



DISNEY'S "COCO" A
STUNNING, FUN FOR ALL
ADVENTURE.
PAGE 12



"THE MAN WHO INVENTED
CHRISTMAS" TELLS THE
STORY BEHIND BELOVED
CLASSIC.
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THESE FUN, FESTIVE
DESSERTS WILL BE THE
HIT OF THE HOLIDAYS!
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The Schoolcraft Connection

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DECEMBER 4, 2017

Blessings of care

St. Joe's Urgent Care blessed in official opening ceremony



PHOTO BY MELISSA GREEN, PHOTO EDITOR

Dr. Vetrano, Medical Director of St. Joe's Urgent Care leads the ribbon cutting for the ceremonial opening of the St. Joe's Urgent Care on Nov. 30. The founder's vision of the facility is administrative leadership assumed by practicing physicians.

BY ALEXANDRA LACHINE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In early September, St. Joseph Mercy Health System broke more ground on the campus of

Schoolcraft College with the debut of an urgent care facility. The St. Joe's Urgent Care, located on the first floor of the Jeffress Center, was established to serve both the college campus

and surrounding community.

The facility was the vision of St. Joe's and the college alike. "Schoolcraft College is very

See "Blessing of Care" on page 2

Midnight Madness

Last-minute cramming for finals

BY CHRISTIAN HOLLIS AND ALEXIS TUCKER
MANAGING EDITOR AND
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

The Learning Assistance Center (LAC) is holding its annual study sessions for students to crunch before finals. The event is called Exam-A-Rama and sessions will be held for math, chemistry, physics and accounting classes, hosted by tutors from the LAC.

Tutors will be able to answer questions students need answered before finals. The tutors are selected based upon their academic success, as all tutors have at least a 3.0 grade point average. Each year desks are filled with



PHOTO BY ALEXIS TUCKER, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Students Santiago Perez, major Engineering (Far Left), Ilya Furman, (in camouflage) major Biochemistry, Harris Alabi, (in back at the whiteboard), Dominic Demara, (Middle) major undecided, Ben Williams (In the back right) and Kimberly Miller (Far right) all studying and preparing for tests.

students eager to get in some last-minute information and clarification before their finals.

Professors help provide materials for the tutors to go over as well as provide textbooks students may need. With proper identification,

students can check out textbooks to use in the LAC in case they forget their books or don't

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Arts and
Entertainment
Section to fill
your holidays
with cheer!

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News briefs



News now

Your global, national, state and local news briefs

COMPILED BY ANTHONY PLESCIA
STAFF WRITER

GLOBAL

Brexit border negotiations

British Prime Minister Theresa May was urged by Ireland’s European commissioner on Nov. 26 to allow stalled negotiations regarding the Irish border to proceed. The commissioner, Phil Hogan, objects to May’s plans to withdraw Britain from the European Union’s Customs Union. If May has her way, a new surveillance arrangement between Britain and the E.U. will need to be established to monitor immigrants and commerce between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

NATIONAL

Black Friday online sales boom

According to Adobe Digital Insights, Americans spent \$5 billion online for Black Friday purchases, which is a 16.9 percent increase from last year. Within the first five hours of the day, online retailer Amazon sold 200,000 toys. Data analytics company ShopperTrak estimates the number of in-store shoppers on Black Friday of this year was only less than 1 percent lower than in 2016.

STATE

New water treatment plant

A new \$72 million water treatment plant opened for the Genesee County Water Authority on Nov. 27. The new plant will serve a dozen communities in the county, which includes the cities of Mt. Morris, Clio and Montrose. Since the organization’s founding in 2010, county drain commissioner Jeff Wright led the way in opening the plant to reduce treatment costs.

LOCAL

Madonna University nursing program

As of Nov. 26, Madonna University debuted the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program for its College of Nursing and Health Department. The program’s roll-out is a response to the critical shortage of nurses projected to take place over the next decade. Effective Aug. 27, 2018, Madonna will offer fall, winter and summer courses for its new initiative. ■



“Blessings of Care”

continued from page 1

interested in extending health care services here on campus,” explained Dave Spivey, president and CEO of St. Mary Mercy Livonia. “We are over the moon about being their partner here.” Promptly at 9 a.m. on Nov. 30, the official blessing and ribbon cutting ceremony took place within the urgent care’s lobby. Father Luke Iwuji led the blessing of the entire facility. While St. Joseph representatives directed the program with prayer and engagement with college and city officials on the initial successes. While St. Joe’s well-established presence is strong throughout the metro-Detroit area, representatives say this particular facility rounds out the health system’s services in Livonia and surrounding communities. The 6,000 square foot facility feels more comparable to a small hospital than the average urgent care. From the labs to the examination rooms, it’s immaculately designed, welcoming and open, due in part to the vision and dedication of Steve VanBrussel, director of construction services for St. Joseph Mercy Health System. With state of the art equipment, from walk-in lab technology to full X-ray examination, it is well suited to serve a wide variety of non-life threatening medical concerns, such as fever, flu, minor cuts and minor broken bones and sprains. “A lot of ankle sprains...we haven’t had a lot of actual influenza, people think they have the flu but really it’s just the common cold,” explained Dr. Louis Cavadini, a physician with St. Joe’s. As an entity of St. Joseph Medical Group, the facility is substantially led by physicians. “Dr. Vettraino, our Medical Director...



PHOTO BY MELISSA GREEN

Doctors and nurses at St. Joe’s Urgent Care work closely together to provide comprehensive care to all patients. With x-ray imaging technology, as pictured, expanded services are available to patients making care more convenient and thorough.

had the wisdom to say to ourselves, we needed to have a physician leader help us lead this effort...and bind the vision for this urgent care,” explained Greg Searce, team developer for the project. In the three months since its opening, St. Joe’s Urgent Care has administered 2,500 flu shots and treated roughly 15-20 patients for various ailments each day. While the Urgent Care provides medical attention to all, it is estimated that 65-75 percent of the patients have been people from the Livonia community outside of Schoolcraft. “So far we’ve had a great outpouring from the students. We’ve had a lot of students come in for injuries. We have had a huge amount of the community as well, to come into the urgent care, I think

with signage and word-of-mouth...and Schoolcraft, the collaborative relationship we’ve had with them, has been amazing,” said Jackie Spencer, Practice Manager of St. Joe’s Urgent Care. St. Joseph Mercy Health has continuously proven its commitment to the health of the communities it serves. “If we’re going to change the health of this community, we have to have partners like Schoolcraft come to us and work with us. This is a signature partnership for us, and it’s going to be a great partnership in the future,” said Searce. St. Joe’s Urgent Care is located in the Jeffress Center on the south side of 7 Mile Rd., conveniently operating from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays and observed holidays. ■



PHOTO BY MELISSA GREEN

As a substantial facility, St. Joe’s Urgent Care offers a wide range of examination and lab rooms for on-site diagnostics. Labs such as the one pictured here are equipped for blood testing, fluid samples and other testing to ensure a correct diagnosis and plan for treatment.



Stay connected.

Read these stories and others online
at schoolcraftconnection.com



“Midnight Madness”

continued from page 1

have any. The LAC is also supplied with calculators, human models, dictionaries and more tools that may help students with homework and studying for all sorts of classes. It is recommended by the LAC to bring class notes for extra information if needed.

The LAC is eager to help as many students as possible. “We want more students to take advantage of those things that we have here at the Learning Assistance Center,” said employee Vanessa Halliburton.

Exam-A-Rama will go from Dec. 7 to 9 in room L119 of the Bradner Library. Final exam reviews for all biology, chemistry and physics classes will be held on Thurs. Dec. 7, lasting from 8 p.m. thru midnight.

Certain math classes will also have final exam reviews the same day. On Fri. and Sat., Dec. 8 and 9, other math classes will hold exam packet review sessions from 12 thru 4 p.m.

The LAC will also hold the annual “JumpStart!” event from Jan. 5 thru 7 at varying times. “JumpStart!” is a free 2-part workshop for math courses to refresh students on topics covered in their previous math courses.

Part 1 of the seminar is to study, test, and homework skills to be able to be successful in their college math courses, and this Part is recommended to be taken before Part 2.

Part 2 is about the actual topics that need to be learned and developed before going into chemistry, physics, accounting and such classes. Not only are these refresher workshops, they are also helpful to students preparing for the college placement test, work-place training and general test preparation.

“JumpStart!” workshops are provided by the SC Foundation. Students can register now by emailing their name, student number and the workshop(s) that they wish to participate in at jumpstart@schoolcraft.edu.

For more information on both “Exam-A-Rama” and “JumpStart!”, contact the LAC at 734-462-4436 or visit schoolcraft.edu/lac. ■

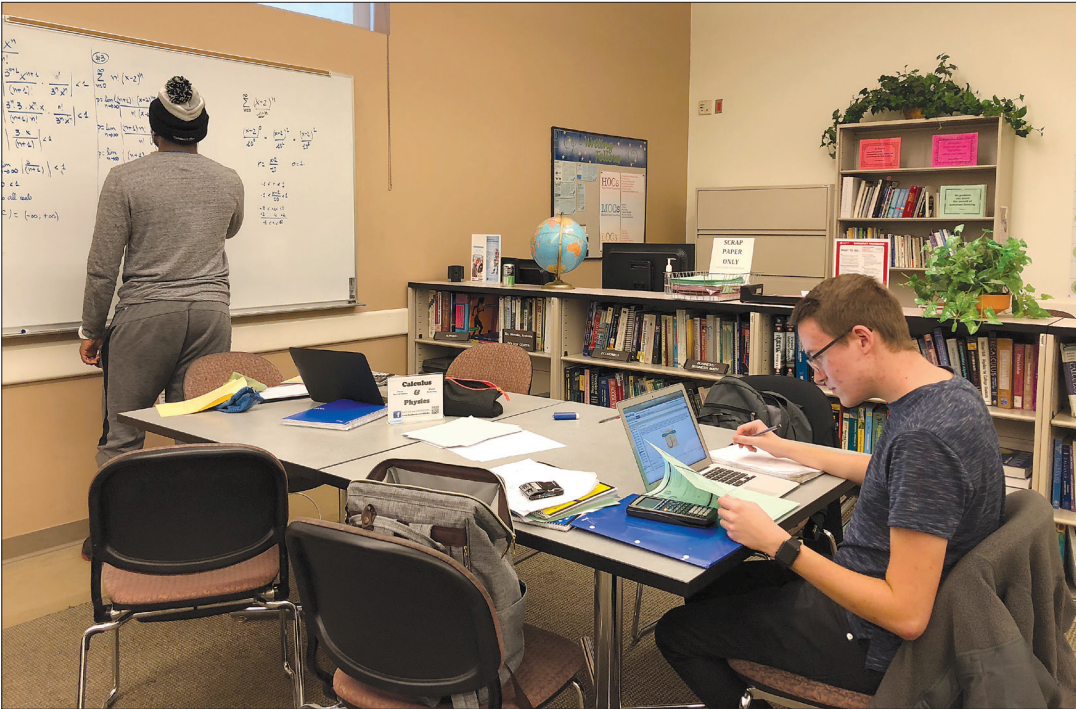


PHOTO BY ALEXIS TUCKER, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
Harris Alabi (Left) major Engineering and Ben Williams (Right) major Mechanical Engineering studying in the LAC.

EXAM-a-RAMA

The LAC's

WORLD FAMOUS FINAL EXAM REVIEWS

Reviews in: Math, Biology, Physics, Chemistry & MORE

Thursday, Dec. 7, 2017

8 PM until Midnight

Friday, Dec. 8, 2017

Noon until 4 PM

Saturday, Dec. 9, 2017

Noon until 4 PM

For subject availability, please visit the LAC
Bradner Library-L119 or www.schoolcraft.edu/LAC

DID YOU KNOW? The LAC, including tutors, Writing Fellows and PALs collected over 500 cans by the middle of November to donate to the student food pantry. Hats off from The Schoolcraft Connection!

Exam-A-Rama Fall 2017

Livonia Campus

Class	Date	Time
Exam Packet Review Sessions		
Math 45	Saturday, 12/9/2017	12pm – 4pm
Math 47	Saturday, 12/9/2017	12pm – 4pm
Math 53 A's	Thursday, 12/7/2017	8pm – 12am
Math 53 B's	Friday, 12/8/2017	12 – 4pm
Math 101	Friday, 12/8/2017	12 – 4pm
Math 111	Friday, 12/8/2017	12 – 4pm
Math 113 A's	Thursday, 12/7/2017	8pm – 12am
Math 113 B's	Saturday, 12/9/2017	12 – 4pm
Math 126 A's	Saturday, 12/9/2017	12 – 4pm
Math 129 A's	Friday, 12/8/2017	12 – 4pm
Question and Answer Final Exam Review Sessions with Additional Tutors!		
Biology-All	Thursday, 12/7/2017	8pm – 12am
Chemistry-All	Thursday, 12/7/2017	8pm – 12am
Physics-All	Thursday, 12/7/2017	8pm – 12am
Math 119,122,145,150,151, 230,240,252	Thursday, 12/7/2017	8pm – 12am

Check in at LAC for room assignment; check-in begins 45 minutes prior to session

PLAN AHEAD!!!

Limited tutoring during final exam week
Reviews begin promptly at start time
Please bring your own review packet; we do not have extra copies

Livonia LAC - Bradner Library - L 119 - 734-462-4436

Un-news-ual News
Things that make you go, “Huh.”

COMPILED BY KEN NARITA & ALEXIS TUCKER
STAFF WRITER & ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR



100,000-EURO TOILET CLOG

Although many of us may not want to publicly admit it, everyone has dealt with a clogged toilet at some point in their life. It's an easy fix that only requires a plunger and maybe a plumber if there were some real complications.

Some clogged toilets in Geneva, Switzerland required a bit more than a simple call to the plumber to fix.

Over 100,000 euros or roughly \$120,000

were the cause of clogged toilets in a bank and some nearby restaurants. The 500-euro banknotes found in the toilet and trash cans were cut up then disposed of.

The 500-euro bank notes are to be withdrawn from use in 2018 because of its link to illegal activities. Because of its high value, worth around \$600, the bank notes are popular for money laundering.

The toilet was clogged in the months of May and June, but was not publicized

until later this year when the Swiss Daily Tribune de Genève reported it.

Unlike the United States, destroying currency in Switzerland is not a crime. The police investigated the problem mainly out of curiosity. The suspects of this money flushing were two Spanish citizens. There were no public charges against these two suspects.

The suspects' lawyer paid for damage done to the plumbing to the affected businesses.

DMX-MAS

To preface, Earl Simmons, stage name DMX, is a hardcore rapper. He has had several hits such as “X Gon’ Give it to Ya” and “Party Up,” which attributed to his immense popularity starting in the early 2000s.

Fast forward to 2012, when DMX covered “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” on a radio station. As of November 2017, this version of the famous Christmas carol can now be listened to on Spotify along with many other Christmas covers done by other famous artists.

MEET NEW AMBASSADORS OF JAPAN

There are many characters and symbols from Japan that anyone could recognize. In light of the 2025 World Expo, the foreign Minister of Japan appointed Nintendo's famous Pikachu and Sanrio's iconic Hello Kitty as ambassadors of tourism.

Several countries are working hard to be able to host the Expo, Osaka, Japan being one. Pikachu and Hello Kitty are to promote Japan to help their chances. ■

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- News Stories
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Learn:

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Meetings

Every Wednesday

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Conference Room C

Lower Waterman, VisTaTech Center

Do you have a passion for video or multimedia production? We are looking for new members and officers.

For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422 or e-mail us at sc.videoclub@apps.schoolcraft.edu

Schoolcraft College

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Schoolcraft College

Business Club Meetings

Every Monday

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Conference Room D

Lower Waterman

VisTaTech Center

- Build your network
- Sharpen your skill set
- Be better prepared for the future

For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

Schoolcraft College

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

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Holiday tradition joys

Our favorite ways to spend the holiday season

COMPILED BY THE CONNECTION
EDITORIAL STAFF

IMAGE FROM
PIXABAY.COM

PLAYING SANTA

There are so many things that I love about this holiday season and the festivities that accompany it, but one activity is particularly fulfilling and fun—adopting a family for Christmas.

I already love gift-shopping, and thinking about what a difference it will make to a family makes the experience that much more warm and fuzzy. Finding the best gifts, a mixture of what they need and what they want, stretching my budget as far as I can go, and then wrapping the items with care while listening to Christmas carols puts joy in my world.

When friends and family are participating, too, the merriment multiplies, and one hardly needs the radio to hear angels singing about peace on earth and goodwill toward men.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING WITH A YOUNG CHILD

The spirit of giving is important for the Christmas season, and we like to share that with our niece. We take her to the dollar store and let her pick out anything there as gifts for all the people in her life.

She enjoys the act of picking out the gifts and spends plenty of time thinking about what to choose. We also have her pick out all the wrapping paper, bows and tags for the presents, as well as lightly assist in wrapping the gifts and writing all the names on the tags.

Of course, we guide her a bit with the decision making, but each year, everyone ends up enjoying their gift from her whether it is silly or heartwarming. ♦

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS, NANNA’S HOUSE

While this topic is challenging to narrow down to just one tradition, one of my most beloved of many is attending Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve then celebrating the early hours of Christmas at my Nanna’s house afterward. Having my family together at this time has always made an impact on me in the holiday season, as the joys of celebration are at no shortage on Christmas Eve in the church.

Once mass ends, my Nanna prepares a plentiful spread of traditional Maltese pastries and dishes for our family to enjoy before leaving to retire for bed to continue celebrating the holiday in the company of each other in hours later.

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The Schoolcraft Connection is the award-winning, student-run newspaper published semi-monthly as an educational experience by the students of Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48152-2696. The editorial offices of The Schoolcraft Connection are located in the Student Activities Office on the lower level of the Waterman Campus Center.

The Schoolcraft Connection is a member of the Michigan Community College Press Association, the Colombia Scholastic Press Association, College Media Advisers, the Student Press Law Center, Community College Journalism Association and the Society of Professional Journalists.

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The Schoolcraft Connection corrects all errors of fact. If you have discovered an error, please contact the Editor in Chief, 734-462-4422, or sceditor@schoolcraft.edu.



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Values in writing

Impact of journalistic writing on professional development

BY ALEXANDRA LACHINE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Over the last five months and my first semester in college, I have had the immense privilege of serving as Editor-in-Chief of a multi-award winning collegiate publication, The Schoolcraft Connection. In this time, I have met and worked alongside some of the most genuinely talented, imaginative and kind souls I have yet to meet in my 18 years of existence, as well as been mentored and advised by a professional unlike any I have known.

As fall semester turns to winter and others to come, I am resigning from this position due to an increasingly rigorous and demanding course load as I pursue my degree as a Registered Nurse. To you, loyal reader, I extend my most sincere gratitude for your feedback and support of this publication which will forever hold a dear spot in my heart.

To continue, I would like to share with you the impacts that the field of journalism (although collegiate) have had upon my development as a professional.

Journalism plays a crucial role in helping democracy function in society, though it is sometimes forgotten amid tumultuous partisan debate and the messy nature of the media. Anyone cannot help but recognize the vital role of the press to some degree upon stopping to examine journalistic success and its investigative, substantial civic impacts.

There are several examples of how pieces in journalism have made for a powerful reading list, the infamous Watergate scandal being one of the first that comes to mind.

As many journalistic outlets continue to struggle financially as continuously reported by the Pew Research Center’s Project for Excellence in Journalism and the news media contracts as an industry, leaving many installations of government under-examined—there can be little doubt that many of society’s issues would be disregarded were it not for the most persistent, dedicated and courageous news professionals.

It takes professional reporters to initiate and follow-through on everything from interviews to requests of documented information, then turning the raw data and information into easily digestible knowledge for public consumption. Putting the hard facts into narrative story form or making it clear through visual means takes meticulous, creative work.

Understanding the role the journalist plays can be translated into any professional field. The journalist in their most noble sense is the beacon of truth and clarity to the public platform, and they are responsible for honesty and reporting factual information for all to digest. Valuing honesty and transparency as a professional is an incredibly important skill to develop for anyone in any occupation.

The role of a journalist is also one managed by deadlines and a schedule that

adheres to the laws of news as it breaks. Such timeliness and strict manner of execution of day to day tasks helps any professional develop a skill set most desirable by employers across a variety of fields, from medicine to business.

Communication is not without high regard on the lengthy list of professional developments heralded by journalism. It is the strong, fluid communication and interaction with others that must occur from initial planning meetings all the way to interacting with readers. Essentially, communication must exist at every single level of production, to complete the publication in the purest sense.

This skill is critical to soundly develop not only in terms of a career, but in every single aspect of life as well, from building relationships to buying a home. Psychological studies conducted by Saybrook University have also revealed the vitality of sound communication to disclosures, internal reflections and developing inquisition and advising skills. This has been proven true in my time as Editor of this professional, captivating production.

Time has a way of showing us the significance of the choices we make, which it already has in my specific case. The skills I’ve had the opportunity to develop further given my opportunity with The Connection will last a lifetime, and the professional relationships I’ve built will continue to impact me for years to come. ♦

Let's end loot boxes

Gaming industry must cleanse itself of gambling in full-priced games

BY CHRISTIAN HOLLIS
MANAGING EDITOR

For the past few years, major video game publishers like Activision and Electronic Arts (EA) have implemented a new way to increase profits in video games called microtransactions.

Microtransactions come in many shapes and colors, but most of the time they are used in the form of loot boxes.

There are many different names for loot boxes. EA's "Battlefield" calls them "Battlepacks," Microsoft's "Halo" calls them "REQ Packs," Activision's "Call of Duty" calls them "Supply Drops," but they all serve the same purpose—random packs full of varying items. These are used to cover costs in game development while keeping the regular price for games at \$60, but loot boxes have been getting pushed back against by consumers.

The most recent and possibly the biggest occurrence of this push back

was against EA's "Star Wars Battlefront II." Indeed, "Star Wars Battlefront II" has an entire progression system in its multi-player based around crates.

Crates can be earned by purchasing with credits awarded by game completion or by using real-world money to buy crystals which can also unlock crates. The crates seen in "Star Wars Battlefront II" are filled with random items that can be considered useful or completely worthless based on the player.

For example, in one crate a player could get items that are only cosmetic, while another player can get a pack of star-cards to give them a gameplay advantage over others. These aren't rewarding, it is a game of chance, or in one word, gambling.

Due to major backlash from gamers and a drop-in stock value of \$3.1 billion, EA has temporarily disabled the ability to purchase crystals in "Star Wars Battlefront II" to buy crates, but gamers aren't stopping there.

Recently a representative from the

Electronic Software Rating Board (ESRB) told major gaming site IGN.com the board's view of loot boxes. "While there's an element of chance in these mechanics, the player is always guaranteed to receive in-game content (even if the player unfortunately receives something they don't want)," said the unnamed representative.

Gamers were furious by this and quickly turned to change.com and created a petition to make the ESRB declare loot boxes as gambling.

Petitioners argue against the ESRB by using the definition of gambling given by Dictionary.com, "to stake or risk money, or anything of value, on the outcome of something involving chance." The petition already has 82,000 supporters with a goal of 150,000.

There is a right way to integrate microtransactions into games that are rewarding for both the player and developers. For example, Respawn's "TitanFall 2" contains cosmetic packs with weapon skins, varying colored armor and unique designs on



IMAGE FROM DIGITALTRENDS.COM

Publishers are holding back the gaming industry with these monetized slot machines that are loot boxes. Microtransactions are a necessity in today's gaming landscape, but randomized boxes are not the right way to execute them.

mechs all at \$4.99 at the in-game store. In this system, players know exactly what they're going to get.

If all developers and publishers used this model, profits could be increased without losing their reputation, because players won't be afraid of losing their money to chance. ♦

Saying farewell

My journey with The Connection

BY MARIAM AHMAD
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

When I first enrolled at Schoolcraft, all I did was attend class then return home. That quickly proved to not be enough as I wanted to be more involved in the college experience. As I previously didn't get many opportunities to follow my dreams, I wanted to take every chance I could to do what I loved and be with others who shared my interests.

I quickly learned about our collegiate newspaper which you are reading, and decided to apply because I really like writing. Although my writing style was different from that of a newspaper (AP), I was excited to give it a try. As Campus Life Editor, I became more familiar with the campus and its interesting features and people.

For every successful workplace and organization, it is necessary to have a great support system, people with whom

you can have meaningful and quality conversations, a team who is there to help you with work and a great adviser who is there for you when issues arise.

I would honestly say that "The Connection" has an amazing team that has all of these qualities. It actually feels like a family. The office is like a second home where we all get together, work, have joyful conversations and just have fun. But this professional collegiate publication demands two weeks of hard work before it is ready for print. While the stress is sometimes hard, it has proven to be well worth it in the end.

As fall semester comes to a close, I'm thinking, "Why so soon?" I won't be continuing as Campus Life Editor next semester as I'm going to be traveling abroad. In my time with The Connection, I have developed and enhanced many written and communication skills as well as developed meaningful relationships with the team.



IMAGE BY CHRISSY BEGLE, LAYOUT AND DESIGN EDITOR

Mariam Ahmad, Campus Life Editor, drawing a cartoon for The Connection. Working for The Connection allows staff members to use a wide range of skills and explore different interests.

I really appreciate and thank them for making me feel comfortable and at home. My fondest memory was going to the Renaissance Festival with some of the team members for a photo story of the festival. It was our first collective task of the semester and the first time we worked together as a new team.

One thing I would like to say to everyone is to never be a quitter because you lose all the efforts that you have

previously made. If you decide to do something, commit to it. The journey may be rough at times but it's worth it in the end. You will likely realize that you have the potential to do more than you give yourself credit for and that the trials have made you stronger.

If I get the chance, I hope to join the publication once again. I also encourage others to join our award-winning newspaper and contribute to its greatness. ♦

Air we breathe

How art complements science

ALEXIS TUCKER
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Questions of global warming and climate change have hung in the air for decades. Whether or not people accept the legitimacy of the claims from scientists, there are pressing issues in our communities, not just as a nation either, but as one global community.

Our generation would not know about the pollution problems that plagued Los Angeles in the past. People were getting sick, prompting then Governor of California Ronald Reagan to encourage people to limit car usage.

According to continuous studies conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency, one-third of Californians live in counties with air pollution that do not meet federal standards, and millions of Americans live in areas with such air

pollution as well. Of all the counties, the Los Angeles area was considered the worst.

This was a problem that was at least somewhat recognized since the 1940s. Even today, people say the air in Los Angeles feels heavier and thicker than elsewhere. Of course, Los Angeles isn't the only city with this problem, and it is nothing compared to Beijing, China.

In Beijing, it is common to see citizens wearing surgical masks to protect themselves from the sickly air they must breathe. Pictures can easily be searched and found to show the intense smog of the city. In some images, buildings are obscured or hidden behind the severe pollution. In Beijing, there is an artist that demonstrates the problem scientists have warned about.

The anonymous artist is a Beijing local who wanted to showcase this problem. This may seem silly, but the artist took a vacuum cleaner and vacuumed the air. Later, he was able to turn the contents of the vacuum into solid bricks, proving what the people of Beijing are breathing

into their lungs.

This artist proves something and shows something that words from a scientist's mouth couldn't prove to people. Facts are always relevant and important in solving and understanding problems, but I feel that people may think scientists are disconnected from regular people. The artist in Beijing conveys a clear message, and an art piece like this is invaluable for that.

It leads to questions and shows the alarming effects people have in the global environment. The air is so thick from the pollution that man generates and people must breathe that into their lungs. It begs another question, what would these people's lungs look like compared to a smoker's lungs?

Only time will tell whether people deem this a worthy issue to solve. The sad truth is that alternative energy is already a viable option as many European countries are already beginning to make the switch. Sweden is a major user of renewable energy, as well as Finland. According to



IMAGE FROM DIGITALTRENDS.COM

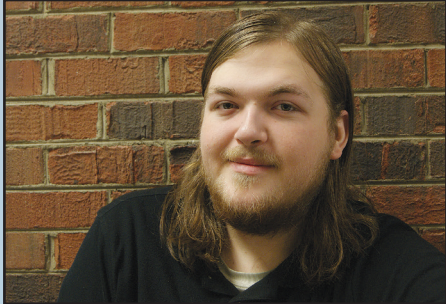
Beijing artist holds up a brick created from the smog in the air.

the European commission, Sweden and Finland supplement over 30% of their energy consumption with renewables.

However, more than just "some" countries have to make a switch before major progress can be made. Until then, there are people breathing in thick and heavy air without choice all across the world, a problem that has rapidly intensified since the birth of the Industrial Revolution. ♦

Ocelot Opinions

Interviews by Anthony Plescia | Photos by Melissa Green
Staff Writer & Photo Editor



Eldin Janavikas
Major: Pharmaceuticals
"I like to go sledding with my little cousins. It's going to be their first winter sledding and they're really excited about it. It's going to be fun."



Shubham Saxena
Major: Computer Science
"Playing in the snow with my friends and chilling out. I love creating a ball of snow and then hitting it. It's fun for me."



Arber Mino
Major: Marketing
"Probably sledding. Unlike snowboarding and skiing, you can really goof around hard and go in like a group of people and mess around."



Kunika Saxena
Major: Finance
"Sleeping every day, because I love sleep."



Elaine Gerou
Major: Nursing
"Skiing is my favorite winter activity because it's a physical sport. It's a lot of fun and it's a social activity, too, so you can go with a group of friends. I like doing physical activities in the summer and in the winter, it's hard to do that."



Teresa Avery
Major: Nursing
"Curling up on the couch and playing a video game or watching a movie and generally chilling out."



Jordan Turner
Major: Graphic Design
"Probably basketball. Rain or snow, I'm breaking ankles and shooting jump shots."

Check out Ocelot Opinions online at our YouTube Channel. Just search "Schoolcraft Connection" and look for our belltower icon.



Newspaper meetings Monday at 4 p.m.

in Conference Room C of Lower Waterman, VisTaTech

For more information, call the Student Activities Office at 734.462.4422





FIND US ON
SOCIAL MEDIA

 /SchoolcraftConnection

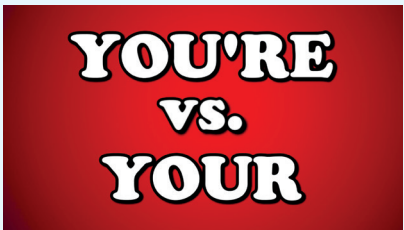
 @ConnectionSAO

The Quill

Dear Writing Fellows,

I always seem to be confused on when to use "your" and when to use "you're." I'm also having trouble differentiating between "their" and "there."

Please Help,
A Fellow Student



IMAGES FROM PIXABAY.COM, YOUTUBE.COM, TEACHERSPAYTEACHERS.COM AND USINGABORROWEDLANGUAGE.FILES.WORDPRESS.COM

Dear Fellow Student,

There always seems to be confusion between the words "your" and "you're." These words sound alike, but their meanings differ and are often mistaken. Let's first begin by differentiating both words by definition.

Your is the second person possessive adjective and is usually followed up by a noun or gerund. For example, "Your book is on the table." The word *your* here is used to describe something belonging to you and is followed up by the noun "book."

Another example would be: "I didn't know your building was here." In this case, *your* is still used to describe something belonging to you; however, it is now followed up by the gerund "building."

On the other hand, the word "you're" is simply the contraction of "you" and "are," just like "we're" which is the contraction of "we" and "are."

To avoid confusion, you can try using the word *you're* in your sentence and replace it with "you are" and see if the sentence still makes sense to you. If not,

then you should probably be using the word *your* instead.

Another misconception that seems to be rising is the confusion between *their* and *there*. As said previously with *your* and *you're*, *there* and *their* are also homophones, which are words that sound the same but have different meanings.

There is often used when referring to a place, while *their* is used to show possession. You would say "Put your jacket over *there*," and not "Put your jacket over *their*."

Also, you would say "That is *their* baby," and not "That is *there* baby." *Their* is used to show that the baby is theirs; the baby belongs to them (possession).

If you need any further help, we would be glad to help you at the LAC in the Bradner Library.

Best Wishes,
The Writing Fellows

Writing
Fellows 



They're parking **their** car **there**.



They are



Car belongs to them



Where car is parked



Hindering hunger

Empty Bowl Luncheon helps give back during the holidays

BY ALEXANDRA LACHINE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The holiday season is as prime a time as any to be thankful for our fortunes while not forgetting to give back to people and causes in need. Schoolcraft College, especially being community based, is no Ebenezer Scrooge this time of year. Since its founding in 1961, the college has given back to several worthy causes throughout the holiday season, with the conductive help of the bounty of student activities and organizations here on campus. One such cause is toward a fortune that many people may take for granted on the day to day, helping the hungry.

According to research surveys conducted by the College and University Food Bank Alliance and the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness, food insecurity occurs for students at both two-year and four-year institutions. 25 percent of community college students qualified as having very low food security, compared to 20 percent at four-year schools.

In an effort to consistently remedy this issue, Schoolcraft offers both a student food pantry on main campus and the Radcliff food pantry at its satellite campus in Garden City. By offering students and faculty in need non-perishable food items, the food pantries are able to help provide meals to those facing such insecurities.

On Dec. 6, Student Activities is hosting the annual Empty Bowl Luncheon in the Wilson

Room of the VisTaTech Center from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Historically, the event goes back to over two decades ago when it was started by the college's then Campus Minister, Sister Jones.

With the purchase of a handcrafted bowl from the college's Ceramics Department, patrons can warm up with a steaming bowl of fresh soup courtesy Food Service and freshly baked bread from Culinary Arts. Bowl prices will vary depending upon size, averaging around an eight to 15-dollar price tag.

"We're grateful to receive support from the Ceramics Department as well as Henry's Food Service," said Todd Stowell, Director of Student Activities.

Early December is as prime a time as any for the Empty Bowl Luncheon as the student food pantry requires crucial replenishing around the midpoint of the academic year.

"Empty Bowl is important for us to be able restock the food pantry. It's a great way to pick up a handcrafted, one of a kind bowl as a Christmas present for your relatives while also giving to a worthy cause," explained Elizabeth Machniak, administrative assistant of Student Activities.

Student Activities' volunteers help serve the savory soups while collecting the generous donations to the pantry. In 2016, a substantial \$1,900 was raised to benefit the pantry, enough to purchase an estimated 200 bags of groceries. 3,000 lbs. of food was donated into the pantry last year alone, some donations even coming from college partner St. Joseph Mercy Health.

If Schoolcraft faculty or students seek



PHOTO FROM STUDENT ACTIVITIES ARCHIVES.

The Ceramics Department sells hand-crafted bowls at a variety of prices to benefit the Student Food Pantry. With the purchase of an empty bowl, guests can warm up with fresh soup and the knowledge that they've helped a worthy cause.

assistance from the food pantry, they may consult the Student Activities Office to fill out a form. Beneficiaries can pick up two bags of groceries twice a month in the Lower Waterman Wing of VisTaTech.

While it's great to be thankful for all of life's fortunes this and any holiday season, it is also one's good duty to their neighbor to spread holiday cheer to those who need it most. With efforts such as the Empty Bowl Luncheon, Schoolcraft College is committed to just that. ●

Toys beneath every tree

BY ALEXANDRA LACHINE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With just three short weeks until Christmas, Project Playhem has also been dedicated to the cause of generosity. For the fourth consecutive year, the gaming gurus have partnered with the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program to collect toys for children who need them.

Project Playhem will be collecting new, unwrapped toys until Dec. 11, in various locations all across campus, including the Forum, Biomedical Tech, Student Activities and the Bookstore. Project Playhem chose to sponsor a Toys for Tots collection after working with Children's Miracle Network back in 2011.

"I took it upon myself and thought that we could do something new," explained student Kyle Smith, president of Project Playhem. "I know a lot of kids can't get presents every year, so it would be nice to give back and give them something to have under the tree each year. I don't like to see kids not have anything because I came from a household having a lot of stuff. I think it's fair for the ones that can't buy things for their kids."

These noble efforts to collect toys have grown significantly over the years here at the college.

"It was a struggle start at first," explained Smith. "Over the years, it became more of a popular thing around school, and just grown." ●

"Emancipated though not forgotten"

Q and A session with student musical artist Rhys Gabriel

BY ALEXANDRA LACHINE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Schoolcraft is the academic home to many talented students and blossoming artists. As per the invitation of Dr. JuJuan Taylor, Department Chair of Communication Arts at the college, The Connection capitalized on the opportunity to interview a rising star, student Rhys Gabriel who acoustically performed original songs "Hey Mother" and "The Pact" live for the interview.

Gabriel is currently majoring in Sound Recording Technology with an evident, soulful passion for music. He is both a solo artist and current vocalist and guitarist for local band Paper Crowns. Gabriel's debut solo album, "Brindalyn" is currently available on Spotify with his sophomore album anticipated for release in spring of 2018.

SC: What prompted your interest in music?

RG: As a kid, I was always interested in some of my favorite artists. I think the most important part of music was when my band teacher from middle school gave me an anthology of all the scores of every single Beatles song...I was so blown away that he gave this to me that I wanted to learn every single song off it.

SC: What courses have you enrolled in to further supplement your professional career?

RG: Music Theory, Music and Art History and fast piano. In high school, I was also taking Music Theory, and I also took five years of band playing the saxophone. I picked up guitar around eighth grade and started playing in a band last year.

SC: How has the Fundamentals of Speech Communication Arts course helped you in your future success?

RG: The importance of interviews with other people is extremely important to me. I'd rather be professional in my communication with other people rather than come off as a person who likes to flaunt their fame. I think that preparing speeches is going to be very important.

SC: What's your ultimate goal professionally?

RG: I have a couple, but my two biggest ones are to become an audio engineer so I can mix my own stuff and other stuff as well, and just go ahead with my music and make what I want...and win Grammys.

SC: Who are some of your major musical influences?

RG: I've developed a huge taste. My biggest inspirations right now have to be Iron & Wine, an amazing folk artist and Sufjan Stevens, a guy that was actually born in Detroit and grew up in Michigan and even made an album about Michigan. I look



IMAGE BY MELISSA GREEN, PHOTO EDITOR

Sound Recording Technology major, Rhys Gabriel, performs original song, "Hey Mother." Gabriel's profound interest in music has developed since middle school.

up to him because he actually started his own record label and that's what I hope to do sometime in the future.

SC: How would you describe or identify your genre?

RG: I'd say basic folk right now, but I am trying to make it chamber folk as I'm trying to implement strings, horns and other instruments. The music I have made over the past few years can be defined as post-rock, instrumental, jazz, synth wave, folk, rock...so I don't like to stick to one thing, I like to bounce.

SC: What are some other things you would like our readers to know about you?

RG: People that have a dream should chase after it, even if it seems far-fetched. I didn't think that I was going to be recording my own music and playing in multiple bands. I never thought I'd be onstage with

some of my best friends and amazing performers, but I just pursued it over time and eventually got there.

Having dedication and time is huge in life and I think that everybody should, if they have a dream, just pursue it. If they think that they're less than that, they're not.

SC: What would be some advice you have for future artists?

RG: I know that a lot of people are afraid to play in front of people, which is the most important thing about music. Even if you're afraid to play in front of people, there's not going to be a single person that isn't going to at least enjoy a little bit of it. As an artist, I've always been afraid of people not liking my stuff, not finding it appealing or being offended by lyrics. I don't think that anybody should have any worries about playing in front of people. ●

Classified Ads

Want to see your ad in the Classifieds?
Student/Alumni classified ads only \$3
Call 734.462.4422

\$8 for a movie ticket and a small popcorn at **Emagine Novi** or **Canton** with Schoolcraft ID.

Deal valid 12/18, 12/20, 1/8, 1/10, 1/22, 1/24, 2/5, 2/7, 2/19, 2/21, 3/5, 3/19, 3/21, 4/2, 4/4, 4/16, 4/18, 5/7, 5/9, 5/21 and 5/23.

Contact the Student Activities Office for more information at **734-462-4422**.

Join **Don Juan Los Amigos** for Taco Tuesday (\$1 hard tacos) and Ladies' Night on Thursday.

Happy hour daily from 3–6 p.m.

10% off with your Schoolcraft ID.

www.donjuanandlosamigos.net

Discover why **UM-Dearborn** is a great destination for transfer students.

Check out our Schoolcraft College website for upcoming visits, transfer information and campus events.

UMdearborn.edu/schoolcraft.

Ready for a career that will provide you with a good work-life balance?

Do you enjoy building relationships with community members?

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Visit cfcu.org.

The final days of fitness for 2017!

Remember, the **fitness center** is open until 3 p.m., Dec. 22, so come in and work off your stress and extra holiday calories while you can.

We reopen again on Wed., Jan. 3 at 7 a.m. Good luck on your final exams!

Help Wanted!

Comfort Keepers of Plymouth is hiring compassionate individuals to provide home-care for Seniors in Wayne County.

Companionship/light housekeeping/ personal care. Flexible schedules. Experience preferred.

Please call **(734) 397-1111**.

Stop by **Henry's Food Court** in the Waterman, ViTaTech Center for weekly specials.

Dec. 4–8, Sloppy Joes

Dec 11–15 chicken strips

Dec. 18–21, Philly cheese steak sandwich

Jan. 8–12, loaded nachos

Jan. 15–19 Pizza and Bosco sticks.

See our ad in this issue for more details!

Buy your winter books at the **Schoolcraft Bookstore**.

Winter books on sale Dec. 4. Winter Financial Aid may be used Dec. 11–Feb 2.

Please see our ad in this issue of the Connection or visit www.schoolcraftbooks.com for bookstore hours.

It's your time. It's your money.

Manage your accounts whenever and wherever it's convenient for you with **Michigan Educational Credit Union's** Mobile Banking solutions and Internet Home Banking.

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#BESTGIFTEVER #ICANTBELIEVEIT #OMG

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www.orinjewelers.com

Support Toys for Tots and our community this holiday season!

Drop off your toy donations at **Check Into Cash** 26429 Ford Road. While there, ask an associate about our services!

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734-536-1531
GARRETTSCRAFT@GMAIL.COM





Help the Hungry



Volunteer at St. Leo's Soup Kitchen

Join us on the following Saturdays from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

- October 21
- November 18
- December 9

Meet at the Student Activities Office at 8:00 a.m. to carpool.

Phi Theta Kappa members will earn 1/4 star per hour for attending.

For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.





The Schoolcraft Connection

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With the purchase of a 1/4 page or larger advertisers will receive:

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- 4 Ad on Web version of Schoolcraftconnection.com

For more information, contact the Schoolcraft Connection :734-462-4422.



Supported in part by a grant from the Schoolcraft College Foundation.

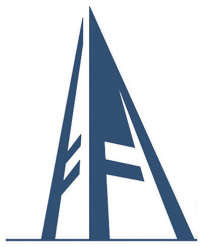
Welcome

Schoolcraft College
Professional Clothing Closet
RC 210

2017-2018 Hours:
Friday mornings, as needed.
Mary Rader, RC 625 A
Other times, as needed:
Sherrye Bailey, RC 120







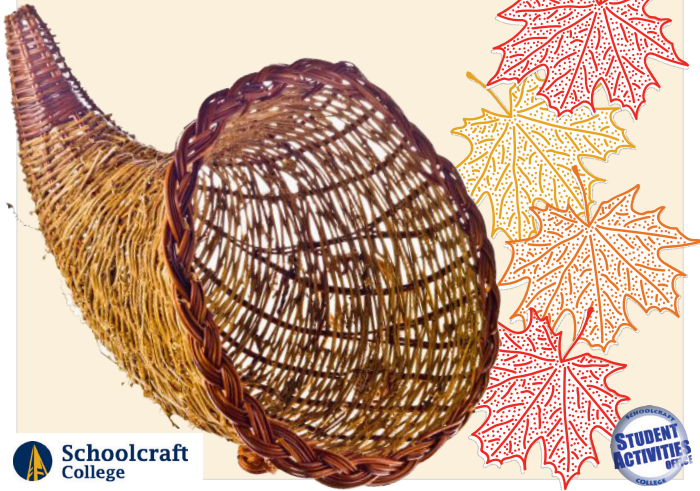
ADVERTISEMENT WITH US

Call 734-462-4422

HELP FILL OUR FOOD PANTRY

Please drop off **non-perishable goods & hygiene products** for the student food pantry at the Student Activities Office, in the designated boxes around campus.

Call the **Student Activities Office** at **734.462.4422** for more information or to request a pick-up from your class or office.



Schoolcraft College



WINTER CARNIVAL 2018



LOWER WATERMAN VISTATECH CENTER



SNOW CONES
GAMES!
MUSIC!
FREE CHAIR MASSAGES
PRIZES!
50¢ HOT DOGS!
PSYCHIC READINGS

Schoolcraft College

For more information, please contact the Student Activities Office at 734.462.4422

Join the Christian Challenge Bible Study Club for

Worship Night

Friday, December 15, 2017

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Lower Waterman, VisTaTech Center



Everyone is welcome!

For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

Schoolcraft College



CUBA
AN EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT



Joe Mchahwar gives his accounts of his trip to Cuba, as well as hosting a Q & A session afterwards.



SPECIAL GUEST

1:30 P.M. - LOWER WATERMAN CONFERENCE ROOM C

FRIDAY, 12/08/2017

Joe Mchahwar is a Syrian revolutionary activist in Detroit, Michigan with Workers World Party. Joe has been involved in local and international struggles for 5 years fighting water shut offs, the Detroit bankruptcy, racism, police terror, and other injustices.

For more information, contact Student Activities Office (734) 462-4422.



Schoolcraft College

Environmentally Friendly Club

Join us to discuss environmental issues and how they affect us.



Meetings
Every Tuesday

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Conference Room C
Lower Waterman, VisTaTech

- Help make Schoolcraft more environmentally friendly.
- Raise awareness of environmental issues in the community.
- Share ideas and educate others.

For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

Schoolcraft College



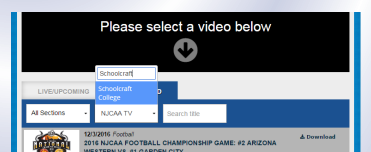
Listen to the Broadcast Club



Now Streaming Live During Campus Sporting Events

The Broadcast Club provides commentary and broadcasts of many sporting events around campus.

To listen, go to <http://njcaatv.com/> and type "Schoolcraft" in the NJCAA drop-down field.



Schoolcraft College

For more information, please contact the Student Activities Office at 734.462.4422.

campus
EVENTS

COMPILED BY ADAM NOWAK
STAFF WRITER

club
EVENTS

**DIVORCE SOLUTION
ESSENTIALS- MONEY
MATTERS IN DIVORCE**

Dec. 4 from 4 to 6 p.m.
Hinkle Center, Rm. 119 of McDowell Center

This is a free, comprehensive analysis forum regarding financial concerns related to divorce where attendees can learn how to make the best of their financial situation following divorce. The event will be hosted by Vicki D. McLellan, a certified divorce financial analyst from Metro-Detroit.

Contact the Hinkle Center at 734-462-4433 or hinklecenter@schoolcraft.edu with any questions or concerns.



**CONFUCIUS CAFÉ
CHINESE ETIQUETTE**

Dec. 5 from 12 to 1:30 p.m.
Sutherland Room, W210 of the Jeffress Center

Join Phi Theta Kappa members and the Schoolcraft College Business club on discussing how to improve one's Chinese business etiquette. Learn how technology will impact our changing job market, and expand your knowledge on Chinese culture.

Contact Student Activities at sc.sao@apps.schoolcraft.edu or 734-462-4422 with any questions about this free event.

EMPTY BOWL LUNCHEON

Dec. 6 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Wilson Room of VisTaTech Center

The empty bowl luncheon is a chance to warm up with some hearty soup for a good cause. All bowls are handcrafted by Schoolcraft ceramic students. With the purchase of a bowl, a delicious soup is provided by food service, along with freshly baked bread from the Culinary Arts Department. Bowls come in various shapes and sizes, with all proceeds benefiting the Schoolcraft Student Food Pantry. This event is sponsored by Student Activities. With questions, email sc.sao@apps.schoolcraft.edu or call 734-462-4422.



**All events, unless otherwise noted, are free of charge.*

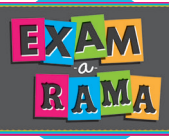


**EXAM-A-RAMA
(MIDNIGHT MADNESS)**

Dec. 7 from 8 to 11:59 p.m.
Dec. 8 from 12 to 3 p.m.
Dec. 9 from 12 to 1 p.m.

Exam-A-Rama offers course-specific reviews for students' highly anticipated final exams. The sessions are run by LAC tutors and consist of either a review of your final exam review packet, or a question and answer packet.

There are sessions available for math, biology, chemistry, physics and accounting classes. For the specific dates and times of your respective review sessions, visit the Exam-A-Rama webpage. With questions, the LAC can be reached at 734-462-4436 or by email at lac@schoolcraft.edu.



**BACH FESTIVAL
HONORS RECITAL**

Dec. 8 from 6 to 9 p.m.
Kehrl Auditorium of VisTaTech Center

In an effort to unleash the myriad musical performance excellence at the college, Schoolcraft is hosting the Bach Festival Honors Recital. Students have the opportunity to let their dreams come to life where they can perform any musical act of their choice before a panel of evaluating judges.

The college sponsors three separate musical performance festivals each year. Students who are selected by the judges have the opportunity to perform in the honors recital Friday, Dec. 8, 2017.

With questions, contact 734-462-4403 or email music@schoolcraft.edu.



**WEDNESDAY NOON JAZZ
CONCERT, PAUL KELLER,
HOLIDAY JAZZ**

Dec. 13 from 12 to 1 p.m.
Kehrl Auditorium of VisTaTech Center

Paul Keller, a leader of several successfully busy jazz ensembles, will delight Schoolcraft with a live performance. Keller is a prolific composer, creative and skilled arranger, recording company owner and producer and a nationally recognized recording artist. Keller will be accompanied by vocalist Sarah D' Angelo, trumpeter Paul Finkbeiner, saxophonist Keith Kaminski, trombonist Terry Kimura, pianist Ellen Rowe and drummer Sean Dobbins.

The concert is free, with donations being accepted to help fund student scholarships.

Contact Patricia Minnick at music@schoolcraft.edu or call 734-462-4403 with questions.



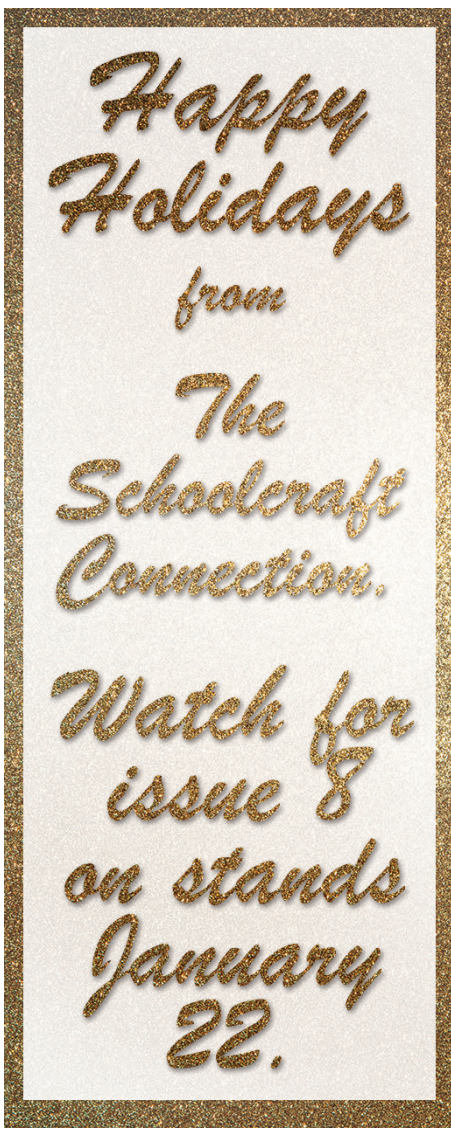
**COLLEGE JAZZ STUDIES
PROGRAM**

Dec. 18 from 7:30 to 10 p.m.
Diponio Room of VisTaTech Center

The Schoolcraft Jazz Studies Program is proudly presenting the Annual Winter Wonders Concert. The music will consist of traditional, contemporary and holiday jazz arrangements, featuring the talented musicians of the Jazz Ensemble, Vocal Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Improvisation Combo.

Donations will be accepted that would benefit student scholarships and the Jazz Program.

With questions, contact Patricia Minnick at music@schoolcraft.edu or call 734-462-4403. ●



College visits

COMPILED BY ALEXANDRA
LACHINE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Current Schoolcraft students interested in transferring can meet with representatives and advisers from the following universities to answer general questions regarding the transfer process or for individual advising appointments. Dates and times are subject to change.

**ADVISING WITH U OF M FLINT
NURSING (APPOINTMENT ONLY)**

Dec. 6 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Rm. 175 of McDowell Center
734-463-4429

EMU (RN TO BSN) VISIT

Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Biomedical Technology Center
734-462-4426

SOUTH UNIVERSITY VISIT

Dec. 7 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Biomedical Technology Center
734-462-4426

**ADVISING WITH U OF M COLLEGE
OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND
THE ARTS**

Dec. 11 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Rm. 175 of McDowell Center
734-462-4429

**ADVISING WITH U OF M
DEARBORN**

Dec. 13 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Rm. 175 of McDowell Center
734-462-4429

ADVISING WITH EMU

Dec. 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Rm. 175 of McDowell Center
734-462-4429

Club meeting times and locations



LIBERTARIAN CLUB

Every other Monday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Conference Room E of Lower Waterman

BUSINESS CLUB

Mondays from 12 to 1 p.m. in Conference Room D of Lower Waterman

POKE PALS

Mondays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Conference Room E of Lower Waterman

SAGA

Mondays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Conference Room D of Lower Waterman

PROJECT PLAYHEM

Mondays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesdays from 4:30 to 5 p.m. in Conference Room E of Lower Waterman

STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD

Tuesdays from 4 to 5 p.m. in Conference Room C of Lower Waterman

VIDEO PRODUCTION CLUB

Wednesdays from 12 to 1 p.m. in Conference Room C of Lower Waterman

BROADCAST CLUB

Wednesdays from 12 to 2 p.m. in Conference Room D of Lower Waterman

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTION CLUB

Thursdays from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in Conference Room C of Lower Waterman

MATH AND PHYSICS CLUB

Thursdays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in Room 200 of the Biomedical Technology Center

OTAKU ANIME CLUB

Nov. 11 and 18, Dec. 9 and 30 from 5 to 10 p.m. in Lower Waterman

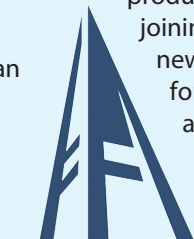
POWER LIFTING CLUB

Sundays at 10 a.m. in the Fitness Center

**THE SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION
NEWSPAPER STAFF MEETINGS**

Mondays at 4 p.m. in Conference Room E of Lower Waterman

Are you interested in writing, photography, cartooning or video production? If so, consider joining The Connection student newspaper. Students get paid for published work and are able to build a professional resume by contributing to an award-winning collegiate publication. ●



Colorful kaleidoscope of adventure

“Coco” delights Disney lovers of all ages

BY MELISSA GREEN
PHOTO EDITOR



With family in mind for the holiday season, Disney Pixar’s highly anticipated release “Coco” has proven to be a delight for audiences of all ages. Set during the celebration of Mexico’s Día De Los Muertos, the film focuses on the theme of family and remembering loved ones of generations past. Despite his family’s baffling, generations-old ban on music, young Miguel (Anthony Gonzalez) dreams of becoming an accomplished musician like his idol, Ernesto de la Cruz (Benjamin Bratt).

Desperate to prove his musical talent, the aspiring musician finds himself in the darkly stunning and colorful Land of the Dead to follow a mysterious chain of events. With his faithful dog Dante, Miguel runs into the trickster Hector (Gael García Bernal), and with his help, they set off on an extraordinary journey to unlock the real story behind Miguel’s family history. Disney Pixar has far outdone themselves for this production, richly crafted with amazingly intricate and vibrant art centered around the Mexican holiday. Any animation fanatic will absolutely fall in love with the details that make this movie an experience for all. The eye for detail in even the smallest things, from the buildings to characters themselves,

demonstrates the talent that is brought in to make each Disney production better than the last. The music also serves as a main component for the story, mainly mariachi themed with strong guitar. Songs such as “Remember Me” had many renditions throughout the movie, performed by Benjamin Bratt, Anthony Gonzalez and Gael García Bernal. All the songs reflect Latin influence with their catchiness and originality, reminding audiences that this movie is indeed produced by Disney. Overall, “Coco” is sure to please any moviegoer with its vibrant charm and deeply set lessons in honoring family and the mystery of learning more about oneself. 🎸

IMAGE FROM WALLPAPERZONE.COM



“Stoney” one year later

Post Malone continues making impact

BY ADAM NOWAK
STAFF WRITER



Austin Post, also known as Post Malone, was an unknown name in the music industry until the release of his popular single “White Iverson” which climbed to No. 14 on the Hot 100 in August 2015. Since then, Malone’s popularity has greatly developed into what it is now a global success thanks to his popular album “Stoney.” In his first mainstream album “Stoney,” Malone created an 18-song-album in coordination with Republic Records. Running for 68 minutes, the album features several talented artists, such as Justin Bieber, 2 Chainz, Kehlani, Quavo and Hearty co-signs. “Congratulations” is the most popular song on the album, with 570 million views on YouTube. It’s the fifth track off the album, produced by Metro Boomin and Frank Dukes. Featuring Quavo, a member of the rap group Migos, “Congratulations” is about congratulating yourself on successes while staying motivated and confident to accomplish your dreams in life. Many lyrics express Malone’s own self-pride in sudden success, “They

said that I would be nothing/now they only say Congratulations/worked so hard forgot how to vacation.” Another song that has become a favorite to the vast majority of Malone fanatics is “I Fall Apart.” This song was enjoyed by fans and supporters of Malone upon initial release, but has recently landed as No. 65 on Billboard’s Hot 100. The spike in streams for “I Fall Apart” came after a live performance on Sept. 24 went viral. The video was recorded by a fan named Grant Scherer and has over 1 million views on YouTube. “I Fall Apart” is about a bad breakup. The song opens up with Malone’s heavy lyrics, “She told me that I’m not enough, yeah/And she left me with a broken heart, yeah/She fooled me twice and it’s all my fault, yeah.” It highlights the star’s difficulty understanding the breakup and serves as a ballad many fans can relate to, making it a global hit. “Stoney” culminates with “Feeling Whitney,” a track referencing the late music icon Whitney Houston and her struggle with addiction. This track attests to Malone’s long fought battle with depression and speaks for the people that suffer from disease and make unhealthy coping choices.



IMAGE FROM HYPEBEAST.COM

Malone also sings about feeling alone and not having anyone to turn to, “Ain’t always broken, but here’s to hoping/Show no emotion, against your coding.” “Feeling Whitney” is yet another track that many people may connect with their own lives, possibly even serving as an outlet for their fight against depression. Post Malone blends folk music and hip-hop into a relaxed vibe in “Stoney.” At only 22 years old, he’s become one of the most popular musicians in the country with current single “Rockstar” topping out as America’s No. 1 hit for five weeks and counting. It is “Stoney” that has welcomed listeners to the artist’s raw talent. 🎸

Frozen yet charming

“Olaf’s Frozen Adventure” perfect for holiday season

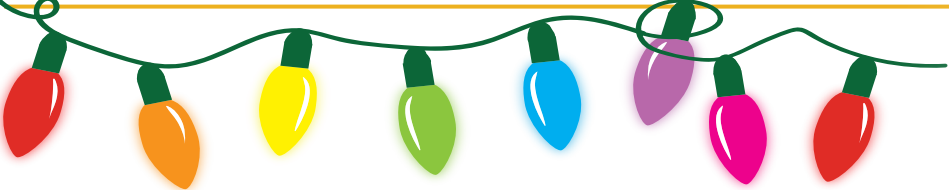
BY MELISSA GREEN
PHOTO EDITOR



Preceding the movie Coco in many viewings across the nation, “Olaf’s Frozen Adventure” is a heartwarming tale perfect for this time of year. Featuring the familiar faces of Elsa (Idina Menzel), Anna (Kristen Bell), Kristoff (Jonathan Groff), the reindeer Sven and of course the beloved snowman Olaf (Josh Gad) from Pixar’s 2013 hit “Frozen,” the 21-minute short film is the second to follow its origin movie. As a follow-up from the second short “Spring Fever,” this short film follows Olaf’s shenanigans as he tries to find traditions for Anna and Elsa to partake in during the holiday season. In this featurette, it is the first holiday season since the events of the first movie and the subsequent reopening of the gates of the castle. Anna and Elsa host a celebration for all of the townspeople unexpectedly leave early to enjoy individual holiday customs, the sisters realize that they have no family traditions to call their own. Olaf and Sven set out to comb the kingdom to bring home the best family traditions and save the sisters’ first Christmas since being reunited. Charming and much better graphically produced than the full-length feature film, this featurette seems to be much better planned out. With new songs sung by all members cast members, this “Olaf’s Frozen Adventure” has proven itself a great component in celebrating the holiday season. The only qualm held by viewers would be that the “Frozen” franchise has become a bit overdone. 🎅



IMAGE FROM INDIEWIRE.COM



Five classic festive films to curl up to this holiday season



“ELF” (2003)
PG

Laugh along Will Ferrell’s portrayal as Buddy the elf in his quest to find his true identity. Buddy was raised alongside Santa and his elves in the North Pole after he snuck into Santa’s sack as a baby.

Upon learning the truth of his origin, Buddy travels to New York City to find his birth father who just so happens to be a notorious member of the naughty list. With the help of family, Buddy’s cheer opens Walter’s heart to kindness.

Director John Favreau and Ferrell’s funny antics make this movie a feel-good holiday comedy friendly to all ages.

BY LAUREN ENGELHARDT
STAFF WRITER

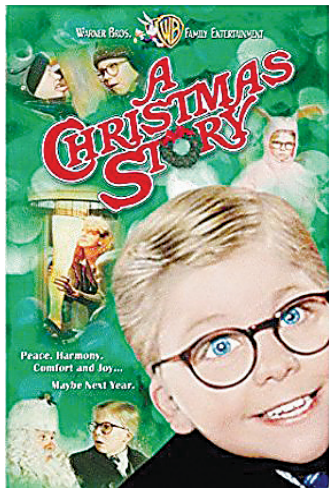


“HOME ALONE” (1990)
PG

Most children would find it hard to relate to being left home alone during the holidays while their family travels across the globe to Paris, especially at the ripe age of eight. Mischief maker Kevin McCallister (Macaulay Culkin) finally figures out just how much he loves his family after wishing to never see them again.

Kevin’s fun and games quickly fade once he’s faced with two bumbling burglars that try to break into the McCallister home. Kevin must find a way to protect himself and his home from the “wet bandits” in this holiday comedy.

This iconic movie directed by Chris Columbus sparked returns to television each year and also three sequels.



“A CHRISTMAS STORY” (1983)
PG

You’ll shoot your eye out with this old school Christmas comedy. With the holidays rolling around in small town, 1940s northern Indiana, little nine year-old Ralphie Parker (Peter Billingsley) only wants one thing for Christmas, a Red Ryder rifle BB gun.

Ralphie tries to convince his friends, mother, teacher and even old Saint Nick that the BB gun is the perfect Christmas present for him. Don’t miss this classic Christmas movie including everlasting feuds with the neighbors, Ralphie’s iconic shenanigans with bullies and his father’s prized leg lamp.

Gather around with other Michiganders this season to catch this popular northern U.S. flick directed by Bob Clark.



“NATIONAL LAMPOON’S CHRISTMAS VACATION” (1989)
PG-13

Sometimes family gatherings around the holidays can be disastrous, as proven the Griswolds. Chevy Chase stars as Clark Griswold, a loving father to his wife and two children. Clark works hard to impress his boss so he can earn a big Christmas bonus to fund his family’s pool. After the Griswold’s crazy road trip to Wallyworld, Clark works to put on the best Christmas ever for family guests.

Jeremiah S. Chechik’s comedy is surely better than a membership to a Jelly of the Month club!



“THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS” (1993)
PG

The combination of Halloween and Christmas make for Tim Burton’s iconic and versatile animation, “The Nightmare Before Christmas.” Pumpkin King Jack Skellington (Chris Sarandon and Danny Elfman) throws yet another successful Halloween full of scares and treats, but happens upon the wondrous Christmastown as he seeks a change.

As the Christmas-novice citizens of Halloweentown begin to celebrate the new holiday with their own spooky twist, the real Saint Nick finds himself in jeopardy. It is then up to Jack to save Christmas for all before it’s too late.

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

BY LAUREN ENGELHARDT
STAFF WRITER

Arts and Entertainment events in Metro-Detroit

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE’S “A CHRISTMAS CAROL”

378 Meadow Brook Rd.,
Rochester, MI 48309
Various dates and times now
through Dec. 24
Ticket prices range from \$28-\$43

It’s that time of year to reflect on the past, react to the present and plan for the future. That’s why you should visit the Meadow Brook Theatre located at the beautiful campus of Oakland University to catch the showing of Charles Dickens’s “A Christmas Carol.” Watch everyone’s favorite mean-spirited miser Ebenezer Scrooge as he figures out the true meaning of Christmas through his wild adventure. Tickets can be bought by calling the box office at 248-377-3300 or by going online at ticketmaster.com.



IMAGE FROM MBTHEATRE.COM



IMAGE FROM OKLANDCOUNTYMOMS.COM

AUBURN HILLS ANNUAL DANCING LIGHTS DISPLAY

3111 Paramount Ln.,
Auburn Hills, MI 48326
Sunday–Thursday from 5
to 10 p.m.,
Friday–Saturday from 5 to
11 p.m. through Dec. 30
Free Event

What better way to spend an evening through the holidays than viewing this impressive, 50,000 rainbow light display while listening to classic Christmas music. This complete light show is done every night until the New Year. Many Metro-Detroiters insist it is a “must see” for all ages. Donations will be accepted for Rainbow Connection, a Michigan based children’s charity.

HOLIDAY NIGHTS AT HENRY FORD GREENFIELD VILLAGE

Friday, Dec. 8, through Sunday, Dec. 10,
from 6:30 to 10 p.m.
20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, MI 48124
Children age two and under free,
children ages 3-11 \$19.50,
general admission \$26 and
seniors 62+: \$23.50,
members will receive a discounted price

The Henry Ford is home to one of America’s Top 10 Christmas experiences in the country, according to USA Today and Reader’s Digest. Step into a life-sized snow globe filled with lantern-lit paths filled with possibilities. Breathe in the smell of roasting chestnuts and warm fires with many festive activities, including visiting Santa and his helpers (live reindeer), ice skating, carolers and live musical performances, decorated homes and shops, holiday cooking demonstrations, ride-alongs from the choice of wagons, Model T’s or carousels, artisan demonstrations, fireworks and a sing-along.



IMAGE FROM THEHENRYFORD.ORG



IMAGE FROM CHEVYDETROIT.COM

WAYNE COUNTY LIGHTFEST

Warren Road and Ann Arbor Trail,
7651 North Merriman Rd.,
Westland, MI 48185
Monday–Thursday from 7 to 10 p.m.,
Friday–Sunday from 6 to 10 p.m.
through Dec. 31
\$5 per vehicle,
\$8 for photos with Santa

Take a smooth Christmas cruise through Hines Park and witness the thousands of illuminating lights that Wayne County Parks have to offer. Jam out with friends and family to your choice of music of course as you see the countless displays, with both new and returning favorites. Guests may also take photos with Santa at the end of their drive and tell him their Christmas wishes.



Designed by Vecteezy

Different angle displays lifeblood of beloved Christmas tale

“The Man Who Invented Christmas” reveals creative muses of Charles Dickens

BY ALEXANDRA LACHINE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



As “The Man Who Invented Christmas” tells it, Charles Dickens (Dan Stevens) took inspiration for “A Christmas Carol” from an old waiter named Marley and a real-life miser who groaned the now famous perjorative, “humbug.”

At a halt to find his muse for the ending, Dickens had to exorcise aspects of Scrooge (Christopher Plummer) from himself—to find kindness in his heart for his proud but poor father (Jonathan Pryce), and to show his wife (Morfydd Clark), who accuses him of caring more about the characters he conjures than his own family, he truly loves her.

Director Bharat Nalluri and screenwriter Susan Coyne whimsically adapt the film from Les Standiford’s nonfiction book of the same title. Essentially, it is a biographical telling of the late autumn weeks preceding Christmas of 1843 as the author faced a crunch on time to deliver a novel that would sell well enough to free him from the chains of accumulating debt.

Dickens is also revealed to carry another related chain since boyhood, a

grudge toward his father whose arrest as a debtor forced his early coming of age as he toiled in a boot blacking factory to become the man of the house.

Part of what makes the film so clear and to the point is that it doesn’t ascribe to autobiography every aspect of Dickens’s story and the process that brought it to life. One of its richest aspects in revealing the author’s creative process is the conversations Dickens has with his characters, particularly with Scrooge, who all appear to him like the ghosts of Christmas past, present and future to guide him to completion of one of the best-selling books in history.

Scrooge’s significance to Dickens ultimately finishing the story on time is immense. His very character also serves to anchor the film magically and charismatically with comedic charm.

Lively and anchored by Stevens’s infectious embodiment of the renowned 19th century English author, all 104 minutes of the film proceed like a holiday special on television, designed to thrill children and also comically entertain adults.

Interesting historical tidbits—William Makepeace Thackeray (Miles Jupp) appears as a periodic irritant for Dickens—share screen time with a fair amount of fanciful lightheartedness that comes to explain the author’s imagination, prose style and



IMAGE FROM WWW.STUFF.CO.NZ

Ebenezer Scrooge (Christopher Plummer) presses author Charles Dickens (Dan Stevens) to look within aspects of himself to complete “A Christmas Carol” on time. Dialogue between Dickens and his iconic characters helps propel the story forward throughout the movie.

gift for names well regarded throughout all of literature.

Perhaps the only true flaw with this family friendly holiday film is that for audiences unfamiliar with Charles Dickens or his famous work “A Christmas Carol,” it may leave them at a loss for what is going on. The film, as is its purpose, does rely heavily on the development of Dickens’s iconic characters from the story and the roles they come to serve.

While the title of the film is a bit of a hyperbole, Charles Dickens must certainly be credited for the ways which “A Christmas Carol” transformed western celebration of the holiday. By telling the transformative tale of a once depraved miser to a truly caring, tenderhearted man, Dickens indeed translated the Christmas spirit of love and boundless generosity to common celebration of the holiday. 🎄

The “Blue-Blur” can only go so fast *Sonic Forces disappoints*



BY JARVIS BYRD JR.
STAFF WRITER



Sega set up a new project that was announced in Tokyo Joypolis with an upcoming teaser of new Sonic game known as “Project Sonic 2017” back in June 2016. The trailer showed “Modern Sonic” and “Classic Sonic” previously seen in the fan-favorite “Sonic Generations.” A year later, Sega and Sonic Team officially titled the game as “Sonic Forces,” releasing the game Nov. 7.

“Sonic Forces” sets the theme with a great soundtrack as expected in a main-line Sonic game. Tracks like “Fist Bump” and “Infinite’s Theme” by Tomoya Ohtani continue to impress fans even through their high expectations.

The biggest innovation in “Sonic Forces” is having the ability to create a custom character. This allows everyone’s fan-fiction dreams of being in the Sonic Universe to come true. Custom characters build off the Wisps mechanics initially seen in

2010s “Sonic Colors.”

This time though, the player is limited to one Wisp per stage, giving the custom character abilities that make every stage unique for replay. Some Wisps give players the chance to jump onto much higher ledges that aren’t accessible otherwise, while others make it easier to go through enemies. Arguably, the most practical Wisp is the lightning Wisp, which allows the character to quickly speed through an area by collecting rings.

However, rings serve no purpose in “Sonic Forces” due to unlimited lives and no game-over screens, which also isn’t an issue because of the unbelievably short stages that last around two minutes at most, and easy to beat bosses. This makes the game feel easier than any other Sonic game before.

“Classic Sonic” and “Modern Sonic’s” gameplay is near identical to what was seen in “Sonic Generations.” Unfortunately, “Classic Sonic” is slowed down a lot due to the poor level design. “Modern Sonic” continues to use the Boost mechanic that premiered in 2008’s “Sonic Unleashed.”



IMAGES FROM SONICCLUSTER.COM AND SEGABITS.COM

Sonic Forces has great, innovative ideas for the series, but falls short in execution. The custom character is a great idea, but with limited gameplay and poor level design, it is almost worthless.

“Sonic Forces” story is also the least-interesting in the series. Dialogue is poorly written and the plot moves faster than Sonic himself. This could have been a great story about a rebellion against the great Eggman Empire. Instead, gamers were given a rushed mess with a half-baked plot. In total, “Sonic Forces” has 30 short

stages that take at most three hours to complete. Gameplay feels stiff compared to recent 3D Sonic games. Titles like “Sonic Generations” or even the Wii U’s “Sonic Lost World” feel much better.

For \$40, this is unacceptable, and feels like a total rip-off. 🎮

*Game reviewed on Nintendo Switch and Xbox One.



Schoolcraft College Bookstore

Winter Financial Aid may be used
December 11–February 2

WINTER STORE HOURS
Main Campus Hours Listed Below*

Monday–Thursday	8:30 a.m.–6:30 p.m.
Friday	8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

SPECIAL/EXTENDED HOURS

*December 23–January 2 Closed
For Holiday Break*

January

6	Saturday	Open 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
8	Monday	Open 8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.
9	Tuesday	Open 8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.
10	Wednesday	Open 8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.
11	Thursday	Open 8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.
12	Friday	Open 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
13	Saturday	Open 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
15	Monday	Closed for MLK Day

**Please visit www.schoolcraftbooks.com for Radcliff Center and PSTC Bookstore hours*

Eight creepiest toys

BY MARIAM AHMAD
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

What not to get your children this holiday season, or ever



JOLLY CHIMP

The funny, musical Jolly Chimp was a toy made to live up to its name. The toy clangs and bangs two cymbals between its hands when activated, along with making noises and smiling. Its fatal downfall is the design of its face which turned out angry, with cold, hollow eyes. Another irritable downside is that the cymbals don't seem to shut off for many users, which quickly became a nightmare for children and parents alike.



BABY LAUGHS A LOT

Yet another doll strikes terror and fear into the hearts of people of all ages, the eerie Baby Laughs A Lot. Although it may be initially entertaining, the shrieks of laughter become annoying and permanently drilled into its unlucky listener's ears. The doll has even been said to creepily chuckle in the late hours of the night.



LITTLE MISS NO NAME

"I need someone to love me," "I am so tired and cold" and "Please take me home with you" are some of the charming phrases uttered by this frightening doll. Perhaps to some, this would be a cute and heart-warming gift, while for the reasonable, it's a melancholic eyesore.



JAR JAR BINKS TONGUE POP

While this toy is more of a candy novelty, it is still incomprehensible what child would want to eat a sucker in the shape of an alligator tongue. The candy sticks out of Jar Jar's mouth and remains attached to the toy through consumption. Not only can it be considered inappropriate, but the candy also appears infected with bumpy spots. Delicious.



FACE BANK

This unique piggy bank will not only help your children save money, but also provide hours of haunting fun! This is a toy originally created to help and encourage children to save money though it seems more like something to scare children away. Perhaps it would be perfect for those who want their children to stop asking for allowance. This coin box, operated by AA batteries, makes a chewing noise to mechanically eat the coins and note savings.



MR. BUTTONS

This creepy doll seems as though it's hand-made by a derailed craftsman, with eyes of buttons and a mouthful of realistic teeth sure to give your children nightmares for months to come. And what is Mr. Buttons? A mutated teddy bear? A zombified genetically modified potato? And is he about to eat the heart in his hands?



LOVELY STRAITJACKET AND FUNNY CAGE

The Lovely Straitjacket and not-so Funny Cage by "Control Toys" were actually used as publicity stunts in the reality show "Super Nanny." Crew members placed empty toy boxes in various retailers and caught parents and guardians on camera who actually considered buying them to quell the behavior of unruly children. Were these toys real, the law may not agree how lovely or funny they are.



Strangely enough, however, there was a precedent. According to a Mental Floss article, "baby cages" were a fad in urban areas in the '30s for parents without yards, as a way to give their babies some "fresh" air, one of the objectives being to strengthen their immune systems. ☹



IMAGE FROM MENTALFLOSS.COM



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HONOR SOCIETY
Omicron Iota Chapter

Informal Induction Ceremony

All new members are invited to attend the Omicron Iota Chapter Informal Induction Ceremony.

Thursday, December 7, 2017
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Wilson Room W205 - Inside of Henry's, VisTaTech Center
Please R.S.V.P. to 734-462-4422 by December 4, 2017.



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For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

Stay Connected!

See the online review of
"Call of Duty: WWII" at
schoolcraftconnection.com



IMAGE FROM MICROSOFT.COM

Henry's Food Court

December 4–8



Sloppy Joe, potato chips and small fountain drink..... \$5

December 11–15



Chicken strips (5) and small fountain drink..... \$5

December 18–21



Philly cheese steak and small fountain drink..... \$5

January 8–12



Loaded nachos and medium fountain drink..... \$6

January 15–19



Slice of pizza, Bosco stick and small fountain drink..... \$5

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FITNESS CENTER

The Final Days of FITNESS FOR 2017

Good luck on your final exams!

Remember, the fitness center is open until **3:00 p.m., December 22nd** so come in and work off your stress and extra holiday calories while you can! We re-open again on **Wednesday morning, January 3rd at 7:00 a.m.**

For more information See you in the Fitness Center!

Call 734-462-4348 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu/fitnesscenter

COMPILED BY CHRISSY BEGLE, LAYOUT AND DESIGN EDITOR

Fun festive desserts

Ingredients:

8 oz. softened cream cheese
14.3 oz. package of Oreo cookies
16 oz. chocolate dipping chips
1 cup candy sprinkles

Directions:

1. Crush Oreos finely in a food processor.
2. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese until smooth.
3. Add crushed cookies and blend well.
4. Form mixture into 1" balls and place on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper.
5. Place in freezer for 30 minutes.
6. Heat chocolate by microwaving for one minute, stirring and repeating until melted.
7. Use a toothpick or fork to dip the balls into chocolate to completely coat. Shake off excess and return to tray.
8. Top with candy sprinkles.
9. Keep refrigerated.

Oreo Truffles

(Yields 48 Truffles)



FROM CINCYSHOPPER.COM



FROM THRILLIST.COM, IMAGE FROM WYDLFLOW.COM

Ingredients:

1 pound chocolate chip cookie dough
16 Oreo cookies
1 package brownie mix, prepared

Directions:

1. Heat the oven to 350°F.
2. Grease a 8x8" or 9x9" pan with cooking spray.
3. Spread cookie dough in an even layer on the bottom of the pan.
4. Add Oreos in an even layer.
5. Spread brownie batter over the top.
6. Bake 40-45 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.
7. Let cool in the pan for 15 minutes before cutting.

Oreo Brookies

(Yields 16 servings)

Ingredients:

1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
½ cup sifted powdered sugar
1 teaspoon of vanilla extract
2 cups all-purpose flour
¾ cup finely chopped nuts
2 to 2½ teaspoons ground cinnamon
1½ cups red and white sprinkles
1 cup extra powdered sugar

Directions:

1. Pre-heat the oven to 350°F.
2. Beat butter and sugar in a large mixing bowl until creamy. Beat in vanilla extract. Gradually beat in flour, nuts and cinnamon. Stir in 1½ cups of the sprinkles.
3. Roll dough into 1-inch balls, place on ungreased baking sheets.
4. Bake for 10-12 minutes or until set and light golden brown on the bottom.
5. Cool on baking sheets for 2 minutes, then roll in a bowl of powdered sugar.
6. Remove to wire racks to cool completely. Roll in more powdered sugar if desired.

Christmas Tea Cakes

(Yields 54 cookies)



FROM ALEXIS TUCKER, A&E EDITOR, IMAGE FROM BETTYCROCKER.COM

Downtown Garden City
SANTALAND
PARADE
Established 1961
 PRESENTED BY THE
 GARDEN CITY DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The Saturday after Thanksgiving is always a treat in Garden City Michigan, not because there's leftovers or because you got your best savings during the Black Friday rush. At around 10 a.m., the Santaland Parade happens on Middlebelt Rd. between Warren and Ford. Established in 1961, this parade features all sorts of floats, groups and even some famous faces from all around southeast Michigan. Not only is this event broadcasted by local T.V. stations, it also welcomes visitors from all around to marvel at the creativity from its citizens.



Above
 Bikes from all time periods were seen at the parade. Amused children watched in fascination as they rode around merrily waving at the crowd. The bikes were brought to the parade by the Henry Ford Museum.



Above
 The Redford Township Unicycle Club does insane tricks on the one wheeled contraptions. As a real crowd pleaser, these people really made everyone smile.



Above
 Marching bands played a variety of songs, from school fight songs to ever popular songs from beloved Disney movies. Three marching bands graced the Santaland Parade—Franklin High School, Garden City and Taylor Kennedy High School, all of which made an impact on the event.

Floats made by all sorts of business and local hot spots made the Santaland parade a huge success. Each float had a different theme, from fairy tale princes and princesses, to winter wonderlands. Who knows what next year will bring to the festive table?

Right



Layout and photography by Melissa Green
 Photo Editor



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Help us Erase Hunger Empty Bowl Luncheon

Proceeds to benefit the Schoolcraft Food Pantry.

Wednesday, December 6, 2017
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Wilson Room inside of Henry's, VisTaTech Center

Purchase a hand crafted bowl created and donated by Schoolcraft ceramic students.

Enjoy a bowl of hearty soup donated by Food Service and fresh baked bread donated by Culinary Arts.




 For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.


Confucius Cafe Chinese Etiquette

As technology rapidly advances, the job market and the skills required are changing alongside. With foreign markets also on the rise, interacting with other cultures will be a necessary skill for the future workforce.







Tuesday, December 5, 2017
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Sutherland Room, W210 ABC

- Learn about Chinese business etiquette and culture.
- Learn how technology will impact our job market.
- Learn what skills you will need to thrive in the age of technology.





Sponsored by:

Women's basketball turn it around

Ocelots win home game after 2 losses.

BY CHRISSY BEGLE AND DAVID VEGA
LAYOUT AND DESIGN EDITOR
AND STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

After two losses against Owens and Muskegon, the Ocelots scored a definitive win against Kellogg Community College at the Schoolcraft home game on Nov. 29. The final score was 74-33. Following are some moments captured from the game.



(Above) Sophomore guard Taia Parker (#14) keeps the teamwork strong as she passes the ball to freshman guard/forward C'Erra Maholmes (#15) as they charge down the court.



(Above) Maholmes (#15) breaks away with eyes on the next play as she streaks toward the basket.



(Above) Maholmes (#15) grabs a pass despite blocking attempts from Kellogg Community College Bruins, including freshman guard Shawntell Evans (#13).



(Above) Maholmes (#15), under pressure from Bruins freshman guard Destiny Kincaide (#11) seeks an open teammate for a quick pass.

(Right) Freshman guard/forward Megan Sandiha (#24) seizes the moment as the Bruins close in and shoots for the basket.



PHOTOS BY DAVID VEGA, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
LAYOUT BY CHRISSY BEGLE, LAYOUT AND DESIGN EDITOR



Music Production Club

Help us bring **Schoolcraft's musical talent** to center stage.

Meetings will be every **Thursday @ 12pm.**

Meetings will be held in **Conference Room E** located on the lower lever of the **VisTaTech Building.**

"One good thing about music, when it hits you, you feel no pain."
— Bob Marley

For more information, please contact the Students Activities Office at 734.462.4422.




Schoolcraft College POWER LIFTING CLUB



Meet every Sunday
10:00 a.m.
Schoolcraft Fitness Center

- Looking for students with knowledge of basic weight lifting.
- Meet people with similar interests.
- Increase strength.
- Achieve better health and stress management.
- Once a week weight lifting workouts.





For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

PROJECT PLAYHEM GAMING CLUB



Mondays
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Tuesdays
4:30 pm- 5:00 pm
Lower Waterman, VisTaTech
Conf. Room E

MEET ING FOR NEW AND RET URNING MEMBERS.
TELL YOUR FRIENDS AND BRING
YOUR IDEAS ON CLUB EVENT S.

For more information, contact the Student Activites Office at (734) 462-4422



Join Schoolcraft Business Club to tour Quicken Loans®

Friday, January 19, 2018
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

(Participants will meet in the lower Waterman, VisTaTech Center, at 9:00 a.m. to carpool).

Only 25 spots available so sign-up today!



Learn about:

- The culture, work ethic and management of the company.
- Why Detroit is a great city to grow your company in.
- How they have created one of the best work environments in the country.

To sign-up, or for more information, come to the Student Activities Office in the lower Waterman, VisTaTech Center or call 734-462-4422.



Schoolcraft Student Activities Board

Get Involved Today!

Make Your Mark on Campus!

Meetings
Every Tuesday
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Conference Room C
Lower Waterman, VisTaTech

- Gain leadership experience
- Help plan fun events on campus
- Participate in community service
- Meet new people

Find us on facebook
@ sdstudentactivitiesboard

For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.





Come Join SAGA

Sexuality and Gender Acceptance

Meetings

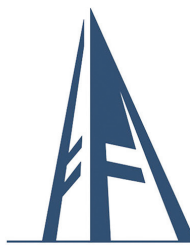
Mondays 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Lower Waterman - Conf. Room D

SAGA provides a fun and safe environment on campus for members of the LGBTQI community and their supporters.

Everyone is Welcome!

For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.





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IMAGES FROM PIXABAY.COM

Festive forecast

BY ALEXANDRA LACHINE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Your holiday ho-ho-horoscopes

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23-DEC. 21):
You're familiar with deer crossing, but you're soon to be familiar with reindeer crossing as well. Take caution driving home on snowy nights.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19):
Be sure to show your partner some affection beneath the mistletoe this holiday season, however corny it may seem.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 19):
Put on some Christmas tunes and deck the halls with your family sometime soon. You will value the warm memories throughout the cold winter days.

PISCES (FEB. 20-MARCH 20):
Feeling festive yet? Perhaps not, but try spending an evening curled up with some classic holiday movies and a mug of cocoa to put you in the spirit of the season.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 20):
At your family holiday party, it may be best to keep the keys of the "sleigh" from your uncle Nick who enjoys a little too much eggnog.

TAURUS (APRIL 21-MAY 20):
You've been feeling exceptionally thoughtful and generous this season, so consider volunteering with a local soup kitchen or doing charity to ensure the holiday spirit reaches those who need it most.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20):
You may be feeling rather traditional lately as you begin to celebrate the holidays. Instead of a tree that you unbox, head into the forest and find your own to decorate this year, it may make for a new tradition entirely.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22):
The holidays certainly have a sort of unique magic to them, which you may encounter one afternoon upon building a frosty snowman.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22):
The big man in the red suit will bring you the gift your heart most desires this year, if you've earned a spot on the nice list of course.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22):
"Blue Christmas" seems to be the only carol you relate to this year. If you're missing someone this holiday season, try reaching out to them to send your tidings of comfort and joy.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22):
Be mindful of all the holiday treats you enjoy this season, because you don't want to be too hard on your New Year's resolutions afterward.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 22):
You've been working as hard as one of Santa's elves, so take the time to party like one through the season.

SCHOOLCRAFT SKETCHES

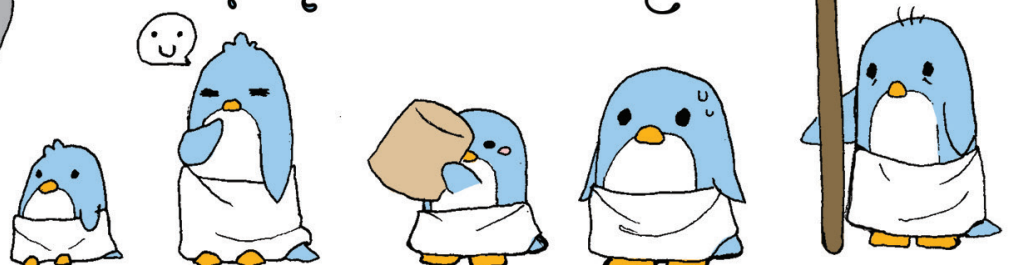
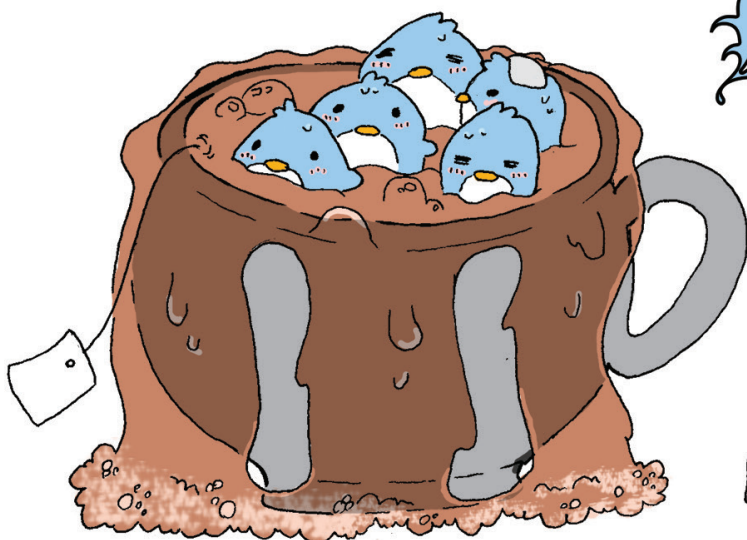


BY MARIAM AHMAD,
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR



BY ALEXIS TUCKER, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Happy Holidays



BY MELISSA GREEN, PHOTO EDITOR

25

Words of Christmas

Find the **bold** words in the text box below. Each movie that is listed will be played on Freeform's 25 days of Christmas. Words may be backwards or upside down.

M P L A T N A S L X G M J F Q

P X F W J U G B W H C N I R G

O J D I T Y E K C I M I V Y E

P W F L F R E M M U R D S D I

O G R L C N E S I O L E K F L

L E W Y E O M X N X Z E O K R

A L R Z K C M O Q T B U N N A

R F O U M F O I P E R P I T H

Y R K W D P R T N Q K G E W C

F N K O M O U O X I H R S A E

K V E A V O L X S T S A C S H

V C L S H U X P M T I N A O Q

T M A T T A C A H Z Y D P L K

P O I J A O R U C Y N M E D L

B W Y D S E R Y W E N A C P O

1. National **Lampoon's** Christmas Vacation

2. **Elf**

3. The **Santa** Clause

4. The Santa Clause 3 **Escape** Clause

5. The **Polar** Express

6. **Willy** Wonka and the Chocolate Factory

7. **Toy** Story

8. The **Nightmare** Before Christmas

9. **Rudolph** & Frosty's Christmas in July

10. **Jack** Frost

11. The Year **Without** a Santa Claus

12. **Nestor**, The Long Eared Christmas Donkey

13. Rudolph's Shiny **New** Year

14. **Mickey's** Christmas Carol

15. The Little **Drummer** Boy

16. How the **Grinch** Stole Christmas

17. **Frozen**

18. **Charlie** and the Chocolate Factory

19. **Frosty's** Winter Wonderland

20. **Eloise** at Christmastime

21. **Grandma** Got Run Over By A Reindeer

22. Santa Claus is **Comin'** to Town

23. **Four** Christmases

24. **'Twas** the Night Before Christmas

25. **Prep** & Landing

Find the answers online at schoolcraftconnection.com.

ELISSA MUGHANNEM STAFF LAYOUT ARTIST
PUZZLE FROM TOOLS.ATOZTEACHERSTUFF.COM
IMAGE FROM PIXABAY.COM

COLORING PAGE

IMAGE FROM WIKIMEDIA.ORG

With finals approaching, the layout and design team thought that you could use a relaxing activity like this adult coloring page, perfect for colored pencils or even fine-tipped markers if you are feeling bold!

"The Wind and the Sun"

The Wind and the Sun were disputing which was the stronger. Suddenly they saw a traveller coming down the road, and the Sun said: "I see a way to decide our dispute. Whichever of us can cause that traveller to take off his cloak shall be regarded as the stronger. You may begin."

So the Sun retired behind a cloud, and the Wind began to blow as hard as it could upon the traveller. But the harder he blew, the more closely did the traveller wrap his cloak round him, 'till at last the Wind had to give up in despair.

Then the Sun came out and shone in all his glory upon the traveller, who soon found it too hot to walk with his cloak on.

"KINDNESS EFFECTS MORE THAN SEVERITY."

Æsop. (Sixth century B.C.) Fables. The Harvard Classics. 1909–14.
FROM BARTLEBY.COM