

WHY READING MATTERS

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STUDENT LIFE SHOWCASE

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SPORTS TRYOUTS

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THE

WASHTENAW VOICE

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Campus celebrates MLK in awards ceremony

ALEJANDRA SMITH
Staff Writer

The campus community gathered on Jan. 12 for a celebration of commemoration which honored Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in anticipation of MLK Day Jan 18.

WCC’s 18th Annual MLK day celebration had the theme of economic justice at its forefront.

This quote from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. reiterated the celebration’s theme: “[I]f a man doesn’t have a job or an income, he has neither life nor liberty nor the possibility for the purpose of happiness. He merely exists.”

These words themselves set the stage for keynote speaker

er Dexter Sullivan, a principal consultant at a forerunner consulting agency and a wboard chair for three different non-profit organizations.

WCC President Rose Belanca, Eric Reed, dean of student access, success, equity and inclusion, and Corey Jackson, client relations manager, introduced Sullivan.

The speech Sullivan gave focused on the importance of remaining “divinely dissatisfied” to ignite the fight for justice. He concluded with a call to action.

“Rise up to the difficult pursuits that are waiting to be surpassed by our innate brilliance, ability and will to win.” said Sullivan. “With a clear vision for justice, there is also-



Dexter Sullivan gives a speech about the importance of remaining "divinely dissatisfied" to ignite the fight for justice.



The winners of the Equity in Action Awards are Mary Mullalond, Susan Dentel, Alexi McCracken, and Sheriff Jerry Clayton (not pictured).

lutely no limit to the greatness that we can achieve together.”

WCC also recognized four individuals for outstanding work in helping people in marginalized communities.

The annual Equity in Action Awards were given to English instructor Mary Mullalond, life sciences professor Susan Dentel, student adviser Alexi McCracken and Washtenaw County Sheriff Jerry Clayton.

Dentel said, “I consider STEM Scholars to be a bridge

to help students who are vulnerable. Every student is a diamond.”

“A lot of those students have untapped potential, they don’t know they’re a diamond,” she said.

Alejandro Cervantes, a computer science major attending the event said, “It’s great that we celebrate this yearly; we need to focus on those who don’t have a leg up in the world. It’s important to add your ideas to others in order to create something bigger.”

FASFA rolls out new changes for the upcoming academic year

KRISTY KAZZI
Staff Writer

In the upcoming 2024-25 academic year, students will see a change in the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) process. While enrolling in college has often involved navigating the FAFSA, a process known for its complexity, the aforementioned new format aims to streamline this experience, offering a more seamless process for students.

Andrew Munguia, WCC’s Executive Director of Financial Aid, expressed optimism about the update, assuring that it won’t disrupt students’ timelines for award letters and financial aid. According to Munguia, the new format aims to enhance accuracy and simplify the application process.

He explained, “If you follow the logic, it’s basically helping you answer the questions that you need to answer in a more accurate way... the usability and logic that they build in really helps drive an accurate FAFSA with fewer complications.”

One notable change is the introduction of “contributors,” referring to anyone required to provide information on the FAFSA application.

Munguia emphasized the improved user experience, saying, “Creating this level of comfort and ease when you’re

dealing with financial information, people may feel a little more willing to provide [it].”

FAFSA’s recent soft launch promises positive outcomes for low-income students, with 610,000 more becoming eligible for Federal Pell Grants due to updates in student aid calculations. The revised application also allows applicants to skip as many as 26 questions, potentially reducing the time spent to under 10 minutes, according to information on the FAFSA website.

Layla Sliety, an accounting student at WCC, has experienced issues with the current FAFSA process before, saying, “Whenever I have applied for FAFSA in the past, it has taken me days because of the information I need to know to complete the application.”

Sliety, like many other students, has had trouble with the old FAFSA form.

“The amount of detailed documents I need is overwhelming, it takes a lot of time and it’s frustrating”.

Notably, the update allows students to input their parents’ email addresses, streamlining communication and ensuring greater convenience.

Munguia stressed the significance of this change, by saying, “That will also protect financial information for all parties involved as much as possible.”

Despite the improvements, Munguia advises pa-

tience during the transition.

“It’s going to be very important to be patient during this process,” he said, assuring that schools and colleges would provide information at the end of January.

WCC is available to support students and families through this transition, aiming for a seamless process. For any questions, students can contact the Financial Aid Office at WCC in the Student Center, SC 205, or call 734-973-3523.



ZAKERIA ALMAJRABI
Photo of Andrew Munguia, executive director of financial aid

FAFSA TIPS

?

Applicants can now skip up to 26 questions

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610,000 more low income students now eligible for Pell Grants

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Application time reduced to potentially under 10 minutes

👥

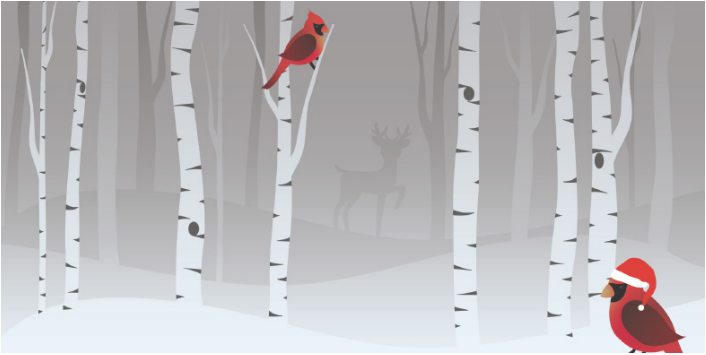
Introduction of “contributors”

🔧

Format aims to “enhance accuracy” and simplify app process

🏁

2024-2025 FAFSA format due June 30th, 2025



Michigan sees unusually warm winter break

KRISTY KAZZI
Staff Writer

This winter is turning out to be different from the norm. Christmas Day was in the 50s, a very unusual weather pattern for Michiganders.

According to the World Meteorological Organization, the year 2023 as a whole shattered climate records with data through the end of October showing temperatures were about 1.40 degrees Celsius (with a margin of uncertainty of ±0.12°C) above the pre-industrial 1850-1900 baseline.

WCC students have noticed the changing temperatures as well.

“It’s still really cold, but compared to a few years ago, it’s still warm,” said Alexa Harris, a 20-year-old student at WCC.

Harris also echoes many students’ worries.

“It’s scary how much we can notice climate change now,” Harris said, highlighting

the real-life impact of these weather shifts.

Courtney Higgins, an environmental science professor at WCC, explained that this warming might be linked to climate change and greenhouse gasses.

The weather isn’t just about temperatures; it affects our daily lives and our moods as well as our motivations, said Higgins.

“When temperatures are disruptive, it causes difficulty for students to learn because if the weather is particularly nice, it’s more tempting to do something outside or not go to class,” Higgins said.

In the classrooms, there’s a new interest in learning about climate change.

“I have more students as of late that are interested in learning more [about climate change]. Some just want to get a basic knowledge of it, and some actually want to pursue a career in it,” said Higgins.



All attendees use the ballet bar in the Morris Lawrence Building, room 158.

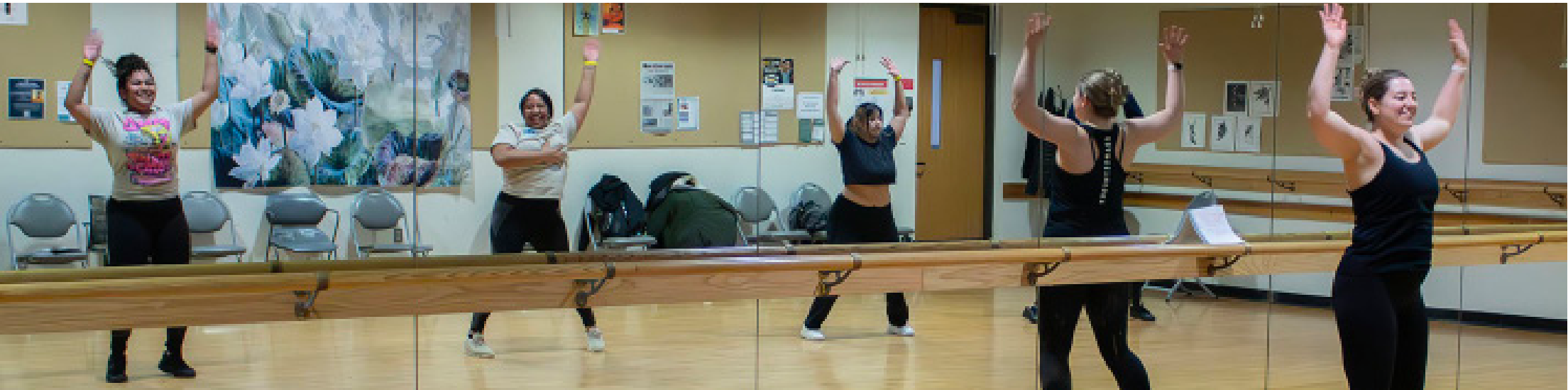


Coach Ashley Spiegelburg smiles for a photo before dance tryouts begin.



Coach Spiegelburg has the team warm up by doing jumping jacks.

Students jump and jive into the dance studio



Everyone follows Coach Spiegelburg's jumping jacks.



Photos by Zakeria Almajrabi

The four people who are trying out for the dance program reach their hands to the sky.



Dance tryout members discuss what they will be practicing on Tuesday, January 9th.

SPORTS TRYOUTS

WOMEN'S SOCCER
Jan. 30 + Feb. 1 | 9:30 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER
Jan. 30 | 9:30 p.m. + 11 p.m.

At High Velocity

ESPORTS TRYOUTS

Take place in the esports arena TI 239

VALORANT
Jan. 17 | 7 p.m.
Jan. 22 | 5 p.m.

WOMEN'S VALORANT
Jan. 17 | 3 p.m.

COUNTER-STRIKE 2
Jan. 17 | 5 p.m.
Jan. 19 | 7 p.m.

SMASH BROS. ULTIMATE
Jan. 18 | 5 p.m.

LEAGUE OF LEGENDS
Jan. 18 | 7 p.m.

OVERWATCH 2
Jan. 19 | 5 p.m.
Jan. 22 at 7 p.m.

REQUIREMENTS

2.0 GPA minimum
3 credit hours



The dance tryout attendees stretch in order to help them do their best before they start.

WCC's sports tryouts began the second week of January. Check Campus Connect for more info about tryouts to come.

CRIME LOG

There are no incidents to report between Jan. 1 and 9, 2024. The college's department of public safety has provided a few tips to stay safe on campus:

Campus Safety Tips

If You See Something, Say Something
Report any suspicious activity to public safety, including:

Unusual items or situations such as odd packages, open windows or unusually parked vehicles

Individuals appearing to pay unusually close attention to buildings or objects beyond a casual or professional interest

People asking potentially suspicious questions such as how security procedures work or when shifts change

Fire Safety

Know where the emergency exits are
In the event of an alarm, always evacuate
Use stairways, not elevators

Call 3411 using any college phone to alert the public safety department

Similarly, press the red button on any red emergency phone to speak with public safety

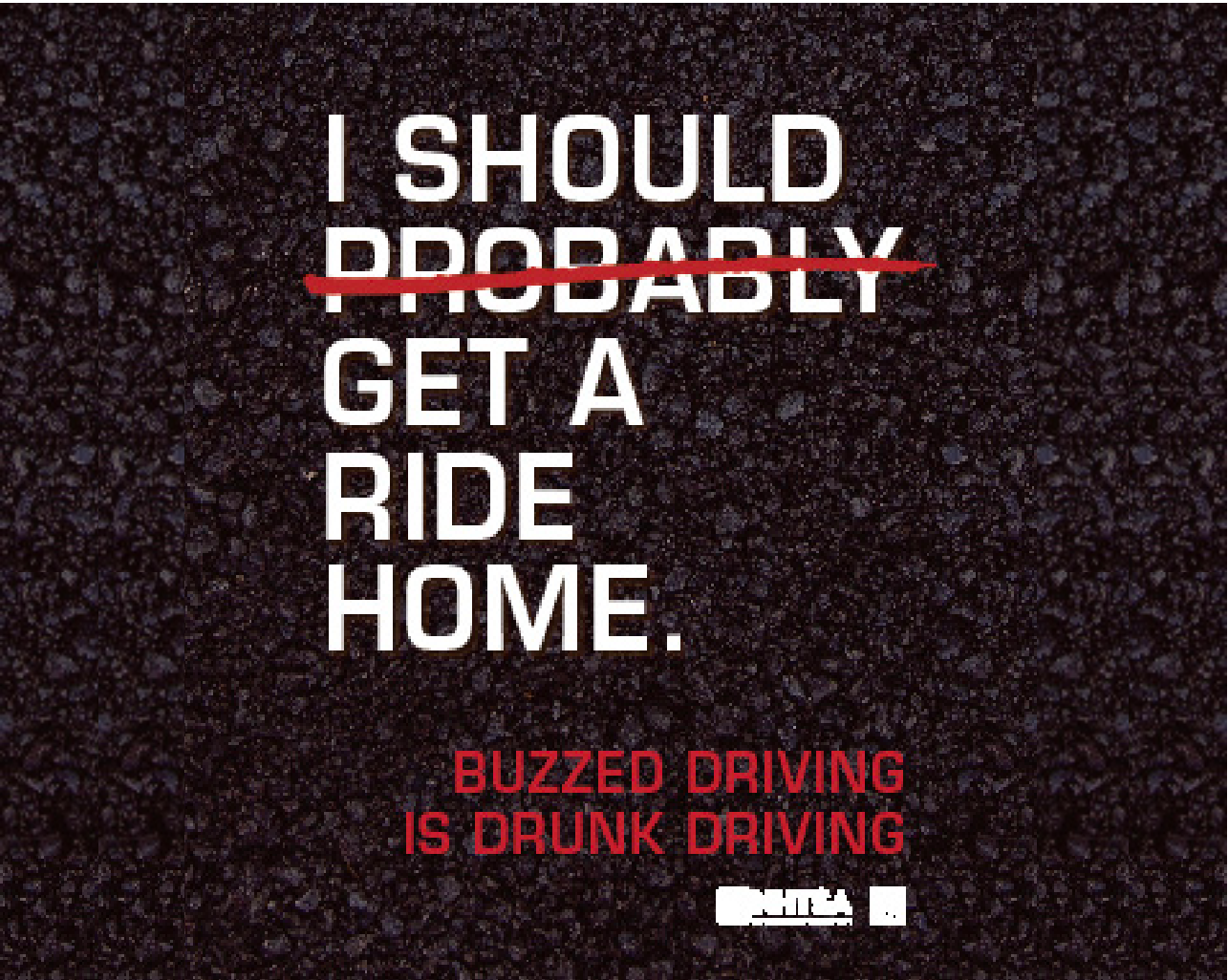
When trapped, seal all crevices with cloth to keep out smoke, call 911 and give your location

In the Event of an Active Shooter

Run and keep your hands visible
Hide and silence phones
Fight as a last resort

Avoid quick movements towards responding officers

Avoid pointing, screaming and yelling
Do not stop or interrupt officers



LOOK FOR THE VOICE BACK ON THE STANDS!

JOIN US!

We are looking for staff writers, editors, journalists, photographers and graphic designers.

Read more on our website:



CONTACT OR APPLY
thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com



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

Classifieds Center for Career Success

Below are recent employment want ads which have been posted with WCC Center for Career Success. WCC Students and alumni are invited to read these ads and to apply on Handshake™. For more information or assistance with applications, contact the Center for Career Success, SC 112 at careers@wccnet.edu or 734.677.5155.

Follow us on Twitter: @WCC_Careers | Facebook: @WCC.CCS | LinkedIn: WCCCenterforCareerSuccess

HR Assistant.

The HR Assistant provides administrative support to the Ross Human Resources Department. You will play a pivotal role in recruiting and onboarding processes, HRIS records and compliance management, and other complex administrative functions that consist of collaborating with multiple customer groups. You will ensure prompt, efficient, and professional responses to employee inquiries. You will report to the Human Resources Manager.

Summer Intern - Fabrication Shop at General Motors.

Develop skills in Fabricating automotive vehicles or other products where decisions are

made with engineering practices. Follow and work on the build of both running and nonrunning models in Design Fabrication. Support world-class fabrication techniques in a custom fabrication facility working on both interior and exterior models. Integrate customer focused needs and brand differentiation into all aesthetic proposals. You will learn techniques in the fabrication of these models.

Dealership Car Porter at Brighton Ford.

Come Join the Brighton Ford Family! We are looking for a porter for both our New and Used Car Department. The ideal candidate is friendly, quick on their feet, likes to stay busy and can work well with others but can also be self-sufficient. Experience is a plus, but not mandatory. A valid Driver's License and favorable drug test and criminal background check is required.

Job Requirements: Parking, driving and moving vehicles, Cleaning Cars, performing light maintenance and other tasks as instructed by managers, Being a team player! We all work together to ensure a cooperative work environment.

Radiology Interventional Tech/Full Time-Days at Henry Ford Health.

The Interventional Technologist works as a member of the Interventional Radiology team of medical professionals. Under the direct supervision of the Interventional Physician, the technologist is responsible for assisting physicians during diagnostic and interventional procedures by performing scrub or circulator functions. The Interventional Technologist specializes in obtaining high quality diagnostic imaging and assists in the performance of procedures of an invasive nature that

aid in the evaluation and treatment of pathological entities as prescribed by a physician. The Interventional Technologist is responsible for the operation and maintenance of angiographic and supporting procedural equipment and supplies in the department. The technologist performs related functions according to department protocols, and utilizes independent judgment in determining appropriate imaging techniques, patient positioning, and safety practices.

Help Desk Tech at SL America.

SL America is looking for a Tier 1 support desk tech. Team member will be responsible for the installation, support, and maintenance of desktop and laptop computer systems, peripherals and software to ensure optimal workstation performance. Assist in integrating computer equipment and peripherals.

4th Grade Teacher at Canton Charter Academy at National Heritage Academies.

Located in Canton, MI, Canton Charter Academy has been recognized as one of Metro Detroit's Best and Brightest Company to Work For® in 2020 and 2021. We've also been recognized as an Exemplary High-Performing National Blue Ribbon School. Opening our doors in 2000 and serving students K-8, we create endless opportunities for our students to become their best. We even have a kindness rock garden to encourage our school community. We inspire our students to excel academically and think creatively to reach their full potential. Our dedicated teachers help students apply critical-thinking skills to solve real-world problems. We build kids of character

through our moral focus program. As a result, students are prepared to tackle 21st century challenges and excel in high school, college, and beyond. Participate collaboratively and professionally with fellow teachers and support staff to meet the goals and individual needs of each student. Create, manage, and participate in a variety of professional development and orientation activities. Additional duties as assigned.

Registered Nurse/ Graduate Nurse/ Licensed Practical Nurse at Saint Joseph Mercy Health System.

Full-Time and Part-Time Positions Available for Med-Surg, Step Down Units, Critical Care and More! Trinity Oakland is a great place to start or continue your nursing career! May units also offer Virtual Nursing and Camera Monitoring to support our patient care model.

REQUIRED EDUCATION / LICENSURE for Registered Nurse (RN). Michigan Nursing License as RN. Graduation from accredited nursing program. BSN degree preferred or must agree in writing to obtain a BSN within five years. REQUIRED EDUCATION / LICENSURE for Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). Requires current Michigan Nursing License as LPN. High school diploma or equivalent, one year of specialized nursing education and successful completion of pharmacology course.

Entry Level Controls Engineer at Fives DyAG Corp.

Fives DyAG Corp. is looking for an Entry-Level Controls Engineer to join our team based out of our Farmington Hills, MI office. This is a full-time direct hire position. Fives DyAG's engineers work in a variety of en-

vironments and locations. The role requires strong technical knowledge, sound experience and people-skills, to effectively solve issues as they arise.

Medical Scribe at iScribeMD.

The Medical Scribe accompanies the healthcare provider into the exam room and documents the patient-provider encounter in the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) which is a legal document containing protected health information. Essential Functions of Position: Accompany the healthcare provider into the exam area to document the patient history, medical findings and plan of care in real-time, Inform the provider when lab and radiology results are available and enter the information into the chart, Look up and include relevant medical records from prior medical visits, Document all medical procedures ordered and performed by the provider, Follow all documentation compliance standards and HIPAA laws, Ability to complete clerical, employment responsibilities and provide feedback as requested by iScribeMD leadership, Scribes are unlicensed and do not participate in patient care. They require no prior training or background in the medical field.

Part-Time Graphic Designer at W&P Management.

Conceive and implement concepts, guidelines and strategies in various creative projects and oversee them to completion. Monitor results of team efforts and propose actions for the future. Brainstorm and develop campaigns with marketing team. Monitor and ensure brand guidelines are being met by all team members. Design comps, storyboards, initial graphic concepts and final

deliverables. Digital and print material including but not limited to, brochures, handouts, banners, dealer programs, price book, price tags, magazine ads, direct mail, billboards, community ads, store graphics, window graphics, coupons, website elements, and more. Shoot and edit educational and informational videos for use on multiple customers facing platforms.

Legal Notices

Name Change

State of Michigan Probate Court County of Washtenaw Publication of Notice of Hearing File No. 23-2444-NC In the matter of: Grace Catherine Rose Bertrand to All Interested Persons whose addresses are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affect by the following: A hearing will be held on March 8, 2024 at 9 a.m. via Zoom before Judge Owdziej for a petition for name change for Grace Catherine Rose Bertrand, whose name will soon be Charles Robin Bertrand.

Personal

WCC student seeks English conversation partner.

Looking for an English speaker to meet with once a week for conversation and to practice English pronunciation.. Willing to trade Farsi practice in exchange. Please email Abdullah Niazzy at aniazzy@wccnet.edu if interested.



Visit a library: the benefits of picking up a book



LILY COLE
Deputy Editor

Why reading matters

Most of us consider reading an academic activity done only under the watchful eye of a teacher. Friends of mine will say they haven't picked up a book since seventh grade, which always puzzled me. How could you not pick up a book?

Sure, the books we read for school are sometimes good. But there's just something special about choosing what you want to read.

When I read, it reduces my stress. I get to take my mind off everything and have a little moment of mindfulness for the day.

Many people aren't avid readers until they grow older.

Sandy McCarthy, the Interim Executive Director of Learning Resources, wasn't passionate about it until later in life. So, there's still time to develop a love of reading.

By incorporating it into your daily routine, you can make a difference in how you live.

For me, I put books in places I see them the most—on my bed, in my backpack, on the kitchen counter. I also turn off my phone or silence notifications when I'm reading. It makes everything much more

peaceful. If you're swayed by the idea of picking up a book, know there are books about anything and everything.

Take my favorite read this past year: "The Hobbit" by J. R. R. Tolkien. It took me almost a year to finish, not because it was relatively long but because Tolkien loves run-on sentences.

The story's writing was beautiful and I love "The Lord of the Rings." I just had to go back and reread a bunch of things to fully understand the meaning.

But, I consider the experience extremely beneficial. I concentrated more than ever on a book, which helped my patience.

According to "9 Benefits of Reading: Enhance Your Daily Life" by Thomas J Law, researchers studied the effects of self-help books and found that many have a measurable impact on depression or other mood disorders.

At the beginning of 2023, I read a few self-help books and learned to be grateful and mindful. This act of using books as therapy is called bibliotherapy. It's a skill that I believe everyone should be aware of.

McCarthy said one of her top picks for 2023 was "How to Be More Tree: Essential Life Lessons for Perennial Happiness" by Potter Gift—a self-help book that shows how trees teach us wisdom about everyday life.

According to her, "Reading helps people understand and learn empathy."

These traits of empathy, gratefulness, and mindfulness



One of the best places to start your reading journey is at the local library.

JADA HAUSER | WASHTENAW VOICE

are ones we could all stand to develop ourselves. Reading is one of the first steps you can take to achieve this.

John Green says it best, "Great books help you understand, and they help you feel understood."

Where to start?

One of the best places to start your reading journey is at the local library. This can be your public library, where library cards are easy to get.

I've had mine since I was 12 and still have the old ones too. Looking back at 14 year old me's cursive, I shutter. But getting the card is simple, you can go to the information desk in your local library to find out how.

Your campus library is another great place to start the adventure.

For WCC, the Bailey Library is the go-to option. While I haven't been in the library much, the times I do go, it's been such a blessing.

In the library they have private study rooms set up so you can study undisturbed, whiteboards that are brought out to collaborate on note-taking and computers available for student use.

According to the World Intellectual Property Organization, "the resources and services they [libraries] offer create opportunities for learning, support literacy and education, and help shape the new ideas and perspectives that are central to a creative and innovative society."

At the library, students get together to share ideas. In one of my classes, a few of us met at the library to work on a project.

It helped us work together and be in a space that promoted learning.

When I'm there by myself though, I always try to peek at every book on the shelf. I love going to different sections.

McCarthy said one of the most viewed shelves is the "it book" section, where the most popular books are. If a student is new to reading and asks for a recommendation, that's where they are pointed to first.

According to the American Association of School Libraries, "[A] library team provides the foundation for student learning."

The article discusses how school librarians are often role models for strong leadership, initiative, and other career and life skills.

Elena Mermelstein, a child development major, said

everyone in the library is helpful and kind. She spends most of her time at Bailey, and as a child development major, a quiet, soothing place is needed.

She loves the atmosphere of the library.

"They might as well have a bed for me here," she said.

It's kind of charming how a good old book and a quiet spot at the library can create a calm and soothing atmosphere.

"You are surrounded by knowledge," Mermelstein said. "Everything is so online; there's just something different about a hardcover."

For me, there's no question about it. If I had to choose a place to be throughout the day, it would be at the library.

Specifically, the Bailey Library.

VOICE BOX

What did you do during winter break?

by Alejandra Smith | Staff Writer

"Relaxed after a draining semester."

Timothy Porsche, 20
Environmental Science



"Not much, I worked and spent time with my family."

Storm Brand, 18
Nursing



"I went to Chicago to see some DJ shows!"

Ciara Thompson, 30
Business Administration



"I went to California to visit my family."

Honey Cooney, 19
Liberal Arts Transfer



"I went up north to Mackinac Island."

Eddie Warren, 16
Automotive Services Technician



WCC shows off clubs at student life showcase

KRISTY KAZZI
Staff Writer

Jump into the new year by joining one of the 30 plus clubs at WCC.

On Jan. 9, the Student Center at WCC was abuzz with activity as various student clubs came together to showcase their passions and encourage students to join— from car enthusiasts to esports fans, the event catered to a wide range of interests.

One of the clubs at the event was the Investment club. Joseph Caureng, a club officer, shared his perspective by saying, “We teach our members investing principles and financial literacy.”

From people who are interested in stocks, business majors, and people who want to make some sort of impact in their local community, everyone is welcome, he said.

The club plans to use grant money for investments and donate the proceeds to charity, said Caureng.

Other tables were set up in the Student Center, which includ-

ed a myriad of sports clubs. Ayesha Renollet, a member of the Women’s Soccer Club, said, you only need three credit hours to join.

Renollet said you don’t have to be a skilled player to join.

“I just don’t think people know this club exists. If you want to play, come and play,” she said.

Clubs on campus cater to different interests as well. One of them being for film lovers.

The WCC Motion Picture Society Film Club, explores film genres, behind-the-scenes insights, acting, filmmaking, and scriptwriting.

Roderick Martin, president of the club, was thankful to have the opportunity to share his love with others.

Despite time constraints, Sydney Richardson, a student at WCC, was glad to have stopped by the event and learned more about the clubs on campus.

Learn more about what clubs WCC offers by visiting Campus Connect or attending Welcome Day on Jan. 17 in the Student Center.

PHOTOS BY PAULA FARMER



Students give out information about the volleyball teams at WCC.



A student inquires about the League of Legends Esports Team.



Students sign up for Phi Theta Kappa.



A basketball representative hands out flyers to a student interested in joining the team.



The student life showcase was held Jan. 9th, in the Student Center. It gave students the opportunity to sign up for sports and clubs at WCC.

WISDOM OF THE WEEK

“Having fun isn’t hard when you’ve got a library card.”

Arthur Read

“Reading is the magic key that takes you where you want to be”

Alice Joyce Davidson

“You can never get a cup of tea large enough or a book long enough to suit me.”

C.S. Lewis

Compiled by: Lily Cole | Deputy Editor

YPSI

Grow plants in the comfort of your home with Winter Seed Sowing. Open to everyone- this invite is on Zoom, with a demonstration accompanying it. For any questions, contact Sandy McCarthy at mccarthy@wccnet.edu.

Join the Office of Diversity & Inclusion for a screening of *Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin*. The rare archival footage shines a light on the work and life of this forgotten movement leader.

Enjoy fine lunch and dinner dishes, family meals, virtual demonstrations, and chef highlights from Ann Arbor award-winning restaurants. Many vegan and vegetarian dishes are available as well. Find more information at annarborrestaurantweek.com

A fantastic night of music is just ahead at the 47th Annual Ann Arbor Folk Fest, featuring many folk artists. Tickets are on sale online and at the door.

The Ypsi Flea & Swap located in historic Depot Town, is an indoor market featuring antique items and arts plus craft vendors. Free admission and free parking.

Are you new to birding? Everyone is welcome at Ford Lake and its board. Hosted by the Washtenaw Audubon Society, the plans are to observe a variety of waterfowl, gulls, and local winter birds. Find more info on the website.

<https://washtenawaudubon.org/event/weekend-walk-for-birds-at-ford-lake-3/>



Courtesy of Emma Houghton



Courtesy of Merch HÜSEY



Courtesy of Jedidiah Church



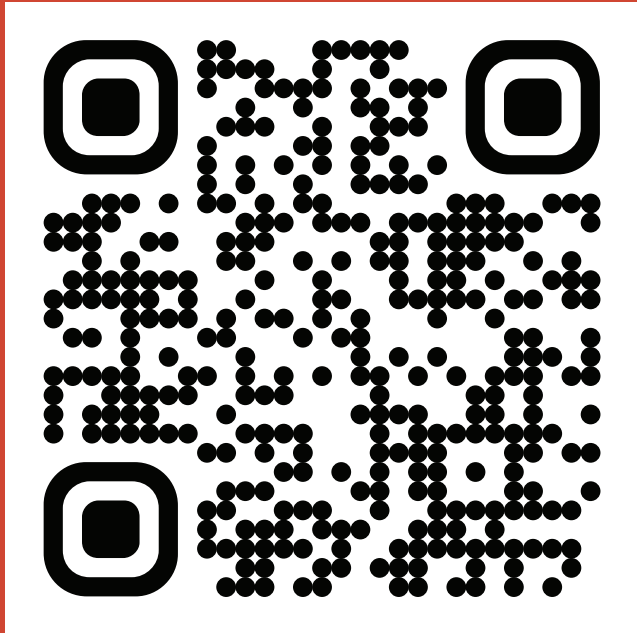
The Loop

news for and by students

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