

Building a better community

Angela Jaafar joins Schoolcraft Board of Trustees

BEN BOLSTRUM
MANAGING EDITOR

With four years of experience on the Northville Board of Education, Angela Jaafar has joined the ranks of the Schoolcraft Board of Trustees starting Jan. 25 where she will be sworn in to her role..

Jaafar's career history lies in marketing and sales as she runs her own real estate business selling homes, as well as working with developers on new home markets for community development as a real estate agent at Re/Max Leading Edge. In the past, she has worked with automotive suppliers on event management, logistics, budgets and training throughout North America,



Courtesy of Jaafar's Facebook

expanding her scope of knowledge.

"I value life skills and options of pathways for different learners and for people who learn differently," said Jaafar. "I believe that learning is a lifelong journey that should be built upon continuously throughout one's life and career. I have worked with the skilled trades, I have worked with homeowners at the grassroots level and I have served the public by developing visions and goals to suit the needs of our communities in schools."

She is a Michigan native with a deep love of the public education system. A married mom of five, she balances these different aspects of her life with her love of learning, cooking, baking and spending time with family.

The diverse curriculum and options for students and adults drew her into the community. With facilities such as engineering, medical, law enforcement, culinary and beyond, she sees the campus as a sterling opportunity for enterprising students to find their path.

"I think there is an opportunity at the community college level to utilize hands-on learning and activate the workforce," said Jaafar. "Also, helping students to utilize resources such as early college and dual enrollment



Courtesy of iStock

opportunities can give our high school students a leading edge in their educational goals and higher education."

She hopes to leverage programs within Schoolcraft to yield a positive impact on the state and local communities and looks forward to expanding the story of Schoolcraft and all it has to offer. She expects the community to be amazed at the state-of-the-art facilities that the college has to offer.

Carol Strom and Brett Geirak have also been re-elected for six more years on the Board of Trustees.

The Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees meets inside the Jeffress Center, room JC 228, at 18600 Haggerty Road, once a month on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

For a complete schedule of their meetings, visit <https://www.schoolcraft.edu/about/board-of-trustees/board-of-trustees-meetings/>.



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NEWS

Get involved in your neighborhood

Volunteer opportunities offer substantial and enriching work to students

KATHRYN WENSKE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

What society sees on the news and social media can be overwhelming and hard to digest. The many hardships communities face can include families struggling with putting food on the table, athletes and veterans not receiving the mental and/or physical support they need or environmental issues. As members of these communities, residents may feel enticed to want to provide aid to those struggling.

Oftentimes though, it can be difficult to discern a way to help that is productive and proactive without a strict time commitment. As active members of the college community, time can feel very short and limited. With compact schedules and stress, attempting to fit extracurricular activities can be ambitious. Nonetheless, one way some can commit a small portion of their time is by volunteering. Many organizations have specific volunteer opportunities catered to students to work with their busy schedules and offer in-person or virtual options.

A website called Mobilize can help students find volunteer opportunities throughout

Michigan. The following is a list of some organizations who are always in need of volunteers.

Michigan League of Conservation Voters

The Michigan League of Conservation Voters (MLCV) is a state-wide organization who is

noted to be one of the most active political environmental groups in the state. The group focuses on the strength of “people power” to achieve their priorities; protecting clean drinking water, preventing air pollution, preserving Michigan lands and protecting democracy. “It’s the mobilization of people power that sets our organization apart and that’s how we feel that we can really hold legislators accountable,” said MLCV Director of Advocacy and Outreach Jessica Stewart.

Opportunities for volunteering available to students include general volunteering where students can expect to pick up canvassing, phone banking and texting opportunities whenever the volunteer is available. They have the unique task of acting as a link to connect voters, or



potential voters, to ways they can use their power as a voter to make change.

The Environmental Career Collision is a program the MLCV offers that runs for a minimum of three months and trains students to proactively communicate in a public hearing and speak with legislators, along with an open-ended opportunity to explore any other interest. The requirements include attending two events, online or in-person, every month along with a zoom meeting called the “Volunteer Huddle,” as well as a mentor meeting once a month.

The Our Water Activist Program has three cycles running through the spring, summer and fall which entails base-level training and a weekly time commitment.

Detroit PAL

Detroit PAL is a non-profit organization that offers youth athletics and enrichment opportunities to ages from four to 18 in the Metro Detroit area. They have a wide range of sports they will do programs for, such as soccer, basketball, tee-ball hockey, tennis, football etc. along with mentorship



opportunities. “Our mission is to help youth find their greatness. And at Detroit PAL, [we have an acronym called] GREAT which stands for: Goal setting, Resilience, Embracing a healthy lifestyle, Accountability and Teamwork,” said Program Admission Coordinator Autumn McKay.

Volunteer opportunities vary depending on the programs but specifically for sports programs, volunteers can expect to aid in weekday evening practices with sometimes weekend games in assistant coaching; which typically requires a time commitment of a few months or for a season. In regards to events, volunteers may help with check-ins, running entertainment like bouncy houses, etc.

United Way for Southeast Michigan

United Way is an organization that concentrates on improving communities in Southeast Michigan. This “people first” organization is committed to creating, supporting and funding programs dedicated to increasing equity in communities, stabilizing households who



United Way
for Southeastern Michigan

see 'Get involved in your neighborhood' page 4>

The road to success

MDOT provides tools for a better driving environment

BEN BOLSTRUM
MANAGING EDITOR

With recent elections pulling through across the nation, citizens can expect to see changes in their states.

Voters had the opportunity to vote for bigger mileages specifically to put more money in public transportation, which has the intent to create a safer, faster, accessible and all around better road experience for locals. “This investment will make, [as an example,] Michigan Avenue through Corktown more accessible, facilitating ongoing residential and commercial development in the area,” said Governor Gretchen Whitmer. “Getting this done will create and support good-paying construction and auto-related jobs and ensure that Michigan continues leading the future of mobility.”

However, what exactly does transportation look like now?

Schoolcraft Business Club President Eduardo Herrera-Perez has about a 30 minute commute from his home to campus and has quite the ride to get there.

“I travel from South Lyon and it gets pretty bumpy along the way. Right now 10 Mile is under construction and when I take 8 Mile I feel like my car is going to break down because of how bumpy the roads are. There has to be more time invested in

them and when they do go under construction it should be done in a way that doesn’t take as long.” said Herrera-Perez.

Michigan boasts a nearly 10,000-mile highway system throughout the state. This includes M, I and US routes that make up the 120,000-mile highway, road and street system according to Michigan Department of Transportation’s website.

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is responsible for this system, and prides themselves on “Providing the highest quality integrated transportation services for economic benefit and improved quality of life.”

There are seven regional offices found within the state with Transportation Service Centers (TSCs) to allow for transportation infrastructure and other maintenance programs. These centers were created to allow MDOT to acknowledge and rectify traffic and other travel related issues within the communities throughout the state of Michigan.

Their website is host to a trove of valuable information with real time posts, informative updates regarding the roads and highways all across Michigan. This not only allows citizens to plan for their daily commutes, but also to

see where their tax money and resources are being allocated to and what is being worked on.

The website also gives several tips to ensure that drivers both new to the road, and experienced, can travel safely during the winter months, and allows for the ability to report potholes, explaining how they are made, how to avoid them and what to do after hitting one. There is even a Damage Claim

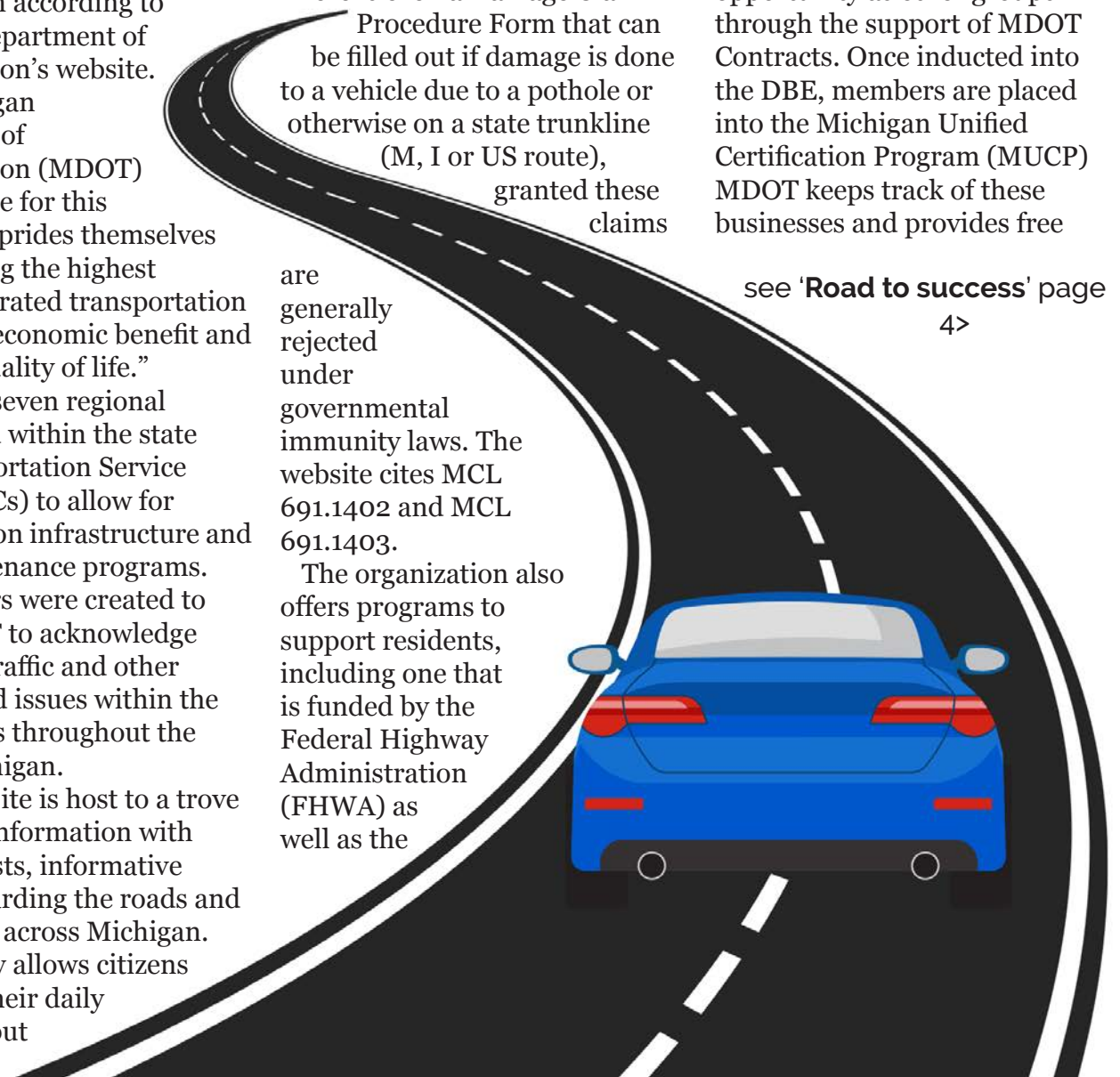
Procedure Form that can be filled out if damage is done to a vehicle due to a pothole or otherwise on a state trunkline (M, I or US route), granted these claims

are generally rejected under governmental immunity laws. The website cites MCL 691.1402 and MCL 691.1403.

The organization also offers programs to support residents, including one that is funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as well as the

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) known as the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE.) This program was created to ensure that groups who have gone through economic and social struggles (particularly minorities and women) are able to create businesses that function and flourish with as much opportunity as other groups through the support of MDOT Contracts. Once inducted into the DBE, members are placed into the Michigan Unified Certification Program (MUCP) MDOT keeps track of these businesses and provides free

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'Get involved in your neighborhood'

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are impoverished and aiding children to thrive. They collaborate with a network of government, corporate, community and non-profit partners with volunteers, advocates and donors to make change. "Our mission is to mobilize the caring power of Detroit and Southeastern Michigan to improve

communities and individual lives in measurable and lasting ways," quoted from their website.

With options to virtually, remotely, or in-person volunteer, the multitude of opportunities United Way offers can include aiding patients in hospitals, crafting things like care packages and blankets, donations and drives, food distribution, communal events, providing a listening ear to those in need etc.

Soldier's Angels



A national organization that has facilities in all 50 states, Soldiers' Angels is a non-profit that provides a range of services to support our veterans, deployed military, wounded and family members of veterans. They work with corporate partners and donors to fund mobile food distributions,

transportation services, hygiene kits, homeless housing packs, box lunches and canteen gift cards. "The mission of Soldier's Angels is to provide aid, comfort and resources to the military, veterans and their families," quoted from their website.

For those interested in volunteering, Soldiers' Angels offer virtual and in-person opportunities to aid in food distribution, special campaigns, events, create handmade items and care packages, with many other ways to help.

'The road to success'

cont'd from page 3

outreach that can be done fully remotely through teleconference, Microsoft Office Teams, Zoom, Skype, Phone or other online methods.

To qualify for this program. A firm must be registered through the Small Business Association (SBA,) be owned and controlled by the applicant who is disadvantaged both socially and economically. And the business must be an independent for-profit. Nonprofits do not qualify for the program

To contact the DBE, reach out to Lisa Thompson, program administrator at 517-335-1708

Career paths within the organization include engineering, finance, administration, business, maintenance and beyond. These fields allow those with a wide set of skills to help maintain road safety and upkeep. There

are a host of programs created to provide job opportunities and mentorships to students, boasting development programs in middle school, high school and for college students. They have also created a Veteran Internship Program that sets out to employ United States veterans who were honorably discharged from the Armed Forces.

Those interested in pursuing a career with MDOT can contact their Office of Human Resources at 517-335-2683.

The road ahead for Michigan streets is wide open with opportunity. Whether that be employment through MDOT, increased business through DBE, or just safer roads in general, residents can expect to receive more support, along with safer and an altogether better driving experience when hitting the pavement.

For more information, visit MDOT's website at <https://www.michigan.gov/mdot>.


Schoolcraft College®

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WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?

WEB SERIES



JOIN US FOR:

Episode 1:
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Featuring guest star: Director of Equity and Engagement, TaQuilla Kusero;
release date **Sept. 12th**

Episode 2:
Student Fatigue;
release date **Oct. 5th**

Episode 3:
Academic Integrity;
Featuring guest star: Associate Dean for Student Success and Retention, Sharon Christian;
release date **Nov. 7th**

Episode 4:
Road Trip!
release date **Dec. 5th**

SCAN FOR PANOPTO



<https://bit.ly/wyp-ocelot>

SCAN FOR YOUTUBE



<https://bit.ly/wyp-show>



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CAMPUS LIFE

A new club takes root

The Environmental Club provides an ecosystem for education and action

MARISSA GETSCHMAN
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Schoolcraft College is a great place to learn to cultivate a difference. The Environmental Club is a brand new club designed to make the campus a cleaner and greener space for students to learn and grow. According to club president, Chase-Lyn Watson-Labelle “[The club’s] goal is to educate people about the environment and make a difference in our community.”

With three projects in the works, the club is already off to a great start. The first and most pressing project began last May with the removal of nearly 100 sandbags from the section of Bell Creek that runs along the edge of Schoolcraft’s campus. The project will continue with various meet-ups to remove more barriers and debris in order to bring life back to the creek which has served as an excellent educational tool for several generations of biology students.

The second major project consists of planting a couple Monarch Butterfly Way Stations around campus. The Monarch butterfly population has been dwindling for decades due to the growing development and use of various pesticides making milkweed virtually inedible

for the young caterpillars. The planting of these Way Stations around the country has already made a difference in the conservation of the beautiful insects. Bringing some to Schoolcraft is an exciting opportunity to help the species out and a great way to encourage them to bring some smiles to the campus.

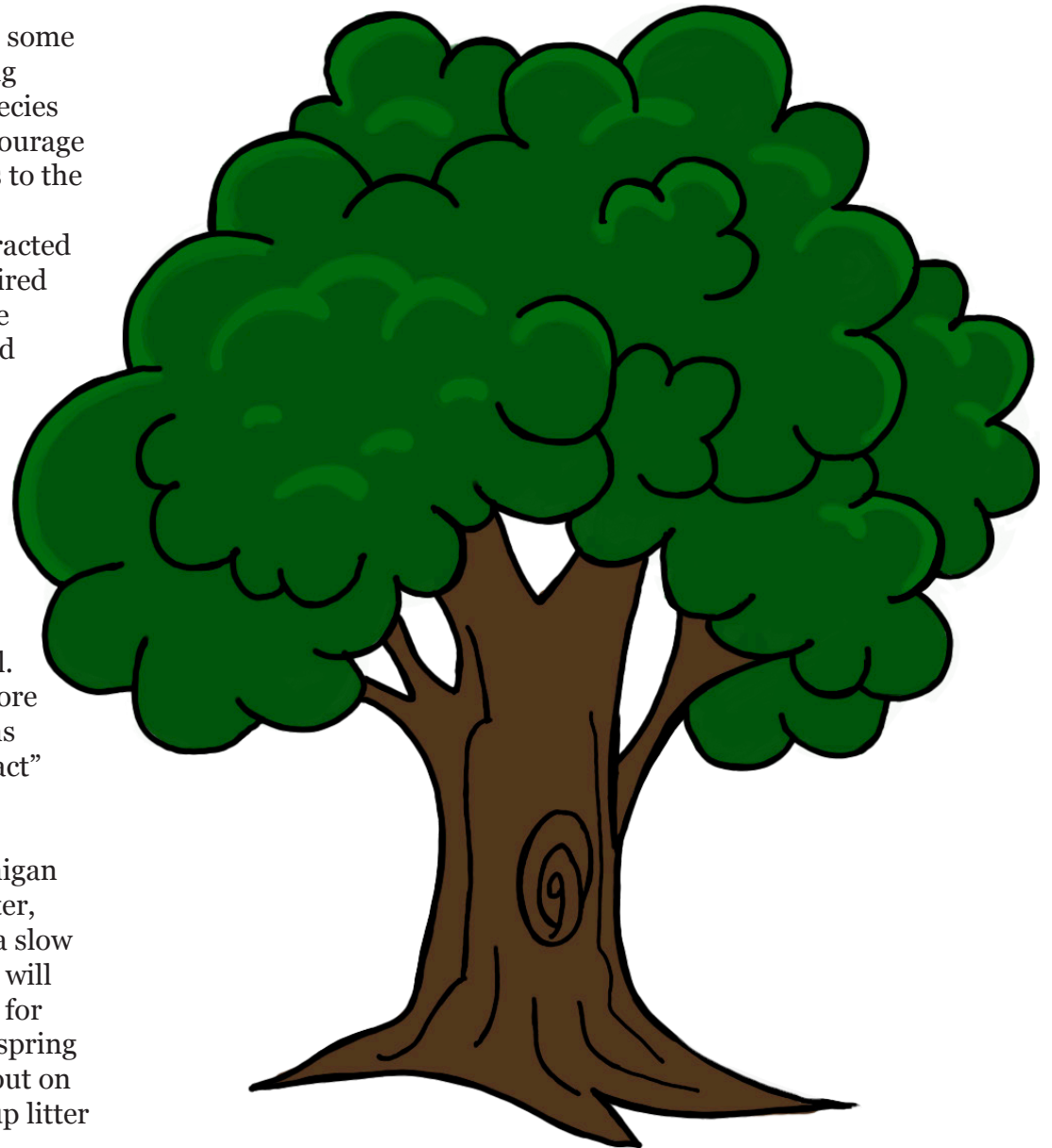
The club has already attracted the attention of a few inspired students ready to make the necessary changes required for an environmentally friendly campus. Anyone prepared to do the same is encouraged to attend a meeting and/or reach out to the club heads. “Everyone here is cool and ready to put in effort to make the club impactful. We all would like to see more people: more people means more ideas and more impact” says member Carrick Hill.

Due to the cold and inconsistent weather Michigan is plagued with in the winter, the group will experience a slow start. The winter semester will serve as a planning period for members to prepare for a spring full of action and to head out on occasional sprees to pick up litter around campus.

The club meets on Mondays at

2 p.m. in the lower VisTaTech Center in Conference Room D. For more information, contact Student Activities by calling

734-462-4422 or email Professor Michael W. Orick at morick@schoolcraft.edu



Problem Solved



Schoolcraft Distant Learning department host web show to promote online learning

BEN BOLSTRUM
MANAGING EDITOR

What originally started as a joke between coworkers has expanded into a passion project to inform and inspire students. “What’s Your Problem” is an online web show broadcasted on YouTube and Panopto that explores the issues that come with the territory of online distance learning, and looks into solutions on how to solve them. Hosted by Jason Kane, Bernadette Bacero and Kaylynn Mortensen, who are employed by the Distance Learning Department, the show features a rotating cast of guests and aims to demystify the challenges that remote learning comes with.

“As instructional designers, a core task is to support instruction for Schoolcraft College’s

Distance Learning faculty,” said Kane. “We offer on-site training and workshops, but it can be hard to schedule them at times and days that meet the needs of all interested parties. We felt that a topical

web series was a great and fun way to extend our reach to more people.”

Once they reached out to British band “The Zutons” for permission to use one of their songs as the show’s theme, the project became all the more real once the proposition was accepted.

“We’d get into great conversations about challenges that exist in Distance Learning,” said Kane. “We started joking that we should have a show called ‘What’s Your Problem’ where we just talk out and solve all of the challenges in online learning. We weren’t serious, but we made a fake production company, (merchandise) got a theme song. Then one day, we thought – maybe this is actually a show!”

The hosts lovingly refer to the first iteration of the show as a mess. Created to be a convenient, motivational and informative avenue to shed light on the challenges of Distance Learning, and make it feel like a less foreign subject while humanizing the faculty involved, the show

Left to right: Kaylynn Mortensen, Bernadette Bacero, Jason Kane hosting Season 7, episode 4: Road Trip!

eventually found its footing.

When they began, they followed a talk-show structure where three different distinct problems inspired by Online Distance Learning were discussed in an off the cuff, unscripted setting. Once they ironed out the technical issues and began working with media services, they began to hit their stride. The hosts rebranded to a scripted newscast style, and opted to discuss a singular issue each episode, coming up with three solutions for the problem.

“Our goal for the show has always been to create something helpful,” said Kane. “Something convenient, something motivational and something that makes Distance Learning faculty feel part of a community. We want to make a database of information on demand, easy to access, easy to implement, that doesn’t take long to watch nor would it take long to produce.”

Once the COVID-19 pandemic began, they were forced into a hiatus, while online distance learning continued to grow in popularity, but now that they have returned, they have been able to involve even more people than before. This includes interviews with Director of Equity and Engagement TaQuilla Kusero as well as Associate Dean for Student Success and Retention Sharon Christian. They plan on doing more faculty interview segments in the future, and hope to start including students in the process as well. This season of the show also featured the first time they filmed off-location

at an educational technology convention.

The technology used to deliver instructions at Schoolcraft is currently in a process of upgrading, and the hosts want to explore this advancement further. Along these lines, they also want to integrate topical trends in higher education such as classroom engagement, career outcomes, access and equity, virtual learning and mental health.

“Our most popular episodes tend to those that revolve around academic integrity and cheating in distance learning classes,” said Kane. “It’s a problem that affects education in any form ... This topic generates a lot of conversation and, as part of this and most importantly, action-oriented practices for reducing academic dishonesty in the classroom. Learning overall is a continuous improvement cycle.”

Episode by episode, day by day, the hosts of “What’s Your Problem?” hope to shift the view that Online Distance Learning is not a beneficial way to pursue an education. The medium has been expanding upon in ways that can create a transformative and fruitful experience within the past two decades and they want to highlight those improvements. They continue to dispel myths that flare up, highlight the removal of barriers and promote the ease of access that comes with the territory.

To watch “What’s Your Problem?” visit the YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@WhatsYourProblemShow>. For more information, visit their twitter page @itsProblemTime.

CAMPUS & CLUB EVENTS

(All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted)

Advising with University of Michigan: Literature, Science, and the Arts

Jan. 23, Feb. 2, 3, 21

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Feb. 6 1 p.m. - to 5 p.m.

Advisors will be able to meet with students individually to discuss specific information about programs and transfer options. Simply sign in at the Advising office, in the McDowell Center, room 105. This walk-in advising service is available to any current Schoolcraft student. Students will be seen on a first-come first-seen basis. If you have any questions call 734-462-4429.

Pageturners Book Club Book Discussion: The Nine Tailors by Dorothy Sayers

Jan. 24

2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

BTC 120

Join Pageturners Book club for a book discussion on its January book selection, "The Nine Tailors" by Dorothy Sayers.

School Daze Winter Bash

Jan. 24-25

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

VisTaTech Center, Lower Level

The Winter Carnival will include games, music, free caricature drawings, prizes, 50 cent hotdogs, psychic readings and more!

Advising with Wayne State University

Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16

1 – 4 p.m.

Main Campus in Livonia (MC)

Pageturners Book Club Book Screening of Strong Poison

Jan. 26

2:30 p.m.

MC100 B&C

Join Pageturners Book club for a movie screening. Free and open to the public.

The Schoolcraft College Theatre Department presents Outside Mullingar

Jan. 27, 28, 29 (matinee)

Matinee performances at 2pm

February 3, 4

Evening performances at 8pm

All tickets \$20

Set, as the title suggests, in rural Ireland, this odd love story pairs Anthony and Rosemary who have been neighbors since childhood, but also who have battled their introverted nature and their family history on their way to admitting their love. A unique and charming story for Valentine's Day. For information and how to purchase tickets go to www.schoolcraft.edu/theatre/upcoming-productions

Blood Drive

Feb. 7 & 8

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Lower Level, VisTaTech Center

Appointments are preferred, Walk-ins welcome as the schedule allows. Call 866-MIBLOOD or visit www.versiti.org/MI,

KOC Open House

Feb. 7

6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

VisTaTech Building Room 500

Parents and kids, this is a great opportunity to see all KOC has to offer! Meet select class instructors and participate in hands-on activities. Ask questions and get information about the camps you want to take. Staff will be available to help answer questions about the registration process. The open house is free and open to the public!

PPL Kids on Campus Registration Begins

Begins Feb. 9

8 a.m.

Main Campus in Livonia (MC)

Kids on Campus summer camp registration begins at 8 a.m. on Thursday, 2/9/23 and goes through the month of August. Many of the camps fill. Register early for high-demand camps and before and after care. Registration can be done online, in person, or by mail. Learn about registration options.

Pageturners Book Club Book Discussion: Outside Mullingar

Feb. 14

2:30-3:30 p.m.

BTC 120

Join Pageturners Book club for a book discussion on its February book selection, "Outside Mullingar" by John Patrick Shanley.

Pageturners Book Club Book Screening of Wild Mountain Thyme

Feb. 16

2:30 p.m.

MC100 B & C

Join Pageturners Book club for a movie screening. Free and open to the public.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Information Session

Feb. 16

1 – 3 p.m.

Virtual

Join us for an information session to learn more about Diagnostic Medical Sonography. Registration Required.

Dementia Care Certificate Program: Information Session

Feb. 18

10 – 11 a.m.

Zoom

Meeting ID: 946 2800 2222

Passcode: 933701

Whether you are a healthcare professional or personal caregiver, our Dementia Care Certificate Program will help you understand the various forms of dementia and provide practical strategies to support those with this disease. This virtual information session is an opportunity to meet the instructors, learn about job outlook, and get your questions answered. This session is free and open to the public. Session will also be live streamed through Zoom.



NEXT ISSUE COMES
OUT ON STANDS
FEB. 20!

Rec Nights at the
Fitness Center

9:00PM - 11:00PM

BASKETBALL
TURF SPACE
VOLLEYBALL

EXTENDED HOURS

FEB 16 · MARCH 16 · APRIL 20

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE
RECREATION SERVICES
FITNESS CENTER

THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE PRESENTS

SCHOOL DAZE
WINTER
BASH

JANUARY 24 & 25
10 A.M. - 2 P.M.
LOWER WATERMAN, VISTATECH CENTER

THE WINTER CARNIVAL WILL INCLUDE:
GAMES • MUSIC • FREE CARICATURE DRAWINGS
PRIZES • 50 CENT HOTDOGS • PSYCHIC READINGS • AND MORE



Gen Z's now in office!

Maxwell Frost, a 25 year-old member of Gen Z is the first of the generation to be elected into office. Check out more at schoolcraftconnection.com

Do you have an
upcoming event
you would like
listed in our
Campus & Club
Events?

Please email
sceditor@schoolcraft.edu
or call 734-462-4422



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Feel the heat with somebody



Courtesy of Feverup.com

When asked who Whitney Houston was, many people will automatically refer to the singer as “the Voice” and talk about her once-in-a-generation skill level. They’ll then say that she died young due to substance abuse and shrug when asked what else. As is often the case, there is so much more to the star and her story. Directed by Kasi Lemmons, “I Wanna Dance With Somebody” is overall a beautifully written and well cast biopic on Whitney Houston’s tragically short life and career.

Despite the genre the film is labeled as, the structure isn’t that of a true musical. In a musical, the characters sing to move the story along, while in “I Wanna Dance With Somebody,” music is used almost as an aside. Houston was a musician through and through. Her story can’t be told without displaying her skillset. Instead of having the characters sing their way through life, scenes are woven into songs amidst clips of Houston singing. The format is engaging and keeps the viewers eyes glued to the screen.

The film does a wonderful job portraying Whitney Houston in a raw light that showcases the range of perspective she had throughout her life. Houston started out as a bright, wide-eyed musician filled to the brim with ambition, but her later life faded into heartache and substance abuse. “I Wanna Dance With Somebody” shows both angles with equal depth. In many documentaries about

Houston’s life, directors get too enthralled with the gritty hardships she faced in her later years and completely ignore everything that came before.

“I Wanna Dance With Somebody” starts at the very beginning of Houston’s career, before she was discovered by Clive Davis and skyrocketed to stardom. It starts with

is quite interesting. News of Whitney Houston’s untimely death in 2012 was widely televised. Whether they want to know or not, many fans can say exactly where and how. The film doesn’t show her death, nor does it show any of her friends or family after the fact. Her fate is instead told strictly through foreshadowing and immediately

varying mental states. Naomi Ackie is a beautiful fit and managed to balance consistent character with the changes associated with Houston’s career and personal life. She graces the screen at first with a childlike optimism highlighted by her carefree nature in how she might rise to fame. As the tides turn and the day to day gets harder, Ackie hardens her expression, so subtly at first that the viewer almost doesn’t notice her struggle until her smile is completely gone.

Standout performances from Nafessa Williams as Robyn Crawford, Ashton Sanders as Bobby Brown and Clarke Peters as John Houston are also important factors to the movie’s credibility. All three actors do a spectacular job portraying real people with very distinct personalities while also capturing the subtle details that make them realistic in the first place.

The only thing keeping the film from earning a 10/10 stems from small details left out that would have been easy to include. There are a number of glossed over scenes and inaccuracies that could have been further explored or corrected without lengthening the movie too much. At the end of the day, fiction is used to enthrall viewers and keep them hanging onto every word until the film wraps up. Audience members will leave entertained and interested in doing their own research on the legendary singer.

“I Wanna Dance With Somebody” displays Whitney Houston’s ambition and heartache

Rating: 9/10

MARISSA GETSCHMAN
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

her mother, Cissy Houston, coaching her and showcases her ambition to get into the music field. The film also takes a moment to show Houston’s friendship and short-lived romance with Robyn Crawford. It sets the groundwork for all the turmoil to come without ignoring Houston’s start as a bright-eyed teenager.

The ending in particular

cast aside for a flashback to her glory days. Viewers that don’t know what happened to her are left to guess until the end credits when the writers distinguish fact from fiction with text and pictures from the real star’s life.

Casting directors understood the importance of casting a lead capable of portraying a wide range of personality and

SCRAP CREATIVE REUSE



Photos and Layout by Izabella Allie

1. Scrap Director and Manager Claire & June crafting at Blom Meadworks of Ann Arbor. Photo courtesy of Scrap.

2. Outside the Scrap Creative Reuse building on 4567 Washtenaw Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48108 on Jan. 7, 2023.

3. You can find a wide variety of new and gently used writing utensils at SCRAP!

4. According to Scrap's Instagram, "Supplies & kits are stocked at Bridge Community Cafe! Bridge focuses on community and inclusion, making them the perfect partner for our Empower Creative Reuse Project. SCRAP will keep this shelf stocked with free supplies through 2023." Photo courtesy of Scrap.

5. Are you interested in sewing? Shop Scrap's fabric and a sewing section for fabric, thread, and used machines.

According to annarbor.scrapcreativereuse.org, "Creative Reuse , is when the addition of creativity to an already manufactured item brings a new function. A CD jewel case can become a bird feeder, wine corks turned into a cork board, and a t-shirt transformed into a rug. Creative Reuses Centers, like SCRAP, collect discarded materials from the public that can be reused and given new life. Many centers resell these items to the public for a bargain or donate them to teachers, organizations or other groups for further reuse."

Scrap Creative Reuse can be found at 4567 Washtenaw Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48108 which is a 20 minute drive away from Schoolcraft College. Scrap offers sustainable supplies at a super affordable price, as seen in the photo story. They also offer a monthly schedule of classes which can be found on their Instagram page @scrap_a2.

SPORTS

On the offensive

First half of season full of positives for Ocelot basketball teams

KATHRYN WENSKE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Women's basketball stays perfect, ranked 7th nationally in NJCAA D2 polls

The nationally ranked Women's basketball team ended 2022 with a perfect record in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association (MCCAA) Eastern Conference, good for first place in the standings. The team continues to show maturity and chemistry and looks to repeat as conference champions in 2023. Sophomore forward Eve Parish believes it's nothing but up for the second half of the season.

"Our team is seven in the nation right now, I believe that we're just gonna keep on going up. I think we come in here, we work hard every day and we know that we have a target on our back, so we won't have no choice but to work hard and keep going up in the charts.

[We'll be continuing to play] in the Conference during the winter semester, we still need to dominate the court."

In nine games, the Ocelots are averaging 67.7 points per game, averaging 52.3 rebounds and 12.4 steals per game.

The Ocelots strengths come from the depth of the team. Each player brings something different to the court. According to sophomore guard Ruby Garner, the team needs to remain hungry and keep grinding in the second half of the season.

"We just gotta stay at that and stay hungry for it. Something that stands out the most with the team is we all add different pieces to the team; we all fit together and in the game. There's a few things that we need to work on to make us even better. We gotta stay hungry and keep grinding to stay where we are right now."

Conference play will start in

the second half with matchups against Macomb, Mott, Wayne County, Oakland and Henry Ford in the month of January. February will bring games against Jackson, St. Clair Community College.

According to sophomore guard Shayla Arder, family is the theme for this squad.

"Something that stands out the most to me is that our team chemistry is great. Like we play as a family. Nobody on our team is selfish. We share the basketball and we work together; that's how we are undefeated right now. This semester. I hope we stay undefeated, and go to nationals."

These Ocelots are hungry for a deep run towards a national championship and based on their first half performance, it looks like that goal will be attainable.

Men's basketball looks to build confidence in the new year

The Men's basketball team has had a rocky start with the MCCAA Eastern Conference. So far, the team has a record of 2-9; 8th place in the Eastern Conference coming into 2023. The two Ocelots wins came against Delta on Nov. 12, 2022 and Kirtland Community College

The #7 ranked Women's Basketball team remain undefeated headed into the new year. The team attributes their winning streak on the team chemistry the squad has.

on Dec. 10, 2022. In their last game of the season on Dec 30, they lost 74-61 against the Lorain County Community College. The team still remains optimistic as this is only halfway through the season.

"I think we're growing every week, but we [have to] focus on the key aspects of the game. My hope is we can turn things around. We are getting some guys coming back from injuries [which is great] and will be a big help to our games and conference play. Then we just gotta keep executing our plays and play together," said Sophomore guard Ross Stofflet.

Consistency will be key for the Ocelots heading into conference play. Injuries have plagued the team during the first half of the season and not having a full healthy lineup has been challenging. Despite the setbacks, the Ocelots feel they can turn things around.

"Our fights, our resilience [stands out to me the most.] We've been down a couple of guys, our first couple of games of the season but we still manage to have a good attitude and keep fighting and come to practice every day. This semester I hope everybody off the court has grades that are good and have a better semester than we did last

see 'On the offensive' on page



Photo taken by Summer Sultana

'On the offensive' cont'd from page 14

year; have a better record than we did," said freshman guard Keon Henderson.

Teammate freshman guard, KaRon Allen agrees with Henderson regarding the tenacity of the team.

"[What stands out to me the

most is] just how much fight we got on us. We are a very scruffy team. We know how to get after it, we just gotta convert. [I hope the team] plays more together, getting the plays right and executing a lot more than we did before."

The Ocelots will be up against a tough schedule in January with games against Macomb, Mott,

Wayne County, Oakland and Henry Ford.

With more consistency and a healthy lineup these Ocelots can claw their way back into the standing pretty quickly.

Schoolcraft's Ross Stofflet goes up for a block on a shot by an Owens Community College player on Nov. 9, 2022.

Photo taken by Nolan Gerou



Keeping the ball rolling

Women's and Men's Bowling team aim to build off last season's success

KATHRYN WENSKE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

After finishing the 2022 season in second place in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association Eastern Conference both the Men's and Women's Bowling teams look to continue the momentum.

The Connection interviewed Director of Athletics and Head Coach Patrick Yelsik who shared his personal experience with the sport and what he hopes the teams achieves.

"We expect to be strong both on the men's and the women's side. Once again, we were national tournament qualifiers last year on the men's side and that's always one of the main goals that we have for the season. I'm a lifelong 'for fun' bowler. I was a student athlete at the college level in a different sport so I've always had the competitive itch that has always been in me. [So] when this job became available a few

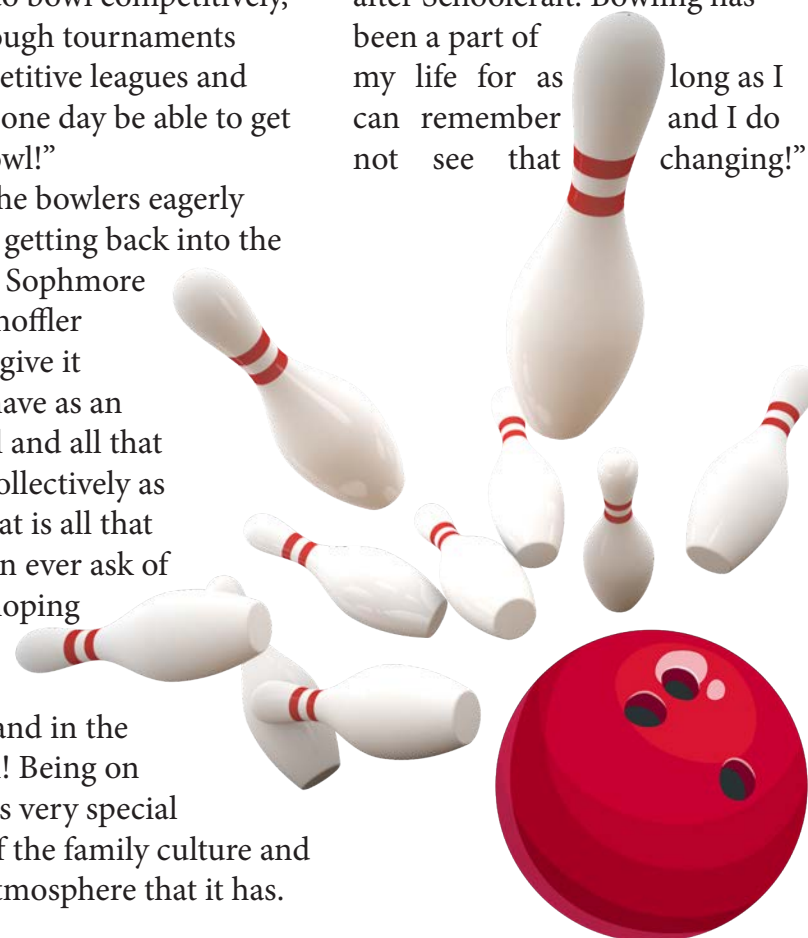
years ago, this was a way for me to stay involved and get a hands-on sense and be on the front lines with the kids: to be able to be in competition with them, that means a lot to me ... I always tell the kids, whether you realize it, you're going to be these lifelong friends, right? Some of my closest friends to this day are the people that I competed with at this. These teammates of theirs, they're gonna be the closest friends of yours; as you go forward in your life."

One teammate, COVID-Sophomore William "Tre" Lamar, notably agreed with Yelsik in regards to the connections that came of the competitions. "Being a third-year player, I want to be a leader for the team while also continuing to grow my own game. I want to lead our team to New York this year [where the National Championship is held]. I love to bowl but

my favorite part of it is the friendships and relationships that you are able to make being part of a team. I definitely want to continue to bowl competitively, likely through tournaments and competitive leagues and hopefully one day be able to get paid to bowl!"

Many of the bowlers eagerly anticipate getting back into the season, as Sophomore Kaylee Schoffler "wants to give it all that I have as an individual and all that we have collectively as a team, that is all that anyone can ever ask of you! I'm hoping to excel both on the lanes and in the classroom! Being on the team is very special because of the family culture and positive atmosphere that it has.

We're always having fun and it's great to be a part of something bigger than yourself! I plan on continuing to bowl in college after Schoolcraft. Bowling has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember and I do not see that changing!"



OPINIONS

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IN OUR OPINION

Different Charities



One of society's greatest ways to give back are charities. Not only does it give people the ability to give something back to their community, but also unifies the community as it supports groups who need this defense. Whether it's helping an organization provide food to a struggling local, or a man's best friend to a veteran, you are giving someone in need confidence and safety.



IntraHealth

Founded in 1989 by healthcare worker advocate Pape Amadou Gaye, IntraHealth International is committed to improving healthcare professionals' performance and the systems they work in. When first founded,

the organization aided local non-profits until it eventually expanded globally, now working with businesses, governments, activists and technologists to additionally influence healthcare policies and advocate for investment into frontline workers in impoverished countries. This organization holds a Gold Seal of Transparency from Guide Star, as well as meets a 100 percent Encompass rating of accountability and finance from Charity Navigator. Ways to donate to this charity include directly to their website at <https://www.intrahealth.org/> or shop through AmazonSmile.

St. Leo's Soup Kitchen

St. Leo's Soup Kitchen has been an active part of the Detroit community since 1971. Providing free food for those in need, the nondenominational nonprofit

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Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of the Editorial Board. Signed columns solely reflect the opinion of the writer. The Schoolcraft Connection abstains from criticism of, or discrimination against any person on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, age, marital status, handicap, national origin, or sexual orientation.

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Lower level of Waterman
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For additional content, visit schoolcraftconnection.com.

serves around 40,000 meals each year. The service at their location on Grand River



ST. LEO'S SOUP KITCHEN

and 15th St. was put on hold after a flood damaged the facility, but a new facility was created on 8642 Woodward Ave. Detroit, MI 48202 and is ready to serve the community once more. Winter may be a time of giving, but the charity doesn't have to stop when the snow does. Consider volunteering outside of the holiday season when organizations don't have the same support they do now.

The kitchen is looking for service volunteers as well as administrative positions such as volunteer coordinator, clothing donation supervisor and administrative/office assistant.

For more information, visit the website at <https://www.stleosoupkitchendetroit.org/>. To volunteer, contact Manager Rich Perry at PerryR@ccsem.org.

Giving Songs

Brent and Jaime Johnson

founded Giving Songs in 2012 after the birth



of their son, Jack. He was born with a number of disabilities and the family was soon faced with the harsh reality of how hard it is to accommodate the challenges of raising a special needs child. With hearts bigger than many, they brought Giving Songs to life: a charity designed to raise money through music to grant families wheelchair accessible vehicles in order to make navigating those challenges a little easier. The organization is always on the

lookout for professional musicians and kind souls to donate to their mission. The music created can be found on all streaming platforms by searching for the artist GIVING SONGS. To learn more about the organization and to find a donation link, visit <https://givingsongs.org/>.

K9s For Warriors

K9s For Warriors is the largest veteran service



organization in the nation with its focus on providing highly trained service dogs to our nation's warriors. They provide service canines to veterans that are suffering from "Post-Traumatic Stress Disability, traumatic brain injury, and military sexual trauma. The K9s are mostly all rescued from shelters, they give them purpose in saving these animals lives from abandonment," quoted from their website, "Each pair who graduates from our program represents two lives saved, the Service Dog and the Warrior." To learn more, visit to k9sforwarriors.org

The Michigan Humane

The Michigan Humane is a private, non-profit organization that provides animal welfare and shelter services in the Detroit area. They are focused on ending the worst forms of institutionalized animal suffering. They spread awareness to the general public, consumers, education, campaigns, public policy initiatives and more.

They respond to large-scale disasters and more to provide rescue, hands-on care and



expertise when animals are in danger. Their care centers heal and give protection to abused, abandoned and endangered animals. They strive to bring about faster change in animals.

To help with time, money or a birthday, visit www.michiganhumane.org/support-michigan-humane/ to find the many ways to help these precious animals.

The Ronald McDonald House

The Ronald McDonald House (RMHC) was founded in 1974. It was built in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania when Eagles football player Fred Hill's daughter, Kim Hill, spent time in the Philadelphia Children's Hospital with leukemia. According to RMHC.com, "The Eagles reached out to McDonald's with the idea that they could offer the proceeds from their Shamrock Shake sales to benefit this new house. McDonald's agreed, and the Philadelphia RMHC was born on Oct. 15, 1974." The mission of RMHC is, "To provide a "home away from home" for families of children experiencing a serious illness or injury requiring hospitalization."



So, why donate? Donations to RMHC can provide a family with meals, housing and even toiletries. Parents of an ill or injured child already have enough on their plate between work and time at the hospital. The RMHC strives to make this experience less stressful for families. To donate or volunteer at the Detroit location, visit www.rmhc-detroit.org. If you're closer to Ann Arbor and would like to help out, visit www.rmhcannarbor.org.

WDET

Something that should be part of everybody's routine is listening to the news from your local area. Detroit's local NPR Station has the news and stories that are much needed in the era of fast news and clickbait. The team located at Wayne State University goes the distance to provide an area of discussion for all of Metro Detroit.

The local station, 101.9 FM WDET produces over 60 hours of original local programming a week while also hosting popular NPR shows like "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered." WDET is also the best promoter for local music and a major voice for the arts and culture. They provide a platform for underrepresented people that often go unheard, which gives listeners an opportunity to experience local cultures that they would have otherwise missed, bridging divides.

More than half of all monetary support comes directly from listeners, they're always looking for donations and as a bonus, it is tax deductible. Their merchandise is also available as a 'thank you' gift to show support. To learn more, visit wdet.org.



What are the advantages and disadvantages of text messaging?

IZABELLA ALLIE
PHOTO EDITOR

Texting is like the modern-day handwritten letter. Previously, people would have otherwise written long letters on paper, put them in an envelope, found the address they needed, stamped that envelope and shipped it off through the mail. Modern improvements mean we no longer have to do this, and can now communicate instantly, but that doesn't mean there is no reason to send letters anymore.

One disadvantage is that we no longer have the experience of writing and receiving handwritten letters to people. This written literature compels the writer to take more time and allows them to articulate each letter that is unique to them, making it special for the recipient.

Another concern is that we tend to text even in situations where we'd be better off calling or talking in person. That being said, thanks to emails, social media (Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.), texting platforms like iMessage, and even digital fliers and images, we don't have to wait for the mail to get our point across a town, state or country. If a fast response is required, texting is able to speed up the process.

In the digital age, we often don't think that handwriting is

important anymore. Many kids nowadays aren't even taught what cursive is or how to use it. Elementary students are now more comfortable with a keyboard than they are with writing on paper. This is alarming because many physical documents still require a written signature. Another concern when it comes to the lack of mailed letters is that not everyone is able to communicate through text. Some older folks grew up sending letters through the mail, so that is what they are most comfortable with. It can make their day to receive a special handwritten card or letter, but young people don't even seem to consider this anymore. When was the last time you sent grandma a handwritten card or letter? According to recent statistics about texting versus writing, I'd say it's likely been a while.

Another concern is that we tend to text even in situations

where we'd be better off calling or talking in person. Again, our older crowds don't always understand how to use a cell phone or computer. This limits the people you're able to talk to via text message. We've all been in a situation where we never received the answers we needed from someone via text message. Sometimes, it can just be better to call. Hearing someone's voice, tone and opinion in a live and more engaging setting may contribute to your opinions on the conversation. Additionally, sometimes it is better to call someone during an argument. Texting often lacks the ability to show sarcasm and anger, and you may even find yourself thinking the person is madder than they actually are.

Many younger people tend to ignore handwriting and sending letters nowadays, we even turn to text when we likely should

have considered making a call or a trip to someone's home. Alternatively, quick phone call or a trip to someone's home. Alternatively, texting and calling do have some advantages too. We may no longer have to rely on the mail to tell the family about important life events or emergencies, but we shouldn't ever completely rule out handwriting. It's a special form of expression that we're losing very quickly. It'd be a shame to see it completely die out.



The importance of internships

KATHRYN WENSKE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As college students, we are consistently told how important internships are and how they can act as the 'golden ticket' to getting jobs. But do they actually help us?

When students are completing their degrees, it is important to prioritize homework and grades. However, dismissing internships, which typically are much less commitment overall than standard jobs and also work more collaboratively with students' schedules, can be detrimental to being prepared for what happens after college.

Internships can connect classroom to career. For many college students, whether new or those close to graduating, struggle to find what they are going to do after they've attained this shiny new piece of paper. Internships utilize the classroom education students are currently learning while completing their degree into practical experience.

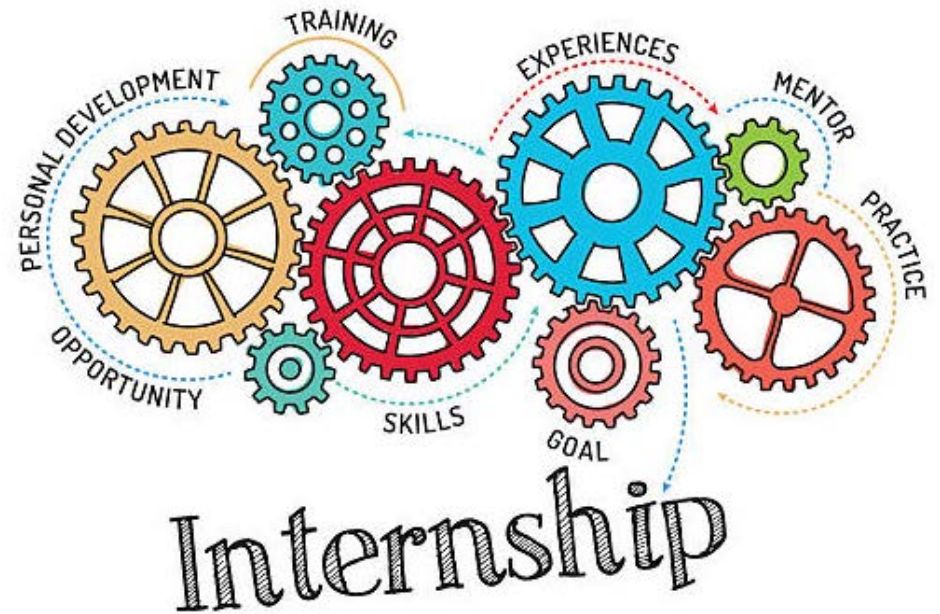
On the flip side, internships can be vital when it comes to attaining jobs or careers as it shows not only do you have the education, but also have the experience and which can greatly help you stand out when applying for positions. These opportunities provide work characteristics, key competencies and skills that

employers typically look for.

Not only do internships contribute to job experience, but they can also contribute to a student's education. Many colleges also have internship opportunities or work agreements that can contribute to tuition and/or pay like work study, specific classes include an internship requirement and students can get credit for them, etc.

However, the timing of 'when' to do an internship is also important and should be considered. Ultimately, students should commit to an internship when it's best available for them. Internships are a proactive way of determining if a specific career field fits a student's interest or can act as a segue into a career that does. If students are doing internships in the beginning of their academic path, this job arrangement can be a fantastic resource in regards to figuring out what career path students would want to pursue. If students are doing internships towards the end of their academic path and know what career field they want to pursue, internships can be a productive way to get their foot in the door and network with professionals of that specific industry.

"An internship is a way to get some experience in your chosen field. It's less pressure



than a full- or part-time job. Often, employers expect you to be very entry-level. And if you're not sure you've picked the right career path, it's a way to test it out and see if you like the day-to-day aspect of what you're studying in school," said Julie Hill, director of Career Services. "Of course, an internship will look impressive on your resume and may even lead to a permanent position with the company where you're interning."

With the flexibility that internships offer, they provide a snapshot into career fields that students may be interested in pursuing but not ready to fully commit. This permits the opportunity to see their

workforce in action without bearing the full responsibility of a typical 9-5 job.



Ocelot Opinions

What are your thoughts on Social Media?



KATHRYN WENSKE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Social Media has become an incredibly powerful tool in social change and communication. Anyone has the ability to publish anything and reach hundreds of thousands of people at any given time. Due to the accessibility of this wealth of constant new information, Social Media has become a daily part of everyday life; arguably shifting society. Is this shift positive, or negative? Could this be a positive or negative thing?



Hunter Hane, Major: Electrical Engineering

"Honestly, I think it's a bit overrated. I think people put too much thought into it and how much importance it has. I think it's fine if you want to send or share stuff and like to have a good time, see [others' content], but it shouldn't be your personality or something or other people's opinions that truly matter to you."



Sheridan Hansen, Major: Nursing

"I like social media. I use it a lot. I can see the negatives of it because obviously there's a lot more ability to find bad things, but I feel like it does a lot more good than bad. I've [been able to] make friends online ... I, Especially during COVID and everything. There wasn't any other way to see people so I always enjoyed having that sort of contact. I love looking at what people post and I think it's always really fun to have such a community. I also post art online and I really like doing that."



Shane Morovich, Major: Finance

"I honestly don't really have any opinions. [I find that Social Media] could be a good and bad thing. It could be used for good, but can also be used for bad. [I notice it has shifted social views in regards to] giving people unfair views of what they should look like or present themselves."

FEELING BORED?

Check out our
Diversions on page
22 to brighten your
day and cure your
boredom!



For a further breakdown on
Ocelot Opinions, check out our
YouTube Channel
at The Schoolcraft Connection



www.youtube.com/@SCCONNECTION

ADVERTORIAL



Schoolcraft College is Equity & Engagement team is committed to crafting a more inclusive community for all

As our nation grapples with structural and systemic inequities, Schoolcraft College set out to develop a strategy to ensure that Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) are hallmarks of this transformative institution for generations to come. In October 2020, Schoolcraft College launched the DEI Task Force. This strategic initiative is rooted in the traditions of Schoolcraft and provides a framework to support every member of the Schoolcraft community. This initiative includes strategic goals, new investments, comprehensive metrics and outcomes, as well as an institutional commitment to accountability and making sure that equity, diversity and inclusion are entrenched in every aspect of Schoolcraft College. "Its members are dedicated to integrating the concepts of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) into the College's operations. The Schoolcraft community has come together to address the difficult conversations that have come center stage in the world," said Dr. Glenn Cerny, President of Schoolcraft College.

What are the IDEA Strategic Objectives?

Strategic Objective 1 - Enhance Access and Success	Strategic Objective 2 - Inclusive Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship	Strategic Objective 3 - Cultural Engagement and Competency	Strategic Objective 4 - Accountability and Responsibility	Strategic Objective 5 - Fostering Community
Enhancing access and success for students, faculty and staff belonging to historically excluded populations (e.g., – developmental education reform, closing the achievement gap, focus on hiring faculty from historically excluded populations, etc.)	Devote resources, promote and incentivize practices that further enhance the teaching, learning and scholarship to ensure that the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion are essential components of a Schoolcraft educational experience.	Promote active social and academic engagement to ensure that we center and amplify students' needs and voices by continuously elevating cultural and intercultural competency in and out of the classroom setting.	Develop mechanisms to continuously assess institutional climate and promote responsibility to a socially responsible Schoolcraft College.	Engage in practices that build relationships and partnerships to ensure the sustainability of Schoolcraft College within the greater Livonia community.

For the complete DEI newsletter, visit schoolcraftconnection.com

DIVERSIONS

DOTS AND BOXES

Each player takes turns drawing 1 line between 2 dots. (No diagonal lines allowed) If the line completes a square, the player then wrote their initials in the square and draws another line. The game ends when all the lines have been drawn & the player with the most squares is the winner!



COZY WORD SEARCH



M	I	T	T	E	N	S	J	L	W	R	M	C	S	D
G	I	E	V	G	T	I	V	A	A	U	G	H	T	Z
K	I	W	Z	O	B	Y	H	M	R	H	Q	O	N	N
P	D	H	A	V	Z	Z	T	O	M	H	Y	C	A	N
M	C	S	N	U	G	Z	U	L	T	I	A	O	P	B
V	T	G	I	A	P	U	U	L	J	S	S	L	T	C
Y	R	T	L	M	I	F	S	B	P	K	A	A	A	U
S	T	E	K	N	A	L	B	G	C	D	C	T	E	K
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I	B	O	O	V	G	S	S	R	F	M	H	R	S	E
Q	Z	Z	X	F	O	J	U	F	F	A	E	U	F	I
Y	D	S	R	E	T	A	E	W	S	T	B	C	J	V
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D	L	N	P	G	P	D	H	Q	E	D	U	K	P	P



Alphabet Soup

CREATE WORDS WITH THE LETTERS PROVIDED BELOW

I R T E A O S

[illegible]

Graphics and Diversions by Sasha Spearman



A Story of Hope

Moving beyond a troubled past, culinary alumnus uses education to help others in need. Check out schoolcraftconnection.com for more information!

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Scan the QR code above
to fill out an application

IT'S TIME TO GET CONNECTED



STORY TELLERS WANTED

The Schoolcraft Connection is the
award-winning student newspaper
at Schoolcraft College. All majors are
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not mandatory.

For more information please contact;

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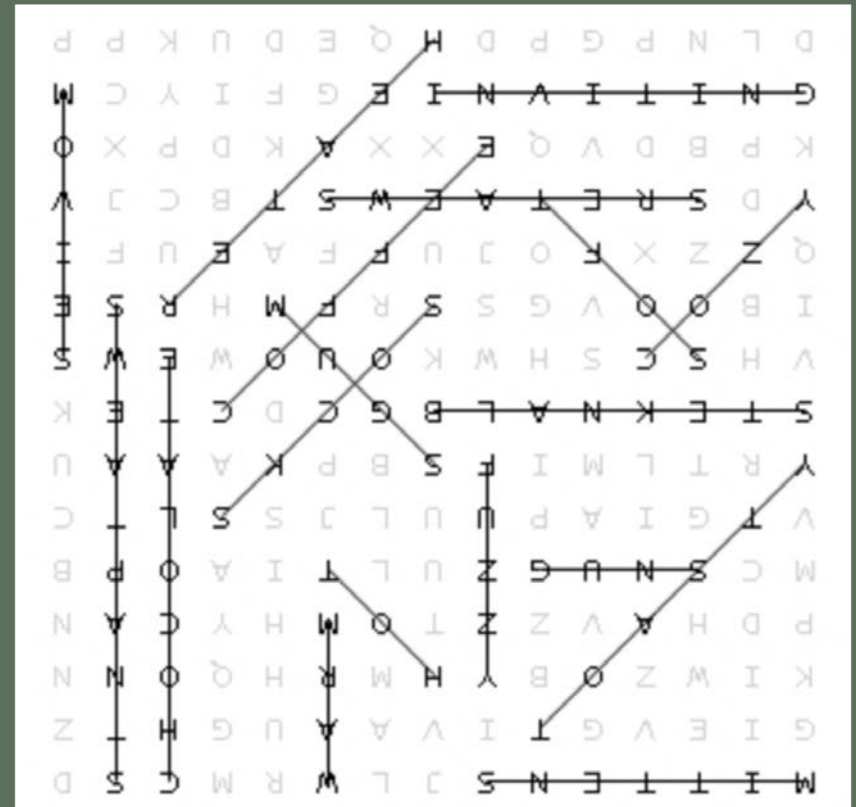
or email to rlaverty@schoolcraft.edu

STAFF MEETINGS EVERY MONDAY AT 3 P.M.
LOWER WATERMAN, CONFERENCE ROOM C

www.schoolcraftconnection.com

Potential Answers for Alphabet Soup

OAR	RISE	TARSE	6 Letter Words
OAT	SIRE	ARISE	SATIRE
ORE	EARS	AROSE	RATIOS
EAR	ERAS		
ERA	SEAR	4 Letter Words	
SEA	TEAR	Words	5 Letter Words
RAT	RIOT	STAR	TEARS
ART	TOES	AERO	RIOTS
TEA	TORÉ	RATE	RAISE
SET	EATS	ARTS	RATES
TAR	EAST	RATS	TRIES
TIE	RASE	RAST	TIERS
SIT	REST	RITE	TIRES
ROT		SORT	TASER
TOE	3 Letter Words	ROSE	STAIR
	SITE	SORE	TRIOS
	TIE	SOAR	RESIT
		ROES	



Color this cozy picture and tag us on socials @schoolcraftconnection!

