



# THE WASHTENAW VOICE

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## WCC women transform lives with education

International Women’s Day celebrates all walk of life

By RUBY GO  
Staff Writer

For women in the U.S., along with suffrage came more college degrees. Ever since the 19th amendment was ratified in 1920, there has been a steady increase in the amount of college degrees women are earning, based on data from the National Center for Education Statistics. Today, more master’s and doctoral degrees are given to women than men. The same is true for undergraduate degrees.

Regardless of where they come from, female students in America are a force to be reckoned with.

March 8 is International Women’s Day, and some female students at WCC from around the world are here to share their stories.

**Olga Austin**

It’s pretty easy to tell where Olga Austin is from once you hear her talk; she speaks with a heavy Russian accent. She came to America in her 20s to be with her husband, whom she met online.

Austin, 43, wants to become a nurse, and this is her third semester back in school. However, the chance to go back to school was delayed by the birth of her son, who is now 12. Austin had to stay at home to look after her son when he was younger; now that he’s older, Austin feels comfortable leaving him alone while she goes to school. She says a lack of affordable child care is one of the main reasons she had to wait so long to go back to school.

“I always knew I wanted to do school again,” Austin said. “But it was sort of bad timing. I didn’t think I’d be able to manage school as

well as taking care of a small child, so I just had to wait.”

When the time came to go back to school, Austin experienced some discouragement from her family in Russia. Being a nurse in America is completely different from being a nurse in Russia, she said.

“Here in the States, nurses can perform many tasks that probably only doctors would do in Russia,” she said. “Nurses are basically just caretakers (in Russia).”

Because nurses in Russia only carry out basic duties, Austin says her family expected her to be overwhelmed by the American nursing profession, and so they tried to talk her out of it. But Austin won’t be bossed around.

“Now is the time. I can finally do something with my life,” she said.

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Left: Amal Said, Top right: Yasmin Guadalupe Gonzalez, Bottom right: Olga Austin

## Near \$6M expansion to the GL building



A 5.8 million dollar renovation has begun on the Great Lakes Regional Training Center (GL) at the behest of WCC trade partner, the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters (UA). The UA identified a need to expand their training space and consolidate all training activities to the GL building.

Before construction began UA training was spread across both the GL building and the storage and receiving building (SRB). Renovations would allow UA related classes to be held under one roof, and all facilities departments would be consolidated to the SRB. The improvements will also return the Maintenance Garage to its original intent, and help meet increased equipment storage needs for UA and Iron Workers trade partners. Out of the proposed budget, 2.3 million will be funded by the UA, with the remaining 3.5 million being pulled out of the WCC’s General Fund Reserve. The project is expected to be completed by April 2023.

## The pomp is back in-person

By MELANIE CHAPMAN  
Staff writer

This coming May, WCC will host its first in-person graduation ceremony since the start of the pandemic.

The ceremony will take place Saturday, May 21, at Eastern Michigan University’s Convocation Center, said Fran Lefort, WCC’s director of media relations.

WCC’s Honors Convocation will be held on Thursday, May 19, also at the EMU Convocation Center.

In 2020, the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic,

graduates could celebrate with only a virtual event. Last year, as the availability of vaccines improved safety, WCC held a drive-through ceremony where students accepted their diplomas from their cars.

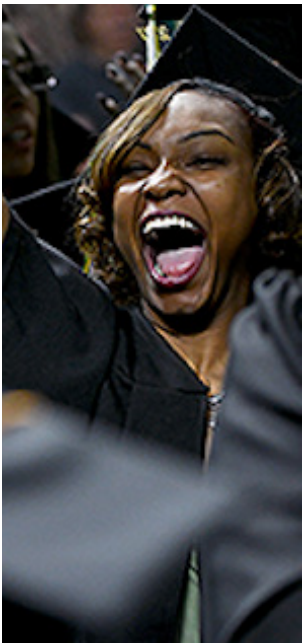
Graduating classes have ranged from 2,200 to 1,769 students in recent years, according to WCC’s annual reports.

Maxine Carter, a soon-to-be a 2022 graduate, expressed her feelings about being able to walk across the stage.

“Honestly, I am so blessed and fortunate to be a part of the graduating Class

of 2022,” said Carter. After the pandemic, I had no idea how long it would be to cross this road of graduation, but now that I am graduating in-person, I am so thrilled. After all of my hard work and years of dedication at WCC, it has finally paid off.”

WCC officials are accepting applications from prospective graduation speakers. Interested students may apply online using the WCC Student Graduate Speaker Application 2022 form by the March 20 deadline.



COURTESY OF WCC

## Job market booms after two-year dip

By JORDAN SCENNA  
Deputy Editor

The job market is seeing a return to normalcy after almost two years of disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Employers who slammed the brakes on filling jobs and internship positions because of economic and logistical uncertainty have returned to college campuses looking for students to join their ranks. The uptick began last summer and has continued to grow; while unemployment numbers have fallen to 4% nationwide. This is a sharp contrast from the almost 15 percent jobless rate the U.S. labor department recorded in April 2020 after businesses closed due to COVID restrictions.

Employers are ratcheting up recruiting efforts. Washtenaw Community College has 270 jobs and internships from over 80 companies posted on its career-connect website. Jobs are available across many sectors, with the most in-demand positions coming from healthcare, IT, auto-tech, finance, sales, and marketing.

WCC has relationships with many institutions in the area and assists students in finding jobs and internship positions. One institution, the University of Michigan, is the largest employer in Washtenaw County and is currently seeking an IT help-desk apprenticeship. Other employers seeking applicants include Ann Arbor Transportation (mechanics, auto-techs), Avalon Housing, (residential support specialists) and the City of Dearborn, (police, municip-



SHELBY BEATY | WASHTENAW VOICE  
Cheryl Harvey, director of WCC’s Center for Career Success, works to help students transition into the workforce. Career Success

pal) among others.

Disney World, the entertainment resort near Orlando, Florida, is also offering employment opportunities. Disney World plucks interested students from across the country for a twice-a-year internship position. Students can earn college credit while bolstering their resumes. “(Disney World) is actively seeking community college students,” said Kyrsten Rue, staffer in the Career Services Center. “They are taking proactive steps to hire WCC students.”

Rue’s main focus is to connect employers with students. WCC doesn’t have a “placement program,” but she helps students identify ways to find internship strategies. This is great for students who are in programs like journalism which doesn’t have a traditional path to an internship.

“We’ll help any student, from any major, search for and try to secure an internship related to their degree,” Rue said.

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# Student beats ADHD with super-sized effort

2 -8% of college students are diagnosed with ADHD

By RUBY GO  
Staff Writer

People do all sorts of things on the first floor of the Student Center. Many students use it as a place to grab some lunch while they study. Others like to sit back and chat with friends. Occasionally, a few students even attempt to play basketball.

But Katherine Farr sits alone, in silence, and fidgets with a toy.

“So many people think I’m being childish, like, ‘why are you still playing with toys?’ They don’t understand that it’s because it helps to have something in my hands,” Farr said. “It’s my way of focusing.”

Farr, who is diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, struggles with depression and frequent panic attacks, both of which often coincide with ADHD. Prior to receiving medication, she was having panic attacks multiple times a day. Now, the panic attacks have reduced to a few times a week, and having something to fidget with helps Farr to calm down. Before being properly diagnosed with ADHD when she was 17, neither Farr nor her parents suspected that she had the disability. It wasn’t until Farr saw a Facebook post about ADHD that she began to question if she had it.



Being a first year WCC student with ADHD poses an uphill battle for Katherine Farr.

“I was reading through (the post) and I was like, ‘hey, this sounds a lot like me.’ So I got in touch with a therapist, and they said, ‘yea, you probably have ADHD,’” Farr said.

It is estimated that between 2 and 8% of American college students have been diagnosed with ADHD, according to the U.S. National Library of Medicine. However, that estimate is mainly based on studies that only obtained self-reported symptoms of the disorder rather than information from comprehensive evaluations. There is, however, ample evidence that suggests that college students with ADHD are less confident in their ability to succeed compared to their peers.

“I know, intellectually, I’m just as valuable as anyone else, but depression brain says, ‘you

“I know, intellectually, I’m just as valuable as anyone else, but depression brain says, ‘you broken.’”  
- Katherine Farr

broken,’” Farr said.

Despite exhibiting telltale signs of ADHD during childhood, Farr says her teachers were quick to blame her academic struggles on mere laziness, and she was an easy target for bullying amongst her peers.

The bullying got to be so bad that Farr dropped out of school in the 10th grade to do homeschooling, which made a significant difference. She mainly used Khan Academy, which allowed her to do

things at her own pace and not be distracted by the noises of other students.

“I got to do things the way my brain worked,” she said.

Farr says she has not experienced any bullying now that she’s at WCC. Instead, her biggest struggle has been managing the workload of the classes. A short attention span is the primary symptom of ADHD, which, for obvious reasons, makes it harder to carry out tasks that many people may take for granted.

“I just don’t have the focus for assignments. I’ll type one sentence for an essay, get distracted for an hour, edit that sentence, (and then) I’ll get distracted again,” Farr said.

When she applied to WCC, Farr wanted to have notes taken for her during class, which is one of the ac-

commodations provided by Learning Support Services (LSS). She says she has a hard time concentrating on what the teacher is saying while simultaneously taking notes. She contacted LSS about getting a note-taker and was led to believe that it was a done deal. However, two weeks into the fall semester, she still hadn’t heard back from LSS with an update.

“They eventually called me back, like, ‘oh, sorry, you’re actually not eligible (to have a note-taker). We can let you record lectures so you can take notes at home, though,’” Farr said. “I don’t have the time or energy for that.”

Determining eligibility for learning accommodations is a very case-by-case process, said LSS Director Debra Guerrero. Only the program specialist assigned to the student determines their eligibility for accommodations.

“There aren’t really any specific rules,” Guerrero said. “Students should ask their program specialist about why they weren’t eligible for an accommodation.”

In addition to being allowed to record lectures, Farr also gets extended time on exams, but she says having a note-taker would best help her manage life between work and school. Although she still lives with her parents, they are not able to pay for her tuition, which is why she has to work. As a McDonald’s employee, Farr says the work she does feels “useless,” which isn’t the hardest part.

“It just takes so much energy. You have to focus on all these different things at once,” Farr said. “For me, that’s actu-

ally a big deal.”

At first, Farr tried to apply for one of WCC’s disability scholarships, worth \$500, but she was not eligible because she does not live in Washtenaw County, which is one of the requirements of the scholarship. However, if not many students applied for the scholarship, LSS has contacted the association that awards the scholarship and asked for permission to award it to students outside of Washtenaw County, according to Guerrero. However, this year, Guerrero says that all of the scholarship money has been awarded.

“We want students with learning disabilities to come out and talk to us to figure out how we can help accommodate them,” Guerrero said.

This is Farr’s second semester at WCC, and she is currently studying environmental science. While she acknowledges the setbacks of having ADHD, she remains determined to fight for her future.

“It might take me longer than most people, but I want to prove myself,” Farr said.



SHELBY BEATY, WASHTENAW VOICE

Farr uses a toy, known as a fidget cube, while being interviewed. Fidget cubes (and other fidget toys) were originally designed to help those with ADHD, although they have since become popular among those without disabilities.

## Glass impacts cause bird swan song

### Window collisions cause more bird deaths than you think

By RUBY GO  
Staff Writer

It might be hard to imagine that something as commonplace as a window could be deadly. But for birds, window collisions almost always prove fatal.

“It’s exceptionally common,” said Heidi Trudell, coordinator of Washtenaw Safe Passage, a research branch of the Washtenaw Audubon Society that focuses on the collection of bird collision data. “Any bird that’s healthy enough to fly is at risk.”

As many as 1 billion birds die from colliding with windows each year — and that’s just in the U.S. About half of the birds will fly away with life threatening injuries, which means that well over a billion is likely a more accurate estimate. Window collisions are among the top human-related causes of bird deaths, together with cats and habitat destruction, all of which are contributing to roughly a 29% decline of bird species across North America. Here at WCC, one effort to mitigate the issue has missed the mark.

Ever notice the bird shaped stickers on some of the windows on campus? Those are actually more than just arbitrary decorations: They’re supposed to help prevent birds from flying into the windows. However, the stickers, properly known as bird or window decals, are proven to be rather ineffective unless they follow strict spacing guidelines.

“The fact that (the decals) are still sold is disappointing to me,” Trudell said.

In order for the window decals to work, they should be placed within two to four inches of each other, according to the National Audubon Society. If the gaps between the decals are larger than that, birds will still try to fly

through the window, which means using the decals for larger windows is not a desirable choice.

“You’d have to put way too many of them (on the window) to the point where you couldn’t even see out of it,” Trudell said.

While there has not been thorough monitoring of bird deaths and collisions on campus, it is estimated that the number of dead birds found on campus each year is relatively small, according to Holly Herman, WCC landscape and grounds manager; dead deer are found on campus more often than dead birds, she said. However, some of the buildings on campus (and in the community) still pose a high risk to birds because of their large glass surface areas, among other factors. The front side of the Student Center is an example of a large glass surface area.

“Basically, (the birds) don’t understand glass. They just see what’s reflecting off of it,” said Grace Goetting, co-manager of the Bird Center of Michigan, a bird rehabilitation center in Washtenaw County. “If you’re (in a room) surrounded by trees and enjoying the view, that’s great for you, but all the birds are seeing is more stuff to fly through.”

At the bird rehab center, over 1,500 birds come in with injuries each year, Goetting said. Of those injuries, the majority of them are due to window collisions. Goetting says the rehab center often gets phone calls from people saying they saw an injured bird that already flew away; a common misconception is that if a bird flies away after hitting a window, then it must be OK, Goetting said.

However, just like with humans, birds get adrenaline rushes after they sustain

an injury, which is what allows them to fly away. Once the adrenaline wears off, the bird’s condition likely deteriorates and it succumbs to its injuries.

“It’s really important that you don’t just let (an injured bird) fly away,” Goetting said. “Every injured bird should be sent to rehab.”

While any bird is at risk of a window collision, birds that produce flight calls during night time migration are more likely to collide with windows compared to birds that don’t produce flight calls, according to a 2019 study of 40-year records of bird collisions in the Midwest. The flight calls are meant to help the birds’ decision making during migration, which is why the authors of the study speculate that flight-calling species may attract each other when disoriented by artificial light, thus causing higher mortality rates.

During night time migration, the authors of the study found that rates of the flight calls increased when birds flew over brightly lit areas (i.e., a city), which suggests that the light from illuminated buildings confuses the migrating birds. Birds navigate during migration partly through using Earth’s magnetic field, and scientists speculate that the “artificial light may disrupt a light-sensitive internal magnetic compass.”

Benjamin Winger, an evolutionary biologist at the University of Michigan was the lead author of the study. He was unable to participate in an interview due to other commitments.

OK. So what if birds are slowly dying out? Well, your caffeine fix might depend on it.

“Birds are really important in controlling certain pests,” Trudell said. “The more birds die, the more pesticides we

drink.”

Birds eat one of the most harmful pests on coffee farms across the world, the coffee borer beetle, which is otherwise killed off with pesticides. In Brazil alone, the beetles can cause up to \$300 million worth of losses, according to National Geographic.

Just one bird can save up to 65 pounds worth of coffee per hectare on a farm every year, according to a study published by the journal Ecological Economics. What’s more, farmers can increase their income by more than 30% by changing some of their coffee plantings to be shade grown, which is the best environment for the beetle-eating birds.

“You’d be surprised at how much birds actually help us,” Trudell said.

#### How to help

Both Trudell and Goetting emphasize the importance of sending injured birds to a local wildlife rehabilitation facility. If you find an injured bird and want to bring it into a rehab facility, it’s important to contact the facility beforehand. A list of rehabilitators throughout Michigan can be found here.

If you’re interested in helping to reduce the bird collision issue, the National Audubon Society recommends the following:

- Make windows “bird friendly” with designs created with window markers or paints. They should not have gaps greater than two to four inches. The same rule applies to window decals.

- Install external screens on windows

- Close window drapes or blinds at night when artificial lights are on

- Keep indoor plants away from windows



SHELBY BEATY, WASHTENAW VOICE

Students pass by window decals between the Crane Liberal Arts building and the Student Center. The reflectivity of windows confuses birds and can make a window look more like vegetation or sky than solid wall.



SHELBY BEATY, WASHTENAW VOICE

The bird decals were placed on the windows on the bridge between the Crane Liberal Arts building and Student Center. The decals have been there for about 15 years.



COLUMN



ILLUSTRATION BY CASSIE STEWART

You can’t handle the truth



By JORDAN SCENNA  
Deputy Editor

The debate over pandemic protocols has widened the gap between states and individuals whose relationships could be described as “civil,” at best.

Since the start of the Covid chaos, we’ve argued over vaccines, lockdowns, masks and mandates. But there was one issue that no matter what side of the aisle you fall on; no matter how diverging an opinion you may have; no matter how “against the grain” you may go...everyone agreed...toilet paper is the most important resource in the world.

Forget about food, clothes and medicine. Those are luxuries. Forget about water, even though it has multiple uses including the washing of one’s backside. It’s all about

the “tp.” During the first few months of the pandemic I could walk into a grocery store, straighten my mask, and purchase an endless amount of fresh produce. The meat was all gone, but you could have all the fruits and vegetables your little Covid infected heart could desire. Those precious rolls of paper we ball up into wads (or fold neatly into squares if you’re a masochist) to clean our posteriors; they had all but vanished from store shelves.

Covid has many well-known symptoms; headaches,

brain-fog, and the dreaded respiratory issues among them; but as far as I know, a gastrointestinal out pour was never mentioned by our good Dr. Fauci. Even so, people made a mad dash to their local stores and cleaned them out of every roll of toilet paper. Even the off brands, the 1-ply’s, the unscented, it didn’t matter. That organic, brown toilet paper that most of us wouldn’t purchase even if they were the last rolls on earth, we bought those, too. One thoughtful citizen could empty an entire CVS. They might not be able to

breathe, but at least they’re not a dirty butthole.

We know that former President Trump downplayed the severity of the Covid virus. This is exactly what he told journalist Bob Woodward in an interview in 2020. He knew it was serious, but he acted casually. “If you stay calm, it’ll go away,” Trump said. Today, we know that Dr. Fauci downplayed the importance of masks because he didn’t want a public panic to cause a shortage of PPE masks for healthcare professionals. In July of 2020, director of the Center for Disease Control, Robert Redfield, said we could get the virus under control with mask mandates in about two months.

Yes, the messaging became part of the mess. Our leaders were keeping us from the truth. Coronavirus was a problem, but our government and prominent members of the health community were also saying that “we’ve got this under control.” Even with the information sandbagging we received in the early days of the pandemic, people still panicked. Store shelves were emptied. We were told by our leaders that everything was going to be fine, just wash your hands. We freaked out anyway, and made toilet paper an extinction level event. Can you imagine if the president or the CDC director appeared on television in March 2020 and gave an accurate prediction of what was to come.

“We estimate that 1 million people will die, maybe more. Some of those who survive an infection may face life-long side effects. We don’t know yet. Good luck.”

Holy crap!

Buildings would still be on fire. Your neighborhood would resemble the gnarliest post-apocalyptic environment you’ve ever seen on film and toilet paper would be the least of your problems.

The powers that be don’t trust us with the truth, even if they know it. When a random person can go online and say only former president Trump can stop a cabal of pedophilic cannibals that have infiltrated society, and it spirals into a full-blown movement (I’m looking at you Qanon), how can you blame them? As a group, we’re prone to panic.

What if the claim was more believable? More terrifying? We are now spectators to a Ukraine/Russia conflict that’s causing a drop in stock prices as fear rises. To consider a hypothetical, what if this war spilled over to the United States. Would you want to know, and when? Or what if intelligence experts feared a cyber-attack on financial institutions that might empty your account of all that hard-earned dough? Would you want a warning? The obvious answer is yes, immediately, but a simultaneous bank run might not be the best answer for the country.

We love to point our righteous fingers at the government. We criticize mainstream media for lies and misinformation, all while clamoring for the truth. Well, we might be ill-equipped to it.

So the next time you think all you want from the media and from the government is transparency...have a little self-awareness...

You can’t handle the truth...

VOICE BOX

Q: How has your life been impacted since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, along with any new hobbies you picked up on?

RJ Hunt | Editor

“I used to be more social, but after all that time by myself, I got used to being by myself. I’m adapting back to being social.”  
New Hobby: Gaming

Zion Stokes  
Journalism



“All my life I’ve been in-person (school), then all of sudden pushed onto Zoom. I learned a lot about myself and how I learn.”  
New Hobby: No new hobbies, but takes more time with the things already enjoying

Jackson Turner  
Liberal Arts Transfer



“I’m pretty much an antisocial person. I’m not big on people, so I was fine staying at home. But it did give me time to think about my job path.”  
New Hobby: Learning Korean and Arabic, along with drawing and singing

Celina Umpstead  
Surgical Technology



“Covid encouraged me to get a job. I used Covid as an opportunity to get myself out there and I was lucky enough to get my foot in the door in my career field.”  
New Hobby: Collecting velcro patches

Tyler Goboe  
Criminal Justice with Law Enforcement Certification



“I always feel like I’m missing something when I leave the house without my mask on.”  
New Hobby: Basketball

Samirah Cheek  
Health and Science



“I learned to care more about my relationships with people and be more thankful for them. I’ve been reaching out to people way more than I ever have before.”  
New Hobby: Yoga and piano

Anna Richards  
Liberal Arts Transfer



“I used to be out all the time, but Covid made me stay at home more. (Covid) changed my school system and that was a big change.”  
New Hobby: Basketball

Noura Abella  
General Math and Science



“I’ve become more careful. Now, I always carry hand sanitizer on me.”  
New Hobby: Reading

Ibrihim Alzawawi  
Computer Science



“Covid has changed my habits, some good habits and some bad habits. I got better at organizing, but failed at motivation.”  
New Hobby: Binge watching TV shows

R.J. Reed  
Business Management



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OUR TEAM AND ITS ROLE

The Washtenaw Voice is produced every other week by students of Washtenaw Community College. Editorial responsibility lies with the students. The views here are not endorsed or approved by the faculty, administration or Board of Trustees of WCC.

YOUR VOICE

The Voice welcomes letters from readers. Letters should be a maximum of 400 words and include the author’s name. A phone number and email address are required so letters can be verified before publication. The Voice welcomes news tips and story ideas.

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4800 E. Huron River Drive  
Room SC 109  
Ann Arbor, Mich. 48105  
thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com  
734-677-5125

EDITOR.....	R.J. Hunt	rchunt@wccnet.edu
DEPUTY EDITOR.....	Jordan Scenna	jscenna@wccnet.edu
DIGITAL EDITOR.....	Emily Landau	elandau@wccnet.edu
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS...	Cassie Stewart	cajostewart@wccnet.edu
	Janani Murugesan	jmurugesan@wccnet.edu
PHOTO EDITOR.....	Shelby Beaty	sabeaty@wccnet.edu
VIDEO EDITOR.....	Casper Peek	cvpeek@wccnet.edu
WRITERS.....	Ruby Go	rgo@wccnet.edu
	Melanie Chapman	mdchapman@wccnet.edu
	Willow Symonds	wsymonds@wccnet.edu
CONTRIBUTORS.....	Ian D. Loomis	iloomis@wccnet.edu
	Joelyn Armstrong	jarmstrong2@wccnet.edu
ADVISER.....	Judy McGovern	jumcgovern@wccnet.edu



# From Congress representative to WCC professor

By R.J. HUNT  
*Editor*

Lynn Rivers has used her life and career to better others whether it was looking out for her own kids, looking out for citizens of her community, or looking out for students at WCC. Rivers is currently a political science instructor at WCC. She is the perfect person to hold this position as she has her experiences in the government working at the local level, state level, and federal level.

### Small town beginnings

Lynn Rivers was born in Au Gres, Michigan, a small town with a population of 1,200 people. Her high school's graduating class had 50 students. She met her current husband back in high school, and after both went through divorces they decided to reconnect and get married. Rivers went to the University of Michigan to earn her undergrad degree in biological anthropology. She went on to Wayne State to earn her law degree. She said how when she moved from the small town atmosphere it was an adjustment since she was used to people knowing her at the grocery store because everyone in Au Gres knew one another.

### The motivation

Rivers first gained the desire to go into politics when her older daughter was in the first grade. She noticed the only method of reading that her school taught was phonics. Her daughter struggled

with this way of learning and became discouraged. Rivers found out her daughter wasn't the only one struggling, so she got together with other parents to seek alternative learning methods for their children.

From there she started helping people get elected to school boards. Rivers then made the big ask of seeing if people could help her get elected to the school board. She gained the support of many, which led to her serving on the school board for nine years. "The most difficult (level of government) is the local level because everybody knows you...they're more than happy to get in your face and tell you how they feel," said Rivers.

### Climbing the ladder

After serving nine years on the board of education, Rivers served two years in Michigan's House of Representatives. A year after she was elected to the state level, a U.S. House seat opened. "An opportunity to run for Congress happens once in a blue moon." She contemplated whether to keep her secured spot on the state level or try to make the jump for the federal level. After a month of going back and forth on what she should do, she decided to run for election and she was elected. Not only was she elected once, but elected four times, serving a total of four terms from 1995 until 2003.

Rivers discussed how she was in Congress during President Clinton's and President Bush's (43) administrations. During Rivers' time in



SHELBY BEATY, WASHTENAW VOICE

Professor Lynn Rivers at her desk where she prepares lectures for her government class.



SHELBY BEATY, WASHTENAW VOICE

Professor Lynn Rivers at her desk where she prepares lectures for her government class.

Congress, she reflected on her thoughts and opinions of major events during that time. She was strongly against going to war with Iraq and was strongly against the Patriot Act. On the other hand, she was for going to war with Afghanistan after the events of 9/11.

When the first plane struck the World Trade Center Sept. 11, 2001, Rivers was in the middle of getting her nails

done. "Soon as I realized what was happening, I went tearing out of the nail salon toward my office which was across from the Capitol," said Rivers as she was retelling the story. The madness that day was unreal. As she was trying to go toward her office, Capitol police stopped her and notified everyone to get out of the area as they were expecting another plane. She couldn't find her staff, and wasn't

able to call anyone because cell phones were overloaded. She remembers going to her apartment that evening and the only thing she could hear was fighter planes flying over.

Some 14 months after the 9/11 tragedy, Lynn Rivers was up for reelection. Michigan's congressional districts were redrawn. Her district merged into the district that a long-serving congressman, the late John Dingell, represented. Facing the disadvantage of going against someone who voters in the district were already familiar with, Rivers lost her seat in the House during the 2002 election. "I went through a time of depression," said Rivers. "I finished my time in Congress on the third of January 2003. And the next day, I came to work at Washtenaw."

### Teaching at WCC

Rivers had a law degree, but after years in politics she simply didn't want to argue anymore.

She didn't want to stay in D.C. and become a lobbyist. She wondered what she liked about her job, she then realized she liked explaining things to the people and explaining how the government works.

She was offered a job from different schools but decided on Washtenaw because she had a good relationship with people at WCC and simply had a good feeling about it.

"I began my teaching career and I had no idea on how to be a teacher," joked Rivers. At this point in her life, she had never taught, didn't know

how to organize a classroom, or how to put together a syllabus. If you ask Rivers, she simply learned on the job. She feels for her students that had her early on in her teaching career, but looking back she feels teaching was a good fit.

"I like WCC a lot, I like the students, I like what I teach," said Rivers. Rivers likes mentoring students. Not only does she want students to learn the material being taught, but wants her students to get something out of her class whether transferring to another institution or not.

Rivers believes students should be exposed to different material whether it has something to do with their concentrations or not. "Maybe you're going to do something that isn't necessary in your 12 classes that you take, but will create a lifelong interest for you," said Rivers.

Rivers feels she adds to the DNA of WCC because of her experiences in life. She tells students how she won't teach them what was taught to her, but will teach through stories as she lived different experiences working in the government. She knows many students may not have had the greatest experience learning government during K-12; she does what she can for her students to help them appreciate the subject on a college level, which her students do seem to enjoy.

Rivers appreciates the diversity at WCC because of the different occupations people hold and the different experiences people share. She describes it as a special place.

# WCC club teams are shy on women players

By WILLOW SYMONDS  
*Staff Writer*

WCC's in-person sports leagues returned in Fall 2021, after canceling their sport programs for a year and half due to COVID-19. Only the dance team and Men's and Women's Cross-Country continued as their practice sessions moved to Zoom, while the other teams went on hiatus.

This fall semester, students were excited to get back to playing again and many of our sports were outdoors," director of athletics, Matt Lucas, said over the phone, "as opposed to the indoor training that our club sports are doing now."

Every year, returning students help Lucas recruit more players to the teams. After 18 months of dealing with Covid, those core groups of students were gone.

Still, new student-athletes are joining. Katie Henderson, a pre-engineering student, joined Women's Club Soccer in the fall of 2021. Her coach appointed her for team captain the same semester.

"I [first heard of] the soccer team when I was looking around the school website and found the campus connect page," Henderson said. "Then I saw the team and figured I would give it a try."

She believes that, ideally, the team should have at least eleven players, like they had in the fall. This would give them the option to use substitutes and take breaks when needed.

The Women's Indoor Soccer League currently has eight players. They often play with and against male players due to their low numbers.

However, not all WCC sports teams have been struggling to find players. Before

Women's soccer, basketball, and softball are looking for additional players. If students are interested in taking part, reach out by email (wccwolfpack@wccnet.edu) or stop by the athletics office in the Student Center.

the pandemic, the Men's Volleyball team had five players, but this season, they have nine. The Women's Volleyball team shows the same pattern, going from nine players to twelve.

Matt Lucas stresses that numbers change every season and that the student body itself has an impact on how many try-out for WCC sports. This is true for both the women's and men's teams.

"Over the years, [we've had] some instances where a mens team is looking for some additional numbers," Lucas said. "In general, most [colleges] see a difference in the number of students who take part in women's sports than in men's sports."

Other colleges are experiencing some challenges as well. Like WCC, Oakland Community College delayed sports last year and returned this fall. Their Women's Basketball coach, Josh Lees, says that his team has had four to five isolations due to COVID-19 outbreaks.

"Trying to get the players engaged can be difficult," Lees told The Washtenaw Voice, "but in terms of the amount of players, we're one of the top teams."

Lees remains hopeful that more student-athletes will join once the pandemic has an end in sight.

The WCC coaches and athletic faculty, such as Matt Lucas, now focus on rebuilding their sports programs and finding those core students to recruit and return.



Katie Henderson (captain, in green) scrimmaging with the boys at High Velocity due to the lack of women soccer players on the team.

Katie Henderson thinks that WCC should advertise their sports more so that students know they can join, even if they have never done athletics before. She also explains that it is no great time commitment, the coaches are flexible and understanding, and that the players are excited to meet new people and play.

"My favorite memory of the team has to be either our team bonding night at Wiard's this fall or warming up before the games," Henderson said. "As the season goes on, everyone knows the routine of how we'll warm up, and that's when things get fun. Everyone is comfortable with each other, so we talk and hang out as we get ready for the game."

Coach Lucas said his favorite part of working with student-athletes is, "seeing the positive impact that [...] the Wolfpack family has on so many of them. The interactions with students are amazing, as many of them continue to stay in contact with coaches, past teammates, and the Wolfpack program."

WCC continues to rebuild their sports programs after the height of the pandemic.

A photograph of three young women of diverse backgrounds posing together. The woman in the center is wearing a brown top and large hoop earrings. The woman on the left is wearing a light-colored top, and the woman on the right is wearing a white top. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera.

how well do you know these girls?

Learn more about your breast health at KnowYourGirls.org

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Where are they now?

WCC helped this alumni enjoy learning -with Sarah Burch

By: RJ HUNT  
Editor

The purpose of “Where are they now” is to find WCC alumni to learn about their time at the school and how WCC helped them navigate their career paths.

Sarah Burch was someone who hated school, but going to Washtenaw made her fall in love with it. Sarah’s journey at Washtenaw began when she was still in high school. She came to the college as a student of Washtenaw Technical Middle College. In her previous schools, Sarah was miserable and grew a huge disliking for school. “I just didn’t fit in and it was so cliquey,” said Burch. Burch felt going to WTMC was a better fit for her than the traditional high school route. She appreciated the opportunity to take college courses and the diversity the campus provided.

“WCC is where I feel like I really fell in love with learning,” said Burch. WCC allowed her to have more independence than her previous high schools. For example, her previous schools gave her so many restrictions, whereas WCC allowed her to pick her own courses and find the schedule that worked best for her. Burch felt like the independence she was able to develop was very valuable for her future. She loved the atmosphere as she could tell her professors were passionate about what they taught.

During her time at WCC,



Sarah Burch sharing her (story or journey) at a church for Women's Fellowship Day.

COURTESY OF BURCH.

Burch was a very active student. “WCC is such a safe place to try something new,” said Burch. She was a membership chair for Phi Theta Kappa. She felt she was chosen for this role because of how passionate and engaging she can be. Her roles for PTK included leading outreach efforts, creating diversity, and networking. A memorable moment that came from being a part of PTK was attending a conference in Florida that also gave her the opportunity to go to Disney World that PTK paid for.

Sarah was also the president of the African American student group on campus. Being in that community and developing her leadership skills was huge for Burch. She felt that her time in the pro-

gram allowed her to be strategic and become a visionary. Burch was influential in leading conversations about black love, and healthy relationships. She remained influential in the field of organizing events as she put together a voter registration drive as well as putting together a benefit concert featuring local artists to help Haiti after their earthquake in 2010. “I think the (student group) was an amazing opportunity to share black culture and black history with the campus community,” said Burch.

At WCC, Burch was able to learn the language of Arabic, so Middle Eastern politics, culture, and history gained her attention. She became fascinated by international politics and wanted to learn more about the different relationships countries

have with each other. She then started eyeing a career of possibly being an ambassador for the United Nations. This led her to transfer after earning her Associates from WCC to Eastern Michigan University and earn her Bachelor of science degree in Political Science and Government in 2012. Along with earning her Bachelor’s, she earned her Masters of Arts degree in History from EMU in 2018.

After her undergrad, Burch wanted to study internationally and go into the Peace Corps. She ended up feeling compelled to change her plans. She gave birth to her son, and then her and her son’s father divorced when their son was two years old. She didn’t want to leave Michigan because she didn’t

want to leave her son behind and wanted to be able to co-parent with her son’s father. This later became a blessing in disguise for Burch. This led her to find a path where she could stay in Michigan with her son, along with doing something that she is passionate about.

Sarah began working at the University of Michigan as an admissions counselor and career coach. She realized how poorly funded the K-12 system is. She noticed how every student was not given the same opportunity that could prepare them for higher education. “WCC lit a fire in me to care about these things,” said Burch.

Currently, Sarah is working on getting her Masters of Education in Educational Eq-

uity and Social Transform at the University of Michigan. Burch just recently started a new job at Plante Moran, a tax accounting firm, as a senior DEI consultant.

“It’s crazy that so much of what and who I am now and the work that I do started at WCC. I don’t know who I’d be or what I would be doing if I hadn’t had the opportunity to be supported, along with falling in love with learning, like I did at WCC,” said Burch.

Burch’s position with Plante Moran is a new role with the campus recruitment team. Burch’s tasks include recruiting students to the company. While working for this new position, Burch plans on building relationships with HBCUs (Historical Black Colleges and Universities), community colleges, and high schools. “I’m still figuring out many things...it’s a tension between being happy and uncomfortable being in this new role that is still being defined. But I’m feeling very supported by the team and the environment is healthy,” said Burch.

Sarah is not closing the door on a chance to go to school again to earn her doctorate. One day Sarah would love to teach as a professor. “I love being on college campuses, working with students, and having thought provoking conversations.” Her hope is to be one of those professors who fires up students to fulfill their potential and feel confident, the same way her professors at WCC did for her.

Transform life with education

continued from A1

Amal Said

Amal Said is the first generation of her family to be born in the U.S. Said, 15, is a 10th grade student at Washtenaw Technical Middle College, the high school at WCC. She wants to pursue a career in forensic science, and she is currently working towards earning an associate degree in general math and science in order to transfer to a four-year university.

Said’s parents immigrated to America from Somalia during the start of its ongoing civil war. Before being able to come to America, her parents spent some time living in a Somali refugee camp; however, because they had family that was already living in the States, the process of coming to America was made easier. Said says America feels like



home.

“My parents raised me with nothing but love for the country,” she said.

While Said and her family have a positive view of America, they have still ex-

perienced what Said calls “subtle” racial and religious discrimination. Being a Black Muslim in America is not without its hardships, she said. But in spite of that, Said’s parents did not want their

children to grow up hating the country they call home.

“My parents like the country as a whole, and they wanted their children to feel the same,” she said.

One of the biggest hardships for Said is dealing with hearing and seeing disabilities, along with attention disorders, all of which take a toll on her learning progress and mental health. She is currently trying to file for a 504 plan, in which students with physical and/or mental disabilities can be guaranteed certain learning accommodations. In the face of these challenges, Said has grown thick skin.

“You get used to it after a while,” she said. “I’m just doing what I can to try to succeed.”

Yasmin Guadalupe Gonzalez

Yasmin Guadalupe Gonzalez is an artist at heart; for as long as she can remember, she’s always wanted to be an artist, she said. But her ambitions are met with ambiva-

lence.

“It’s hard to find a good job with art,” she said. “A lot of other people I know want to be things like a doctor or an engineer, which are a lot more successful than artists.”

Guadalupe Gonzalez, 20, moved to America from Mexico when she was 8 years old. She says her parents worked tirelessly to earn enough money to move here so she could have a better life. Because of her parents’ hard work to get here, she feels pressured to find a “successful” job so that their hard work would “pay off.” Although she is passionate about art, she feels that becoming an artist would not yield the successful life her parents want her to have.

“I don’t want that difficult life because my parents worked so hard to get us (to America),” she said.

When she first came to America, everything was a shock. One of the biggest adjustments for Guadalupe

Gonzalez was learning English while also trying to learn the other regular school subjects, like math and science.

“I had to learn, but I didn’t know how,” she said.

Luckily, one other student in her class spoke Spanish. Thanks to her, learning English became much easier for Guadalupe Gonzalez. While it was still challenging to learn a new language, overcoming that obstacle taught her that she can do anything she puts her mind to, she said.

Looking forward, Guadalupe Gonzalez is trying to find a happy medium between art and a more marketable career; she thinks fashion design is a promising candidate. It’s been hard trying to figure out her future, but she remains level headed.

“I just tell myself to keep moving forward,” she said. “Even if you feel like you have no one, you got to push forward.”

Job market booms after dip

continued from A1

Jacob Sackett-Debene, a journalism major in his second year at WCC, isn’t worried about finding a position in the current job market.

“I think journalism is a very versatile field in our modern age and I can find some form of news work after WCC,” Sackett-Debene said. “I think the pandemic has actually helped a lot of people start journalism positions; there has been a boom in news reporting and podcasts because of the pandemic.”

This mad dash for staffing is a complete turnaround from what colleges were experiencing at the beginning of the pandemic. Just 3 days before WCC closed its doors due to the national health crisis, the college hosted 70 employers for a career fair, but when Covid forced companies to shut down, the new norm was “business as unusual.”

“Employers were trying



SHELBY BEATY / WASHTENAW VOICE

Kyrsten Rue, WCC’s manager of experiential learning and employer relations, bridges the gap between employers and students.

to determine what their path would be going forward,” said Cheryl Harvey, director of the Center for Career Success. “Especially with internships; there were less options in Career Connect; that whole fau-

cet was cut off.”

Harvey and her staff tried to combat this drop off by offering virtual internship fairs, but companies were slow to hire in the early days of the pandemic. Large companies

like Quicken Loans, who routinely cherry-picked interns from the school, reduced the number of students they were taking in. Small businesses stopped completely.

Workshops that people could attend virtually and learn new skills saw a rise in attendance, according to Harvey. Widespread “stay at home” orders in the U.S. gave people the time they never had to increase their skill set to either make a lateral move or find new employment altogether.

Opportunities to help your community

Based in Ypsilanti, Mentor 2 Youth provides kids and parents instruction in the areas of discipline, finance, and emotional intelligence. Founder, Emmanuel Jones (an EMU grad who started the program in 2011 as a school project), stepped down at the beginning of the pandemic. Darryl Johnson, a member of the board of directors since 2016, took over as executive director of operations.

“COVID left the organiza-

tion solely with me,” Johnson said.

The community-builder is looking to fill several positions including program assistant, community liaison officer, and administrative assistant. According to Johnson, this is an excellent opportunity to gain experience and have a meaningful impact on the community.

“There are so many things Black children never experience,” Johnson said. “One new component can change your purpose ... can change your life.”

Johnson’s “Raising Royalty” model uses the game of chess to instill principles with each piece representing different values and character

assets. For example, the king represents mission and purpose; the queen represents love and values; the bishop, stewardship; and the rook and pawns community and discipline.

Johnson wants to help families build foundations that can give them the tools to succeed.

“So much can be wrapped up in a problem,” Johnson said. “We want to teach people to appreciate that problem and how to learn from it.”

If you’d like to join the Mentor 2 Youth team you can register for the virtual internship fair on the WCC website.

WCC will also hold a virtual career fair on April 8.



# EXTRA

On March 10, 2020, a front-page story in the Voice carried the headline “Here’s what to know about coronavirus.” The next day WCC’s campus was closed.

## 2020

March 10 Authorities confirm the first two COVID-19 cases in MI Gov. Gretchen Whitmer declares a state of emergency.

March 11 The NBA suspends its season after a player tested positive for the virus. Many businesses and schools follow suit.

March 11 WCC cancels class for the rest of the week, suspends in-person classes. Remote learning begins five days later.

Whitmer closes all K-12 school buildings March 16 to April 6 and the ne bans gatherings of more than 250 people.

March 23 Whitmer issues a “Stay Home, Stay Safe” executive order.

March 18 Michigan’s first coronavirus death is reported.

May 1 A security guard at a Family Dollar in Flint is shot and killed after insisting a customer wear a mask in the store

March 27 Congress approves Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, providing \$2 trillion in aid to hospitals, small businesses, and state and local governments. By fall more than 1,000 WCC student would receive \$1.5 million in grants to help with academic expenses.

Aug. 17 COVID-19 becomes the third-leading cause of death in the U.S. behind heart disease and cancer. Deaths now exceed 1,000 per day and nation-wide cases exceed 5.4 million.

Sept. 28 Global COVID-19 deaths surpass 1 million

Oct. 8 The FBI announces the arrests of 13 men suspected of orchestrating a plot to kidnap Gov. Whitmer in response to her handling of the pandemic.

Dec. 13 FDA gives the vaccines emergency approval. Developed in less than a year, the vaccines were touted as one of the greatest scientific accomplishments in U.S. history. The first U.S. health-care worker receives a vaccination Dec. 13

## 2021

Feb. 2 WCC health-sciences grads working on the front lines of the pandemic talk to the Voice about stress and burnout. (The story later won first place for best news story in the 2020-21 Michigan Community College Press Association contest.)

Feb. 4 Michigan reaches 2 million Covid cases.

Feb. 21 U.S.COVID-19 death toll surpasses 500,000.

Feb. 27 FDA approves emergency use authorization for Johnson and Johnson one shot COVID-19 vaccine. The vaccination rollout continue in the U.S. with students waiting their turn behind older Americans.

Apr. 13 CDC recommends pausing the use of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine due to of blood clot complications.

Apr. 21 U.S. surpasses 200 million vaccinations administered.

Aug. 30 CDC advisory committee recommends Pfizer-BioNTech’s vaccine for people ages 16+ years.

Fall CDC recommends that everyone over 18 years old who received a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine receive a COVID-19 booster shot 6 months after they are fully vaccinated.

Oct. 31 Covid deaths reach 5 million cases worldwide

Dec. 14 U.S. reaches 50 million cases. A new COVID variant, dubbed Omicron, becomes the dominant variant in the U.S. ruining the holidays for many.

Feb. 9 World reaches 400 million COVID cases

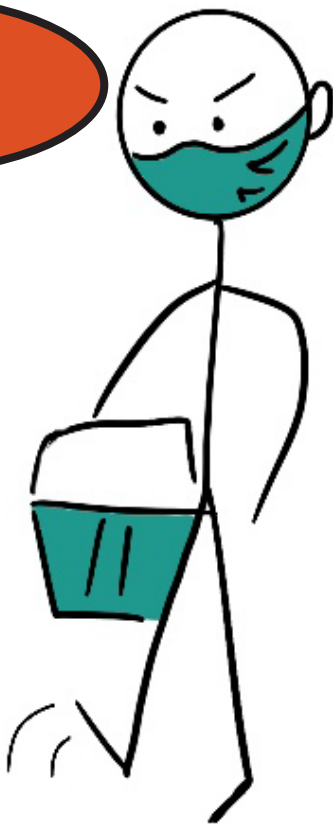
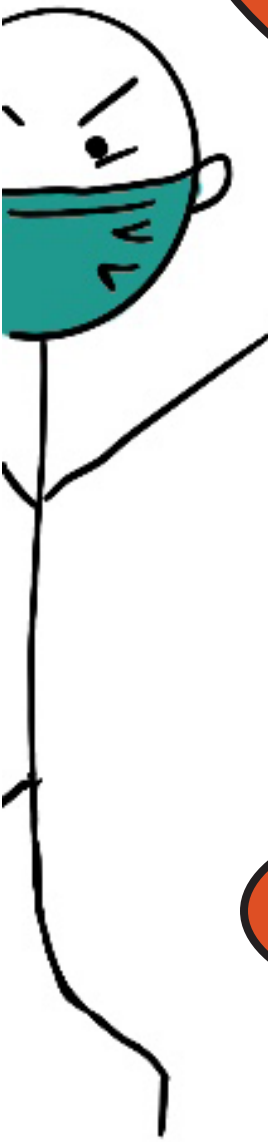
## 2022

Feb. 16 Michigan health department drops its recommendation for masks in schools and other indoor settings in communities where COVID transmission rates are low. WCC retains mask rules for the balance of the academic year.

Today: As we publish, there have been over 430 million COVID cases, and 5.90 million deaths worldwide. About 73,000 of those cases and more than 500 deaths were in Washtenaw County.

# Covid Turns Two

6 FT APART





Reading to watching: A list of books adapting to screen

By Willow Symonds  
Staff Writer

Calling all English and film majors! 2022 is giving us plenty of movies and TV shows this year, but you know what some of those movies and TV shows are? Book adaptations. Here are the books being adapted to the screens this year:

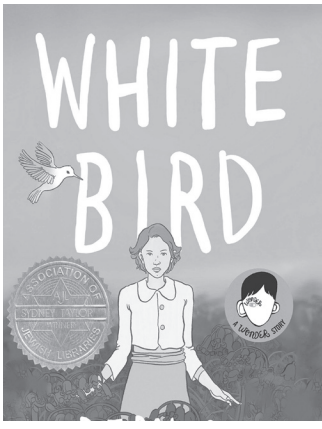
Death on the Nile by Agatha Christie is one of the many beloved Hercule Poirot murder mystery novels. The 1937 novel, Death on the Nile, which will be released Feb. 11 in theaters, is a sequel to 2017’s Murder on the Orient Express. Instead of a train, this story takes place on a cruise ship, and the Belgian detective has to crack another case before the murderer strikes again. Filming took place in late-2019 and the release date was pushed back several times due to COVID-19. Kenneth Branagh (Tenet, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets) directs and stars in this movie, along with an entirely new, star-studded cast: Gal Gadot (Wonder Woman), Tom Bateman (Jekyll & Hyde), pre-cannibalism-scandal Armie Hammer (The Social Network, Call Me By Your Name), Emma Mackey (Sex Education), Letitia Wright (Black Panther),

and Annette Bening (American Beauty). The Black Phone is a short story from 20th Century Ghost Stories by Joe Hill. This 102-minute long movie will be released in theaters on June 24. Director Scott Derrickson (Doctor Strange, The Exorcism of Emily Rose) works with cast member Ethan Hawke (Dead Poets Society, Before Sunrise). The two worked together on the 2012 horror movie, Sinister. Mason Thames stars as a shy but clever 13-year-old boy trapped in a basement by a masked madman. When the disconnected phone on the wall starts to ring, he picks it up to find the people on the other side were once in his situation. Anyone looking for a creepy tale will find one here.

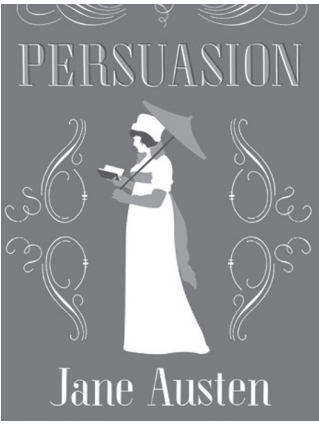
Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens became an immediate bestseller when it was published in 2018, mixing two fictional timelines - isolated swamp girl and a celebrity’s murder investigation - into one story. Actress Reese Witherspoon chose this debut novel for her Hello Sunshine book club only a month after. Now the movie is being released in theaters four years later on June 24. Olivia Newman (First Match) directs the cast: Daisy Edgar-Jones (Normal People), Taylor John Smith (You Get Me),

Harris Dickinson (Maleficent: Mistress of Evil), and David Strathairn (Nomadland). White Bird: A Wonder Story by R.J. Palacio is a sequel to her other best-selling novel, Wonder. This time the story follows bully Julian, whose grandmother visits from France and tells him stories of surviving World War II as a Jewish girl. Marc Forster (World War Z, The Kite Runner) directs the film adaptation. The cast includes Bryce Gheisar (reprising his character in Wonder), Helen Mirren (The Good Liar) as his grandmother, and Gillian Anderson (The X-Files, Sex Education) as his mother. The movie will be released Sept. 16 in theaters. The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah is a historical fiction novel published in 2015. The story may be set during World War II Europe, but the feminist messages resonate to modern audiences. Melanie Laurent, who acted in Inglorious Basterds, makes her directing debut with this movie adaptation. Sisters Elle Fanning (Maleficent, The Neon Demon) and Dakota Fanning (Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood, Ocean’s Eight) star together for the first time. Nightingale will be released Dec. 23 in theaters. Trigger warning for sexual assault and physical abuse.

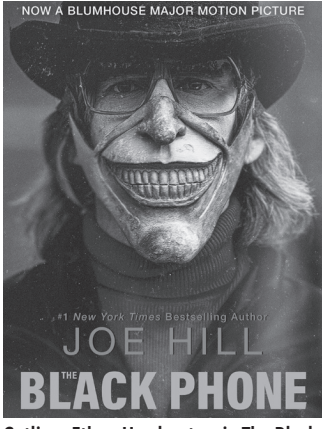
Persuasion by Jane Austen, one of her many classics, has had a dozen adaptations over the last 200 years. Many people forget how witty Austen’s narration of high-class romance could be, but this time Netflix is keeping the wit with “a modern spin” for their movie adaptation. Carrie Cracknell (Julie) directs cast members Dakota Johnson (Fifty Shades of Grey, Suspiria), Cosmo Jarvis (Lady Macbeth), Richard E. Grant (Loki, Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker), Suki Waterhouse (Insurgent), and Henry Gouling (Snake Eyes: G.I. Joe Origins, Crazy Rich Asians). The release date is soon to be announced. The Time Traveler’s Wife by Audrey Niffenegger, a beloved modern classic, has also been adapted more than once. HBO is releasing a TV show adaptation this year, although the release date has yet to be announced. The entire first season is directed by David Nutter (Arrow) and stars Rose Leslie (Game of Thrones, Downton Abbey), Theo James (Divergent, Downton Abbey), Kate Siegel (Hush, Midnight Mass), Desmin Borges (You’re the Worst), and Natasha Lopez (Runner Runner). Stephen Moffat (Doctor Who, Sherlock) holds the title of executive producer, so we can expect high quality.



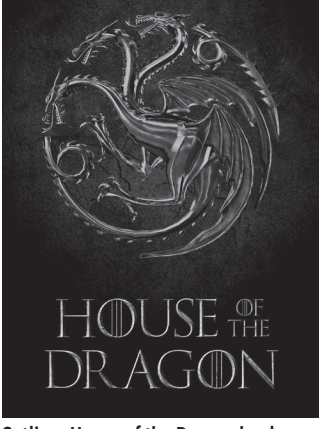
Cutline: The book cover of White Bird, a sequel to the best-selling Wonder. The movie will be released Sept 16.



Cutline: A modern Persuasion book cover. Netflix will release a movie adaptation this year.



Cutline: Ethan Hawke stars in The Black Phone, adapted from 20th Century Ghosts, in theaters June 24.



Cutline: House of the Dragon book cover. HBO will release a TV show adaptation this year.

House of the Dragon is based on George R.R. Martin’s Fire & Blood, a Game of Thrones book focusing on House Targaryen. While HBO has not officially announced the TV show adaptation’s release date, they have confirmed that this is a 10-episode limited series starring different characters than

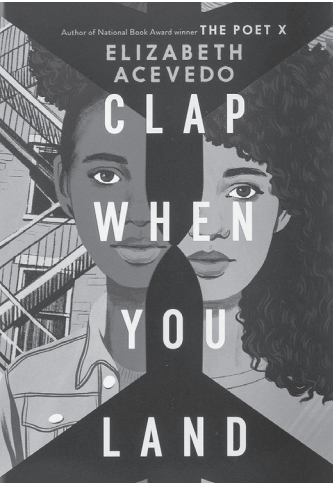
the original show, played by Paddy Considine (Hot Fuzz, The Death of Stalin), Emma D’Arcy (Truth Seekers), Matt Smith (Doctor Who, The Crown), and Olivia Cooke (Sound of Metal, Ready Player One, Bates Motel). This show will have exactly 17 dragons, for anyone who wants to know how accurate the title is.

Fill your bookshelves with exceptional Black authors

By Melanie Chapman  
Staff Writer

What better way to celebrate Black History Month than to support Black authors. The following list includes books of many different genres, some lighthearted and bubbly, others educational, and some where readers may feel too upset to turn to the next page. Please keep in mind to always look up trigger warnings before picking up any book, including the ones on this list.

On Jan. 20, 2021 Amanda Gorman delivered her poem that ended with a standing ovation from attendees at the presidential inauguration and a shocked nation. Amanda Gorman (22), became the youngest poet to read an original piece at President Joe Biden’s Inauguration. It’s no longer a video that can only be viewed on YouTube; Gorman’s poem, The Hill We Climb, is now a book.



Quill Tree Books, HarperCollins, 2020. Clap When You Land by Elizabeth Acevedo

Genre: Poetry This young adult horror follows the main character, Jake Livingston. Jake is one of the only black students at his school, other than his brother, who is considered more popular than Jake. Not only does Jake have to deal with the struggles of his identity, but he also sees dead people who are stuck in their own death loop. Most of these ghosts keep to themselves and leave Jake



Katherine Tegen Books, HarperCollins, 2020. Grown by Tiffany D. Jackson

alone until he meets Sawyer, a dangerous teen who killed six other students at his local school. After killing himself he returns as a vengeful ghost who begins to haunt Jake. Genre: Thriller, Horror, LGBT This award-winning novel is about two identical sisters who grew up together and lived in a small southern black community until they ran away at sixteen. The Vi-



G.P. Putnam’s Sons Books, Penguin Random House, 2021. The Taking of Jake Livingston by Ryan Douglas

gnes sisters were the same in every way until they chose two different paths in life. As they grew into adults, one sister raised her black daughter in the same southern town she ran from, and the other passed herself off as white while living with her husband who doesn’t know her true identity. Genre: Historical Fiction A novel-in-verse (form of poetry) tells the story of two

sisters, Camino, who lives in the Dominican Republic, and Yahaira, who lives in New York City. Camino and Yahaira share the same father but know nothing of the other’s existence. When the plane their father was on crashes, the unexpected tragedy brings them together to learn about each other and the father they shared. Genre: Young Adult, Contemporary, Poetry Hood Feminism touches on the flaws of modern feminist movements and how they cater to a specific group of women and only their needs. Also, it touches on how certain topics in the feminist community commonly neglect the privilege of some women when it comes to race, poverty and politics. Mikki Kendall challenges readers to question, “How can we stand in solidarity as a movement when there is the distinct likelihood that some women are oppressing others?” Genre: Non-Fiction, Femi-

nism, Social Justice Act Your Age, Eve Brown is a comical, enemies to lovers tale that follows Eve Brown on her journey to “officially” becoming an adult after coming to an agreement with her parents to hold a steady job for a year. What she didn’t expect was to get stuck being a chef at a bed and breakfast with a boss who she despises, or so she thought. Genre: Romance Comedy, Coming of Age Grown follows Enchanted Jones, an aspiring musician, who auditions and catches the eye of famous R&B musician Korey Fields. Fields finds her to be promising and skilled, so he wants to help her build a successful career. But when Enchanted wakes up with blood on her hands, lack of memory of the night before, and Korey dead, she becomes the main suspect. Genre: Young Adult, Mystery, Realistic Fiction

WISDOM of the WEEK

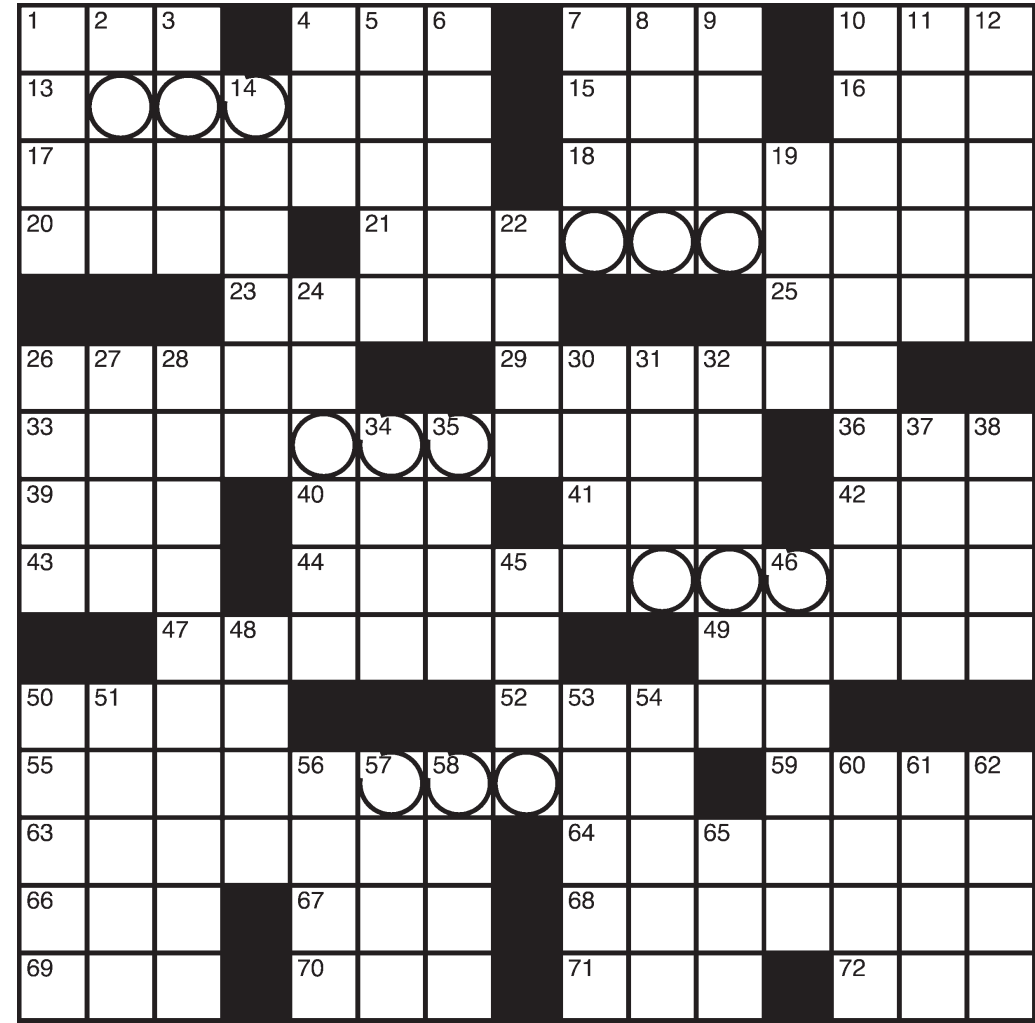
“I always wanted to be someone better the next day than I was the day before.”  
Sidney Poitier

“Nothing will serve you better than a strong work ethic. Nothing!”  
Robert Downey Jr.

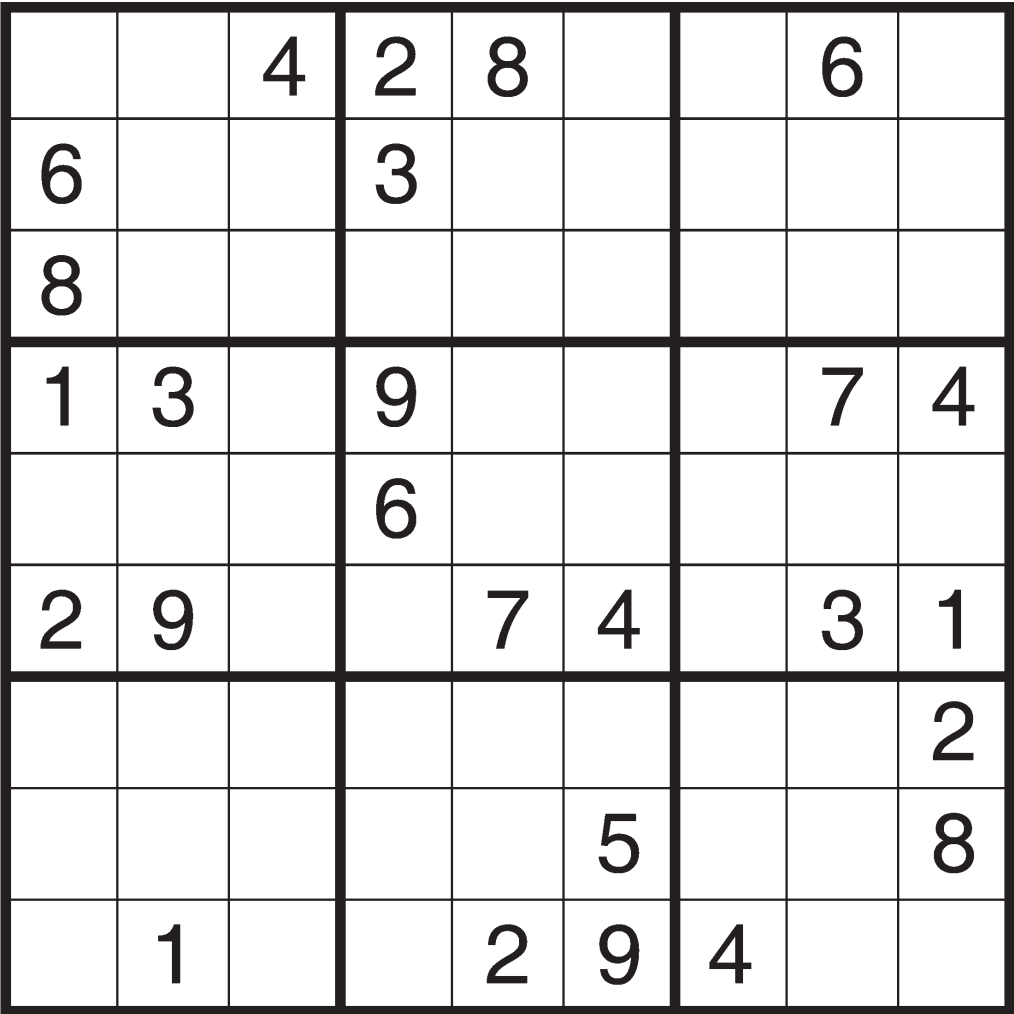
“Everybody needs a passion. That’s what keeps life interesting. If you live without passion, you can go through life without leaving any footprints.”  
Betty White

“I personally think if something’s not a challenge, there’s no point doing it, because you’re not gonna learn much.”  
Tom Holland





Solutions to puzzles on washtenawvoice.com

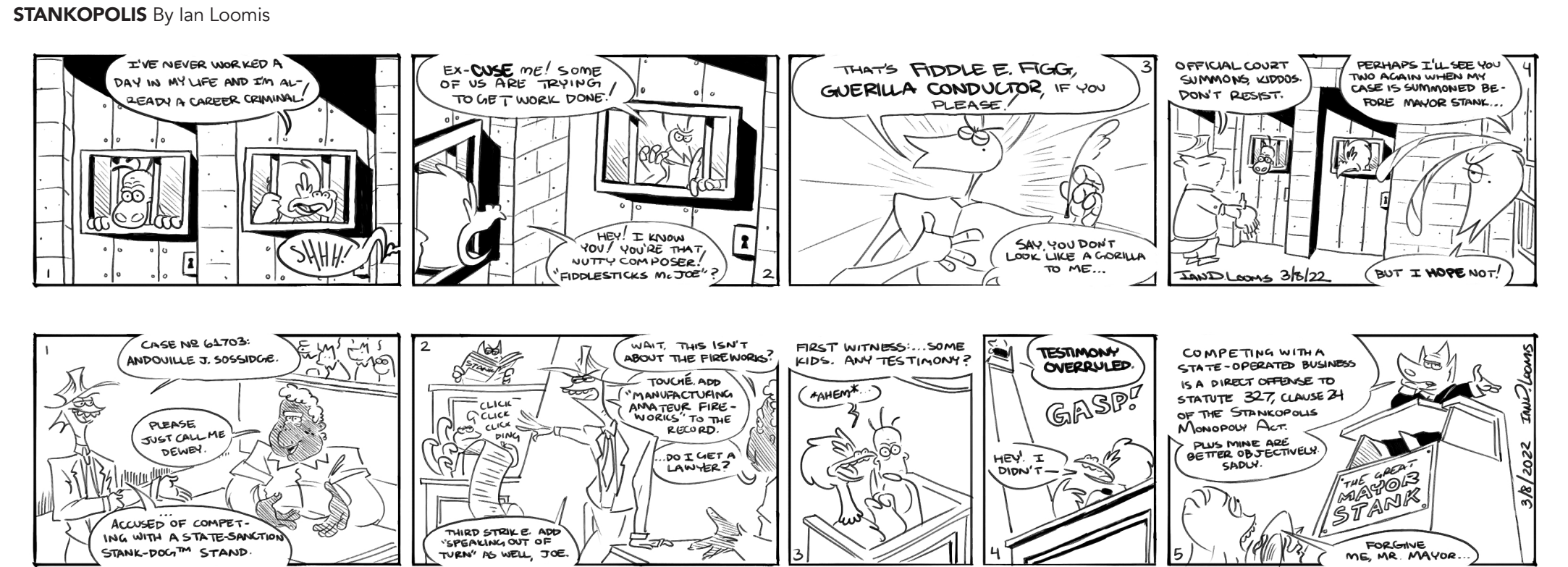


ACROSS

- 1 Frightened cry  
4 The-lower-the-better MLB stat  
7 Relay segment  
10 James Bond, for one  
13 Wannabe IRS agent's test  
15 Glass of "This American Life"  
16 Make, as a knot  
17 Vitamin capsule material  
18 Prayer books  
20 Crystal ball gazer  
21 "When Harry Met Sally..." screenwriter  
23 Turkey roasting instruction  
25 Name for a man going either way?  
26 Full range  
29 Puts up with  
33 Annual LGBTQ celebration  
36 Sign of success  
39 Help  
40 Green New Deal co-sponsor, initially  
41 35mm camera type  
42 Bagel go-with  
43 Frodo's sidekick  
44 Mug for the camera  
47 "Be right there!"  
49 Cedar Rapids resident  
50 Taj Mahal city
- 52 Pandora's box emanations  
55 Slippery slapstick prop  
59 Slide on the icy road  
63 Like dark clouds  
64 "Quiet!"  
66 Lair  
67 Many pop-ups  
68 Thick fog metaphor ... and what each set of circled letters is?  
69 Joule fraction  
70 Home run, for one  
71 Put two and two together  
72 Recipe amt.

DOWN

- 1 Heart charts, for short  
2 Blunt-tipped sword  
3 Popular smoothie veggie  
4 Business card no.  
5 Drizzles, say  
6 Playground retort  
7 \_\_ bean  
8 Part of HOMES  
9 [OMG!]  
10 Paces oneself, maybe  
11 Amelia Earhart, e.g.  
12 Like 20 Questions questions  
14 Jogger's speaker  
19 Clog or Croc  
22 Stern, at sea
- 24 "Relax, soldier"  
26 Student stats  
27 "Nessun dorma," e.g.  
28 Common coffee break time  
30 Revel (in)  
31 Just sitting around  
32 Knock off the track  
34 Plant places  
35 43,560 square feet  
37 Parks who took a seat to take a stand  
38 Team in a yoke  
45 Slurpee rival  
46 Wild West enforcers  
48 Bread with palak paneer
- 50 Condo or co-op  
51 Minecraft player  
53 Italian scooter  
54 "That part was made-up"  
56 Ark builder  
57 Q5 automaker  
58 Soft "Over here!"  
60 Sea speed unit  
61 Hosp. areas  
62 "Pirates of the Caribbean" star  
65 "Wee" boy



CLASSIFIEDS

WCC students and employees can place classified ads in The Washtenaw Voice for free.

LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS Looking for help? As a service to our students, you may place "help wanted" ads in The Washtenaw Voice for free.

THE DEADLINE in 5 p.m. the Tuesday before publication. SEND ADS to wcc.voice.advertising@gmail.com

**Center for Career Success**

SC 112  
734-677-5155  
careers@wccnet.edu

These are among recent employment ad posted with WCC Center for Career Success.

Students may contact the Center for Career Success to find out how to apply for the openings.

To view more information, visit Career Connect at wccnet.edu/careerconnect

**Registered Nurse- RN**  
Sign on bonus, student loan repayment assistance, Daily Pay, tuition reimbursement. RN Registered Nurse is responsible for supervising nursing personnel to deliver nursing care and within scope of practice coordinates care delivery, which will ensure that patient's needs are met in accordance with professional standards of practice through physician orders, center policies and procedures, and federal, state and local guidelines. We are looking for clinicians who

would like to combine their love for people and strong work ethic with the opportunities to advance their career.

**CNA/Nursing Students.**  
Manpower is currently seeking CNA/Nursing Students to work for a well-respected health system located in Ann Arbor. These are full-time, long-term temporary positions available on all shifts. Pay rate depends on experience. Job duties include working directly with patients, obtaining vitals, documentation of records, and stocking medical supplies. Call or text "HC STUDENTS" to 734-665-3757. Get a head start by creating an account at manpower.com and then give us a call!

**Entry Level Grounds/ Experienced Grounds / Landscape Service tech team members.**  
Entry level position, learning and operating the use of hand tools and small power equipment (String trimmers Backpack blowers) in maintain ground of commercial property sights. Maintaining small equipment being used in operation.

**Lead Teacher. \$1,000 sign on bonus. \$1,000 bonus in June.**  
Calling all preschool teachers...We are seeking for a Lead Teacher who is Self-driven - Team

player - Reliable- Energetic - Demonstrates leadership - Flexible - Highly motivated - Positive Can-do Attitude & Personality. This individual will plan and present age-appropriate activities for children. The position is Full-Time (35-40 hours a week). Starting hourly rate is \$13, higher pay based on experience and qualifications.

**Academic Programs coordinator in the Peruvian Amazon.**  
The Academic Programs Coordinator works closely with ASA academic faculty and staff to facilitate ongoing educational programs, including the Internship and Volunteer Programs, as well as other academic programs as required. The Academic Programs Coordinator is part of the public face of the ASA's programs in Peru, and is part of a dynamic team of researchers, conservation and development professionals, and students from around the world.

**Library Safety Assistant.**  
Under the supervision of the Safety Lead, the Library Safety Assistant patrols the buildings, parking lots, and grounds to assure a safe and secure environment for patrons and staff.

**Plan Technician (Jackson).**  
At Sparks Behavioral Services, we use behavioral science to im-

prove the lives of those we work with, regardless of the nature or severity of their needs. Join us to provide consultative services to the care providers of Jackson, Hillsdale, and Ingham counties. You would implement and train others to implement behavior plans to treat the severe problem behavior of people with mental health and cognitively delayed diagnoses.

**Radiographer \*\*\$5,000 Sign On Bonus\*\* / FT / Midnights / Mobile/OR.**  
Under the direction of a Radiologist, performs Radiologic procedures for the evaluation of pathological entities as ordered by a physician. Performs related functions according to department protocols. Utilizes independent judgment in determining appropriate radiographic techniques, positioning, and safety practices.

**Recruiting Internship.**  
Are you looking for an exciting opportunity to jump-start your career in Recruiting or Human Resources in Ann Arbor? If so, read on! We are hiring for a motivated Recruiting Intern. You will be required to successfully perform various functions including front desk duties, management of key accounts, employee recruitment, order and data entry and ongoing customer support.

**Crew Member.**  
JET'S PIZZA has full-time and part-time positions available for inside crew members who may or may not have experience with high volume operations when they are on duty, to ensuring happy customers and product quality is #1. Inside crew members work together closely making pizzas, subs, salads and other Jets Pizza menu items.

**General Ledger Accountant.**  
Eden Foods – Clinton, Michigan (Lenawee County) seeks full-time General Ledger Accountant. Reliable, experienced, and practiced. Accuracy and openness to a teamwork environment. Good career move; good people, food, and benefits.

**Controls Technician.**  
Adient is looking to hire and develop a Controls Technician for a challenging and rewarding automotive career. The candidate will have some classroom training / familiarity with Programmable Logic Controls (PLCs), electro-mechanical basics, pneumatics and potentially robotics. The position will include formal Rockwell / AB and Fanuc training classes, self-directed learning about the Adient Equipment Standards and on-the-job training. The work schedule can be flexible for continuing school attendance in pursuit of an AA or

BA, as needed. The goal of this program is to provide the necessary skills to transition into a role at one of our US manufacturing plants. Our plant sites are in the following states AL, GA, IL, KY, MI, MO, OH, TN, and TX. Adient provides a range of benefits including relocation to one of our US facilities.

**Customer Help Desk Tech Associate (multiple openings).**  
The University of Michigan is looking for a Service Center Consultant Associate to join the Information and Technology Services unit. This more-than-helpdesk role serves as an initial point of IT assistance for faculty, staff, students and other members of the university community; documents solutions; and collaborates across teams to provide high-quality technical support and customer service.

**Catering and Dining Staff - Excellent Pay!**  
Manpower is currently recruiting Catering and Dining Staff for several positions at the University of Michigan. These positions, both full-time and part-time, offer a flexible schedule and great pay. Positions available include catering and dining servers, kitchen cleaners, dishwashers, and cooks; with no experience needed for some of the positions. Pay rate is \$17 per hour.



events

AT WCC IN THE COMMUNITY

RESUME WORK SWEETENED BY PIE

March 14, 11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

LA 241  
It's pi day and pie day for the WCC's Student Veterans of America. The group is offering pie and coaching on creating a great resume and cover letter, with help from the Center for Career Success. (Pi Day marks the mathematical constant "pi," 3.14.)

Free

TRY PLATFORM TENNIS

March 17, 5- 7 p.m.

WCC Health and Fitness Center  
WCC sports office offers intramural platform tennis at the Health and Fitness Center. Try your hand at a new sport by playing against fellow students, staff and faculty.

CHECK OUT THE STUDENT ART

Through April 7

Student Center, second floor  
See painting, photography, collage and more as WCC students exhibit their work in a month-long show. You can also visit an online gallery to view the work. <https://www.wccnet.edu/learn/departments/hlad/2022-student-art-show-gallery.php>



FILM FESTIVAL TURNS 60

March 22-27

Online and in-person at the Michigan Theater, 603 E Liberty St., Ann Arbor  
Get ready for the Ann Arbor Film Festival. Now in its 60th year, the festival presents more than 180 films from different genres and from over 20 countries. Weekend, online (\$60 for students), and full festival (\$100 for students) passes are on sale at [aafilmfest.org](http://aafilmfest.org).

UNDERSTANDING EVICTION

Ongoing

The Ypsilanti District Library, Whitaker Road, 5577 Whittaker Road  
The Ypsilanti District Library presents "Evicted," an exhibit inspired by Matthew Desmond Pulitzer Prize-winning book Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City. The exhibit brings visitors into the world of low-income renter eviction and shows the enormity of one of 21st-century America's most challenging problems.

Free

TAKE A BREAK IN THE TROPICS

Tuesday - Sunday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Wednesday 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

1800 N. Dixboro Rd., Ann Arbor  
Fed up with the weather? Head to the tropics. The University of Michigan's Matthaei Botanical Gardens' conservatory has tropic, temperate and arid houses that illustrate the diversity, importance and fragility of plants across the globe. And, yes, it's toasty inside.



IT'S MAPLE SUGAR TIME

Sundays through March 27, 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Stony Creek Metropark, Nature Center, 4300 Main Park Road, Shelby Township  
Learn the history of sugaring and how to identify maple trees. The Huron-Clinton Metroparks offer a hike into the woods to tap a maple followed by a chance to learn the process of boiling sap into rich maple syrup.

Cost: \$5

SEE THE WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME

Open Monday-Friday, noon to 5 p.m.

105 W. Allegan St. #10, Lansing  
Mark Women's history month with a road trip to the Michigan Women's Historical Center, home to the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. Learn about almost 300 inductees past and present and see related exhibits.  
Admission is free  
<https://www.wonderfoolproductions.org/festifoals>

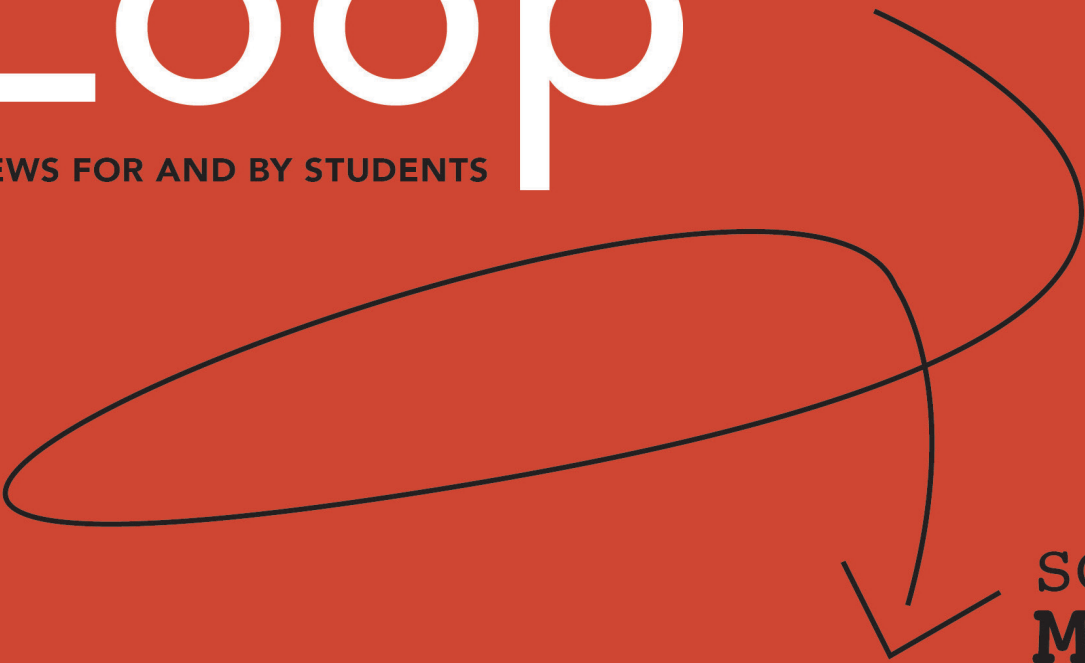
SPRING SILLINESS

Sunday, April 3, 4 - 5 p.m.

Ann Arbor, South State, South University, and William Street  
The FestiFools puppets return at a new location suitable for social distance. The giant paper mache puppet parade is the work of students of the University of Michigan Lloyd Scholars for Writing and the Arts, with the Ann Arbor District Library.



The Loop  
NEWS FOR AND BY STUDENTS



SCAN ME !

Get Washtenaw Voice headlines

Sign up for Washtenaw Voice's Newsletter, get a sticker and chance to win a shirt.

Every week in your inbox

