



THE WASHTENAW VOICE

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Ann Arbor, Michigan

www.washtenawvoice.com

Dental clinic to reopen in February, offers low prices

By RUBY GO
Editor

The on-campus dental clinic at WCC will open its doors again this winter during the months of February and March.

The clinic is run by WCC dental assisting students who work with other dental students at the University of Michigan. Services are provided by the students, who are overseen by a licensed dentist. In most cases, cash or check payment is expected. Anyone 18 and up living in the Washtenaw County area is welcome to be seen. Students under 18 at Washtenaw Technical Middle College, the high school at WCC, are also welcomed if accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The clinic's prices are significantly cheaper than others in the area. Without dental insurance, a cleaning can cost over \$100. At the clinic, a cleaning is \$15.

"It's basically free," said Jodi Neuman, a dental assisting professor who also works at the clinic. "Fluoride treatments at my dental office are \$73. They're \$5 here."

One in three American adults do not have dental insurance, according to the American Dental Association. Additionally, a National Library of Medicine study found that, from a study of about 705 college students, nearly a third of the students had an untreated dental health issue, with the most common reason for leaving it untreated being the cost of care.

"If my insurance didn't already cover it, I would totally be going (to the clinic),"



Kelsey Baker-Shaw, a WCC dental assisting student, practices on a mannequin's teeth.

said Kelsey Baker-Shaw, a WCC dental assisting student who works at the clinic. "I didn't even know it existed before this program."

About 12 patients visit the clinic per day, according to Neuman. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, only WCC students, staff, and faculty were allowed to be treated. However, as more and more people from the community wanted to be seen at the clinic, they agreed to start treating them, too.

Both Neuman and Baker-

Shaw want future patients to know that they will be in good hands. While some people may be hesitant to be treated at a student-run dental office, Neuman emphasizes that every treatment carried out by the students is approved by a licensed dentist, who is also present at the clinic in case of an emergency.

"We spent a lot of time getting to this point and practicing. I mean, we're ready," Baker-Shaw said. "We make sure we take as much time as needed for every single case."

RUBY GO | WASHTENAW VOICE

Where: OE 106
When: Tuesdays and Thursdays
Who: Call 734-973-3332 to schedule an appointment

Treatments
X-rays: \$15
Cleaning: \$15
Simple fillings: \$15-\$20 per filling
Fluoride treatment: \$5



Richard Landau



Alex Milshteyn

New trustee appointed to WCC board

Replaces long-serving Landau

By ROBIN WYLLIE-SCHOLZ
Deputy Editor

Realtor Alex Milshteyn will join the Board of Trustees to fill the place of Dr. Richard Landau, who announced his surprise departure at a board meeting in December. The board held a special meeting on Jan. 3, in which they appointed new trustee Milshteyn in a 5-0 vote.

'I leave this board after 22 years knowing that I'm leaving it in the best care that I could envision.'
-Richard Landau

One member of the board, Trustee Ruth Hatcher, chose to abstain.

"I'd like to express my disappointment in how we've gone about this. It's been very quick, there hasn't been as far as I'm concerned enough publicity...I'm going to withhold my vote because I think the process was not well

done," Hatcher said.

Hatcher noted that her disapproval was not centered around Milshteyn or David Malcolm, the other nominee, but rather the process as a whole, saying "I've known both of these candidates for a long time...none of my comments should reflect on either one of them."

Landau served on the board starting in 2001. Though he did not give a specific reason for leaving in announcing his departure, he said, "It's been my privilege to serve on this board with everyone here... I leave this board after 22 years knowing that I'm leaving it in the best care that I could envision."

A graduate of Washtenaw Community College himself, Milshteyn is also on the Washtenaw Technical Middle College Board of Directors and volunteers with several other organizations in the Ann Arbor area.

Milshteyn will join the board at their first meeting of the semester, which will take place at 6 p.m. on Jan. 31.

Club leaders adapt to new social scene after pandemic

New extracurriculars created, old groups brought back

By WILLOW SYMONDS
Staff Writer

The COVID-19 pandemic often discouraged students from joining or starting clubs, according to Veronica Capraru, Supervisor of Student Organizations. WCC hosted 40+ clubs in the Spring 2020 semester, but now the number is about 30, not including sports.

A2 Entrepreneurs ended during the Spring semester 2020 when the club's leader graduated and no one took her place. The pandemic moved all meetings and activities from in-person to Zoom, and the club disappeared from the student body's mind – but not from Campus Connect.

Evan Aeschliman, a Business Administration major and the current Student Board Leader for A2 Entrepreneurs, noticed the dormant page and restarted the academic club this semester.

Before the pandemic, members interviewed each

other for collaborative ideas, an activity called "cloud storming." While A2 Entrepreneurs will return to the traditional in-person meeting format, Aeschliman aims to switch up the club plans.

"We'll do training, 'Shark Tank' style," he says. "I call them Intra Club Pitch Competitions, but they're really just practice sessions. ... We'll also compete in different events throughout the semester."

Aeschliman explains he was "looking to put together a group of like-minded individuals outside of the classroom setting. [A2 Entrepreneurs] isn't just business and marketing majors, though – it's open to anybody who wants to join and learn entrepreneurship skills."

He believes the toughest challenge when restarting the club was raising awareness of its availability. To promote A2 Entrepreneurs among students, the four leaders, including Aeschli-

man, held a booth at Welcome Day on Thursday, Jan. 19. They plan to advertise again in Feb. 1's Club Fair.

Other on-campus extracurriculars resurged from hiatus this school year, including Women in STEM, Disc Golf Club, and the Red Cross Club. Washtenaw Animators Intuitive (WAI) went quiet for most of the pandemic, but last semester, the club grew in members and activity, both online and in person.

Not all up-and-coming clubs existed before the pandemic, though. Some are entirely new, such as the Tabletop Games Club.

Lucas Fuller, a General Studies major, wanted to join a school club for playing cards, board games, and tabletops like "Dungeons & Dragons," but WCC had no extracurriculars for these interests. Near the end of the Fall 2022 semester, he registered Tabletop Games Club with the help of some friends and Veronica Capraru.



Tabletop Games Club leader Lucas Fuller (right) and member Mairead Seyfarth promote their new extracurricular at Welcome Day on Thursday, Jan. 19.

WILLOW SYMONDS | WASHTENAW VOICE

Fuller soon discovered finding interested students with open schedules was "difficult."

"A lot of people interested were actually students doing online classes," Fuller says, noting how many of them couldn't attend game sessions on campus. "With

the club just starting, we don't have the ability to plan something over Discord or Zoom."

Tabletop Games Club always plays on Friday, starting on Nov 4, 2022. Because they began with so few members, though, some meetings had to be canceled.

For A2 Entrepreneurs,

Evan Aeschliman will hold biweekly meetings instead of gathering every Thursday.

"Be flexible around group members' availability as well as your own," he advises. "It doesn't make sense to have meetings when most people can't be there."

CONTINUED ON A3



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Aunt of George Floyd, Angela Harrelson, speaks at U of M and shares the story of her nephew

By JACOB KUIPER
Staff Writer

Angela Harrelson, activist and aunt of George Floyd, recently visited the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy to speak about her nephew, her road to activism after his death, and her new book “Lift Your Voice: How My Nephew George Floyd’s Murder Changed the World.”

She spoke as part of the University of Michigan’s “Masterclass in Activism” event; a partnership between its Center for Racial Justice and its education initiative “Democracy and Debate,” which seeks to educate the UM community on topics like democracy and voting as well as encourages healthy dialogue. Celeste M. Watkins-Hayes, interim dean of the Ford School and founding director of the Center for Racial Justice introduced Harrelson and moderated the event.

Watkins-Hayes began the event with the simple question of “Who was Perry?” (Perry is a family nickname for Floyd). Harrelson was grateful for the opportunity to be able to humanize Floyd, “I’m glad you asked that because after his murder...his name became more like a hashtag to some people, because that’s what they knew, but to me he was family.”

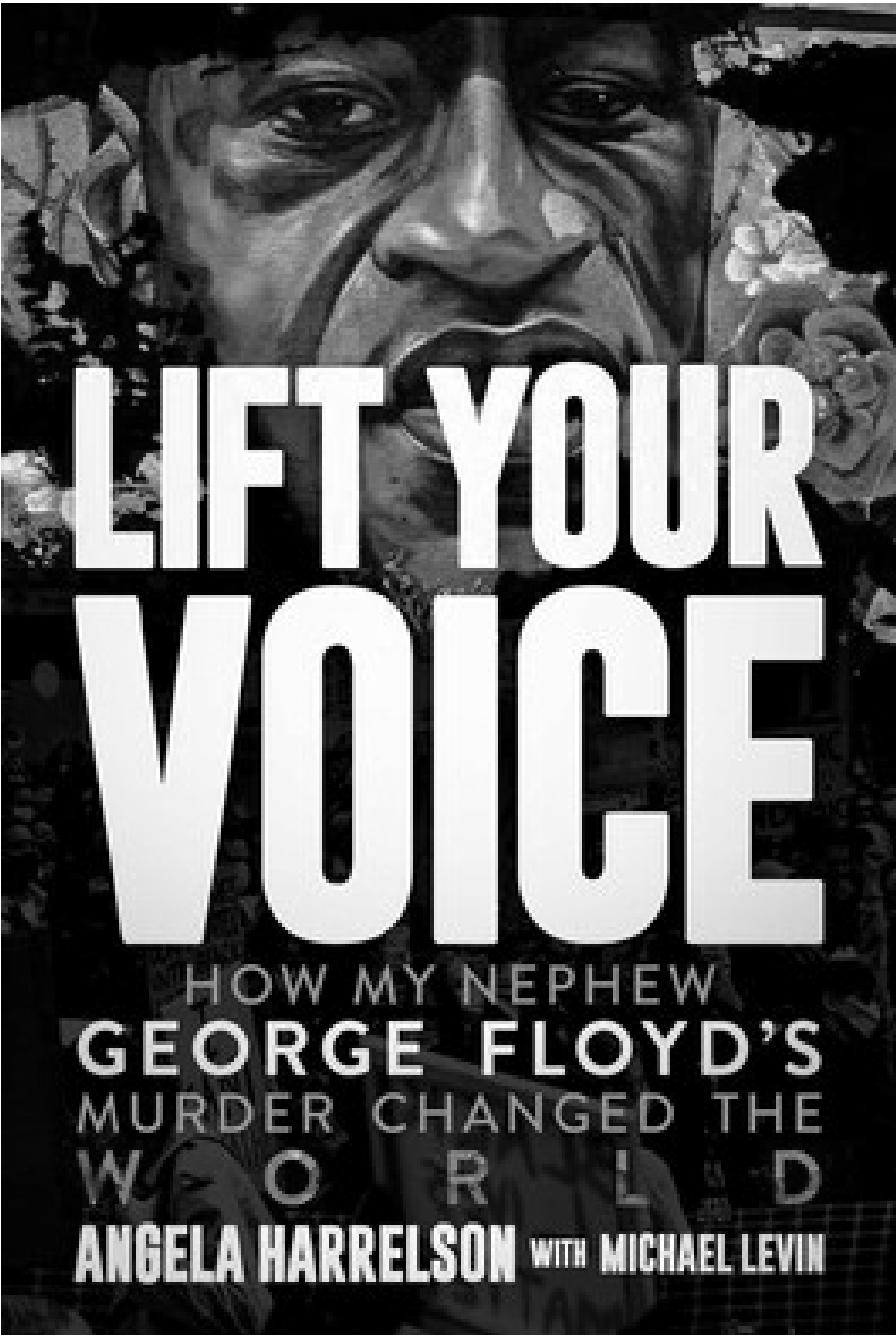
Harrelson also shared his aspirational career goals and big dreams as a child, “when he was in the second grade he wanted to be supreme court judge. He wanted to be an NFL player. He wanted to be an NBA player. He had all these dreams.” She went on to bemoan that many challenges got in the way of Floyd’s success after he and his mother moved to Houston, “but my sister lived in a really, really tough neighborhood...the projects, you know, drugs...

[the] environment wasn’t healthy...Perry often struggled with helping my sister with his younger nieces...and trying to go to school.” She explained candidly that drugs were a problem for Floyd, “he end[ed] up getting in a lot of trouble...doing drug[s]...he ended up doing time...trying to make quick money...”

Despite some low moments, Floyd was committed to sobriety, bettering himself, and making an impact on his community. Harrelson explained, “after he got out...he made a promise to [his mother] that he would do better... he changes [his] life around when he got out [of prison]... [he] reached out to the pastors to help him do outreach work...to help the young Black challenged teens.”

Harrelson went on to explain that Floyd’s road to recovery led him to seek treatment in Minneapolis, where she was living at the time. The close proximity and her work as a nurse focusing on substance abuse led the two to become close. But the new challenge was put up before him when his mother died. She initially helped him with his grieving but he took his mother’s death hard, “I don’t think that he ever got over her... they were each other’s heartbeat.” Harrelson went on to explain that it was especially difficult for Floyd because he wanted his mother to see him get better, “[it] was important for him...[that] his mother [could] see this change.”

Harrelson and Floyd lost touch. She found out about his death from a local reporter seeking more information from Floyd’s family. She originally hung up believing it wasn’t true, but her fears were realized when she got word from her family, “The police killed him, Angela. The police killed Perry” one of her siblings messaged her.



Harrelson’s book, “Lift Your Voice: How My Nephew George Floyd’s Murder Changed the World,” follows her quest to spread awareness about Floyd’s death and racism in America.

This moment of a white man with his knee to the neck of a Black man resounds deeply with Harrelson and Watkins-Hayes as a metaphor for the historical treatment of Black Americans. The discussion continued with Harrelson explaining her family’s history

with slavery, poverty, and the share-cropping system. “[You have a] long history of having somebody on your family’s neck,” Watkins-Hayes said.

But Harrelson didn’t let that history stop her. The image of Floyd in his final moments is what continues to

drive her, “Perry...was lying on the ground. Handcuffed... behind his back. And he was saying ‘I can’t breathe, I can’t breathe.’ And that message was for me, that if he can muster those words and find the courage to say ‘I can’t breathe...’with the knee on

his neck...then surely [God] can give [me] the strength to be a voice for him.” She paused for a moment with tears in her eyes before continuing, “that’s what gave me the courage to step out.”

Harrelson said that Floyd’s death left an undeniable impact on how Americans view racism, “For so long it was a sleeping giant for brown and Black people. He was a great awakening for white America...it created a conversation that...I’ve never seen about race relations.”

Harrelson continued by emphasizing the importance of speaking out when something wrong is happening. She expressed her gratitude towards Darnella Frazier, a 17-year-old girl who videotaped the killing on her phone, “The police safety officer [wrote] that George Floyd died of medical causes...That was gonna be the narrative.... [But] you had the world watching because of [her].”

But despite some obvious animosity towards her nephew’s killers, Harrelson also emphasized not letting hate consume you and letting love guide you. “Do I hate Mr. Chauvin? No, I don’t hate that man.... I’m better than that, We all are better than that....I hope that he himself can find a place of healing on his journey. I really do....Because he is a human being.”

The discussion ended with a number of student questions and a conversation on a famous question asked by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.: “Where do we go from here?” Harrelson implored the audience to use Floyd’s “unfortunate gift.” She went on to explain, “He left a gift for each and every one of you to use your voice to speak out when you see injustice.”

As the title of her book goes, “Lift Your Voice.”

Clubs continued from A1



The Tabletop Games Club displayed 20-sided dice, a common “Dungeons & Dragons” tool, on their Welcome Day booth. RUBY GO | WASHTENAW VOICE

While founding a club may be challenging, running it past the first meeting requires even more time and effort. This is why club registration needs four student leaders and at least one faculty advisor.

Both Capraru and Aeschliman identify students’ short amount of time at WCC as a challenge to finding consistent club leadership. Either way, Fuller says leaders should be “dedicated” in continuing the club.

Fuller advises students creating their own club to “have friends also interested who can help organize. It’s helpful to have someone interested in it who you already know, so you know they’ll actually be accountable for getting the club started.”

He describes tabletops and board games as “usually a niche interest. ... Through outreach, though, [students] can discover new things they like, new people to hang out with – even outside the club

– have new experiences, and have fun together.”

Student Development & Activities wants clubs to be inclusive to all students, whether taking on-campus or online classes, yet Capraru hopes extracurriculars shift to in-person.

“Involvement matters outside of the classroom just as much inside,” Capra says. “[Extracurriculars] have been really picking up in the last year.”

When she was a WCC student before the pandemic, Capraru had just moved from out of state.

“If I hadn’t joined clubs, I never would’ve found my people,” she says, emphasizing how clubs teach “skills in a low-stakes environment [which] you take with you the rest of your life.”

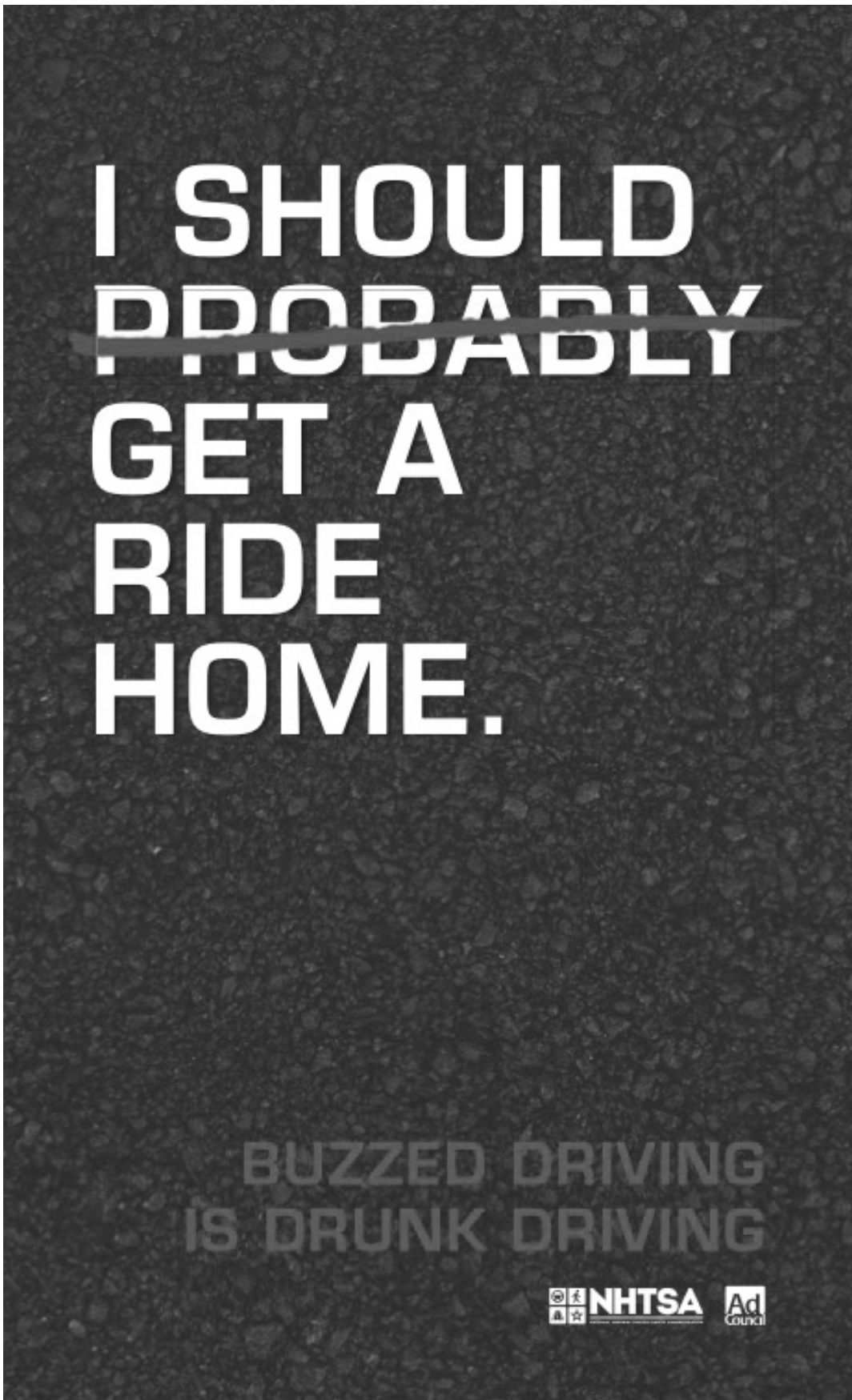
Tabletop Games Club meets every Friday from 2:30 to 4:30pm in LA 225. A2 Entrepreneurs meets every other Thursday, starting on Jan 26,

with the time and location to be determined. For a full list of clubs, go to WCC’s Campus Connect page and click on ‘Organizations.’

Students interested in registering a club should contact Veronica Capraru vcapraru@wccnet.edu or in the Student Development & Activities Office (SC 108).

‘Have friends also interested who can help organize. It’s helpful to have someone interested in it who you already know, so you know they’ll actually be accountable for getting the club started.’

- Lucas Fuller



COLUMN

How Democrats countered the purple wave in the 2022 midterm election

By JACOB KUIPER
Staff Writer



ILLUSTRATION | LAURA CHODOROFF

No state encapsulates the failed GOP dreams of a red election like Michigan. Democratic incumbents Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, and Attorney General Dana Nessel were seen as some of the most vulnerable politicians in the country. All three, however, ended up not only surviving, but winning handily – smashing their opponents by 10, 14, and 8 points respectively.

Dems were also able to flip a US House of Representatives seat in the Grand Rapids area and almost won a district in Macomb County, despite losing an incumbent’s seat because of 2020 census reapportionment. They were also able to win back the State House of Representatives and State Senate, earning them “trifecta” (control of all three branches of government) control for the first time in 38 years.

What happened? What

caused this year of historical exception?

Arguably the most important factor was abortion. In 2022, the Supreme Court issued a decision in the case *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* that overturned the decisions in *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, giving full power to the states to regulate abortion.

Michigan was one state thrust onto the abortion stage. A 1931 law criminalizing abortion and state government in the control of anti-abortion Republicans suddenly left Whitmer the only line of defense for abortion rights, scrambling partisans on both sides. The appearance of Proposition 3 on the ballot, a proposed amendment to add abortion and contraception rights into the Michigan constitution, also added uncertainty to the mix.

Polling backs up this thought. A CNN poll of Michigan voters in 2022 found that 63% thought that abortion should be legal with 45% rating abortion their top issue. 56% said they were “dissatisfied/angry” about *Roe v. Wade* being overturned.

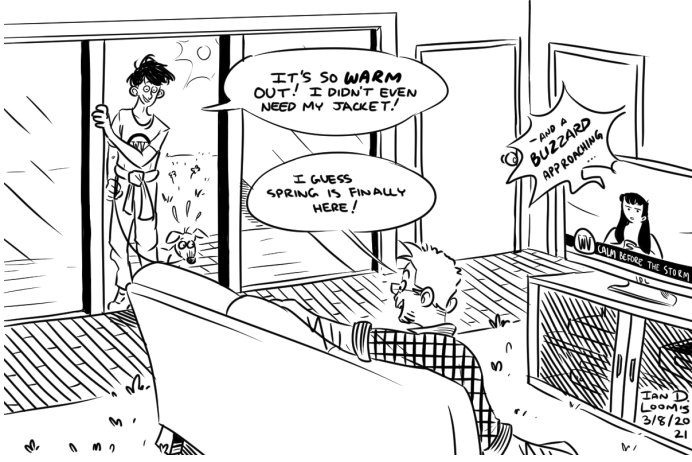
Fair redistricting also played a role. 2022 marked the first year that US House, MI State House and State Senate districts would not be drawn by politicians but by an independent, bipartisan commission. After Republicans took control of state government in 2010 they drew district maps to make it hard for Democrats to win. In 2019, a federal judge panel found that redistricting in 2011 under Republicans was so partisan that it constituted an illegal gerrymander. Today’s maps get an A or B rating from the Princeton Gerrymandering Project when ranked on

measures of partisan fairness, competitiveness, and geographic features (compactness/county splitting).

The nail in the coffin for Republicans in Michigan was a candidate quality problem. GOP nominee for Governor Tudor Dixon was relentlessly attacked on the campaign trail for her opposition to abortion without exception for rape or incest. The CNN poll also found that only 38% of voters thought that Whitmer’s views were too extreme while 56% thought that Dixon’s were. The GOPs other statewide candidates, Secretary of State nominee Kristina Karamo and Attorney General nominee Matthew DePerno had similar issues. Both election deniers, Karamo had claimed that Trump had won in 2020 and that she had witnessed fraud as a poll challenger. DePerno led a failed lawsuit challenging the 2020 election results in Antrim County even after a state Republican-led investigation concluded that there was “no evidence of widespread or systematic fraud.”

2022 was supposed to be like any other “wave” election year, but abortion, redistricting, and flawed candidates led to meager results. Despite some success, no other state showed the depth of the GOP’s failures like Michigan. Michigan was Democrats’ blue shining jewel in a sea of purple.

ILLUSTRATED BY IAN D. LOOMIS

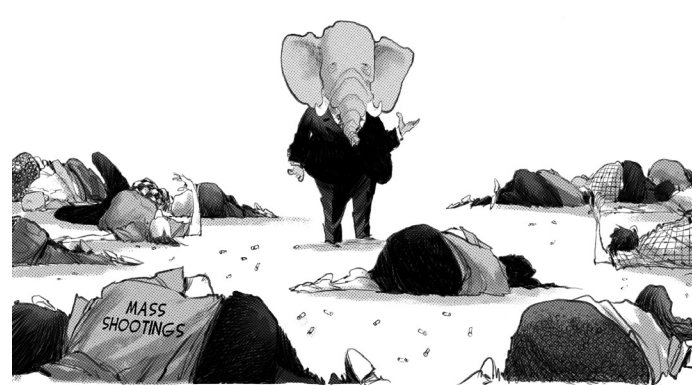


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SHENEMAN THE STAR-LEDGER



"I COME TO YOU TONIGHT TO DISCUSS AN ISSUE OF VITAL NATIONAL IMPORTANCE... WHY AREN'T THE MEMES SEXY ANYMORE?"

What do you think of President Biden’s last two years in office?

By Willow Symonds | Staff Writer

VOICE BOX

“I don’t have any major complaints but [Biden] is very neutral on a lot of things. It feels like not a lot of people wanted him, even the people who voted for him. ... He could do more with communication, though I know that’s hard considering how divided everyone is.”

Shani Van Heerde, Pre-Law



“I really dislike [Biden] because he supports the Israeli government, which goes against Palestine, and I’m Palestinian. I don’t think he’s ever gonna change.”

Saif Hassein, undecided



“One thing I’ve watched closely is student loans. In fact, I’m filling out [a student loans sheet] right now. I know he’s trying, but stuff with the Supreme Court isn’t working out. I’m conflicted on Biden. It feels like a lot he promised before the election is falling through.”

Rachel Ratajczak, Computer Science



“The country has not been in the best spot these past two years. It’s been rough [with] groceries, gas prices. ... I don’t like the student loan exemptions. We’re at community college because we don’t want to pay for student loans, and now [Biden is] refunding everyone else’s.”

Josh Knehr, Journalism



“I’m happy they’re repealing the Parents Protection Action Act from Trump’s time, which made it difficult for queer people, people of color, and non-Christians to adopt. I’m not sure if they’ve completely overturned it, but I think they’re making progress.”

Kowsar Mohamed, Biology



“I dislike that having a fairly bland president is the best we can hope for. I like the fact I don’t have to worry about it because at least [Biden] probably hasn’t declared war.”

Carrie Sonen, undecided



“I definitely like Biden taking effort to reach out to people in the African-American community. He’s acknowledged Black-led Greek letter organizations for Founders’ Day, including Kamala Harris’ [former] sorority, in the last few weeks. I dislike his family scandals. They discredit him, and he fought hard to step from VP to President.”

Dary’us Bell, Photography



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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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Local business owner discusses pros of IV therapy

By Grace Crandall
Staff Writer

With gray winter days officially set in, many people are seeking a way to give their health a boost. More time indoors means less time in the sunshine, a natural source of Vitamin D and immune system support. Amongst the decade of pandemics and mental health is a search for efficient supplementation. The answer may lie in IV therapy.



All IVs are made on site in a separate room.



Patients are invited to recline in chairs with different relaxation settings while receiving IVs.

Intravenous therapy, commonly referred to as IV therapy, is a way to directly deliver fluids and nutrients through veins in the body. It is the fastest way to deliver nutrients to the bloodstream, according to Cambridge College of Healthcare and Technology. It remains one of the most efficient sources of hydration as well.

While perhaps not the most well-known form of supplementation, IV therapy has been a standard procedure at hospitals for many decades. It's the shift to independent businesses that is creating attention in many cities.

For Jenn Ekpo, co-owner of InfusIV Hydration in Ann Arbor, it was important to bring IV therapy to more people. When she and her husband, Timothy, opened their IV lounge three years ago, there was nothing like it in the area. After Ekpo and her



Receptionist Jazmine Bailey answers calls in the IV lobby.

husband had seen the benefits of the therapy, they decided to bring it to Ann Arbor.

"We knew this was a great benefit because we had experienced it," Ekpo said. "We knew there was a need for it and we knew Ann Arbor was the best place because the people are very health driven."

InfusIV Hydration is a wellness company in downtown Ann Arbor that offers a variety of vitamin-infused IVs. The foundation of most IVs is B-complex, which helps to restore energy and overall health. This basic B-complex IV, referred to as "The Classic," is what Ekpo recommends for newcomers.

Another popular IV infusion, called "The Hangover", combines Zofran, for anti-nausea, and Toradol, for anti-inflammation, along with vitamins B and C. Other infusions provide nutrients such as zinc, magnesium, and glutathione. The ultimate goal, however, remains the same: 100 percent nutrition absorption.

"When you take something orally, your body may retain 30% of it," said Ekpo. "When you're doing it through IV therapy, it delivers essential vitamins, nutrients, and supplements directly into the bloodstream for maximum potency, and has faster health benefits."

When a supplement is

taken orally, it must pass through the digestive system, thus losing some of its effectiveness. An IV is able to bypass this process and go directly to the bloodstream, improving hydration and nutrition absorption.

Ekpo commented on how the COVID-19 pandemic increased people's awareness of health and led them to discover IV therapy. People have received infusions specifically to help with the brain fog that may be a side effect of COVID. One infusion, NAD+, helps rebuild cellular energy production and revitalize the immune system.

InfusIV Hydration takes both scheduled appointments and walk-ins. A standard appointment includes filling out a client intake and medical form. From there, the client chooses which infusion they would like.

For first-time customers, a 25% discount is applied. There is also a 30% student discount for every visit. The company offers a new monthly deal as well.

Ekpo encourages people of all ages to try IV therapy: "IV hydration is essential for everyone...once people do it, they will notice a positive change in their bodies."

For more information or to schedule an appointment, go to infusivhydration.com.

Students have fun in the snow around campus



Students Ahmed and Ayesha Renollet celebrate the snow by making a new friend.



Students make a snowman outside of the SC building.



Snow blankets a tree in front of the SC building.

WHEN YOU see
BULLYING,
use THIS
EMOJI
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ABOUT it.



How do your outfits influence your mood?



By Willow Symonds & Robin Wyllie-Scholz
Staff Writer & Deputy Editor

Charlotte Smith

Undecided Major
How has your sense of style evolved over time?

Until the pandemic hit, I didn't have any sense of style, which is kinda ironic. But as soon as I didn't have to dress for anyone else, I was able to explore what I liked in my own clothes. In high school, I wore skater shirts and cut-off khakis - It wasn't a look. I had a perm briefly. We all make mistakes. It's okay.

What's your favorite item you're wearing?

Probably this jacket - I LOVE this jacket. I got it thrifted. It's Harley Davidson.

Why do you thrift instead of shopping in other places?

I'm broke, and it's more sustainable.

Many people choose outfits based on their mood, and some people's outfits influence their mood. Some people stick to one aesthetic, and others bounce from style to style. Lots of people focus on clothing items, but some gravitate toward accessories, such as pins sporting their ideals and sense of humor. The Voice is here to show that WCC students represent all of the above, and more.

Best place to go is Nu2U in Saline, near [the] high school. They have amazing bag sales, so you can fill a whole bag for \$10.

Do your outfits influence your mood?

Oh, yeah. If I'm not well-dressed, I don't do anything.

How would you describe your sense of style in a few words?

All over the place. I don't like trend cycles very much, but I like trying something new all the time.

How do you see your sense of style changing in the future?

I've been making my own capsule wardrobe. I plan on moving to Korea at the end of the year, and there's a lot more of a modest culture there ... so I'm trying to lean into that and cover up more.



Grace Pilon

WTMC Math & Science
What is your favorite item you're wearing?

Probably this shirt. I got it from Rag-stock sometime last year.

How would you describe your sense of style in a few words?

I just go with whatever's most comfortable.

Do your clothes influence your mood?

I more base my outfit off of my mood and less my mood off my outfit.



Nelson Portis

3-D Animation
What is your favorite item you're wearing?

It's probably the jacket. I think it was my dad's or something.

How would you describe your sense of style in a few words?

I only got a specific aesthetic. I used to kinda experiment with emo, then I experimented with button-ups a little bit, so I've got some button-ups. Normally [I] get some cool-looking pants, a cool-looking shirt, some accessories, and a jacket.

Q: What inspires your outfits?

A: I dunno, I just watch a lot of anime, so... I just kinda dress like that.



Becca Boduch

Fine Arts
What's your favorite item you're wearing today?

Probably my sweater and my pronoun pin. I got [the sweater] from Amazon and the pronoun pin from a small business in Ypsi.

Where do you normally get your clothes?

I just kind of go with the flow. If I see clothes I like, I think, 'Yeah, that's pretty cool.' It just kinda depends.

Do your outfits influence your mood?

When I make myself more presentable, it makes me confident, especially in my gender identity.



Phoenix Casey

General Studies
What's your favorite item you're currently wearing?

Probably my worm pin. I got that in a convention called Midwest Furfest. There was a creator there selling pins, so I picked up this one and a few others. The 'cursed thoughts' and the trans paw are also from there.

Can you tell me more about your pins?

Pretty much all of them are attached to this sweatshirt. ... The unicorn one here is from a place in Ypsi called Feed & Supply, and they have a lot more pride pins than this one, but this is the one I wanted most out of their collection.



新年快乐

Happy New Year!



An authentic guide to the Lunar New Year

Explaining the Lunar New Year's past and present

SAVAN SAIYA-CORK | VOICE CONTRIBUTOR

What is the Lunar New Year?

The Lunar New Year (aka. Chinese New Year), is a 15-day holiday celebrating winter's end and the start of the lunisolar calendar. The 15 days between New Year's Eve and the Lantern Festival are known as the Spring Festival. Lunar New Year celebrations originated in China during the Zhou Dynasty, but now the festival is celebrated by billions of people all around the world. The holiday is about reuniting with family, sharing delicious food, and praying for good fortune. 2023 is the year of the rabbit with its festivities beginning on Jan. 21 and lasting until Feb. 5.

Why is it important?

The Lunar New Year has more than three millennia of tradition and history. It is a celebration of family and prosperity which links ancient ancestors to their modern descendants. The Lunar New Year also causes the largest human migration in the world. "The spring migration" or the "chun-yun" are the names attributed to the millions of people traveling around the world to see their families for the holiday.

"It is China's most important holiday," said Professor Ying Gao, a Chinese language teacher at WCC. She described the plight of Chinese citizens who found ways to secretly celebrate the holiday during Japan's occupation of China during WWII. "They didn't have much food, but they still celebrated and prayed." Even after WWII, Chinese citizens endured death, wars, and plagues to protect these sacred traditions.

What are the origins?

The Lunar New Year is so old, historians are unsure of its true age. It is believed to be between 3,500-4,000 years old. The most important and long standing holiday traditions can be traced to

of the word "nian" have been found.

"Nian, is a Chinese word meaning year," said Professor Gao, "The first appearance of 'nian' was in ancient times." She explained that the word's meaning is linked to a legendary monster also called the "Nian." The Nian is a monster which terrorized ancient villages. Villagers were helpless against his attacks... Until they learned his secret.

"His weakness is he is scared of the color red and big noises," Gao said. The villagers, armed with this knowledge, began decorating their doorways with red paper, wore bright red clothes, and lit loud firecrackers to ward off the Nian. Many people of Chinese descent still practice these rituals in honor of their ancient ancestors.

How is it celebrated today?

In recent years many traditions have been abandoned or altered to suit modern Chinese culture. For example, lighting fireworks was previously an integral aspect of celebrating the New Year. But due to air-pollution and densely populated cities, many regions have banned civilians from lighting fireworks at home. Instead, the government conducts firework displays to promote safety and reduce air-pollution. Another important aspect of celebrating the Lunar New Year is sharing food. Chinese exchange student, Mofan Tang, detailed his family's typical New Year Feast. "My parents and grandparents cooked lots of good food like chicken, lamb, and beef. We also had vegetables and rice as sides. Sometimes there were 10 to 20 dishes served." While Tang and his relatives enjoy cooking together, not all families have that luxury. "While everyone else goes home many restaurants stay open. It is their busiest time of year," said Professor Gao. She explained that in more recent years, fewer people were cooking their own food, instead ordering their New Year's meals from restaurants. "Restaurants can make a lot of money during New Year." Instead of celebrating the New Year with the

rest of the country, restaurants remain open during the entirety of the holiday. Afterwards, they take a few days off once the celebrations have ended.

Children and young adults have an extra incentive to enjoy New Year's celebrations. The older generations gift the younger generations bags or envelopes filled with cash.

"There's no specific rule about how much money is put in the bag," said Tang, "the amount depends on how rich the family is." Even this simple tradition is being modernized through the usage of Chinese messaging software We-Chat. The app allows users to send digital red envelopes by electronically transferring money to other app users.

Why the rabbit?

The traditional Chinese calendar follows a 12-year cycle. In this cycle, every year is attributed to an animal following a specific order. The order of those animals is based on an old myth about the Chinese God, the Jade Emperor, hosting a race between 12 animals. Each animal's position in the race determines what year they represent. The animals in order from first to last are: the rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, goat, monkey, rooster, dog, and pig. This year (2023) is the fourth year of the current lunar cycle, so it is represented by the rabbit.

Where you celebrate?

At the time of writing, there are no major Lunar New Year celebrations in Washtenaw County open to the public. The Washtenaw Community College Department of Diversity and Inclusion has plans on hosting a yet undermined event taking place between Jan. 30 and Feb. 2.

Diversify Your BOOKSHELF

By Willow Symonds
Staff Writer



Act Cool by Tobly McSmith (2021)

Diversify Your Bookshelf introduces readers to books written from marginalized perspectives, including racial minorities, LGBTQ+ individuals, disabled people, and more. These books come in all genres and targeted age groups, so there's something for everyone.

Persephone Station by Stina Leicht (2021)
Genre: Science-Fiction Adventure; LGBTQ

Angel de la Reza, a former United Republic of Worlds marine, now works as a mercenary. She travels to a job on Persephone Station, a seemingly backwater planet colonized by large mining corporations, where her temporary employer, Rosie, runs the shady Monk's Inn. While on her assigned mission, Angel meets Kennedy Liu, an artificially intelligent android with human empathy. Kennedy is

also a foreigner to Persephone Station, and she's here to find answers for existence. The two outsiders band together, but they didn't expect to face a whole army: Serrao-Orlov, a company hellbent on getting their way. "Persephone Station" features an all-female and non-binary cast in this fast-paced space opera, with world-building and a story drawing inspiration from high-tech Japanese aesthetics and wild Westerns.

Act Cool by Tobly McSmith (2021)
Genre: Young Adult Contemporary; LGBTQ

16-year-old August Greene moves in with his cool aunt in New York City, both to escape his transphobic parents and to audition for the elite School of Performing Arts. The position he gets in the theater department is a dream he never thought possible, but the classes and musicals require much more from him than he anticipated. While dealing with petty classmates, demanding teachers, and complicated relationships, he begins to question his place at the new

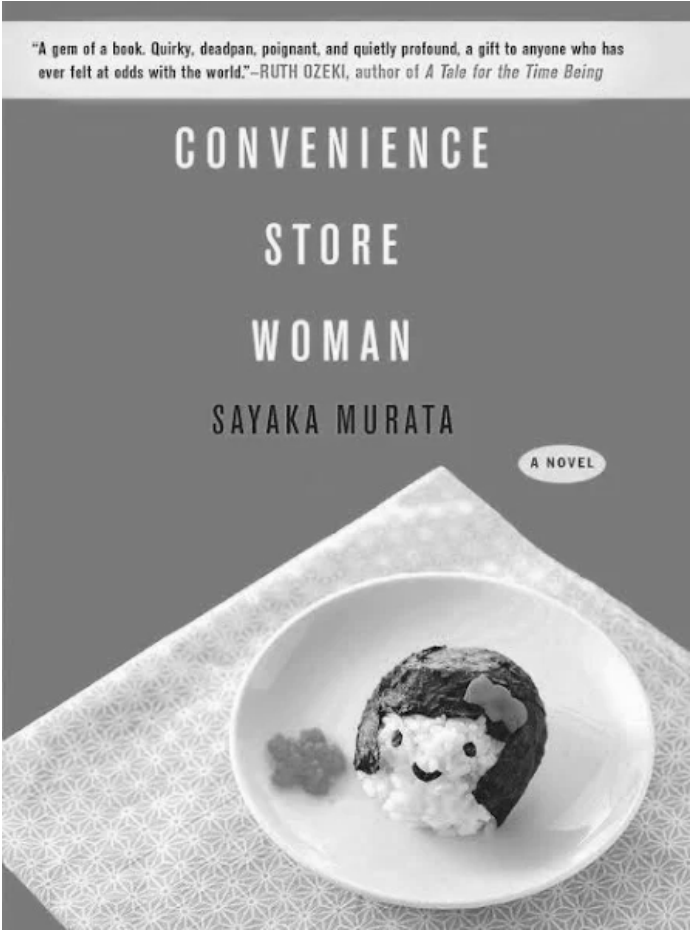
school – and in life. Will August act his way through this, or will he find his real self hiding under the characters he plays? "Act Cool" is a breezy read with enough humor and heartbreak to get readers emotionally invested.

Convenience Store Woman by Sakaya Murata (2016)
Genre: Contemporary; Humor

At the age of 36, odd Keiko Furukura has spent almost two decades working at a city convenience store. Keiko feels content just where she is in life, single and enjoying her job, but her family and the few friends she has want her to pursue more. While the unpleasant co-worker who got fired within days is no one Keiko wants to befriend, they do have one thing in common: neither fits societal expectations, and they can use this to help each other from the people trying to dictate their lives. Translated from Japanese, "Convenience Store Woman" fits so much characterization and personality in less than 200 pages, making it memorable for any reader.



Persephone Station by Stina Leicht (2021)



Convenience Store Woman by Sakaya Murata (2016)

Lyric Lane

Grace Faver
Graphic Designer

WCC students told us their favorite songs for the month. Check out these fun tunes.

Nobody - Mitski (2018)
"Mitski really helps her fan base through the super deep lyrics."
Khadija N. - TMC Student



Ibiza - Ozuna and Romeo Santos (2018)
"The song has good, soft vibes for doing homework."
Salma B. - WTM Student



Superhero - Metroboom (2022)
"It goes hard and is great for jamming out in the car."
Elliot M. - Mechatronics



The Great Gig in the Sky by Pink Floyd (1973)
"Even with no words, it gives me a lot of energy and is perfect for headphones."
Avery C. - General Math and Sciences



golden hour - JVKE (2022)
"Cause he's pretty."
Jacob K. - Political Science



Tubular Bells - Mike Oldfield (1973)
"The song is forty minutes long, with many movements and was used for the the Exorcist theme."
Isaac S. - Photography

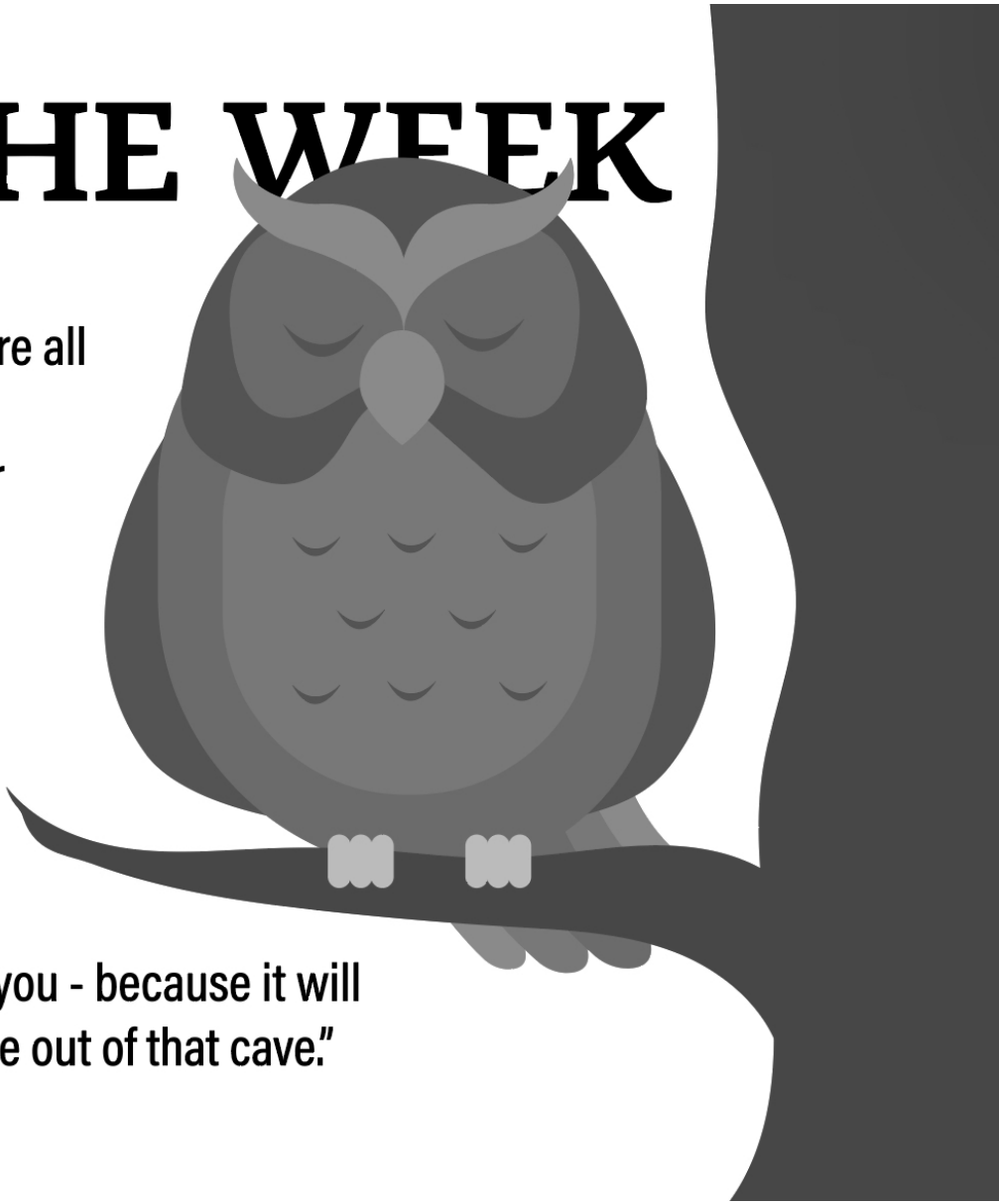


WISDOM OF THE WEEK

"We all have the same roots, and we are all branches of the same tree."
Aang - Avatar: The Last Airbender

"I am and always will be an optimist, the hoper of far-flung hopes, and the dreamer of improbable dreams."
The Evelenth Doctor - Doctor Who

"Make mistakes, learn from them, and when life hurts you - because it will - remember the hurt. The hurt is good. It means you're out of that cave."
Jim Hoper - Stranger Things



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Solutions to puzzles on washtenawvoice.com

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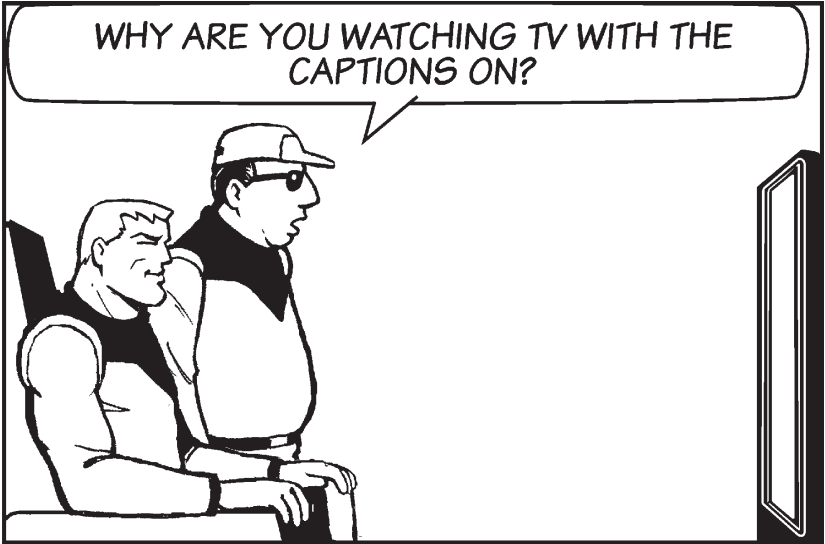
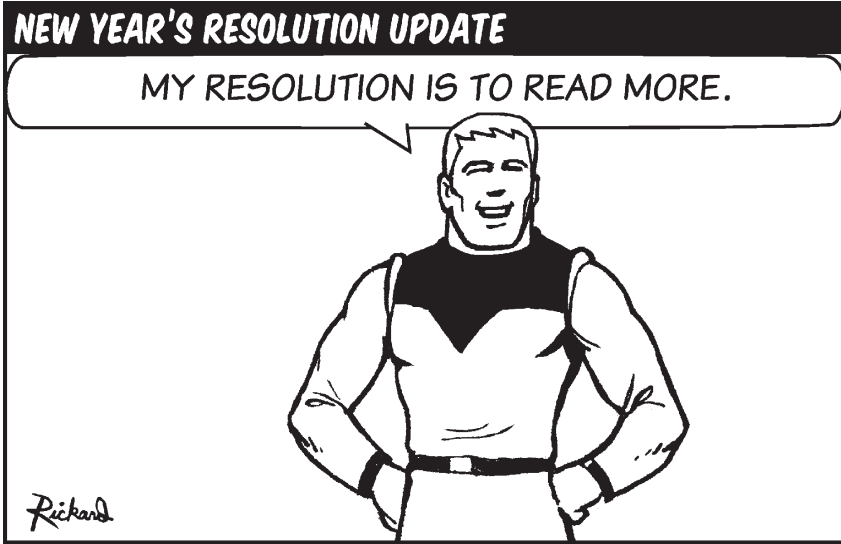
ACROSS

- 1 Amble along
6 "I don't get it"
9 Secret agent
12 Wonderland cake
invitation that Alice accepted
13 Nevada gambling town
near Carson City
14 Pool stick
15 Emmy category
16 Merry-go-rounds
18 Floral wreath
20 Washer cycle
21 "Fee, __, foe, fum"
23 DEA agent
24 Feels the same
25 "Ella Enchanted" star
- Hathaway
27 Car or truck
29 South American
grasslands
31 Facts and figures
32 Thumb drive port
35 Humped beast
36 Buffet table coffee server
37 Overly sentimental
39 Be in debt
40 Prom partner
42 Fireplace receptacle
43 Enters using a keyboard
45 In this location
46 Girl who lost her sheep
49 Shoveler's target
- 51 Hi-__ monitor
52 Hearing-related
53 Language of Helsinki
55 Some horses on a stud
farm
57 Lab containers
60 One of 88 on a piano
61 Vaping pen, informally
62 Orange Muppet in a
striped shirt
63 Fourth-yr. students
64 Part of the fam
65 Move like a crab

DOWN

- 1 Pre-__: college track for a
future doctor
2 White-water rafting need
3 *Performer's pseudonym
4 Corrin who plays Diana in
"The Crown"
5 Pine (for)
6 Bunch of buffalo
7 __, dos, tres
8 *Flippable timekeeper
9 Public tantrum
10 Heart rate
11 Acceptances
13 *Creamy dip for
vegetables
16 __ package
- 17 Thoroughbred's father
19 Loos
21 Edie of "The Sopranos"
22 Kin by marriage
24 Play a role
26 WSW opposite
28 "Atonement" novelist
McEwan
30 *Dog in a Disney tear-
jerker
32 Advantageous position,
and what each answer to a
starred clue literally has
33 Steeple topper
34 Memory units
36 SLC athlete
- 38 Contented sigh
41 Google Play download
42 Unknown author, for short
43 Bluish green
44 Cozy stopovers
46 Savors the sun
47 On the periphery
48 Seeks divine guidance
50 Some ring bearers
53 Wrap for leftovers
54 Apple's digital assistant
56 Apply a bag of peas to,
maybe
58 "Eternal Atake" rapper __
Uzi Vert
59 "O say can you __ ... "

BREWSTER ROCKIT By Tim Rickard



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

Public Health Technician - Part Time.
Under limited supervision, performs preliminary and re-test hearing and/or vision screening at various schools and clinic sites throughout Oakland County to detect vision or hearing abnormalities of children and adults. Interprets and records test results and performs any necessary follow up by letter, phone or conferences. Travels to various clinic sites and schools throughout Oakland County. Utilizes current county-wide and/or department specific software to complete assignments.

Construction Services Technician.
Complete and submit accurate Daily Field Reports. Perform routine tasks, tests, and

computations associated with construction materials testing and field observations under the supervision of the Project Engineer/Project Manager. This will include sampling and testing of concrete, soils, asphalt, and other construction materials on construction projects. Assist engineering staff with field monitoring activities. Independently operate relevant testing/monitoring equipment.

NetSuite Developer.
Under general supervision, develop, enhance and maintain customizations, custom objects and new functionality based on evolving business needs as related to its ERP. Suns NetSuite developers work as part of a team and participate in Suns proprietary Software Development Lifecycle (SDLC) processes. ***This position has the option to work remotely throughout the United States.

Support Coordinator (Social Worker/Case Manager).
Provide direct case management and/or coordinate with case managers in the community to provide continuity of service for individuals and families we serve. Ongoing, active outreach to tenants/clients. Comprehensive tenant assessments and action plans to achieve goals. Ongoing case management for clients, including maintenance of clinical records and progress notes. Collaboration with property

management to coordinate eviction prevention efforts.

IT Systems Administrator.
As the Glass and Mirror Craft IT Systems Administrator you will work with a talented group of employees using the latest technology to provide innovative solutions to enhance our operating software. Our culture demands that leadership must be built on the following "non-negotiables: Grit, Entrepreneurial Thought, Significance over Success, A Strong Desire to Learn, and Deep Customer Care. If you have these and want to be a part of our growing company, we would love to hear from you.

Nanny, Sitter, Tutor.
Jovie is searching for caring, energetic, cheery, and dedicated Nannies and Sitters to adopt their I can do motto when it comes to being a positive beacon in the lives of children. Do you have the ability to engage and connect with children? Are you always hanging out at the kids' table at family gatherings? If it's your name we're calling, learn more about these openings today! College Tutors is searching for organized, subject specific experts to work as dedicated part-time Academic Tutors for middle and high school students. Do you have the ability to engage and connect with students? Are you always being asked to help students with math, history or science projects? If it's your name

we're calling, come join our team and apply today!

Research Associate.
The position is an in-person role located in our Ann Arbor, MI office. Xoran supports the health and safety of employees and customers. As such, full COVID-19 vaccination is a requirement for employment. Conduct lab experiments, configuring test imaging equipment and sensors, taking measurements, and collecting data. Process data using MATLAB to manipulate and reconstruct image data. Analyze data and interpret results; compile information and results into meaningful formats to ensure content is appropriately represented. Maintain records, documentation, and data analysis information. Perform calculations; collate data; perform statistical analysis of lab results. Prepare analytical reports relative to research data.

General Ledger Accountant.
As a General Ledger Accountant you will be responsible for general accounting functions including, maintaining general ledger and account reconciliations. You will also assist with monthly closings and account analysis while supporting the accounting team in carrying out other duties as they arise.

Patient Services Associate.
The overarching role of our

team is to support patients and families through the surgical day and to execute clerical tasks enabling medical providers to spend the most time with the patient. Our team covers each of the clerical desks in the UH and CVC Operating Rooms and Post Anesthesia Care Units (PACUs). The Operating Room and Anesthesia Front Desks, PreOp, and PACU clerical roles are largely 'behind the scenes' positions, assisting and coordinating the people, equipment, schedules, etc. that enable smooth operations in and around the operating rooms. Surgery Reception staff check patients in for their procedures and act as communication liaisons between clinicians and family members, relaying important information throughout the stressful surgical day. The candidate selected for this position will learn several desks for this position.

Perrigo Undergraduate Summer Fellowship.
The University of Michigan Life Sciences Institute is seeking applicants for its annual summer fellowship, which offers an immersive, hands-on experience in basic science research. The Perrigo Undergraduate Summer Fellowship is open to all undergraduates currently enrolled in any Michigan college or university (priority given to rising juniors and seniors). Students will work side-by-side with mentors in the LSI labs for 10 weeks, and will receive a \$6,000 stipend

and \$2,500 in housing support.

A&P Mechanic.
A leading provider of air cargo is looking for certified A&P Mechanics on multiple shifts. This is a Direct-Hire, on-site position.

Operations Intern.
The Operations Intern will assist the Operations team and learn the ins and outs of the day-to-day operations activities which include providing technical and facility support to all members at Waldron so they may perform their job at the highest level possible.

ZEUS Laboratory Technician.
High power (Class IV) laser alignment, operation and maintenance. Inspect, disassemble, repair, refurbish and test laser optics and optical assemblies in a controlled laboratory environment. Perform inspections, repairs, alignments, calibrations, and other testing of laboratory equipment. Participate in installation, testing, and commissioning of ZEUS vacuum system. Maintain ZEUS vacuum system including roughing vacuum pumps, turbo pumps and vacuum gauges. Develop quotes, order parts for laser and vacuum systems.

Compiled by: Ruby Go | Editor

events

AT WCC IN THE COMMUNITY

ARTS AND CRAFTS WELLBEING EXTRAVAGANZA

Jan. 31 from 1-3:30 p.m.
Bailey Library Active Learning Zone
Visit the Bailey Library to learn more about how doing arts and crafts can promote creativity and benefit your mental health.

CLUB FAIR DAY

Feb. 1 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
First floor of the Student Center
Come check out the active clubs on campus. Free food and free giveaways will be offered.

COMPASSIONATE TRANSFORMATION: HOW TO NOT OVERWHELM YOURSELF WITH COURSEWORK

Feb. 1 from 2-3 p.m.
GM 201
Join the Learning Commons’ tutoring staff to learn how to plan accordingly so that you don’t get overwhelmed by your coursework. This session will explore various techniques that lead to success.

THERPAWS: THERAPY DOGS VISIT THE BAILEY LIBRARY

Feb. 8 from noon-1:30 p.m.
First floor of the Bailey Library
Need some puppy love? Therapaws of Michigan volunteers and their therapy dogs will be in the library to visit every month.



DIGITAL SALT: DISPERSED SELINA THOMPSON

Jan. 31
U-M University Musical Society
In this digital presentation, performance artist Selina Thompson recreates her award-winning dramatic monologue about a journey she made by cargo ship to retrace the triangular route of the transatlantic slave trade.

LETTERPRESS OPEN LAB

Feb. 4 from 2-4 p.m.
AADL Downtown: Secret Lab
This lab will feature a short guided activity to get familiar with assembling and printing a letterpress project. Participants will be able to use wood type, handset lead type and ornaments, and learn how to hand ink and print on a Vandercook cylinder press.

OPEN MIC IN THE GALLERY

Feb. 4 from 5-7 p.m.
The Gallery at Stone & Spoon
Open to all skill levels, this is an inclusive and encouraging environment to get your work out there and practice delivery.

EMERGING WRITERS WORKSHOP

Feb. 6 from 6:30-7:45 p.m.
AADL Westgate Branch: West Side Room
In this workshop, Alex Kourvo and Bethany Neal will show you how to use appropriate settings and vivid descriptions to heighten character, action, and theme.



BAD ART NIGHT

Feb. 9 from 6-7:30 p.m.
AADL Downtown: Secret Lab
Join the AADL at Bad Art Night, where everything is made up and your artistic skill doesn’t matter. Arts and crafts supplies will be provided.

3D PRINTING OPEN LAB

Feb. 11 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
AADL Downtown: Secret Lab
This open lab will provide access to the library's 3D printing resources including printers, filament, and design stations.

ESL CONVERSATION GROUP

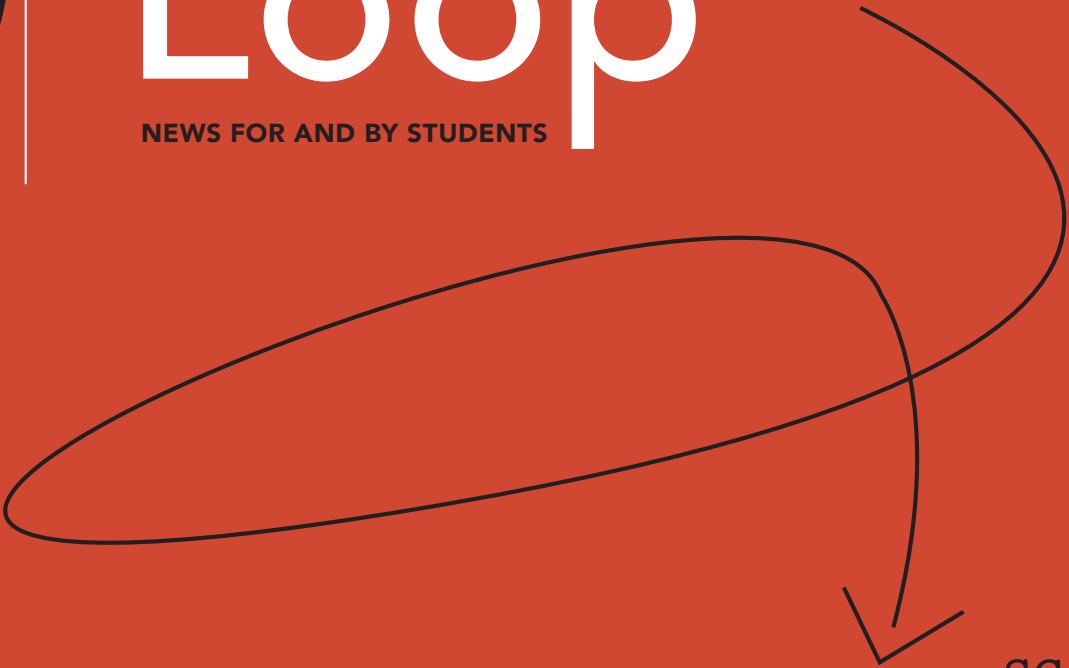
Feb. 13 from 6-7:30 p.m.
AADL Traverwood: Program Room
Washtenaw Literacy’s ESL conversation groups focus on speaking and listening skills for adults in an informal, relaxed setting.

MY FOLKY VALENTINE

Feb. 14 from 8-11 p.m.
The Ark
Cost: \$20
My Folky Valentine is The Ark’s annual celebration of romance. Each year, The Ark presents a few of the region’s top musical couples.



The Loop
NEWS FOR AND BY STUDENTS



SCAN ME !

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

Every week in your inbox

