuffing. Roll stuffing into balls and add chicken stock to hold together. Covering balls in breadcrumbs is optional. Fry or place in oven for approximately 10 minutes. Serve with cranberry sauce or gravy for dipping and enjoy.

Cheesy green bean casserole with bacon

Growing up, our Thanksgiving was always a family affair on my mom's side. The day would start with waking up early and preparing the turkey. After my uncle would pick it up, we'd start preparing the dishes for the rest of the meal. My grandmother had the best green bean casserole recipe, but along with her passing went with her, the recipe. Trying to recreate her delicious dish, I've added a smoky addition of crispy bacon and creamy cheese.

- Taylor Robinson

Ingredients...

- 1 medium yellow onion, diced
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1 cup French fried onions
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese (or cheese of your preference)
- 4 strips of bacon (or more if desired)
- 1 cup milk
- 2 tablespoons sour cream
- 2 16 ounce packages of frozen cut green beans
- 2 cloves of minced garlic
- Black pepper (to taste)

Directions...

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cook bacon in skillet until crispy to your liking. Add diced onions until soft and translucent. Add minced garlic and cook for one minute while stirring. Place cooked items on paper towel-lined plate. Sprinkle flour over bacon drippings and whisk to combine. Cook for one minute, continuing to whisk. Slowly add milk, sour cream and bacon mixture. Whisk until mixture has thickened to a gravy consistency. Remove from heat and season with pepper. In a large bowl, combine bacon mixture with green beans and toss until beans are generously coated. Spread evenly in a casserole dish. Top with cheese and friend onions, bake for 30 minutes or until golden brown.

For more recipes and other web-exclusive content, visit our website www.washtenawvoice.com

